“As the Commission documents, these actions were carried out without adequate security reasons and without any acts of espionage or sabotage documented by the Commission, and were motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership.”

H.R. 442
Civil Liberties Act of 1988
PUBLIC FACTS 100-001—FEB. 19, 2017

Public Facts 100-001
University Libraries

A Documentation of Facts

To share what happened after the internment in terms of redress and continued activism.

Be it known by the Cal State East Bay Community,

SECTION 1. ANNIVERSARY OF RESTITUTION

(a) While February 19, 2017 marks the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9066 that ordered the removal and incarceration of all peoples of Japanese Ancestry on the West Coast, August 10, 2018 marks the 30th anniversary of the passage of H.R. 442, aka the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

(b) This act provided restitution for those who were interned in the form of $20,000 per individual & a formal apology from the United States of America.

(c) H.R. 442 also provided restitution for the Unangan (Aleut) residents of the Pribilof and Aleutian Islands who were forcibly removed from their homes during World War II.

SECTION 2. CONTINUED ACTIVISM

(a) In addition to mounting the campaign that led to H.R. 442, many Japanese Americans have been fierce opponents to the government using the Internment as “precedent” for actions against any group perceived as a threat or as “others.”

(b) On April 10, 1967, William Marutani addressed the Supreme Court on behalf of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) in support of the Lovings’ case that challenged the legality of anti-miscegenation laws. The unanimous decision by the Supreme Court struck down all bans on interracial marriage in the United States.

(c) Many Japanese Americans support Black Lives Matter, re-appropriating the derogatory term, “Yellow Peril,” which was used to incite fear of Asian immigrants in the United States in the 19th century, for the marching slogan: “Yellow Peril Supports Black Power.”

(d) Actor George Takei, who was interned along with his family, is one of the most prominent Japanese Americans who has voiced continual protest against the proposed Muslim Registry by the Trump Administration.

(e) This activism holds accountable the United States to its declaration in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 to “discourage the occurrence of similar injustices and violations of civil liberties in the future.”

SECTION 3: RESOURCES