

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 100

Commending the personnel who served in the United States Navy Asiatic Fleet, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 6, 1997

Mr. JONES introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on National Security

JOINT RESOLUTION

Commending the personnel who served in the United States Navy Asiatic Fleet, and for other purposes.

Whereas the United States established the Asiatic Fleet of the Navy in 1910 to protect American nationals, policies, and possessions in the Far East;

Whereas the sailors and Marines of the Asiatic Fleet ensured the safety of United States citizens and foreign nationals, and provided humanitarian assistance in that region during the Chinese civil war, the Yangtze Flood of 1931, and the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities;

Whereas in 1940, due to deteriorating political relations and increasing tensions between the United States and Japan, a reinforced Asiatic Fleet began concentrating on the defense of the Philippines and engaged in extensive

training to ensure maximum operational readiness for any eventuality;

Whereas following the declaration of war against Japan, the warships, submarines, and aircraft of the Asiatic Fleet singly or in task forces courageously fought many naval battles against a superior Japanese armada;

Whereas the Asiatic Fleet directly suffered the loss of 22 ships, 1,826 men killed or missing in action, and 518 men captured and imprisoned under the worst of conditions with many of them dying while held as prisoners of war; and

Whereas supporters of the personnel who served in the Asiatic Fleet are attempting to establish March 1, 1998, as “United States Navy Asiatic Fleet Memorial Day”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION.**

4 The Congress—

5 (1) commends the personnel who served in the
6 Asiatic Fleet of the United States Navy between
7 1910 and 1942; and

8 (2) honors those who gave their lives in the line
9 of duty while serving in the Asiatic Fleet.

10 **SEC. 2. CELEBRATORY ACTIVITIES.**

11 (a) **EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT.**—The Congress sup-
12 ports the goals of United States Navy Asiatic Fleet Memo-
13 rial Day.

1 (b) PROCLAMATION.—The President is authorized
2 and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the
3 people of the United States to honor the United States
4 Navy Asiatic Fleet with appropriate programs, cere-
5 monies, and activities.

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