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URGING PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON AND THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO EXONERATE THE 50 AFRICAN AMERICAN SAILORS CONVICTED OF MUTINY IN THE PORT CHICAGO DISASTER.

Whereas, On the night of July 17, 1944, two ships in Port Chicago loaded with 10,000 tons of ammunition exploded in the worst home front accident of World War II, killing 320 servicemen; and

Whereas, The loading of munitions, such as those that exploded at Port Chicago, was a hazardous duty assigned primarily to black sailors; and

Whereas, Congress ordered that the families of black victims receive a lower death benefit than white families; and

Whereas, 258 men protested safety conditions and refused to return to work and, subsequently, 50 black sailors were court-martialed for mutiny; and

Whereas, Freddie Meeks, who was convicted of mutiny and spent 1 1/2 years in prison, is the last remaining survivor of the Port Chicago Mutiny; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Supervisors urges President William Jefferson Clinton and the members of the United States Congress to exonerate the 50 African American sailors convicted of mutiny in the Port Chicago disaster.

Supervisor Kaufman, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Teng



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 990710

Date Passed:

Resolution urging President William Jefferson Clinton and the members of the United States Congress to exonerate the 50 African American sailors convicted of mutiny in the Port Chicago disaster.

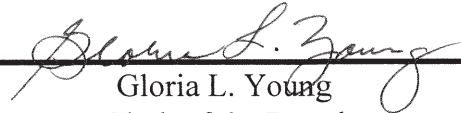
April 19, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Teng,
Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Newsom

File No. 990710

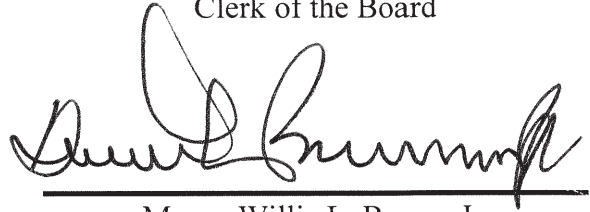
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 19, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

APR 30 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

File No. 990710 continued...