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January 17, 1985

Mr. William Yoshino
Midwest Director
Japanese American Citizen's League
5415 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60640

Dear Mr. Yoshino:

On Thursday, January 10, 1985 the Governing Council of the American Jewish Congress officially adopted the enclosed resolution supporting the legislation that JAAC has been working so diligently to have enacted into law. I hope that our endorsement of your position will in some way prove useful to you in securing support from other groups.

We appreciate your having sent a representative and supplying us with all the necessary background information to help us come to this decision.

Sincerely,

Shirley Sachs
Executive Director

SS:hm

Encl.

cc: Mr. Schectman
Monarch Metal Products Corp

- WHEREAS,** from 1942 to 1946, 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forcibly excluded from the West Coast of the United States by military fiat, incarcerated and confined behind barbed wire fences under armed military guard, without charges or hearings, and deprived of basic human rights by orders of the United States government; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), after two and a half years of study and research, issued its report of February 24, 1983, concluding that the exclusion and detention of Americans of Japanese ancestry were not a matter of military necessity but were caused by racism, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the same U.S. Commission (CWRIC) issued its recommendations on June 16, 1983, that the United States should enact a joint resolution, signed by the President, acknowledging a grave injustice was done to a group of people on the basis of ancestry and offering official apologies; that the United States Congress should establish a commemorative trust fund for humanitarian and educational purposes; and that the sum of \$20,000 be awarded to survivors of such experiences as a symbol of this nation's regret that such unjust events occurred and as a token of honorable efforts to acknowledge such wrong to the end that similar aberrations of justice shall never recur; and
- WHEREAS,** Americans of Japanese ancestry, through the leadership of the Japanese American Citizens League, seek the implementation of legislation based upon the recommendations of the U.S. Commission (CWRIC) as a means of promoting human rights and upholding the Constitution of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** on October 6, 1983 HR 4110, the Civil Liberties Act of 1983, was introduced in the House of Representatives and on November 17, 1983, S 2116, a bill to accept the findings and implement the recommendations of the CWRIC was introduced in the U.S. Senate; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that the American Jewish Congress, endorse the findings and recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and urges the Congress of the United States to enact HR 4110 and S 2116 in order to effectuate and carry out those recommendations to preserve and rectify the honor and integrity of this nation.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Organization

David V. Kahn

President