

The tremendous effort by the War Relocation Authority and concerned Americans for the welfare of these Japanese-Americans may add perspective to that story, but it does not erase the setback to fundamental American principles. Fortunately, the Japanese-American community in Hawaii was spared the indignities suffered by those on our mainland.

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, Japanese-Americans—names like Hamada, Mitsumori, Marimoto, Noguchi, Yamasaki, Kido, Munemori and Miyamura—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.

The Executive order that was issued on February 19, 1942, was for the sole purpose of prosecuting the war with the Axis Powers, and ceased to be effective with the end of those hostilities. Because there was no formal statement of its termination, however, there is concern among many Japanese-Americans that there may yet be some life in that obsolete document. I think it appropriate, in this our Bicentennial Year, to remove all doubt on that matter, and to make clear our commitment in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim that all the authority conferred by Executive Order No. 9066 terminated upon the issuance of Proclamation No. 2714, which formally proclaimed the cessation of the hostilities of World War II on December 31, 1946. 50 USC app. note prec. 1.

I call upon the American people to affirm with me this 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 action shall never again be repeated.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4418

February 25, 1976

Red Cross Month, 1976

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

For nearly half of our Nation's two hundred years, the American Red Cross has reflected the concerns of the American people by dedicating itself to the ease and prevention of human suffering. In war and in peace, this Good Neighbor has ministered to the anguish of those who are tragically affected by circumstances beyond their control. It has undertaken to prevent distress and has striven to preserve health and safety.

The Red Cross always has been a dependable source of assistance to the Federal Government and other organizations and agencies seeking ways to serve our people.

In this, our Bicentennial Year, we salute the American Red Cross for its history of compassionate concern and its continuing pioneer spirit that brings vigor to the unending quest for better ways in which to meet human needs.

In 1976, the American Red Cross is at the forefront of voluntary citizen action. The services of over one million volunteers have made possible the changes, innovations and adaptations necessary to improve its effectiveness. While many traditional facets of its assistance continue to fulfill a basic requirement, the Red Cross has broadened its efforts beyond direct service to ease suffering. Today, it actively seeks to help eradicate causes of recurrent, but preventable, health, safety and disaster problems.

March is traditionally Red Cross Month. In that time period, more than 1,600 Red Cross chapters will campaign for funds. Other chapters, in partnership with United Way, will be seeking volunteers for their various programs and services. I know that all Americans will show the Red Cross that they too are Good Neighbors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, and Honorary Chairman of the American National Red Cross, do hereby designate March, 1976, as Red Cross Month. I urge all Americans to give their generous support to the work of their local Red Cross chapters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4419

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February 25, 1976

Save Your Vision Week, 1976

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

Try to imagine a world without sunsets, without the smiles of friends, without the comfort of books, or without any of the simple sights we take for granted but which make our lives so much richer. Such a world will become a reality for the fifty thousand Americans who will become blind this year alone. Over a million other Americans will also suffer some form of visual impairment. Yet all too often it is only when these problems occur that we realize how important vision is to almost every aspect of our daily existence.

Americans have access to the most advanced facilities for the care of vision available in the world. This has been made possible through sustained research by dedicated professionals, supported in large measure by private organizations as well as the Federal Government, through the National Eye Institute. Nevertheless, whether