



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

A Day of Remembrance

WHEREAS, we are a nation of immigrants, made up of diverse people; and

WHEREAS, 69 years ago, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, 120,000 civilians of Japanese descent, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, were incarcerated in internment camps; and

WHEREAS, almost 10,000 of the total 120,000 civilians of Japanese descent were incarcerated in an internment camp called Minidoka or "Hunt" in Jerome County, Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the former Minidoka site is now Minidoka Internment National Monument; and

WHEREAS, almost 1,000 Japanese American men from the Minidoka internment camp fought in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, volunteers from Minidoka were part of the units known as the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Infantry Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Minidoka had the highest enlistment rate and highest casualty rate of all ten major internment camps in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team became the most highly decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2010, President Barack Obama signed S.1055 which granted the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian award, collectively, to the 442nd RCT, the 100th Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service for their extraordinary accomplishments in World War II.

WHEREAS, Japanese Americans in our communities have continued to contribute to our society and have distinguished themselves in all walks of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim February 19, 2012, to be

A Day of Remembrance

in Idaho, to commemorate the anniversary of the internment and as a time to reflect on the need for tolerance, especially in times of national emergency and war.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 20th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-sixth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-second.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE