

“Canada A People’s History: The Crucible”

The Dispossessed

- Sunday December 7th, _____, Japan’s attack on the United States naval base brings a new enemy and a new ally into the war.
- On Canada’s _____ Coast it ignites years of smoldering fear and resentment against Japanese Canadians.
- Muriel Kitagawa is Canadian by birth as is her husband Eddy and four young children. But she tells her brother who is away at medical school in Toronto that they are no longer _____ in their own country.
- Japanese Canadians had already been photographed, fingerprinted and identified by number. Now their schools and newspapers are closed. 1,200 fishing boats are seized. Sawmills, hotels and the Canadian Pacific Railway _____ Japanese Canadian workers.
- Then on December 18th, _____ attacks the British colony of Hong Kong. Most of the 2000 Canadian soldiers defending the island are killed, wounded or taken prisoners. The news of Hong Kong feeds growing anger and panic.
- British Columbia prepares for an attack. RCMP and military officials advise the Canadian government that Japanese Canadians pose _____ threat to national security. But the press and the public demand action. Ian Mackenzie, the federal cabinet minister from British Columbia, pushes the cabinet into action.
- A 100 mile wide strip along the coast is designated a protected area. 22,000 men, women and children of Japanese origin are forcibly uprooted from their homes, their jobs and schools. Most of them are either naturalized citizens or born in _____. They can take only two small suitcases each.

- Believing they will return, their valued possessions are carefully wrapped and stored. Many of those detained are taken to the livestock pens at _____ Hastings Park Fairgrounds.
- After months in animal stalls, they are shipped on sealed trains to the interior. Families are _____. Men to road and lumber camps, women and children to shanty towns in the British Columbia wilderness. Their new homes are tents, tar paper huts and crude shacks.
- In January 1943, the Canadian government authorizes the sale of all the properties of Japanese Canadians. Homes, cars, businesses are sold for a fraction of their worth. The lives they have built in Canada have been _____.
- The movement of Japanese Canadians during the war is the _____ forced exodus in Canadian history. Many will never return to the place they called home.