

1 [Supporting Closure of the School of the Americas]

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3 **Resolution urging President George Bush and Congress of the United States to support**  
4 **the closure of the United States Army School of the Americas..**

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6 WHEREAS, The School of the Americas was established in Panama in 1946 and is  
7 presently located in Fort Benning, Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, The School of the Americas has trained over 59,000 troops from Latin  
9 America and he Caribbean since its inception and currently trains 900 to 2,000 such soldiers  
10 per year at all annual cost to the American taxpayers of nearly \$20 million; and

11 WHEREAS, Training manuals used by the School of the Americas have advocated  
12 execution; false imprisonment, physical abuse, and other forms of torture; and

13 WHEREAS, Many School of the Americas graduates have been involved in a wide  
14 range of human rights abuses; and

15 WHEREAS, Two of the three Salvadoran officers cited as being responsible for the  
16 1980 assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero were School of the Americas graduates,  
17 including death squad founder and leader Robert D'Aubuisson; and

18 WHEREAS, Nineteen of the 26 officers cited in the November, 1989 murder of six  
19 Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and her daughter in San Salvador, El Salvador, were School  
20 of the Americas graduates; and

21 WHEREAS, Ten of the twelve officers cited as being involved in the massacre of 900  
22 civilians at El Mozote in El Salvador graduated from the School of the Americas; and

23 WHEREAS, Guatemalan Colonel Julio Roberto Alpirez, who was implicated in the  
24 killing of US citizen Michael Devine and Efraim Bamaca, a husband of US lawyer, Jennifer  
25 Harbury, is a School of the Americas graduate; and

1           WHEREAS, The editorial Boards of the Ashbury Park Press, Atlanta Constitution, San  
2           Francisco Bay Guardian, Bangor Daily News, Boston Globe, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Courier  
3           News, Des Moines Register, New York Times, San Antonio Express-News, and Syracuse  
4           Post-Standard have called for the closure of the School of the Americas; and

5           WHEREAS, The New York Times, in it's September 28, 1996 edition stated, " An  
6           institution (The School of the Americas) so clearly out of tune with American values... should  
7           be shut down without delay"; and

8           WHEREAS, The California chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars has passed a  
9           resolution to close the School of the Americas and the national organization is deliberating the  
10          same resolution; and

11          WHEREAS, there is a growing opposition to the School of the Americas in the United  
12          States House of Representatives; and

13          WHEREAS, In September 1997 the House of Representatives came within seven votes  
14          (210-217) of passing an amendment to the 1998 Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill which would  
15          have cut \$1.5 million from the School's funding; and

16          WHEREAS, The House of Representatives vote represents a sharp contrast to 1993  
17          and 1994 when amendments to cut the School's funding were defeated by 82- and 42- vote  
18          margins; therefore, be it

19          RESOLVED. That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
20          urges President George Bush and Congress of the United States to support the closure of the  
21          United States Army School of the Americas; and be it

22          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Senators Dianne  
23          Feinstein and Barbara Boxer as well as Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi to support the closure  
24          of the United States Army School of the Americas; and be it

1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors request that the Clerk of the  
2 Board transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the United States.

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4           **SUPERVISOR AMMIANO**

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# City and County of San Francisco

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

## Tails Resolution

**File Number:** 010289

**Date Passed:**

Resolution urging President George Bush and Congress of the United States to support the closure of the United States Army School of the Americas.

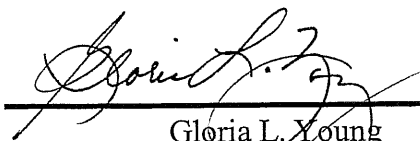
February 20, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, McGoldrick, Leno, Newsom, Peskin,  
Sandoval, Yee

Absent: 1 - Maxwell


File No. 010289

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 20, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

MAR - 2 2001

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Date Approved

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.