With Executive Order 9066, Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized the Secretary of War to decide what groups of people had to be relocated from areas where they might present a threat to national security.
Residents of Japanese ancestry, born in Japan or in the U.S., became the biggest targets.
There were many detention centers
Why did this Japanese-American business owner post this sign?
Some Japanese residents accepted the offer to go back to Japan. How do you think they were treated in Japan?
Germans and Italians also became targets of suspicion, but they were treated differently than the Japanese.
Prisoners of war from Germany and Italy were detained at many camps in the United States.
What differences do you see between these detention centers for German-Americans and the Japanese internment camps?
1. Hundreds of Italian immigrants were arrested in the months following the Pearl Harbor attack. By June of 1942, the total reached 1,521 Italian aliens arrested by the FBI. About **250 individuals** were interned for up to two years in military camps in Montana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas.

2. Italy's surrender on September 8, 1943 brought the release of most of the Italian American internees by year's end. Some had already been paroled months after "exoneration" by a second hearing board. Nonetheless, most of the men had spent two years as prisoners, moving from camp to camp every three to four months.

3. For the most part, Italians in the U.S. were only relocated and ordered to stay away from major ports. 

*Source.*
During World War II more than 51,000 Italian soldiers were brought to the United States as Prisoners of War.

Some of them met and married American women.
The 1943 Zoot Suit Riots
Zoot Suit Riots Timeline

• May 31: Twelve sailors and soldiers clash violently with Mexican American boys near downtown. Seaman Second Class Joe Dacy Coleman, U.S.N., is badly wounded.
• June 3: Approximately 50 sailors leave the Naval Reserve Armory with concealed weapons to revenge the attack on Coleman. They target the neighborhoods near the Armory and attack anyone they can find wearing zoot suits -- giving birth to the name "Zoot Suit Riots".
• June 4: Rioting servicemen conduct "search and destroy" raids on Mexican Americans in the downtown area -- whether their victims are wearing zoot suits or not. The servicemen employ twenty taxis to look for zoot suiters.
• June 5: The rioting continues with attacks on all "pachuco"-looking males. A group of musicians leaving the Aztec Recording Company on Third and Main Streets are attacked. Attorney Manuel Ruíz and other Mexican American professionals meet with city officials. Carey McWilliams calls California Attorney General Robert Kenny to encourage Governor Earl Warren to appoint an investigatory commission.
• June 6: The rioting escalates and spreads into East Los Angeles. Kenny meets with McWilliams regarding the investigation and creates the McGucken Committee. Chaired by the Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, Joseph T. McGucken, the committee blames the press for its irresponsible tone and the police for overreacting to the riot.
• June 7: The worst of the rioting violence occurs as soldiers, sailors, and marines from as far away as San Diego travel to Los Angeles to join in the fighting. Taxi drivers offer free rides to servicemen and civilians to the riot areas. Approximately 5,000 civilians and military men gather downtown. The riot spreads into the predominantly African American section of Watts.
• June 8: Senior military officials bring the riot under control by declaring Los Angeles off-limits to all sailors, soldiers, and marines. The Shore Patrol is under orders to arrest any disorderly personnel. The Los Angeles City Council passes a resolution banning the wearing of zoot suits in public, punishable by a 50-day jail term. Source.
Decked out in wide brim hats, baggy pants, high boots and long-tailed coats, these "zoot-suiters" called each other "mad cats." They were "Terrific as the Pacific" and "Frantic as the Atlantic." Crossing cultural lines and pushing the boundaries of race and class, they were trying to define for themselves what it meant to be an American in 1942 Los Angeles. Even though there was no evidence to connect "zoot-suiters" to crime, the kids' posturing and self-assurance made Anglos nervous. Source.
The Los Angeles Police Department arrested Zoot Suiters who had been beaten up and charged them with disturbing the peace. The servicemen were simply escorted to their base and told to stay there. They only obeyed when the military called the city off limits.
The 1943 Detroit Riots

In the hot summer of 1943 a fatal race riot began and raged out of control in Detroit. Inflammatory rumors spread amongst already antagonistic communities, and open fighting between fellow Detroiters ensued in the streets. It was sparked by a series of fights on Detroit's Belle Isle involving African Americans and whites.

Thirty-four people died during the riots. Source.
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