

Do deciphered war cables show that the empire of Japan had spies inside the U.S. in World War II? Yes, according to a retired U-S codebreaker. But can we assume those spies were Japanese Americans, and should that assumption have led to the mass incarceration of 120-thousand innocent people. The answer to both questions is no, according to intelligence expert, Jack Herzig.

CART:

I'm Frank Abe with Other Voices.

The testimony of both men has figured in a hearing that's put the wartime U-S government on trial. A former Seattle resident, Gordon Hirabayashi, has alleged evidence in his favor was suppressed by officials handling his Supreme Court case that tested the constitutionality of the forced expulsion and incarceration of Japanese Americans. No allegation of disloyalty has ever been proven.

The government has brought David Lowman, a 28-year employee of the National Security Agency, out of retirement to make its case that suspicion in wartime is enough to justify trampling on the rights of U-S citizens.

CART: 030 Q"doing this here" :



Lowman says his position has been distorted by war veterans who don't want to hear from Japanese Americans trying to clear the record.

CART:

And he says he isn't sure the cables alone justify Roosevelt's decision to round up a mass of people.

District Court judge Donald Voorhes has indicated he's not even sure the the Magic Cables are relevant to the ruling he must make on alleged government misconduct in the Hirabayashi case.