

SUMMARY OF THE STATEMENT OF THE
NATIONAL COALITION FOR REDRESS AND REPARATIONS

UCLA Asian American Studies Center

SUMMARY OF THE STATEMENT OF THE

NATIONAL COALITION FOR REDRESS AND REPARATIONS

The National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCRR) is the only national organization whose primary goal is to win redress and reparations for over 120,000 Japanese Americans who were incarcerated in internment camps during World War II.

Major Recommendations of the NCRR

The NCRR supports the recommendations of the Commmission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) as the foundation for a just redress and for reparations:

- o Congressional apology for the Japanese American people;
- o Presidential pardon for convictions resulting from enforcement of EO 9066, specifically cases where offences were based on a refusal to accept treatment due to race or ethnicity;
- o Establishment of a Community Fund;
- o Individual monetary restitution for those who were incarcerated in the internment camps.

Recommended Amendments to H.R. 4110

The NCRR supports the following recommendations as amendments to H.R. 4110:

- o Increase the payment to individual payments from \$20,000 to \$25,000 as appropriate to those who suffered which can be only a "symbolic figure";
- o Regarding definition of SEC. 201. (2) "eligible individual" meaning any individual of Japanese ancestry should be broadened to include all innocent parties affected by EO 9066 rather than to "living individuals" or "survivors" of the internment; that the elderly should have first priority;
- o Regarding TITLE III THE ALEUTS. RESTITUTION. SEC. 302(a)(1) individual payment of \$5,000 to each eligible individual, NCRR recommends the sum of \$25,000 and parity with recommendations for Japanese Americans.
- o Finally, recommendations that the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations holds additional hearings in order to hear from greater numbers of those who were affected by EO 9066; that the psychological effects of four years of uprooting, dispersal and internment of Aleuts and Japanese Americans need to come to the Subcommittee's greater body of understanding of this whole episode of an American miscarriage of justice.

The National Coalition for Redress and Reparations wholly recommends that the Subcommittee considers the profound historical perspective of this episode resulting in the total evacuation and internment of Aleuts and Americans of Japanese ancestry along with the treatment of Native Americans and Black Americans in this Nation. Inequitable treatment of racial minorities has been an integral part of that historical perspective? Passage of H.R. 4110 would begin the ameliorating process of national redress.