

# Resolution

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
RESOLUTION HONORING

## UNIT K-WEST & B-EAST

A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS  
WHO SERVED ON BOARD NAVAL SHIPS DURING WORLD WAR II

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*WHEREAS, the valiant men of Unit K-West & B-East enlisted in the Armed Forces to help defend their country and served in all of the major battles in the Pacific Corridor including Pearl Harbor, Midway, Iwo Jima, and Linagayen; and*

*WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the United States were segregated during World War II and African-American sailors were called "Mess Attendants" and experienced pervasive discrimination though many members of Unit K-West and B-East had college degrees, technical expertise and professional skills, but were relegated to perform only menial chores such as cooking, making beds or shining shoes because of the color of their skin; and*

*WHEREAS, despite these atrocities, the brave men of Unit-K-West & B-East demonstrated their courage and heroism during the course of battle by manning guns, aiding injured soldiers and rescuing their white peers, and in doing so were awarded many medals, battle stars and ribbons for their heroic service; and*

*WHEREAS, the American public is not aware of the contributions and sacrifices made by the courageous men of unit K-West & B-East though a monument has been dedicated to Unit K-West & B-East at Arlington Cemetery with the words "We Served, We Fought, We Died, We Survived;" and*

*WHEREAS, the honorable men of Unit K-West & B-East, Chapter Three have continued to serve their nation and community with dedication and commitment with actions such as their establishment of a scholarship fund to perpetuate the spirit and memory of those who gave so much for their nation,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors does hereby acknowledge the unselfish service of the men of Unit K-West & B-East in defending our country and honors the men of Unit K-West & B-East, Chapter Three for their endless service to our community.*

DATED: FEBRUARY 24, 2001

SUPERVISORS:

*Michael D. Nevin*  
MICHAEL D. NEVIN, PRESIDENT

*M. D. Nevin*