

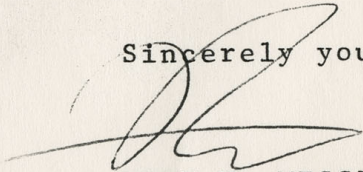
THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK*Rec'd
1/2/82 SK*RUTH W. MESSINGER
COUNCIL MEMBER, 4TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN
CITY HALL
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007
566-0719DISTRICT OFFICES
720 COLUMBUS AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10025
865-1500COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION
GENERAL WELFARE
SUBCOMMITTEE: CHAIRPERSON,
TRANSPORTATION FOR DISABLED

December 23, 1981

Mr. Shigero Kaneshiro
311 West 105th Street Apt. #1-C
New York, NY 10025Dear Mr. Kaneshiro:

I am writing in reference to the Japanese and Alaskan Aleut ancestry resolution. I am pleased that it passed the Council on December 10, 1981.

Sincerely yours,


RUTH W. MESSINGER
Council Member

RWM:cg

*Passed unanimously**Printed copies available soon.**City Hall, Room 5
NYC 10007
Stamped Self-addressed envelope*

Passed unanimously
Dec 10, 1981

Consideration Asian American
Studies Center

Res. No. 1751

Resolution urging the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to recommend to the U.S. Congress that adequate Redress/ Reparations be awarded to those persons of Japanese and Alaskan Aleut ancestry who suffered from Executive Order 9066.

By Council Member Messinger:

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which resulted in the uprooting and imprisonment of all persons of Japanese and Alaskan Aleut ancestry on the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1942, 120,313 persons of Japanese and Aleut ancestry, most of whom were American citizens, were forcibly evicted from their West Coast homes and subsequently incarcerated in American styled ^{internment} ~~concentration~~ camps; and

WHEREAS, not a single charge of wrongdoing was ever filed against any person of Japanese and Alaskan Aleut ancestry residing in the United States during WWII; and

WHEREAS, American citizens of Japanese and Aleut ancestry and their alien parents, who were legal permanent residents, were never allowed the basic constitutional right of the benefit of a hearing or trial; and

WHEREAS, in addition to property losses estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars in 1942, but elude accurate calculation, ^{due to the haste with which the evacuations were} there were other immeasurable damages suffered, such as the loss of individual freedom, the destruction of personal human dignity, the loss of income and disruption of careers and the psychological trauma of having been innocent victims imprisoned for three and a half years; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in four separate test cases that such governmental action is constitutional and thereby established as precedent of law the right of the government to remove and detain a group of people solely on the basis of race; and

ordered

WHEREAS, Japanese American men volunteered from within barbed wire camps to join the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and demonstrated exemplary heroism, courage and patriotic loyalty as evidenced by the fact that the 442nd RCT became the most highly decorated unit in the history of the United States Armed Services for its size and length of service; and

WHEREAS, some thirty-nine years have passed without an official inquiry into the treatment of Japanese Americans and Alaskan Aleuts in this chapter of American history; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 1980, Congress approved and President Jimmy Carter signed Public Law 96-317 establishing the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to conduct such an inquiry and to recommend appropriate remedies to the Congress of the United States:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of New York commends the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians on its official investigation of the events leading to the issuance of Executive Order 9066 and its consequences upon American citizens and permanent legal residents of Japanese and Alaskan Aleut ancestry:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urge the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to recommend to the Congress of the United States, that appropriate remedies be awarded, when the facts show it to be warranted, for the injustices and hardships resulting from the government's actions in 1942, including remedies for individuals where appropriate, as well as remedies in general.