

## ( Nisei )

These were people with Japanese faces but in most cases they had American hearts, minds and loyalties.

In one day they were transformed from happy, proud native born U.S. citizens into individuals of questionable status with less rights than enemy alien Germans and Italians and they were called upon to endure what few American non-combatants had ever endured in the United States. From the crucible of mistrust, discrimination and evacuation they emerged tough, tempered, resilient, forgiving and determined Americans.

Some of the nisei went to two schools each day. Full day U.S. schools - then after American schools to Japanese language schools for several more hours.

Many nisei had long Japanese first names that were shortened when they went to American schools.

Stubborn persistence accounted for much of their success as brilliant students - many wanted their parents to be happy and proud of them.

They had been taught at home to respect their teachers.

Hard work and earnest endeavor were ethics in the Japanese household.