



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: On February 19, 1942, Presidential Executive Order 9066, authorized the forced removal and incarceration of approximately 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, residing in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, and Hawaii; and
- WHEREAS: Executive Order 9066 caused these Japanese Americans to suffer immeasurable financial loss and psychological damage, and to be deprived of their Constitutional liberties without due process of law; and
- WHEREAS: Japanese Americans demonstrated patriotism by volunteering to serve in the United States military, including its Military Intelligence Service whose Language School was based at Camp Savage in Savage, Minnesota, and later at Fort Snelling; and
- WHEREAS: About 6,000 Japanese American officers and enlisted men graduated from the Language School after intensive and accelerated training in the Japanese language, becoming the eyes and ears of the Allied Forces, with acclaim by General Willoughby, Chief Intelligence for General MacArthur, for shortening the Pacific war by two years; and
- WHEREAS: The efforts of the Japanese American linguists in the Military Intelligence Service resulted in the successful occupation and democratization of Japan after World War II; and
- WHEREAS: The U.S. Army's segregated 100th Infantry Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, composed of about 18,000 Japanese American volunteers, including those recruited from American concentration camps, suffered about 800 killed or missing in action, and became the most decorated American unit for its size and length of service; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota, on February 19, 2017, the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, pauses to recognize Japanese American incarcerated and World War II military personnel and honor their sacrifice and patriotic loyalty, remembering the lessons and blessings of liberty and justice for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, February 19, 2017, as:

JAPANESE AMERICAN DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

in the State of Minnesota.



Steve Pimm

SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 13th day of February.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR