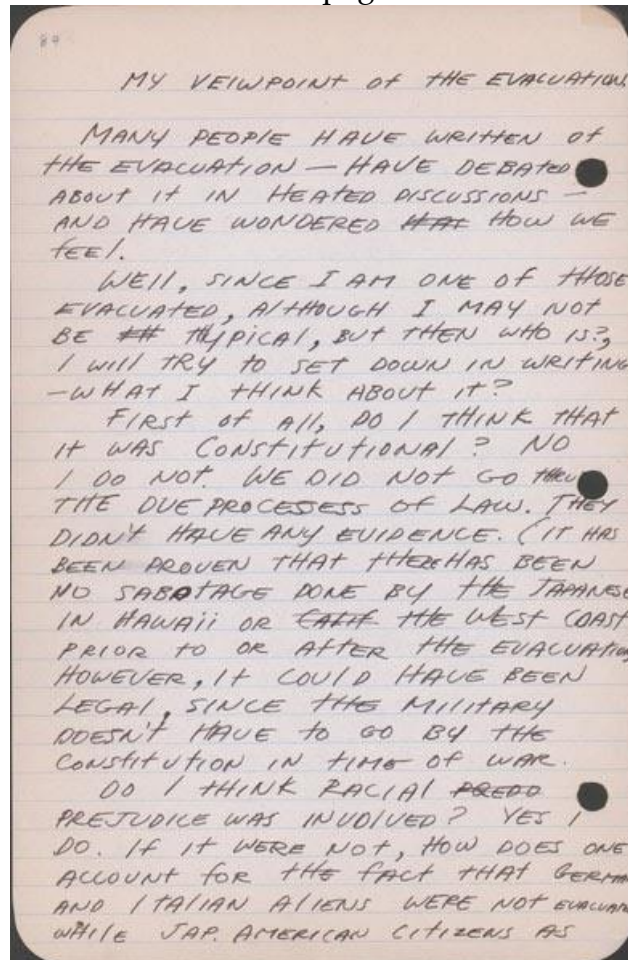


TEACHER'S GUIDE
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MISSION US: "Prisoner in My Homeland"

Stanley Hayami Essay: My Viewpoint of the Evacuation

Stanley Kunio Hayami was sixteen in 1942 when his family was forcibly removed from Los Angeles, California and incarcerated at Heart Mountain Wyoming. Throughout his imprisonment at Heart Mountain, Hayami kept a diary filled with pen-and-ink drawings and he reported regularly on his daily activities such as studying for tests, listening to football games on the radio, or going to the movies. He also voiced his views on the incarceration and the military draft, and spoke of the importance of serving his country. As a high school student, he longed to pursue a career as an artist and writer. Stanley Hayami's experiences and thoughts served as an inspiration for the Henry Tanaka character in A Prisoner in My Homeland.

First page:



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Second page:

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WELL AS JAPANESE ALIENS WERE EVACUATED. DON'T TELL ME WE WERE THE MORE DANGEROUS. GERMANS & ITALIANS CAN GET CLOSER TO DEFENSE PLANTS THAN A JAPANESE CAN.

DO I THINK THAT IT WAS WORTH WHILE FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE GOVT. THIS IS A VERY TOUGH QUESTION AS I DON'T ~~KNOW~~ KNOW ALL THE FACTS AND WHAT I SAY WOULD BE MY OPINION ALONE. MY ANSWER IS THAT I DON'T BELIEVE THAT IT WAS WORTH WHILE TO THE GOVT. OUT OF THE ~~115,000~~ 115,000 JAPANESE EVACUATED I DOUBT IF THERE WERE ANY REALLY DANGEROUS ONES. INSTEAD OF EVACUATING ALL OF US — THEY SHOULD HAVE KEPT AN EYE ON US AND JUST EVACUATED THE WORST OF US. THE EVACUATION ALSO COST THE GOVT A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF MONEY AND IS CONTINUING TO DO SO. CALIFORNIA FACED A SERIOUS LABOR AND FOOD SHORTAGE DUE TO THE EVACUATION. ^{ALSO MANY WISED LOST FAITH} IN AMERICA.

DO I THINK THE EVACUATION DID ^{OR WILL DO} SOME GOOD? YES — FOR ONE THING IT BROKE UP THE HEAVY

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Third page:

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CONCENTRATION OF JAPANESE ON THE PACIFIC COAST AND EVENTUALLY ALL OF THEM WILL BE SPREAD OUT OVER THE WHOLE US WITHOUT LOOKING CONSPICUOUS. ~~DATE~~ ^{HOWEVER} ONCE WE START FORMING THOSE CLIQUES (SUCH AS LITTLE TOKIO) AND START ISOLATING OURSELVES PEOPLE WILL BEGIN TO MISUNDERSTAND US, GROW SUSPICIOUS OF US, AND PREJUDICES WILL FORM AGAINST US AGAIN.

WELL NOW THAT I HAVE GONE OVER THE WHOLE GODDAM SITUATION WHAT DO I THINK IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS.

I THINK THAT THE WHOLE MESS WAS UNNECESSARY AND A LOT OF TROUBLE COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED. HOWEVER IT DID SOME GOOD — THAT OF BREAKING UP THE CLIQUES. I PERSONALLY WILL PROCEED TO FORGET THE WHOLE MESS, WILL TRY TO BECOME A GREATER MAN FROM HAVING GONE THRU SUCH EXPERIENCES, KEEP MY FAITH IN AMERICA, ^{AND} LOOK FORWARD TO RELOCATION AND THE FUTURE.

DONT BE AFRAID OF OPPOSITION, REMEMBER A KITE RISES AGAINST, NOT WITH THE WIND — ANALYSIS BY MABIE

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/tf2r29n604/?brand=oac4>