

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 34

Expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued to honor the crew of the USS Mason DE-529 who fought and served during World War II.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 22, 2009

Mr. BURRIS submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued to honor the crew of the USS Mason DE-529 who fought and served during World War II.

Whereas the USS Mason DE-529 was the only United States Navy destroyer with a predominantly Black enlisted crew during World War II;

Whereas the integration of the crew of the USS Mason DE-529 was the role model for racial integration on Navy vessels and served as a beacon for desegregation in the Navy;

Whereas the integration of the crew signified the first time that Black citizens of the United States were trained to serve in ranks other than cooks and stewards;

Whereas the USS Mason DE-529 served as a convoy escort in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Theatres during World War II;

Whereas, in September 1944, the crew of the USS Mason DE-529 helped save Convoy NY119, ushering the convoy to safety despite a deadly storm in the Atlantic Ocean;

Whereas, in 1998, the Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton made an official decision to name an Arleigh Burke Class Destroyer the USS Mason DDG-87 in order to honor the USS Mason DE-529;

Whereas, in 1994, President Clinton awarded the USS Mason DE-529 a long-overdue commendation, presenting the award to 67 of the surviving crewmembers; and

Whereas commemorative postage stamps have been issued to honor important vessels, aircrafts, and battles in the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the United States Postal Service should
4 issue a postage stamp honoring the crew of the USS
5 Mason DE-529 who fought and served during
6 World War II; and

7 (2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
8 should recommend to the Postmaster General that
9 such a stamp be issued.

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