

appalled. I was a college junior, and I said, "Boy, this is my country. I didn't know we did things like this."

And I came here eager to participate in its undoing, and I felt I was very lucky to be chairman of the subcommittee, along with my colleague from California who was then on the Judiciary Committee, Mr. LUNGREN, to be able to bring that bill forward. But I also understand that I had the benefit of hindsight. I had the easy decision to make.

As we legitimately congratulate ourselves today for having recognized 20 years ago a mistake that we made 65 years ago, let's leave a little energy for resolving that we don't do it again. Let's, as we talk about the folly of 1943, be very determined not to repeat it even in a smaller measure and with fewer people.

I believe that we have had government policies in the past couple of years since the terrible mass murders of 2001 that have also failed to live up to our ideals of protecting individuals. Not on the same scale, I acknowledge that, and I think it's a mark of progress. But let's do what we can from this day forward so that no one 20 years later or 40 years later has to apologize to any extent because we let our legitimate need for self-defense diminish us from our principles.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate the remarks from the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), and particularly we do have the benefit of hindsight; and I don't know that there is a generation that's compelled to apologize for a previous generation or its ancestors. And I would question the real value of descendants of people who had to make decisions in that context apologizing for their actions.

And I look across at some of these that we've done. I remember President Clinton apologizing to Africa for slavery—and we have a resolution that's going to come up for a vote a little bit later on slavery—and I regret those things. I would point out that if indeed these are the sins of our fathers, they're not necessarily visited upon the sons and daughters unto the second or third generation and that we should learn from history. And we do have the opportunity to be Monday morning quarterbacks, to have the perspective of hindsight, as the gentleman from Massachusetts said. I definitely agree with that emotion that's there and that thought process.

But I would caution us that I am watching us move down a path of apologizing for one thing and another, and I'm not watching us stop and give thanks for the wonderful and noble things that this country has done. And I think when we look across the globe at the results of that great effort of World War II, that wonderful victory of the Greatest Generation that this country has ever produced, that we can

see that millions of people breathe free air today because of the prices that were paid. And there's never been a war that's been fought without mistakes. There's been mistakes in judgment and in political judgment and military miscalculations, and lives have been lost over and over again in those miscalculations. But we had to find ways to persevere and we have.

And what came out of World War II was the United States emerged as a global power. Our industry was the most powerful industry in the world, unchallenged, because ours was not destroyed and the carnage that visited the competing ideology, so to speak. And our currency became the currency of the world, and American-made products became dominant throughout the world. The American culture spread throughout the world. And our sense of freedom and our language and our civilization rose up to be predominant.

And it was unchallenged at that time until such time as the Soviet Union was quickly formed and came up against the United States. And we saw the Cold War begin within years of the Second World War. That fought for 40 to 45 years, and our way of life succeeded.

All of that flowed out of something that had some mistakes along the way. And anyone that's ever done anything in life knows that there are mistakes, whether you raised a family or fought a war or started a business or entered into public life. All of us made mistakes along the way, but I do not believe that we carry guilt from preceding generations.

But we do have a responsibility. If we fail to learn, then we would carry guilt ourselves if we fail to learn from those actions of our ancestors whom today we judge to be wrong. And I do believe they were wrong, and I do support this resolution. And I support it with the spirit that I have articulated here.

I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, we have no further requests for time, and I yield back the remainder of our time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I'm going to pass up the opportunity for the last word because I have had it. I would urge the adoption.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of H. Res. 1357, which commemorates the 20th Anniversary of the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. This law officially acknowledged the "fundamental injustices" that resulted from Executive Order 9066, which authorized the exclusion and internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

In 1942, some 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were rounded up and sent to internment camps by the United States Government—not out of military necessity, but as a result of racial prejudice, war hysteria, and the failure of political leadership. Families were torn apart and property was lost. My family experienced this injustice first-hand, and I spent part of my childhood at the Amache internment camp in Colorado.

Our Government made a mistake when it ignored the civil liberties of Japanese Americans during World War II. That is why passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided for a formal apology from the Government, along with compensation to the victims, still resonates strongly with us today. The significance and meaning of this legislation allowed our community to move forward.

Redress would not have happened without the work of many leaders in the Japanese American community. Senator DANIEL INOUE, Senator Spark Matsunaga, then Congressman Norm Mineta and Congressman Bob Matsui were integral to ensuring that the Civil Liberties Act moved forward.

I would also like to acknowledge the role played by the Japanese American Citizens League, the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States, and a group I have a long history of involvement with. The JACL worked hard towards achieving redress, and recently passed a resolution also commemorating the 20th anniversary of the passage of redress at their National Convention in Salt Lake City. I commend the JACL for their dedication to our community.

Our country draws strength and greatness from our ability to acknowledge and remedy past mistakes—a virtue that has not only benefited the Japanese American community but has shaped me as a policymaker. Despite our flaws, the United States is looked upon as the nation with the strongest and fairest form of government.

Recognizing and commemorating the significance of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 is still meaningful and relevant today, as this resolution reaffirms our commitment as a nation to equal justice under the law.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1357, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 1361

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Resolution 1361.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.