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(ROBINSON)

# SIGNING CEREMONY FOR JAPANESE INTERNMENT LEGISLATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1988

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, MY FELLOW AMERICANS:

WE GATHER HERE TODAY TO RIGHT A GRAVE WRONG.

MORE THAN 40 YEARS AGO, SHORTLY AFTER
THE BOMBING OF PEARL HARBOR, 120,000 PERSONS
OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY LIVING IN THE U.S. WERE
FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES AND PLACED
IN MAKESHIFT INTERNMENT CAMPS. THIS ACTION
WAS TAKEN WITHOUT TRIAL, WITHOUT JURY.
IT WAS BASED SOLELY ON RACE -- FOR THESE
120,000 WERE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT.

YES, THE NATION WAS THEN AT WAR,
STRUGGLING FOR ITS SURVIVAL -- AND IT IS NOT
FOR US TODAY TO PASS JUDGMENT UPON THOSE WHO
MAY HAVE MADE MISTAKES WHILE ENGAGED IN THAT
GREAT STRUGGLE.

YET WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THE

INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS WAS JUST

THAT -- A MISTAKE. FOR THROUGHOUT THE WAR,

JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN THE TENS OF THOUSANDS

REMAINED UTTERLY LOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES.

INDEED, SCORES OF JAPANESE-AMERICANS
VOLUNTEERED FOR OUR ARMED FORCES -MANY STEPPING FORWARD IN THE INTERNMENT
CAMPS THEMSELVES. THE 442ND REGIMENTAL
COMBAT TEAM, MADE UP ENTIRELY OF
JAPANESE-AMERICANS, SERVED WITH IMMENSE
DISTINCTION -- TO DEFEND THIS NATION,
THEIR NATION.

YET BACK AT HOME, THE SOLDIERS'

FAMILIES WERE BEING DENIED THE VERY FREEDOM

FOR WHICH SO MANY OF THE SOLDIERS THEMSELVES

WERE LAYING DOWN THEIR LIVES.

CONGRESSMAN NORMAN MINETA, WITH US
TODAY, WAS 10 YEARS OLD WHEN HIS FAMILY WAS
INTERNED. IN THE CONGRESSMAN'S WORDS:
"MY OWN FAMILY WAS ŞENT FIRST TO SANTA ANITA
RACETRACK. WE SHOWERED IN THE HORSE
PADDOCKS. SOME FAMILIES LIVED IN CONVERTED
STABLES, OTHERS IN HASTILY THROWN TOGETHER
BARRACKS. WE WERE THEN MOVED TO HEART
MOUNTAIN, WYOMING, WHERE OUR ENTIRE FAMILY
LIVED IN ONE SMALL ROOM OF A RUDE TARPAPER
BARRACK."

LIKE SO MANY TENS OF THOUSANDS

OF OTHERS, THE MEMBERS OF THE MINETA FAMILY
LIVED IN THOSE CONDITIONS NOT FOR A MATTER

OF WEEKS OR MONTHS, BUT FOR 3 LONG YEARS.

THE LEGISLATION THAT I AM ABOUT TO SIGN PROVIDES FOR A RESTITUTION PAYMENT TO EACH OF THE 60,000 SURVIVING JAPANESE-AMERICANS, OF THE 120,000 WHO WERE RELOCATED OR DETAINED. YET NO PAYMENT CAN MAKE UP FOR THOSE LOST YEARS.

SO WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN THIS BILL HAS LESS TO DO WITH PROPERTY THAN WITH HONOR. FOR HERE WE ADMIT A WRONG. HERE WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT AS A NATION TO EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW.

I'D LIKE TO NOTE THAT THE BILL

I AM ABOUT TO SIGN ALSO PROVIDES FUNDS FOR

MEMBERS OF THE ALEUT COMMUNITY WHO WERE

EVACUATED FROM THE ALUTIAN AND PRIBILOF

ISLANDS AFTER A JAPANESE ATTACK IN 1942.

THIS ACTION WAS TAKEN FOR THE ALEUTS' OWN

PROTECTION, BUT PROPERTY WAS LOST OR DAMAGED

THAT HAS NEVER BEEN REPLACED.

AND NOW IN CLOSING, I WONDER WHETHER
YOU'D PERMIT ME ONE PERSONAL REMINISCENCE -ONE PROMPTED BY AN OLD NEWSPAPER REPORT SENT
TO ME BY ROSE (OH-CHEE), A FORMER INTERNEE.
THE CLIPPING COMES FROM THE PACIFIC CITIZEN
AND IS DATED DECEMBER 1945.

"ARRIVING BY PLANE FROM WASHINGTON,"

THE ARTICLE BEGINS, "GENERAL JOSEPH

W. STILWELL PINNED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

CROSS ON MARY (MAH-SUE-DAH) IN A SIMPLE

CEREMONY ON THE PORCH OF HER SMALL FRAME

SHACK NEAR TALBERT, ORANGE COUNTY. SHE WAS

ONE OF THE FIRST AMERICANS OF JAPANESE

ANCESTRY TO RETURN FROM RELOCATION CENTERS

TO CALIFORNIA'S FARMLANDS."

"VINEGAR JOE" STILWELL WAS THERE THAT DAY TO HONOR (CAH-ZOO-OH) (MAH-SUE-DAH), MARY'S BROTHER.

YOU SEE, WHILE MARY AND HER PARENTS WERE
IN AN INTERNMENT CAMP, (CAH-zoo-oh) SERVED
AS STAFF SERGEANT TO THE 442ND REGIMENTAL
COMBAT TEAM. IN ONE ACTION, (CAH-zoo-oh)
ORDERED HIS MEN BACK AND ADVANCED THROUGH
HEAVY FIRE, HAULING A MORTAR. FOR 12 HOURS,
HE ENGAGED IN A SINGLE-HANDED BARRAGE OF
NAZI POSITIONS. SEVERAL WEEKS LATER AT
CASSINO, (CAH-zoo-oh) STAGED ANOTHER LONE
ADVANCE. THIS TIME, IT COST HIM HIS LIFE.

THE NEWSPAPER CLIPPING NOTES THAT HER
TWO SURVIVING BROTHERS WERE WITH MARY AND
HER PARENTS ON THE LITTLE PORCH THAT
MORNING. THESE TWO BROTHERS -- LIKE THE
HEROIC (CAH-zoo-oh) -- HAD SERVED IN THE
U.S. ARMY.

AFTER GENERAL STILWELL MADE THE AWARD,
THE MOTION PICTURE ACTRESS LOUISE
ALLBRITTON -- A TEXAS GIRL -- TOLD HOW
A TEXAS BATTALION HAD BEEN SAVED BY THE
442ND. OTHER SHOW BUSINESS PERSONALITIES
PAID TRIBUTE -- ROBERT YOUNG,
WILL ROGERS, JR. AND ONE YOUNG ACTOR SAID
THIS:

"BLOOD THAT HAS SOAKED INTO THE SANDS
OF A BEACH IS ALL OF ONE COLOR.

AMERICA STANDS UNIQUE IN THE WORLD, THE ONLY
COUNTRY NOT FOUNDED ON RACE, BUT ON A WAY -AN IDEAL. NOT IN SPITE OF, BUT BECAUSE
OF OUR POLYGLOT BACKGROUND, WE HAVE HAD ALL
THE STRENGTH IN THE WORLD. THAT IS THE
AMERICAN WAY."

THE NAME OF THAT YOUNG ACTOR WAS RONALD REAGAN.

AND, YES, THE IDEAL OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL -- THAT IS <u>STILL</u> THE AMERICAN WAY.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

AND NOW, LET ME SIGN H.R. 442 -SO FITTINGLY NAMED IN HONOR OF THE 442ND

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CH:

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR JAPANESE INTERNMENT LEGISLATION WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1988

My fellow Americans:

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We gather here today to right a grave wrong.

More than 40 years ago, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 120,000 Americans were forcibly removed from their homes and placed in makeshift internment camps. This action was taken without trial, without jury. It was based solely on race -- for these 120,000 were Americans of Japanese descent.

Yes, the Nation was then at war, struggling for its survival -- and it is not for us today to pass judgment upon those who may have made mistakes while engaged in that great struggle.

Yet we must recognize that the internment of Japanese Americans was just that -- a mistake.

Throughout the War, no Americans of Japanese ancestry committed any acts of disloyalty, let alone treason. On the contrary, tens of Japanese-Americans volunteered for our Armed Forces -- many stepping forward in the internment camps themselves. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team -- made up almost entirely of Japanese-Americans -- served with distinction throughout the War.

To defend their Nation, their homeland, the United States of America.

Yet back at home, the soldiers' families were being denied the very freedom for which so many of the soldiers themselves were laying down their lives.

Congressman Norman Mineta, with us today, was 10 years old when his family was interned. In the Congressman's words: "My own family was sent first to Santa Anita Racetrack. We showered in the horse paddocks. Some families lived in converted stables, others in hastily thrown together barracks. We were then moved to Heart Mountain, Wyoming, where our entire family lived in one small room of a rude tarpaper barrack."

Like so many tens of thousands of others, the members of the Mineta family lived in those conditions not for a matter of weeks or months, but for three long years.

The legislation that I am about to sign provides for a restitution payment to each of the 60,000 surviving Japanese-Americans, of the 120,000 who were relocated or detained. Yet no payment can make up for those three lost years.

oll

So what is most important in this bill has less to do with property than with honor. For here we admit a wrong. Here we reaffirm our commitment as Nation to equal justice under the law.

I'd like to note that the bill I am about to sign also provides funds for the Aleut community of American Indians, a community of several hundred. The Aleuts were evacuated from the Asland of Attu after a Japanese attack in 1942. This action was taken for the Aleuts' own protection, but property was lost or damaged that has never been replaced. This bill will offer compensation.

verify w | Phil

And now in closing, I wonder whether you'd permit me one personal reminiscence - one prompted by an old newspaper report sent to me by Rose Ochi, a former internee. The clipping comes from the Pacific Citizen and is dated December 1945.

"Arriving by plane from Washington," the article begins,
"General Joseph W. Stilwell pinned the Distinguished Service

Cross on...Mary Masuda...in a simple ceremony on the porch of her

small frame shack near Talbert, Orange County....she was one of

the first Americans of Japanese ancestry to return from

relocation centers to California's farmlands."

"Vinegar Joe" Stilwell was there that day to honor Kazuo
Masuda, Mary's brother. You see, while Mary and her parents were
in an internment camp, Kazuo served as staff sergeant to the
442nd Regimental Combat Team. In one action, Kazuo ordered his
men back and advanced through heavy fire, hauling a mortar. For
12 hours, he engaged in a single-handed barrage of Nazi
positions. Several weeks later at Cassino, Kazuo staged another
lone advance. This time, it cost him his life.

The newspaper clipping notes that her two surviving brothers were with Mary on the little porch that morning. Like their dead brother, both served in the Army.

After General Stilwell made the award, the motion picture actress Louise Allbritton -- a Texas girl -- told how a Texas battalion had been saved by the 442nd. Other show business personalities paid tribute -- Robert Young, Will Rogers, Jr. And one young actor said this:

12/15/45

"Blood that has soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way -- an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way."

The name of that young actor, the newspaper records, was Ronald Reagan.

And, yes, the ideal of liberty and justice for all -- that is still the American way.

Thank you and God bless you.

And now, let me sign H.R. 442 -- so fittingly named in honor of the 442nd.

And now, let me sign H.R.

of the 442nd.

Not the 442nd.

Not the 442nd.

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|----------------------------|-------|----|----------------------------|
| THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON |       |    |                            |
| Date: Wy 8,19              | 8     |    |                            |
| FROM: MARI MASENG          |       |    |                            |
| ☐ Action                   |       |    |                            |
| ☐ Your Comment             |       |    |                            |
| Let's Talk                 |       |    |                            |
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.

THE WHITE HOUSE



August 8, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR MARI MASENG

FROM:

ALAN M. KRANOWITZ Alan -

SUBJECT:

Signing Ceremony for Japanese Internment

Legislation

The Japanese Internment legislation has arrived and, at B's direction, my staff is working with Rebecca's staff to put together a "concept schedule proposal" for a ceremony on Wednesday -- either Roosevelt Room or Rose Garden depending on the size of Public Liaison's list of proposed attendees.

Speechwriters will need to move quickly on remarks for the POTUS. Carol Crawford at OMB is the key substance person on this issue.

cc: B. Oglesby

Rebecca Range

## General Stilwell Pins DSC On Sister of Nisei Hero In Ceremony at Masuda Ranch

"Vinegar Joe" Participates in Americans United Rally in Santa Ana; Film Stars Pay Tribute To Combat Record of Japanese American Troops

SANTA ANA, Calif.-Arriving by plane from Washington, General Joseph W. Stilwell pinned the D.S.C. on little Mary Masuda Saturday morning, Doc. &, in a simple ceremony on the porch of her small frame shack near Talbert, Orange County.

It was the same humble home from which a self-appointed vigilante committee had attempted to drive her a few months before, when she was one of the first Nisel (Americans of Japanesc ancostry) to return from relocation centers to California's farmlands.

On Dec. 8 newsreel cameras ground, radio mikes edged in and press photographers shot from many angles to record this presentation of the Army's second high-est medal curned by Mary's dead brother, Kazuo Masuda, who was killed at Cassino lust year.

The former commander of the China-liurnu-India theater of war, "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, spoke in his traditional democratic manner as he made the award posthum-ously to Mary Masuda, who like her brother had stood up against the forces of fascism.

Kasuo, staff sergeant with the fumous 442nd Differery Japanese American Combat Team, had or-dered his men back and singlehandedly advanced through heavy artillery fire, carrying a mortar. Bracing it in a helmet packed with dirt, he poured round after round into the Nazis for twelve hours. A few weeks later in a similar lone advance he was killed, at Cassino on the Italian front. But his men were safe.
That is why Kanuo could not be

That is why kasuo could not be present to accept the General's medal. His elster Mary, not unlike Mary Pickford in stature and poise, took it for him, with tears in her eyes. Her parents and two of her three living brothers were present on the little porch. All her brothers were or are in the Army.

General Stilwell said as he mot Miss Masuda at the cere-mony, "I have never yet found a Nisci who didn't do his full a Nisci who didn't do his full duty right up to the handle. I feel it an issuar to be delegated to make tide award."

The Distinguished Service Cross did not remain where he planed it for Mary turned and fastened it on her mother's dress in recogni-

& Drum Corps played an old war tune.

Louise Albritton motion pic-ture star born in Texas, gave a sketch telling how the Texas Lost Battalion were saved by the Nisei soldiers. Robert Young did the Arch Oboler bit, "I Have No Prayer." Ronald Rasgan, until recently an army captain, spoke on behalf of the American Veterans Committee, of which he is an officer.

cer, saying:

"Blood that has soaked into
the sands of a beach is all of
one color. America stands unique
in the world, the only country
not founded on race, but on a
way—an ideal. Not in spite of,
but because of our polygiot background, we have had all the
strength in the world. That is
the American way. the American way.

"Mr. and Mrs. Masuda, just as one member of the family of Americans speaking to another member, I want to say for what your son Kasuo did—Thanks!" Harry Flannery as M. C. pointed out that four years before to the day America in one day, shocked by Pearl Harbor, achieved unity, And, he continued, on this "United America" day, when "Americans-All" gathered in Santa Ana Bowl to honor General Stilwell after the occasion of his presentation to Mary Musuda, perhaps it was not too early to begin peace-time unity. peace-time unity.

It was Scout Josh Wilson of Orange Empire Council, Boy Scouts of America, whe had lad the Allegiance of the Flag. "... with Liberty — and Justice — for ALL."

And it was the Santa Ana Army Air Rase Band that played "Amer-ica the Beautiful" as the audience tion. It was Mary, however, who filed out . . . with many a choke

alone had faced the barrom vigilantes on May 1st when she refused to be frightened from her
home

The former commander of the
China-llumma-India theater of war,
poted for his struight forward
Americanian, said later in the day
the an alternoon rally at Santa Ana
little Miss Mary Masuds,
attractive Nisel girl, has gone
back to run her ten-acro farm with
her elderly parents and her veteran brother who assists her.

Talbort will not see such doings

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2nd Page

The amount of maney, the color of une's skin . . . do not make a measure of Americanism. A square deal all around; free speech; equality before the law; a fair field with no favor; obesience to the majority;—an American not only believes in such things, but he is willing to fight for them.

"Who, after all, is the real American? The real American is the man who calls it a fair exchange to lay down his life in order that American ideals may go on living And Judging by such a test, Sgt. Masuda was a better American than any of us here today."

The General gave the names of winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor—only one surviving—to show that this highest of all military awards had gone to Americans of many races, of Mexican, Italian, Polish, German and other ancestries.

and other ancestries.

Ronald Reagan, Louise Allbritton, Robert Young, Harry Flannery, Will Royers Jr., Richard Loo, Chris-l'in Martin, Don Whedlin, Alex Havisr and others were on the program, coming down from Hollywood for the occasion. There were also short talks by leaders of several races, including Ruby Merkeley Goodwin, Dan Marshall, Roque E. DeLa Yala, Maurice Hasan and Walter Hilborn. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish religious leaders gave invocations, and the American Logion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign War and American Veterans Committee were represented. Also, the Spanish-American War Veterans Fife

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Date: August 8, 1988

TO:

Mari Maseng

FROM:

PHILLIP D. BRADY Deputy Counsel to the President

As we discussed, please find attached a letter from Rose Ochi recommending that the President make reference to a statement he made in 1945 on the World War II sacrifices of all races in any statement (signing ceremony) he makes in signing the Japanese internment compensation legislation.

Hope this is helpful.

### ROSE MATSUI OCHI

ATTORNEY AT LAW 730 SOUTH LINCOLN AVENUE, MONTEREY PARK, CALIFORNIA 91754 (818) 573-0324

Phillip Brady:

If a signing ceremony is being powered auggest that you contact Bob Chairman of the Cal. Rep. Party, who like to suggest a few invites inclusive Nakashima, Head of Japanese for Reagan.

Again, thank you for your assistance

Dear Mr. Brady:

Phillip Brady

White House,

Acting Counsel

to the President

Washington, D.C.

ROSE OCHI

As a followup of our telephone conversation yesterday, I as forwarding to you a copy of an article which appeared in the Pacific Citizen, December 15, 1988 edition, which includes Ronald Reagan's quote on behalf of the American Veterans Committee, saying:

"Blood that has soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way --an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way...."

Such beautiful and fitting remarks could be repeated by the now President of the United States as he signs the historic redress legislation.

Please thank the President for his leadership in upholding the truly American ideal of a country willing to recognize its past mistakes and make amends. This is what makes us so very unique and special in promoting fairness and understanding throughout the nation and the world.

As a former internee, National Vice President of Japanese American Citizens League and first JACL Legislative Education Committee, Legislative Strategy Chair, I am so very personally delighted after a long struggle, to reach this glorious culmination-a victory for all Americans.

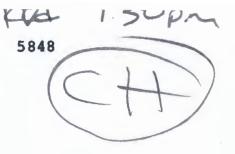
Sincerely Yours.

Lose Thatour Ochi

Rose Matsui Ochi

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

August 9, 1988



MEMORANDUM FOR TONY DOLAN

FROM:

PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Signing Ceremony for

Japanese Internment Legislation

The NSC staff concurs on the Presidential Remarks for the Signing Ceremony for Japanese Internment Legislation (Tab A).

Attachment

Tab A Presidential Remarks

cc: Rhett Dawson

(Robinson) August 9, 1988 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR JAPANESE PH 12: 11
INTERNMENT LEGISLATION 19 1988

My fellow Americans:

We gather here today to right a grave wrong.

More than 40 years ago, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 120,000 Americans were forcibly removed from their homes and placed in makeshift internment camps. This action was taken without trial, without jury. It was based solely on race -- for these 120,000 were Americans of Japanese descent.

Yes, the Nation was then at war, struggling for its survival -- and it is not for us today to pass judgment upon those who may have made mistakes while engaged in that great struggle.

Yet we must recognize that the internment of Japanese Americans was just that -- a mistake.

Throughout the War, no Americans of Japanese ancestry committed any acts of disloyalty, let alone treason. On the contrary, tens of Japanese-Americans volunteered for our Armed Forces -- many stepping forward in the internment camps themselves. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team -- made up almost entirely of Japanese-Americans -- served with distinction throughout the War.

To defend their Nation, their homeland, the United States of America.

Yet back at home, the soldiers' families were being denied the very freedom for which so many of the soldiers themselves were laying down their lives.

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The legislation that I am about to sign provides for a restitution payment to each of the 60,000 surviving

Japanese-Americans, of the 120,000 who were relocated or detained. Yet no payment can make up for those three lost years.

So what is most important in this bill has less to do with property than with honor. For here we admit a wrong. Here we reaffirm our commitment as Nation to equal justice under the law.

I'd like to note that the bill I am about to sign also provides funds for the Aleut community of American Indians, a community of several hundred. The Aleuts were evacuated from the island of Attu after a Japanese attack in 1942. This action was taken for the Aleuts' own protection, but property was lost or damaged that has never been replaced. This bill will offer compensation.

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The name of that young actor, the newspaper records, was Ronald Reagan.

And, yes, the ideal of liberty and justice for all -- that is still the American way.

Thank you and God bless you.

And now, let me sign H.R. 442 -- so fittingly named in honor of the 442nd.

Document No. 576688

#### WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

| DATE:8/9/88 A |                 | CTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE 8Y: |         |                     | 4:00 TODAY      | 4:00 TODAY |  |  |
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**REMARKS:** 

DONATELLI

**FITZWATER** 

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan's office with an info copy to my office by 4:00 TODAY Tuesday, August 9, 1988. Thank you.

DOLAN

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(Robinson)
August 9, 1988
12:30 p.m.

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INTERNMENT LEGISLATION 1988

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August 9, 1988 LEGIS Hir.

1) Please include

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

SIGNING CEREMONY FOR JAPANESE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1988 -9 PM 12: Changes Presa

numbers of Congress, distinguished grests, My fellow Americans:

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2) Please delete Mineta Name and substitute generic

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#### WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

| DATE:      | 8/9/88 AC      | TION/CONCUR!               | RENCE/C | COMMENT DUE BY:     | 4:00 TODAY          |         |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------------------|---------|
| SUBJECT: _ | PRESIDENTIAL R | EMARKS: SI                 | GNING   | CEREMONY FOR JAPANE | ESE INTERNMENT LEGI | SLATION |
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**REMARKS:** 

Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan's office with an info copy to my office by 4:00 TODAY Tuesday, August 9, 1988. Thank you.

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For comments see pp. 1,2,3.



(Robinson)
August 9, 1988
12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR JAPANESE PN 12: 11
INTERNMENT LEGISLATION NO AUGUST 10, 1988

My fellow Americans:

We gather here today to right a grave wrong.

More than 40 years ago, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 120,000 Americans were forcibly removed from their homes and placed in makeshift internment camps. This action was taken without trial, without jury. It was based solely on race -- for these 120,000 were Americans of Japanese descent.

Yes, the Nation was then at war, struggling for its survival -- and it is not for us today to pass judgment upon those who may have made mistakes while engaged in that great struggle.

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Document No. 576688

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**FITZWATER** 

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12:30 p.m.

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Government Operations

Formal Apology Included:

# **Congress Clears Reparations For World War II Internees**

Japanese-Americans interned during World War II would receive \$1.25 billion in reparations and a formal apology from the government under a bill (HR 442) cleared by the House Aug. 4 and sent to the president for his signature.

The House adopted the conference report on the bill (H Rept 100-785) by a vote of 257-156. (Vote 264,

The Senate approved the conference report on a voice vote July 27. (Weekly Report p. 2136)

About 120,000 Japanese-Americans were forcibly relocated under an executive order issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt after the attack on Pearl Harbor. They were shipped to internment camps guarded by the military. Many lost the homes and businesses that were left behind.

HR 442 would establish a trust fund within the Treasury Department from which tax-free payments of \$20,000 would be provided to the approximately 60,000 Japanese-American internees who are still alive. It would be up to the attorney general to identify the eligible individuals and authorize payments.

Although the White House had earlier threatened to veto HR 442, President Reagan said in an Aug. 1 letter to House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, that he supported the conference agreement, which he said was better than either the House or Senate versions of the bill.

Two conference decisions, in particular, appear to have eased the administration's concerns.

The bill now makes acceptance of the reparation payment a final settlement of any claim against the government for internment.

And the conferees adopted a House provision to spread the reparation payments over a 10-year period, dropping the five-year payment plan contained in the Senate version of the bill. A former internee would have up to 18 months to decide whether or not to accept the payment.

The measure authorizes appropriations to the trust fund of \$1.25 billion, with no more than \$500 million to be appropriated in any given year.

#### **Other Provisions**

A major compromise worked out in conference concerned the date on which the internees would be eligible to receive the funds.

The House measure specified that any former internee living on the date of enactment of the bill would be eligible for payment, which would allow the individual's estate to receive the funds if the internee died after the bill was enacted but before receiving payment. The Senate-passed version defined an eligible individual as one liv-

ing on the date of payment. The difference was significant, according to the bill's sponsors, because many former internees are quite elderly.

Under the compromise, the Senate agreed to accept the House language, but to limit payment to three specific categories of beneficiaries — a surviving spouse; if no surviving spouse, then equal shares to all children living at the time of payment; if no surviving children, then equal shares to parents living on the date of payment. If there are no parents living, the money would remain in the trust fund. The conference report instructs the attorney general to try to pay the oldest surviving internees

The conferees also agreed to a Senate amendment providing \$21.4 million in compensation to about 450 surviving wartime evacuees from the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands in Alaska. Each of the eligible Aleuts would receive \$12,000, and the rest of the money would go to repair wartime damage done to the islands.

The House Judiciary Committee had approved a separate measure (HR 1631 — H Rept 100-372) providing compensation for the Aleuts.

### **House Passes Computer-Matching Bill**

New controls on the federal government's use of "computer matching" would be imposed under a bill (HR 4699 — H Rept 100-802) passed by the House Aug. 1.

Computer matching is an audit technique involving the comparison of information contained in computer records. The federal government uses the process to establish or verify that an individual is eligible for a certain program or to recover delinquent debts. In recent years, the practice has become more common, raising concern about possible abuse or invasions of privacy. (Weekly Report p. 1603)

HR 4699, which passed on a voice vote, would regulate the way in which federal computer matching is conducted. It would require that federal agencies enter into computer-matching agreements that specify the purpose of the comparison and that describe the nature of the match and the expected results.

All information obtained under a computer match would have to be independently verified before adverse action could be taken. And individuals must be given notice and an opportunity to contest the findings resulting from a computer match.

The Senate passed a similar computer-matching bill (S 496) on May 1, 1987. (1987 Almanac p. 371)

After passing HR 4699, the House substituted its text for that of S 496 and then passed that bill on a voice vote, setting up a House-Senate conference to resolve differences.

-By Christine C. Lawrence

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

August 1, 1988

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We welcome the action of the House-Senate conference on H.R. 442, a bill to provide compensation for Americans of Japanese descent interned in the United States during the Second World War. The bill reported from the conference and passed by the Senate on July 27 is substantially improved over the versions of the bill previously considered.

We are particularly pleased that the bill provides for a measured disbursement of the amounts authorized for the trust fund and ensures that acceptance of compensation under the legislation fully satisfies claims against the United States based on the unique circumstances of the internment.

The enactment of H.R. 442 will close a sad chapter in American history in a way that reaffirms America's commitment to the preservation of liberty and justice for all.

I urge the House of Representatives to act swiftly and favorably on the bill.

Sincerely,
Royald Rogan

The Honorable James Wright Speaker of the House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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The Honorable Robert H. Michel Republican Leader House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515



## **FINAL**

Detailed index on Page A

Prices May Vary in Areas Outside Metropolitan Washington (See Box on A4)

25¢

## Congress Approves War-Internee Fund

Cash, Apology Offered to Japanese Americans

By Tom Kenworthy Washington Post Staff Writer

The House, moving to redress what one lawmaker called "a monumental injustice," yesterday passed and sent to President Reagan compromise legislation offering cash reparations and the nation's apology to tens of thousands of Japanese-Americans who were interned during World War II.

Reagan, hailing the end of "a sad chapter in American history," said he would sign the measure, which the House passed on a 257-to-156 vote. The Senate approved the compromise last week on a voice vote.

Enactment of the legislation, which authorizes \$1.25 billion in payments to survivors of the wartime relocation and internment program ordered by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1942, "reaffirms America's commitment to the preservation of liberty and justice for all," said Reagan in a letter to House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Tex.).

Under the legislation, approximately 60,000 surviving Japanese-Americans of the 120,000 who

were detained in camps following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor—many of whom lost their homes and businesses—will be eligible for cash payments of \$20,000. Several hundred Aleuts living on the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands in Alaska will also be eligible for \$12,000 payments to compensate for losses they suffered when they were relocated for their own safety following a Japanese attack on the island of Attu in 1942.

Perhaps more importantly to many loyal Japanese-Americans permanently scarred by the experience of being branded as security risks during the war, the measure acknowledges that the nation committed a "grave injustice" 46 years ago. The relocation and internment program, says the legislation, was undertaken "without adequate security reasons and without any acts of espionage or sabotage" being documented.

"This legislation touches all of us because it touches the very core of our nation," said Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif.), who as a young child was forcibly relocated along with his family to a camp in Wyo-

See INTERNEES, A20, Col. 1

Bush Plans Broad Challenge To Dukakis on Foreign Policy

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## Congress Passes Internee Reparations Measure

#### INTERNEES, From A1

The legislation also concedes that the government "failed to provide reasonable care" for Aleuts relocated from their native villages to southeast Alaska, and that the relocation "resulted in widespread illness, disease and death among the residents of the camps." The bill authorizes \$21.4 million to compensate the Aleuts for the loss of their property.

Payments under the reparations program are subject to annual appropriations by Congress which are not to exceed \$500 million a year.

In addition, the bill directs the Justice Department to review criminal convictions of Japanese-Americans at the time and asks the president to issue pardons if recommended by the department. It also authorizes an education and research program into the relocation and internment program.

Enactment of the reparations legislation capped what has been a

#### **TODAY IN CONGRESS**

#### SENATE

Meets at 9:30 a.m. Committees:

Foreign Relations—10 a.m. Open. War powers special subc. Hearings on the War Powers Resolution. 419 Dirksen Office Building.

Judiclary—9:30 a.m. Open. Nomination hearings for Richard L. Thornburgh to be U.S attorney general. 226 DOB.

Joint Economic—9:30 a.m. Open. Hearings on July's employment-unemployment statistics. 628 DOB.

#### HOUSE

Not in session. Committees:

Interior and Insular Affairs—10 a.m. National parks and public lands subc. Hearing and mark-up to remove restrictions on land acquisitions for Antietam National Battleield and other pending legislation. 1324 Longworth House Office Building.

wrenching experience for many members of Congress that stirred painful memories of World War II. Adding to the drama during consideration of the legislation were the poignant personal remembrances of Japanese-American members who lived in the camps, including Mineta and Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Calif.), and the combat experiences of Sens. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), Japanese-Americans

who served in highly-decorated Nisei units in the European theater.

Many members of the House and Senate were besieged by complaints from war veterans protesting the payment of reparations to people they associated with their wartime foe.

"It is just very hard for me to understand and go face veterans in my district who have suffered from World War II," said Rep. Clyde C. Holloway (R-La.) in opposing the measure. "I do not know if we are trying to buy the votes in the state of California from the people of Japanese ancestry...."

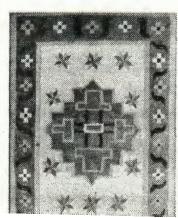
But few members of the House spoke against the measure during final debate Wednesday night and yesterday. More typical were the comments of Rep. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.):

"We are responsible for the ruining of lives beyond our comprehension," said Weiss. "There is no adequate financial compensation for the fundamental violation of civil liberties and the humiliation that those individuals suffered. However, the payments to the surviving internees that this legislation contains are a symbol of the strong affirmation by this Congress that a terrible mistake was made, and a commitment by the U.S. government that such a mistake will never be repeated."

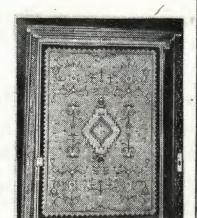
\_ النساجون الشرقيون

# First Anniversary Sale

Oriental Weavers—Egypt — 3 WAYS TO SAVE







numbers of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C. 1202), or vegetables, if fresh:

(A) Cabbages provided for in item 135.30. (B) Carrots provided for in items 135.41 and 135.42.

(C) Celery provided for in items 135.60 and 135.61.

(D) Lettuce provided for in item 136.60 and 136.61.

(E) Red onions and yellow onions, of the type produced for storage holdings, provided for in item 136.93.

(F) Potatoes provided for in items 137.25,

137.26, 137.28, and 137.29.

(G) Radishes provided for in item 137.40. The Secretary, for the purposes of this Act, may add for the duration of a marketing season any classification of fresh vegetable provided for in such Schedules as a vegetable category if a United States producer of vegetables of that kind petitions the Secretary for such addition and the Secretary concludes that economic injury is being caused or threatened to United States producers of articles in that category after applying the criteria in section 3(a) and (b)(2).

Sec. 3. (a) During each week of the marketing season, the Secretary shall monitor the market prices paid for articles in each vegetable category. If the Secretary finds, on the basis of such monitoring, that the average market price paid for articles in any vegetable category during a week does not equal 90 per centum of the average price for such category for such week in the immediately preceding three years, the Secretary shall, within five working days, publish notice thereof in the Federal Register designating that vegetable category as a depressed vegetable category.

(b) The Secretary shall, with respect to articles in each vegetable category designated as a depressed vegetable category under sub-

section (a)-

(1) monitor on a daily basis the market prices paid for articles in such category; and

(2) monitor on a weekly basis the volume of imported articles in such category that is sold in commerce at terminal markets.

(c) If the Secretary determines, on the basis of the monitoring required under subsection (b) regarding a vegetable category that is depressed, that-

(1) the average market price for articles in that category for any week in the marketing season was below the benchmark price for

such category; and

(2) the volume of imported articles in that category that was sold in commerce at terminal markets during such week exceeds by 5 per centum or more the volume of imported articles in that category sold at terminal markets during the equivalent seven-day period in calendar year 1978;

the imported articles in that vegetable category shall be presumed to be causing, or threatening to cause, economic injury to United States producers of like vegetables.

SEC. 4. (a)(1) Within two working days after making a determination under section 3(c) regarding imported articles in a vegetable category, the Secretary, by publication of notice thereof in the Federal Register, shall (A) issue notice of such determination, and (B) establish a surtax period for such category which shall be the one hundred and eighty-day period commencing on the next Thursday which occurs not less than five days after the date on which such determination was made. The Secretary shall at the time of such publication notify the exporting countries of articles in such category of such establishment.

(2) The Secretary may extend a surtax period established under paragraph (1) by an additional ninety days if he determines

that the conditions which led to the establishment of the initial one hundred and eighty-day surtax period are still in effect at the close of the initial period.

(b)(1) There is imposed on all articles in a vegetable category to which a determination under section 3(c) applies that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States during each week within the surtax period a surtax for that week, the amount of which shall be computed on a weekly basis in accordance with subsection (c) by the Secretary on the basis of the applicable market prices.

(2) A surtax imposed under this Act shall be treated for all purposes of the customs laws as a duty which is in addition to any other duty imposed on the entry or withdrawal from warehouse of articles in the vegetable category concerned.

(c)(1) For purposes of this section—
(A) The term "computation period" means the seven-day period that ends on a Wednesday in the two weeks before the week in which a surtax week begins.

(B) The term "surtax week" means each seven-day period, beginning on a Thursday, that is within a surtax period established

under subsection (a).

(2) The surtax imposed under subsection (b) for each surtax week on imported articles within a vetegable category shall be determined on the basis of the relationship between the average daily market price paid during the applicable computation period for articles in such category, and the applicable benchmark price for such article, as follows:

(A) If there is no difference between such market price and benchmark price-

(i) no surtax shall apply during the surtax week if no surtax is in effect for the immediately preceding surtax week; or

(li) the surtax for the surtax week shall be the same as the surtax, if any, in effect for the immediately preceding surtax week.

(B) If such market price is below the benchmark price, the surtax for the surtax week shall be-

(i) an amount equal to the difference between such prices, if there is no surtax in effect for the immediately preceding surtax week, or

(ii) an amount equal to such difference plus the amount of any surtax in effect for the immediately preceding surtax week.

(C) If such market price exceeds such benchmark price-

(i) on surtax shall apply during the surtax week if no surtax is in effect for the immediately preceding surfax week, or

(ii) the surtax for the surtax week shall be the amount of the surtax in effect for the immediately preceding surtax week reduced by the amount of such excess (but not below zero).

(3) For purposes of determining under paragraph (2) the surtax to be imposed during the first surtax week in any surtax period, a surtax shall be determined under paragraph (2)(B) on the basis of the findings of the Secretary under section 3(c)(1) on the imported articles concerned and such surtax shall be treated as being in effect during the week before such first surtax

(d) The Secretary shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the surtax, or absence thereof, as determined under subsection (c) for each surtax week within the surtax period established for a vegetable category. The Secretary of the Treasury shall take such action as may be necessary or appropriate to levy and collect any such surtax so certified, including the requirement of additional bond to secure payment of a surtax.

SEC. 5. The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall each issue such regulations as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out this Act.

THE CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT OF 1987

#### HON, NORMAN Y, MINETA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 1987

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join our distinguished Majority Leader Tom FOLEY and many other colleagues in introducing the Civil Liberties Act of 1987.

Now, after more than 40 years, Congress has the opportunity to close the book on one of the most shameful events in our history: the internment, beginning in 1942, of 120,000 loyal Americans without trial or jury, simply on the basis of their ethnic ancestry.

During the 99th Congress, this legislation was H.R. 442. Our new bill, identical in substance to the 99th Congress legislation, will also be H.R. 442. This number honors the 442d Regimental Combat Team, which has been called the most highly decorated unit in the history of American fighting forces. The 442d was made up of Americans of Japanese ancestry, many of whom volunteered for duty from the internment camps that are the subiect of H.R. 442. The 442d fought with great distinction throughout the European Campaign of World War II.

The men of the 442d, along with those Americans of Japanese ancestry who served with distinction with the Military Intelligence Service [MIS] in the Pacific Theater, fought with courage and bravery to defend their nation, their homeland-the United States of America

Those interned were not foreign spies carrying briefcases bulging with secrets. Many had sons or brothers fighting with the 442d. Among those who were interned were old men and women who worked in the fields of California. Their hard labor made barren lands productive, lands that many would lose as a result of the internment. They were not unscrupulous agents of a foreign power, they were business people who had worked to build small businesses and to be full members of their communities. They were not recent immigrants of uncertain loyalty. Most of those interned were born in this country and were proud citizens from birth.

We cannot debate appropriate remedies for something as indefensible as the internment without first understanding the complete tragedy of our Government's policies and the needless injustice which the interment represent-

I was one of those interned. I was 10 years old. If someone, anyone, could show me how by any stretch of the imagination any reasonable person could suspect me to have been a security threat, I would abandon this effort in-

The fact remains that no Americans of Japanese ancestry committed any acts of treason or disloyalty.

The internment was not merely inconvenient. Evacuated with little notice, thousands of Americans lost their homes, their businesses, their farms. And we lost nearly 3 years of our

the losses of friends, education, opportunity, and standing in our communities were incalculable.

My own family was sent first to Santa Anita Racetrack. We showered in the horse paddocks. Some families lived in converted stables, others in hastily thrown together barracks. We were then moved to Heart Mountain, WY, where our entire family lived in one small room of a rude tarpaper barrack.

Some say the internment was for our own protection. But even as a boy of 10 I could see that the machine guns and the barbed

wire faced inward.

test in 1942.

The internment was not, as some say, "regrettable but understandable." It was unjustified in light of what we know now and unjustified in light of what anyone who wanted to see the situation clearly could see at the time. The internment was a mistake, and act of prejudice and fear. This whole Nation was and still is shamed by it.

Yes, it was a time of great national stress. But moral principles and rules of law are easy to uphold in placid times. But do these principles stand up in times of great difficulty and stress? That is the test of a great nation: Can it stand by its laws and codes even while threatened? Sadly, we as a nation failed that

Chisled in the marble over the entrance to our Supreme Court, it does not say "equal justice under law except when things get sticky." If our constitutional promises of equal treatment and due process mean what they say, then there can be no excuse for the internment. What had I done that made me so threatening to my government? Murderers, arsonists, even assassins and spies get trials. But not young boys born and raised in San Jose, CA who happen to have odd sounding last names. Is that what this nation is about?

Congress enacted legislation in 1942 to implement the internment, and it is now up to Congress to demonstrate our national capacity for justice and wisdom. Let us show the strength of our Nation and our system of laws by admitting the errors of 1942, apologizing for those errors, and making some efforts toward redressing the damage we have done. Moreover, let us state clearly and unequivocally our commitment that such a wholesale abuse of civil rights will never again happen in this land.

We in Congress began this process of national reconciliation with the creation in 1980 of the Commission of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

Following their excellent historical study, the Commission recommended appropriate remedies for the injustices of the internment. Those recommendations are the basis of the bill being introduced today.

In brief, these recommendations include a national apology; measures to correct legal and administrative actions that were part of the Nation's discriminatory activities at that time; the creation of a civil liberties public education fund for educational and community projects; and the payment from that fund of \$20,000 to each surviving internee.

Similar recommendations were also made by the Commission to redress the damages done to the native Aleuts who were evacuated from their islands in 1942. Those recommendations are the basis for the Aleut provisions

of this legislation, which parallel the provisions of S. 2116 of the 98th Congress.

I look forward to discussing these recommendations in detail with my colleagues. I believe they constitute a fair, balanced, and reasonable package.

In speaking about the internment, our new Speaker has in the past quoted Abraham Lincoln. Let me in closing repeat that passage.

"Those who would deny freedom to others do not deserve it themselves. And, under a just God, they will not retain it long."

A summary of H.R. 442 follows:

#### SUMMARY OF H.R. 442

Congress acknowledges the fundamental injustice of the internment, apologizes for it, and seeks to prevent the reoccurrence of any similar events.

AS REGARDS AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

 On behalf of the nation, Congress apologies to those Americans of Japanese ancestry who were interned.

 The President is requested to offer pardons to those convicted of violating laws during the internment period, whose violation was based on a refusal to accept racially discriminatory treatment.

3. When reviewing requests for review of administrative rulings relating to the internment, executive agencies are asked to review such cases with liberality, giving full consideration to the findings of the Commission and Congress.

4. A trust fund of \$1.5 billion is authorized for educational and humanitarian purposes, and a Board of Directors is created to manage the fund.

5. Out of the trust fund, the Attorney General shall pay \$20,000 in compensation to each surviving internee.

AS REGARDS AMERICANS OF ALEUT ANCESTRY

1. A trust fund of \$5 million is authorized for community, educational and cultural programs benefiting the Aleuts, and a Board of Directors is created to manage the fund.

Each of the survivors of the Aleut internment shall receive \$12,000 in compensation.

Churches and community centers destroyed in World War II shall be rebuilt.

 Hazardous debris remaining from World War II shall be cleared away from the Aleutian Islands.

The Island of Attu shall be returned to the native corporation, provided that the Coast Guard will be able to continue its use of the Island.

#### CYPRUS IN TRANSITION

#### HON, LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 6, 1987

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recent publication of a book dealing with Cyprus. "Cyprus in Transition, 1960–85" was published in 1986 and edited by John T.A. Koumoulides, professor of history at Ball State University in Muncie, IN.

This book draws on the expertise of many scholars and statesmen and represents a significant contribution to the literature on a subject of keen interest and continuing concern to many of my colleagues in the U.S. Congress. As the editor suggests, the book offers no miraculous solutions to the difficult Cyprus dispute but it is of great value to those wishing to understand the Cyprus problem and

some of the more complex issues which divide the Greek and Turkish communities on that island nation.

Dr. Koumoulides is to be commended for his important and continuing work on Cyprus and for his willingness over many years to share his knowledge and expertise with Members of Congress. It is a fitting tribute to him that our colleague, Senator Paul Sarbanes, has written a useful and timely introduction to Dr. Koumoulides' book.

Dr. Koumoulides' preface to "Cyprus in Transition" as well as Senator SARBANES' introduction follow:

CYPRUS IN TRANSITION 1960-85

(Edited by John T.A. Koumoulides, Professor of History, Ball State University, Muncle, IN, introduction by Paul S. Sarbanes, U.S. Senator)

#### PPEPACE

The problem of Cyprus appears in the press quite often, but I am certain that the greater public knows very little about it and is unable to comprehend its complexities. We may know about the great past of Cyprus, but, alas, at least in the United States of America, very few of us, perhaps, are aware of its tragic present. Most people do not realize that in Cyprus today past and future collide, and that while that past is certain the future, I fear, is quite obscure. In an effort to educate ourselves better about the various facets of the problem of Cyprus and to understand its historical, social, political, diplomatic and strategic dimensions, a series of lectures was planned at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Under the auspices of the University's Greek Studies Programme and the Stephen J., and Beatrice Brademas Lecture Series an international group of distinguished experts on Cyprus was invited to the University. The lectures were delivered during the academic year 1984-1985. The present volume consists of the papers given at Ball State University as well as essays specially written at the invitation of the editor. Taken together they provide an objective and comprehensive look at the problem of Cyprus, mainly from the foreign perspective; the views expressed are in each case those of the individual writer. It is my earnest wish that this volume will be of value to the scholar as well as to the student of the recent history of Cyprus, providing much needed insights into a very complex situa-

"Cyprus in Transition" does not put forward a miraculous solution of the Cyprus problem but it will be of grat value to all who wish to understand it.

JOHN T.A. KOUMOULIDES.

INTRODUCTION BY HON. PAUL S. SARBANES

The history of civilization on Cyprus can be traced back to the neolithic settlement of Khirokitia in the seventh millennium B.C. It has come to us indirectly, through references in the Homeric hymns and through the archaeological discoveries of modern times; the earliest historians remain mute witnesses, for to this day the script in which they wrote remains undeciphered. By contrast, the history of the Republic of Cyprus dates back only to 1960. Although the independent sovereign state was established a mere quarter-century ago, the events of the past twenty-five years, and the situation on Cyprus today, regrettably appear as far removed from general public knowledge and comprehension as the earliest millennium.

There are several factors that anyone seeking to understand modern Cyprus must consider. The first is the strategic location of the island, which has made it for centur-