

1 [Resolution proclaiming October 20, 2004 as A-day in San Francisco]

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5 WHEREAS, the America Legion War Memorial Commission will celebrate the 60th
6 Anniversary of General Douglas MacArthur’s historic landing in Leyte, Philippines in October
7 of 2004;

8 WHEREAS, by the summer of 1944, American forces had fought their way across the
9 Pacific, to face the most formidable post of the Japanese Empire: the Philippines; and

10 WHEREAS, the Japanese strength in the Philippines totaled about 432,000 troops,
11 with General Makino’s 16th Division controlling more than 20,000 soldiers on Leyte; and

12 WHEREAS, the Japanese forces had between 100 and 120 occupational airfields in
13 the Philippines, with 884 aircraft of all types; and

14 WHEREAS, to take Leyte, American and Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious
15 operation to date in the Pacific; and

16 WHEREAS, The Joint Chiefs of Staff designated General MacArthur supreme
17 commander of sea, air, and land forces drawn from both the Southwest Pacific and Central
18 Pacific theaters of operation; and

19 WHEREAS, Allied naval forces consisted primarily of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and the
20 new Sixth Army Service Command; and

21 WHEREAS, the landing was designated A-day, Attack Day, to avoid confusion with D-
22 day and the Allied liberation of Europe; and

23 WHEREAS, the Army and Navy were given one month to implement General
24 MacArthur’s plans, and did so successfully on October 20, 1944; and

1 WHEREAS, in the days that followed, the Sixth Army made steady progress inland and
2 secured the provincial capital of Tacloban; and

3 WHEREAS, two days later, General MacArthur presided over a ceremony to restore
4 civil government to Leyte; and

5 WHEREAS, the commemorative celebration will honor the living relatives of President
6 Sergio Osmena and Generals Douglas MacArthur and Carlos Romulo; and

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
8 designates October 20, 2004 as the official 60th Anniversary of A-day.

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