One would hope that government policy, especially concerning national security, is measured and informed. However, throughout history, some of the policies the U.S. government has taken in order to reinforce our nation’s security have been more of a knee jerk reaction than an effective and targeted approach. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 pulled the United States into World War II and bred feverous antagonism against all things Japanese. Fearful of Japanese espionage, especially on the West coast, President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which relocated Americans of Japanese descent, citizen or not, to internment camps in the most desolate areas of the western United States. Though many applauded the order for strengthening American borders in a time of war, many were concerned at the abridgement of Japanese civil liberties. Although the threat of Japan loomed over the Pacific, the limits imposed on Japanese-American civil liberties, specifically the violations of the 4th amendment, were ultimately unnecessary because there was no credible evidence of any act of espionage from any person of Japanese descent who resided in the United States.

Universal Connection to the U.S. law/act/policy & context

Bridge to thesis Thesis