

City of Chicago



R2017-427

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 5/24/2017

Sponsor(s): Burke (14)

Type: Resolution

Title: Commemoration of 75th anniversary of United States Navy's

naval and air victory at Battle of Midway

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, The Battle of Midway took place June 4-7, 1942, only six months after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and one month after the Battle of the Coral Sea; and
- WHEREAS, The battle was waged northeast of the Midway Islands, 1,300 miles northwest of Honolulu, Hawaii; and
- WHEREAS, The U.S. Navy was under the prodigious command and leadership of Admirals Chester Nimitz, Frank J. Fletcher, and Raymond A. Spruance who respectively led the USS Hornet, the USS Enterprise, and the USS Yorktown; and
- WHEREAS, Admiral Nimitz sent an uncoded message as a ruse to determine where Japanese forces planned to attack and the technique helped American cryptanalysts determine the date and location of the attack, enabling the U.S. Navy to prepare its own ambush; and
- WHEREAS, The Battle of Midway was the scene of the great sea-air battle which was the turning point in the Pacific war; and
- **WHEREAS,** Americans will never forget the heroism of Lieutenant Commander John C. Waldron and the brave members of his squadron of torpedo bombers who perished during the Battle of Midway; and
- WHEREAS, The victory of the Battle of Midway played a pivotal role in preventing further advancement of Japanese forces in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and many historians believe it changed the outcome of the war; and
- WHEREAS, All four of Japan's large aircraft carriers Akagi, Kaga, Soryu and Hiryu, which were part of the six-carrier force that attacked Pearl Harbor six months earlier, and a heavy cruiser were sunk, while the U.S. only lost the carrier USS Yorktown and one destroyer; now, therefore
- *BE IT RESOLVED*, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this 24th day of May, 2017, do hereby commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Navy's naval and air victory at the Battle of Midway; and
- **WHEREAS,** In 1949 the Chicago City Council officially renamed Chicago Municipal Airport as Chicago Midway Airport to emphasize the airport's "geographical position" between the two coasts as a leader in transportation; now, therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That The Journal of the Proceedings of the Chicago City Council additionally designate that Chicago Midway Airport also be named for the historical battle that changed the course of World War II; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we pay tribute to the bravery of the veterans who achieved this victory on behalf of our nation by declaring June 6, 2017 as *Battle of Midway Remembrance Day* in Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable parchment copy of this resolution be presented to Ginger Evans, Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation.

Alderman, 14th Ward