

Executive Department
State of California

PROCLAMATION

FILED
in the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

FEB 13 1980

MARCH EDING ELL, Secretary of State

By *Theresa Suddeth*
Deputy

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order No. 9066, which resulted in the mass eviction from the West Coast of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, the vast majority of whom were loyal American citizens; and

WHEREAS, these American citizens of Japanese ancestry were subsequently incarcerated against their will for three years in barbed wire detention camps with armed military guards, there being two such camps in California at Manzanar and Tule Lake; and

WHEREAS, such action of the United States Government constituted one of this nation's gravest violations of human rights and the guarantees of individual protection provided by the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 9066, was rescinded on February 19, 1976 by President Gerald R. Ford, who said, "We now know what we should have known then--not only was that evacuation wrong, but Japanese-Americans were and are loyal Americans"; and

WHEREAS, Japanese-Americans throughout this nation seek to insure that the tragedy they experienced during the Second World War shall never be visited upon others residing in this country; and

WHEREAS, the injustice suffered by Japanese-Americans in violation of their civil rights as guaranteed by the Constitution is one of the dark pages in the history of our nation. Remembering this tragic action, let us today reaffirm our belief in the viability of the basic Constitutional principles of justice for each individual American.

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I, THEREFORE, do hereby proclaim February 19, 1980, as "A Day of Remembrance", and urge all Californians and Americans to reflect upon the meaning of this day for our fellow Japanese-Americans and for all our citizens.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th day of February 1980.

Edwin S. Brown
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Martha Ferguson
Secretary of State