

Whereas some of the most respected United States military leaders in the 20th century were stationed at Fort Benning, including—

- (1) General Omar Bradley;
- (2) General Dwight Eisenhower;
- (3) General George Marshall;
- (4) General George Patton;
- (5) General William Livsey; and
- (6) General Colin Powell;

Whereas Fort Benning has helped foster changes in the role of women in the military;

Whereas, on December 14, 1973, Privates Joyce Kutsch and Rita Johnson became the first women to graduate the Basic Airborne Course, and later, the United States Army Quartermaster School Parachute Rigger Course;

Whereas, on August 21, 2015, Captain Kristen Griest and 1st Lieutenant Shayne Haver became the first 2 women to graduate from the Army Ranger School at Fort Benning;

Whereas, on December 1, 2016, 13 women became the first ever to graduate from the Army Armor Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning;

Whereas, on May 19, 2017, Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, graduated 137 new Infantry soldiers, including 18 women who completed the first inter-gender Infantry One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning;

Whereas, on June 22, 2017, 4 women became the first ever to graduate from the Cavalry School of the Army at Fort Benning;

Whereas Fort Benning is the sixth largest military installation in the United States covering approximately 182,000 acres, with a \$5,500,000,000 economic impact to the “Tri-Community” and approximately 120,000 military and civilian personnel;

Whereas the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of Columbus, Columbus 2025, and other partnering groups fought to establish and have continued to support Fort Benning from its inception;

Whereas the people of the Tri-Community fought to establish and have continued to support Fort Benning from its inception; and

Whereas the following visionary citizens displayed the foresight, vision, and leadership to fight to establish Camp Benning near Columbus, Georgia:

- (1) Mr. John Betjeman.
- (2) Mr. Rhodes Browne.
- (3) Mr. John Ralston Cargill.
- (4) Mr. Lucius H. Chappell.
- (5) Mr. Henry B. Crawford.
- (6) Mr. J. Homer Dimon.
- (7) Mr. Robert Ernest Dismukes.
- (8) Mr. W.J. Fielder.
- (9) Mr. Reynolds Flournoy.
- (10) Mr. Frank U. Garrard.
- (11) Mr. Ralph Curtis Jordan.
- (12) Mr. Albert Kirven.
- (13) Mr. A.F. Kunze.
- (14) Mr. Frank G. Lumpkin.
- (15) Mr. Leighton W. MacPherson.
- (16) Mr. H.R. McClatchey.
- (17) Mr. T.T. Miller.
- (18) Mr. Marshall Morton.
- (19) Mr. Roger M. Page.
- (20) Mr. T.G. Reeves.
- (21) Mr. Walter A. Richards.

(22) Mr. H.C. Smith: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia, on its 100th anniversary;

(2) commends the thousands of men and women who have worked and trained at Fort Benning;

(3) honors the people of the “Tri-Community” including those in Columbus, Georgia, and Phenix City, Alabama, for their continued support of Fort Benning; and

(4) encourages Fort Benning to continue its instrumental role in preparing the brave men and women of the United States for the battlefield.

SENATE RESOLUTION 73—CALLING ON THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA TO IMMEDIATELY RELEASE SAUDI WOMEN’S RIGHTS ACTIVISTS AND RESPECT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF ALL SAUDI CITIZENS

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SASSE, Mr. KAINA, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 73

Whereas the United States Government and the Government of Saudi Arabia share an important security partnership;

Whereas Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said during an April 2018 interview with The Atlantic magazine, “I support women . . . In our religion there is no difference between men and women . . . We don’t want divided treatment for different people”;

Whereas Saudi authorities, since Mohammed bin Salman became Crown Prince, have relaxed some repressive restrictions on women, including by allowing women to drive, attend certain sporting events, and enter some professions which were previously closed to them;

Whereas, in May 2018, Saudi authorities began arresting women’s rights activists and their supporters, including those who had campaigned for the right to drive ahead of the government’s announcement granting women the right to drive effective June 24, 2018;

Whereas those detained included—

- (1) Samar Badawi, who petitioned Saudi authorities to allow women the right to drive, vote, and run in municipal elections;
- (2) Nouf Abdulaziz, who expressed solidarity with arrested women’s rights activists;

(3) Mayaa al-Zahrani, an activist and friend of Abdulaziz;

(4) Nassima al-Sadah, who campaigned for the right to drive and against the government’s male guardianship laws;

(5) Hatoum al-Fassi, a professor of women’s history who was one of the first Saudi women to acquire a driver’s license; and

(6) Loujain al-Hathloul who spent 73 days in detention for defying the driving ban in 2014–15;

Whereas one of the detained women, Aziza al-Youssef, is a United States permanent resident who maintains a residence in Virginia;

Whereas Saudi authorities, on June 2, 2018, announced that they would provisionally release eight individuals and refer nine individuals to trial, where they could face the following serious charges that carry penalties of up to 20 years in prison “cooperating with entities hostile to the kingdom,” “recruiting persons in a sensitive government agency to obtain confidential information to harm the interests of the kingdom,” and “providing financial and moral support to hostile elements abroad”;

Whereas, in 2012, Samar Badawi, one of the activists detained by the Saudi authorities, received the International Women of Courage Award from the United States Department of State;

Whereas Samar Badawi’s brother, Raif Badawi, has remained imprisoned in Saudi Arabia since 2012 and was publically flogged for his work calling for free speech on his website “Free Saudi Liberals” and his lawyer, Waleed Abu al-Khair, is serving a 15-

year sentence for his work defending human rights;

Whereas, according to a 2018 Human Rights Watch report, “Saudi interrogators tortured at least three of the Saudi women activists’ detained beginning in May 2018”;

Whereas the reports of torture include electric shocks, whippings, beatings, and sexual harassment and assault;

Whereas, according to news reports, a top adviser of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saud al-Qahtani, has been present during interrogation sessions with the women’s rights activists;

Whereas, on January 16, 2019, more than 200 academics from around the world sent a letter to the Saudi King calling on the Government of Saudi Arabia to release “Dr Hatoum Aiawad-al-Fassi and other women’s rights advocates who remain in detention”;

Whereas the United States Senate resolved on International Women’s Day on March 8, 2018, that the empowerment of women is inextricably linked to the potential of a country to generate economic growth, sustainable democracy, and inclusive security;

Whereas the Department of State’s 2017 report on human rights practices in Saudi Arabia stated that the Government of Saudi Arabia’s review of guardianship laws had not yet been completed, that the Government of Saudi Arabia restricts the foreign travel of women, and that the Government of Saudi Arabia continues to discriminate against women;

Whereas the arrests of women’s rights activists and their supporters since May 2018 are contrary to the Government of Saudi Arabia’s stated reform goals; and

Whereas the detention and reported abuse of women’s rights activists and the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, a Washington Post journalist and United States resident, demonstrate a blatant disregard for human rights and the freedom of expression: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to immediately release and drop any politically motivated charges against the detained Saudi women’s rights activists related to peaceful activities to advance human rights in Saudi Arabia, which are protected under international law;

(2) expresses concern over the reported use of torture by the Government of Saudi Arabia against the women’s activists, and urges investigation into such allegations and the holding accountable of perpetrators;

(3) recognizes that the strategic relationship with Saudi Arabia is in the national interest of the United States;

(4) reaffirms that the global recognition and protection of basic human rights, including women’s rights, is in the national security interest of the United States;

(5) urges the Government of Saudi Arabia to reform its laws that restrict basic human rights, including women’s rights, such as by abolishing the male guardianship system;

(6) urges the President and the Secretary of State to affirm the support of the United States for the right of activists to peacefully advocate for the protection of universal human rights;

(7) calls on the President to press the Government of Saudi Arabia to immediately release all political prisoners, human rights defenders, journalists, and bloggers, including Raif Badawi, Waleed Abu al-Khair, and others who support religious freedom, and the women’s rights activists detained after May 2018; and

(8) calls on the President to comply with the request submitted under subsection (d) of section 1263 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656

note) for a determination under subsection (a) of that section with respect to the persons responsible for the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

SENATE RESOLUTION 74—MARKING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S REVOLUTION OF DIGNITY BY HONORING THE BRAVERY, DETERMINATION, AND SACRIFICE OF THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE DURING AND SINCE THE REVOLUTION, AND CONDEMNING CONTINUED RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. JONES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 74

Whereas, on November 21, 2013, peaceful protests began on Independence Square (Maidan) in Kyiv against the decision by the government of then-President Viktor Yanukovych to suspend signing the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement and instead pursue closer ties with the Russian Federation;

Whereas the Maidan protests, initially referred to as the Euromaidan, quickly drew thousands of people and broadened to become a general demonstration in support of Ukraine's integration with the European Union and against the corrupt Yanukovych regime;

Whereas, on the night of November 30, 2013, Ukrainian police forces surrounded and violently dispersed peaceful protestors on the Maidan;

Whereas the next day, thousands of Euromaidan demonstrators regrouped and resumed the protests for three months, despite facing continuing and increasing violence from the police;

Whereas, on January 16, 2014, anti-protest laws, known as the "dictatorship laws", were adopted by the Government of Ukraine, which sought to restrict the actions of the Euromaidan protestors;

Whereas these laws were condemned by Euromaidan protestors as well as Western officials, including then-Secretary of State John Kerry, who called them "anti-democratic";

Whereas many of these laws were repealed just 11 days after being signed into law;

Whereas, on the night of February 18, 2014, police assaulted and burned down the Trade Union Building in Kyiv, which had been used as a headquarters for the Euromaidan movement;

Whereas Yanukovych's government forces began using live ammunition against the Euromaidan movement, leading to the deaths of more than a hundred protestors who are now remembered in Ukraine as the "Heavenly Hundred";

Whereas, on February 21, 2014, in the face of the ongoing Euromaidan protests demanding his resignation, then-President Viktor Yanukovych fled Kyiv, and then fled Ukraine the next day;

Whereas, on February 22, 2014, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine recognized that Yanukovych had ceased his functions as president, voted him from office, and scheduled early presidential elections for May 25, 2014;

Whereas, on February 25, 2014, fulfilling demands of the Maidan, Ukraine's special police force known as the Berkut was dissolved, as it had been heavily involved in the violence against the Euromaidan protestors;

Whereas the Ukrainian government's use of force against activists throughout the Euromaidan protests, including the use of live bullets, was widely condemned by Western governments, including the United States, and ultimately failed to discourage the Euromaidan movement;

Whereas, on September 1, 2017, the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement came into force after its signing by the Government of Ukraine and the EU;

Whereas, in response to Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, the Russian Federation launched military aggression against Ukraine, illegally occupied Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, and instigated a war in eastern Ukraine, which is still ongoing and has killed more than 10,000 Ukrainians;

Whereas the Russian Federation's attempted invasion and annexation of Crimea has been widely seen as an effort to stifle pro-democracy developments across Ukraine in 2014 in the wake of the Revolution of Dignity;

Whereas 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Budapest Memorandum, which committed the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation to refrain from the threat or use of force against Ukraine's territorial integrity in exchange for Ukraine giving up its nuclear weapons;

Whereas the Russian Federation is a signatory to the 1994 Budapest Memorandum and thus committed to respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation is further obligated to respect the sovereignty of Ukraine pursuant to its commitments as a signatory to the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of the United Nations;

Whereas, on March 27, 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 68/262 calling on states and international organizations not to recognize any change in Crimea's status and affirmed the commitment of the United Nations to recognize Crimea as part of Ukraine;

Whereas the United States and European Union have imposed sanctions on individuals and entities who have enabled the attempted invasion, annexation, and occupation of Crimea;

Whereas, pursuant to the Revolution of Dignity's goal of fighting corruption in Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law On the National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NABU) of Ukraine on October 14, 2014;

Whereas, on June 26, 2017, the Law of Ukraine On the Establishment of the High Anti-Corruption Court was signed into law;

Whereas, on July 5, 2018, the Law on National Security was adopted, which has strengthened civilian control over the Ukrainian military, increased transparency in the security sector, and more clearly delineated the powers of law enforcement agencies;

Whereas, on January 6, 2019, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople granted autocephaly to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, thus establishing the first independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church in over 300 years;

Whereas despite requests by the Government of Ukraine, the Government of the Russian Federation has repeatedly refused to extradite former President of Ukraine Viktor Yanukovych to stand trial in Ukraine;

Whereas, on January 24, 2019, a Ukrainian court found Yanukovych guilty in absentia of high treason and complicity in conducting an aggressive war against Ukraine, and sentenced him to 13 years in prison;

Whereas, in order to help Ukraine preserve its sovereignty in the face of Russian aggression, the United States Government has provided Ukraine with over \$1,000,000,000 in security assistance, including critical defensive items such as Javelin anti-tank missiles and Island-class cutters; and

Whereas, in the 115th Congress, both the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives passed resolutions commemorating the 85th anniversary of the Holodomor, the Soviet Union's manmade famine that it committed against the people of Ukraine in 1932 and 1933: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) remembers the courage and resolve shown by the Ukrainian people in the Revolution of Dignity;

(2) solemnly honors the "Heavenly Hundred" who were killed during the Revolution of Dignity while fighting for the causes of freedom and democracy in Ukraine;

(3) applauds the progress that the Government of Ukraine has made since the Revolution of Dignity in strengthening the rule of law, aligning itself with Euro-Atlantic norms and standards, and improving military combat readiness and interoperability with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

(4) encourages the Government of Ukraine to continue implementing crucial reforms to fight corruption, build strong and free markets, and strengthen democracy and the rule of law;

(5) affirms the United States Government's unwavering commitment to supporting the continuing efforts of the Government of Ukraine to implement democratic and free market reforms, restoring Ukraine's territorial integrity, as well as providing additional lethal and non-lethal security assistance to strengthen Ukraine's defense capabilities on land, sea, and in the air in order to improve deterrence against Russian aggression;

(6) condemns the Russian Federation's ongoing malign activities against Ukraine and renews its call on the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately cease all activity that seeks to undermine Ukraine and destabilize the European continent;

(7) reiterates its strong condemnation of the provocative actions and unjustified use of military force by the Government of the Russian Federation in the Kerch Strait against the Ukrainian Navy on November 25, 2018, as a blatant violation of the Russian Federation's commitments under international law and the 2003 Treaty Between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on Cooperation in the Use of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait;

(8) expresses its support to all Ukrainian political prisoners convicted on fabricated charges and incarcerated by Russian or Russian-controlled authorities, including the Ukrainian sailors seized in the November 25, 2018, attack near the Kerch Strait who are due treatment under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and have been illegally kept in detention in the territory of the Russian Federation, while renewing its strong call on the Kremlin to immediately release these Ukrainian citizens;

(9) affirms the Department of State's Crimea Declaration, announced on July 25, 2018, that rejects Russia's attempted annexation of Crimea and pledges to maintain this policy until Ukraine's territorial integrity is restored;