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# *Sourisseau Academy*

*Smith Layton Archive*

*presents:*

## *"Our Japanese Neighbors: 1942"*

*Les Amis (The Friends)*

*photo collection*

*September 2014*

*Photos of the Japanese removal presented here were taken by photographers hired by the War Relocation Authority. They are available from the National Archives.*

*To learn more about the Japanese Internment, visit the excellent exhibit at the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, 535 N. 5th Street — open Thursday through Sunday, 12 - 4 pm.*

*Your donations purchased these photos. Thank you!*

<http://www.sourisseauacademy.org/>

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September., 2014



67) Honolulu residents gazed up in amazement to see "the Rising Sun emblem of Japan . . . on the wingtips of the airplanes," and then watched in horror as "wave after wave of bombers streamed through the clouded morning . . . and flung their missiles on a city resting in peaceful Sabbath calm." It was December 7, 1941, and the United States was at war! (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, 1st Extra Edition; Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



68) For decades, Japanese-American children living in the Santa Clara Valley had attended school with their white neighbors, as we can see in this 1933 class portrait of Moreland School, located near the convergence of Hamilton and Campbell Avenues. (Caption by Tom Layton.)

**Presidio of San Francisco, California  
May 3, 1942**

# **INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY**

## **Living in the Following Area:**

All of that portion of the City of Los Angeles, State of California, within that boundary beginning at the point at which North Figueroa Street meets a line following the middle of the Los Angeles River; thence southerly and following the said line to East First Street; thence westerly on East First Street to Alameda Street; thence southerly on Alameda Street to East Third Street; thence northwesterly on East Third Street to Main Street; thence northerly on Main Street to First Street; thence northwesterly on First Street to Figueroa Street; thence northeasterly on Figueroa Street to the point of beginning.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 33, this Headquarters, dated May 3, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 9, 1942.

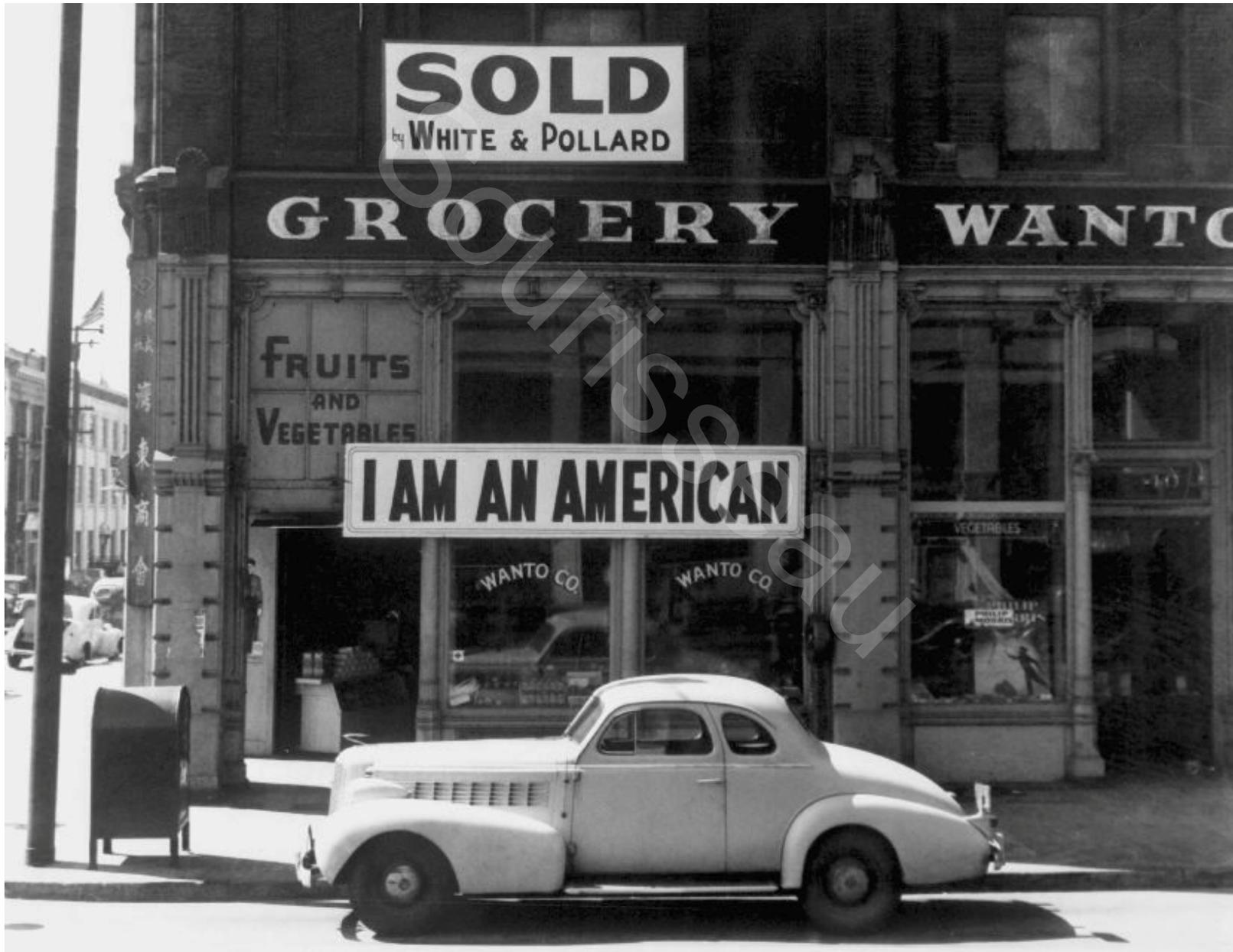
No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Sunday, May 3, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Southern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Japanese Union Church,  
120 North San Pedro Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency.

69) But, even as Americans joined together, suppressing their religious, economic and political differences to confront the common enemy, they turned a long-simmering racist hatred against their Japanese-American neighbors. Nine weeks later, responding to public outrage, President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, authorizing the removal of "all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien" from the Pacific Coast of the United States. (Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



70) American citizenship and affirmations of loyalty gained nothing for people of Japanese ancestry. The Masuda family posted a large "I am an American" sign outside their Oakland grocery store, but it did not prevent their removal. (Photo by Dorothea Lange. Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



71) On Monday, May 13, 1942, all Japanese living in northern Santa Clara County were ordered to appear at the Men's Gymnasium, on 4th Street, at San Jose State College, where they were issued registration tags to be worn by each family member, and ordered to pack bedding and linen (but no mattresses), toiletry articles, plates, bowls, cups and clothing for each family member. Almost all other belongings were to be left behind. Among those registered at the Men's Gym were the parents and brothers of Yoshihiro Uchida, who only weeks before had been drafted into the U.S. Army. Meanwhile, other Japanese families throughout the State packed for their own forced evacuations. (Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



72) Members of the Mochida family of Hayward, wearing Federal identification tags, await the bus that will take them to the train. (Photo by Dorthea Lange. (Caption by Tom Layton)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



73) The Kobori and Takemoto families of Salinas, with all of their belongings, await the bus that will take them away. (Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
July, 2014



**74)** A little girl from Salinas, clutching her tiny toy purse and surrounded by bags stuffed with her family's belongings, gazes uncertainly at the strange spectacle around her. As Japanese-Americans — most of them United States citizens — experienced the wrenching destruction of lifetimes of work, the *San Jose Mercury News* reported in saccharine prose that their Los Angeles destination was "Santa Anita, the spacious racetrack . . . equipped as a Reception Center," where they would remain "until assigned to a permanent reservation." (Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently purchased by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



**75)** A little boy from Salinas, guarding his precious *Pep Comics*, munches on a *Nestlé's* chocolate bar. Fortunately, there was a corps of skilled photographers who had worked for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and documented the Great Depression — who were now called back into service by the War Relocation Authority (WRA) to document the *kindness* of the Federal authorities and the *cheerful, happy spirits* of the Japanese who were undergoing "removal." Today, it is clearly apparent that those photographers knew that they were telling a very different story — of the true tragedy behind the forced smiles. (Caption by Tom Layton.)

A photo recently acquired by *Les Amis de Sourisseau!*  
September, 2014



**76)** But, history is full of delightful ironies. That same Men's Gymnasium at SJSU, where in 1942 the Uchida family had registered for their forced "removal" from their homes, was in 1997 re-named Yoshihiro Uchida Hall in honor of Yosh Uchida, who, as an undergraduate before World War II, established the championship judo program at San Jose State, coached it for over half a century, and helped elevate judo to an International Olympic sport, beginning with the 1964 Summer Games — in Tokyo. And now, a totally renovated and expanded Uchida Hall is about to open for a new millennium of San Jose State students. (Photo by Mabel Miyasaki. Caption by Tom Layton.)