

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 438

Recognizing and honoring the crew of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh for their heroism in March 1945 for rendering aid and assistance to the U.S.S. Franklin and its crew.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, and Mrs. MALONEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring the crew of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh for their heroism in March 1945 for rendering aid and assistance to the U.S.S. Franklin and its crew.

Whereas on March 19, 1945, the U.S.S. Franklin, as part of Task Force 58, launched an attack against Japan;

Whereas the Japanese responded with an air attack against Task Force 58, striking the U.S.S. Franklin, killing 724 crew members and injuring 265 other crew members, and setting the U.S.S. Franklin ablaze;

Whereas the U.S.S. Pittsburgh was dispatched to assist the U.S.S. Franklin;

Whereas the crew of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh performed outstanding feats of seamanship, including attaching a tow

line to the flaming U.S.S. Franklin and rescuing 34 of its crew members from turbulent waters;

Whereas the U.S.S. Pittsburgh and the U.S.S. Santa Fe defended against two additional Japanese air attacks while respectively towing and escorting the U.S.S. Franklin to safety;

Whereas, as a result of their heroic actions in saving their ship, the crew of the U.S.S. Franklin was highly decorated, receiving awards of two Congressional Medals of Honor, five Gold Stars, 22 Silver Stars, and 250 Letters of Commendation, and they became the most decorated crew in the history of the Navy;

Whereas, as a result of their bravery, the crew of the U.S.S. Santa Fe received a Navy Unit Commendation; and

Whereas the crew of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh, however, has never been collectively honored or recognized for their heroism and bravery during the rescue of the U.S.S. Franklin and its crew: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2 *concurring)*, That Congress recognizes and honors the  
 3 crew of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh for their heroism on March  
 4 19, 1945, for rendering aid and assistance to the U.S.S.  
 5 Franklin and its crew.

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