

## A Puzzle That Becomes An Enigma

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Seventy-five years ago last Sunday, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed [Executive Order 9066](#) . This order

authorized the

[incarceration](#)

of 120,000 Japanese Americans in makeshift camps scattered across deserts and swamplands. And their legitimate private properties were confiscated. This horrendous atrocity took place because a group of Americans were identified and categorized as "enemies" based on their ethnicity and physical appearance. Of course, the attack on Pearl Harbor did not help.

Come to think of it, I am not infrequently asked whether I am Chinese or Japanese. I know the question is based on my face. However, when people find out that both my first and last names are Hispanic, I guess the puzzle becomes an enigma because of the face attached to my name.