

at peace in the Pacific and started the next at war with Japan.

In an instant the word Japanese had taken on a new meaning. "Enemy" From the day of infamy at Pearl Harbor the very word "Japanese" suggested to countless Americans, a race of deceitful, untrustworthy, treacherous and evil individuals that did not look like us, act like us or live like us.

To most American caucasians all orientals looked alike. This fact made it difficult for many of us to differentiate between Chinese and Japanese. To some this was like trying to tell poisonous from harmless snakes when they didn't like snakes of any kind. X

Within weeks, everyone was in some measure directly involved in the war, with family members or friends in the armed forces, working for war related industries or Federal departments, or involved in voluntary contributions to the war effort. Men between 20 and 45 were now registered for the draft. Here in the western coastal states people were doubly aware of the conflict in the Pacific because from our ports flowed most of the tools of war, both men and materials.

Our portion of the United States was the most exposed to possible enemy attack by a fast moving foe that was gobbling up vast territories in the Pacific. In the short time of four months, Japanese conquests had taken Hong Kong, Manila, Singapore, Batavia, Rangoon and Battan. Corregidor seemed doomed in spite of a gallant effort to survive. President Roosevelt, within the week had called ^{for} "rationing of essentials". The sale of War Bonds and War Savings Stamps was being promoted with a patriotic frenzy.

American residents of Japanese origin found themselves caught in the middle of this whirlwind of hatred, fear and patriotism. They had no place to hide - from their neighbors, their fellow workers, their fellow students, their employers or their customers. They looked like our enemies and many caucasians thought they were.

The past months since Pearl Harbor had been a period of tribulation for all citizen and alien Japanese residents of the United States. A time when they did not know what to do or what not to do. A time when many of their caucasian friendships were suddenly terminated. A time A time when most public officials and nearly the entire news media was calling for their removal fro the west coast area. Orientals were not easy for caucasians to identify and the Chinese were trying to help and solve the question of which ones were Chinese by wering and placing signs in their places of business stating, "I am Chinese". The Japanese that X did leave the coast area voluntarily and moved to inland states were find-

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