

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 365

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding liability of Japanese companies to former prisoners of war used by such companies as slave labor during World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2000

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, and Mr. WOLF) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding liability of Japanese companies to former prisoners of war used by such companies as slave labor during World War II.

Whereas Japan captured and interned 36,260 American prisoners of war during World War II;

Whereas 37.3 percent of those Americans who were placed in Japanese prisoner-of-war camps died during their imprisonment;

Whereas Americans captured and interned by the Japanese were forced to work for privately held Japanese companies in severe slave-like conditions, with very little food, dangerous work environments, and no medical care;

Whereas survivors of Japanese prisoner-of-war camps continue to suffer long-term health consequences due to their imprisonment;

Whereas the companies that benefitted from the forced labor of American and other nations' prisoners of war continued to earn a profit during wartime and beyond; and

Whereas, in contrast to other countries that participated in horrific war crimes during World War II, the Government of Japan has refused to fully acknowledge the crimes it committed, as well as those committed by privately held Japanese companies during World War II, and to provide full reparations to the victims of these actions: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that pri-
 3 vately owned Japanese companies that used prisoners of
 4 war as slave labor during World War II, or the successors
 5 of such companies, should—

6 (1) reimburse those former prisoners, or their
 7 survivors, for the labor performed for the commer-
 8 cial interests of such companies; and

9 (2) compensate those former prisoners, or their
 10 survivors, for whatever brutality the companies in-
 11 flicted on the prisoners during the period of forced
 12 labor.

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