

# Council of the District of Columbia

## Resolution

CHAIRMAN GRAY

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COUNCILMEMBER K. BROWN  
COUNCILMEMBER CHEH  
COUNCILMEMBER MENDELSON

COUNCILMEMBER BARRY  
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COUNCILMEMBER WELLS

### NATION'S CAPITAL JASENOVAC DAY RECOGNITION RESOLUTION OF 2009

WHEREAS, JASENOVAC (YASENOVATZ) WAS THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION AND EXTERMINATION CAMP IN THE SO-CALLED INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA DURING WWII, A DEATH CAMP THAT SHOCKED EVEN THE GERMAN NAZIS BY THE BRUTALITY AND VOLUME OF ANNIHILATION OF HUMAN BEINGS WHO DID NOT FIT THE LAW OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS PURITY OF THAT MONSTROUS PUPPET STATE;

WHEREAS, ALMOST ENTIRE JEWISH AND ROMA COMMUNITIES, AND MORE THAN ONE THIRD OF THE SERBIAN POPULATION, CAUGHT BY THE WAR WITHIN THE BORDERS OF THE NAZI CROATIA, WERE EXTERMINATED BY ITS USTASHA MILITARY, ESTIMATED BY THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER AT 30,000 JEWS, 28,000 ROMAS AND MORE THAN 600,000 SERBS, IT WAS THE JASENOVAC CAMP WHERE MOST OF THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE WERE SLAUGHTERED IN MOST DEPRIVED AND ABOMINABLE MANNER;

WHEREAS, ALTHOUGH THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA WAS THE ONLY NATION IN WWII THAT HAD A SPECIAL CONCENTRATION CAMP FOR CHILDREN IN THE OLD CASTLE OF THE COUNTS OF ERDÖDY IN THE TOWN OF JASTREBARSKO, IN JASENOVAC ALONE AT LEAST 19,544 CHILDREN OF THE UNDESIRABLE ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, WHOSE IDENTITIES WERE DOCUMENTED, WERE EXECUTED BY THE USTASHAS;

WHEREAS, THE JASENOVAC CONCENTRATION AND EXTERMINATION CAMP OPENED ITS GATES TO IMPRISON JEWS, ROMAS AND SERBS ON AUGUST 21, 1941, AND CONTINUED TO PRODUCE DEATH AND HORROR WITH FULL FORCE THROUGHOUT THE WAR YEARS IN EUROPE, UNTIL THE LAST FEW HUNDRED MALE SURVIVORS REBELLED AND ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE ON APRIL 22, 1945, LEAVING THE CAMP WITH ITS USTASHA GUARDS ONLY IN ITS FINAL DAYS, WHEN THE YUGOSLAV ARMY LIBERATED THE DEPOPULATED AND SILENT CAMP ON MAY 2, 1945;

WHEREAS, THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF THE DEATH CAMP INMATES SERVES AS A VALUABLE LESSON FOR US TODAY: THAT, ALTHOUGH ONLY FEWER THAN 100 SURVIVED TO LIVE IN FREEDOM AGAIN AND TO TESTIFY ABOUT THE MONSTROSITIES OF THE CROATIAN NAZI REGIME, THEIR FEAT OF REBELLION AND INSTINCTIVE ACT OF SURVIVAL REMIND US THAT HUMAN SPIRIT CANNOT BE BROKEN AND THAT INHUMAN CRIMES CANNOT BE HIDDEN; AND

WHEREAS, WE HONOR THE DECISION BY MANY JASENOVAC SURVIVORS TO IMMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CONTRIBUTING TO ITS GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT WITH THEIR LABOR AND EXPERIENCE, PARTAKING, AS ITS CITIZENS, IN ITS FREEDOMS AND OPPORTUNITIES, AND WE DO NOT WISH TO ALLOW THE MEMORY OF THESE CITIZENS AND THEIR AMERICAN DESCENDANTS, COMPATRIOTS AND CORELIGIONISTS TO BE NEGLECTED OR LOST.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THAT THIS RESOLUTION MAY BE CITED AS THE "NATION'S CAPITAL JASENOVAC DAY RECOGNITION RESOLUTION OF 2009".

SEC. 2. THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RECOGNIZES THE SUFFERING AND HEROISM OF THE JASENOVAC CONCENTRATION AND EXTERMINATION CAMP JEWISH, ROMA AND SERBIAN INMATES.

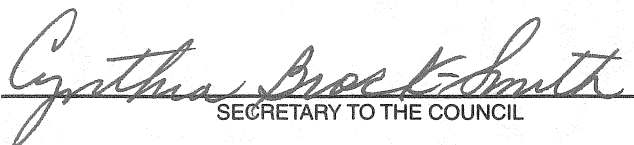
*This resolution shall take effect immediately.*

  
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

*I hereby Certify that this Resolution is true and adopted as stated herein.*

Resolution Number: CER 18-107

Date: May 5, 2009

  
SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL