



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



R2012-495

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 5/9/2012
Sponsor(s): Emanuel, Rahm (Mayor)
Type: Resolution
Title: Commemorating Anniversary of attack on U.S.S. Stark and honoring memories of 37 U.S. lives lost in attack
Committee(s) Assignment:



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

May 9, 2012

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Together with Alderman Balcer and Alderman Osterman, I transmit herewith a resolution commemorating the anniversary of the May 17, 1987 attack on the U.S.S. Stark and honoring the memories of the 37 U.S. lives lost in that attack.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*



Presented by MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL on MAY 9, 2012

Whereas, Next week marks the anniversary of a senseless tragedy that occurred twenty-five years ago when thirty-seven American Navy crewmen were killed in the Persian Gulf when their frigate, the USS Stark (FFG-31), was hit by Iraqi missiles on May 17, 1987; and

WHEREAS, The USS Stark was a component of a US naval task force sent to the Persian Gulf to keep the Gulf open for maritime trade during the Iran-Iraq War; and

WHEREAS, Two missiles from an Iraqi F-1 Mirage warplane struck the USS Stark. The first missile penetrated deep into the ship but failed to explode; the second missile exploded, incinerating the crew's quarters, the radar room, and the combat information center; and

WHEREAS, Despite the severe damage inflicted, the heroic efforts of the Stark's crew saved the ship by fighting the fire through the night and into the next day; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the USS Stark was to maintain peace in the hostile environment of the Persian Gulf by helping to keep essential sea lanes open for maritime trade and to display the American flag in an area of critical national interest; and

WHEREAS, Commander William "Mike" Tooker (US Navy, Retired), Commandant of the Hyman G. Rickover Naval Academy, was a Lieutenant Junior Grade and assigned to the USS Stark on his first deployment as a helicopter pilot; and

WHEREAS, Commander Tooker joined with fellow shipmates to rescue injured sailors from areas of the Stark still engulfed in flames and smoke without regard for their own safety, and fought the deadly shipboard fires for a period of approximately 48 hours; and

WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the catastrophe, Commander Tooker volunteered to identify and care for the remains of fallen shipmates and assist with making the remains ready for transport home to their families; and

WHEREAS, For the cause of peace in a troubled area of the world these thirty-seven brave Americans lost their lives: Doran Bolduc (seaman, 29); Bradley Brown (bosun's mate, 28); Jeffrey Calkins (fire controlman, 20); Mark Caouette (seaman, 26); John Ciletta (seaman, 21); Bryan Clinfelter (seaman recruit, 19); Antonio Daniels (operations specialist, 21); Christopher DeAngelis (electronics technician, 23); James Dunlap (communications specialist, 20); Steven Erwin (sonar technician, 22); Jerry Farr (radioman, 36); Vernon Foster (senior chief petty officer, 33); Dexter Grissette (radioman-seaman's apprentice, 19); William Hansen (fire control technician, 22); Daniel Homicki (gunner's mate, 36); Kenneth Janusik (operations specialist, 19); Steven Kendall (operations specialist, 30); Stephen Kiser (electronics mate, 36); Ronnie Lockett (signalman, 30); Thomas MacMullen (gunner's mate, 30); Charles Moller (electronic warfare specialist, 27); Jeffrey Phelps (seaman recruit, 21); Randy Pierce (data systems technician, 28); James Plonsky (gunner's mate, 22); Kelly Quick (electronics technician, 20); Earl Ryals (signalman, 25); Robert Shippee (fire control technician, 35); Jeffrey Sibley (signalman-seaman's apprentice, 21); Lee Stephens (operations specialist, 23); James Stevens (torpedoman, 27); Martin Supple (electronics technician, 27); Gregory Tweady (fire control technician, 36); Vincent Ulmer (seaman, 21); Joseph Watson (electronic warfare specialist, 25); Wayne Weaver (electronics technician, 22); Terrance Weldon (operations specialist, 20); Lloyd Wilson (fireman apprentice, 24); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this ninth day of May, 2012, do hereby honor the memory and sacrifice of the courageous servicemen who perished aboard the USS Stark; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we acknowledge in particular the service of Commander Mike Tooker as he continues his service as role-model and mentor to youth in Chicago's Junior ROTC programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Commander Mike Tooker as a token of our appreciation and esteem.



Ral Emanuel

MAYOR

Susana A. Mendez

CITY CLERK