

RESOLUTION NO. 184-84

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
REGARDING WARTIME RELOCATION AND INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1942, Executive Order 9066 was issued and provided for the relocation and internment of persons of Japanese ancestry; and

WHEREAS, from 1941-46, 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forcibly excluded from the West Coast of the United States by military fiat, incarcerated and confined under armed guard, without hearings of charges, and deprived of basic human rights as a result of actions of the U.S. Government; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 1980, Public Law 96-317 was enacted authorizing the creation of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to review the facts and circumstances surrounding the implementation of Executive Order 8066; and

WHEREAS, after two and one-half years of study and research, the Commission's findings were issued on February 24, 1983 and four months later its recommendations were released on June 16, 1983; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's work has already assisted the efforts of several cities and other local governments to remedy prior local actions and policies that denied basic rights and inflicted other injustices upon citizens of Japanese ancestry; and

WHEREAS, these local efforts, including City enacted-legislation, cannot substitute for the necessary federal actions to remedy the injustices that occurred pursuant to the Executive Order 9066, nor do these local actions adequately address the issues raised in the Commission's finding or recommendations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Richmond supports the recommendation of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and urges Congress and the Administration to act on these recommendations, including the following major proposals:

- Congress should pass a joint resolution, signed by the President, acknowledging that a grave injustice was inflicted upon a specific group of U.S. citizens on the basis of ancestry and offering official apologies of the U.S. Government;
- Congress should enact legislation establishing a commemorative trust fund for humanitarian and education purposes and awarding the sum of \$20,000 to each survivor of the internment;
- President should direct the U.S. Department of Justice to review all wartime convictions of Americans of Japanese ancestry and to recommend Presidential pardon based on this review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Richmond supports these recommendations as a formal and honorable way to acknowledge these injustices in the hope that similar aberrations of justice shall never recur.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held November 19, 1984, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Washington, Niccolls, Greco, Livingston, Silva, McMillan, MacDiarmid, Ziesenhenne and Mayor Corcoran.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

HARLAN J. HEYDON
Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

THOMAS J. CORCORAN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

MALCOLM HUNTER
City Attorney

Certified as a True Copy

Harlan J. Heydon
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIF.