

The original documents are located in Box 23, “2/19/76 - Remarks Upon the Signing of the Proclamation Terminating Executive Order 9066 of 2/19/42” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

TALKING POINTS:

SIGNING OF PROCLAMATION

TERMINATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

FEBRUARY 19, 1976

FEBRUARY 19TH IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF A SAD DAY
IN AMERICAN HISTORY. IT WAS ON THAT DATE IN 1942
THAT EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 9066 WAS ISSUED,
RESULTING IN THE UPROOTING OF MANY LOYAL AMERICANS.
OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY
WERE REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES, DETAINED IN SPECIAL CAMPS,
AND EVENTUALLY RELOCATED.

WE NOW KNOW / WHAT WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THEN --

NOT ONLY WAS THAT EVACUATION WRONG, / BUT JAPANESE-AMERICANS

WERE AND ARE LOYAL AMERICANS.

ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND AT HOME, THE NAMES OF JAPANESE-AMERICANS

HAVE BEEN / AND CONTINUE TO BE WRITTEN IN OUR HISTORY /

FOR THE SACRIFICES AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS THEY HAVE MADE

TO THE WELL-BEING AND SECURITY OF THIS, OUR COMMON NATION.●

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 CEASED TO BE EFFECTIVE

AT THE END OF WORLD WAR TWO. BECAUSE THERE WAS
NO FORMAL STATEMENT OF ITS TERMINATION, HOWEVER,
THERE REMAINS SOME CONCERN AMONG JAPANESE-AMERICANS
THAT THERE MAY YET BE SOME LIFE IN THAT OBSOLETE DOCUMENT.
THE PROCLAMATION I AM SIGNING HERE TODAY SHOULD REMOVE
ALL DOUBT ON THAT MATTER.

I CALL UPON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO AFFIRM WITH ME
THIS UNHYPHENATED AMERICAN PROMISE -- THAT WE HAVE LEARNED,
FROM THE TRAGEDY OF THAT LONG AGO EXPERIENCE,
FOREVER TO TREASURE LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL
AMERICAN, AND RESOLVE THAT THIS KIND OF ERROR SHALL NEVER
BE MADE AGAIN●

END OF TEXT