CO-75-93

Class "C" Resolution No BIA Action Required.

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

Recognizing and Honoring Navajo Women Veterans for Their Dedicated Services in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and in Preserving the Navajo Way of Life and Endorsing the "Walk of the Warriors' 2,129 mile Journey to the U.S. Capitol.

WHEREAS:

- 1. Pursuant to 2 N.T.C. Section 102 (a), the Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation; and
- 2. Pursuant to Resolution CJ-5-40, the Navajo Tribal Council pledged its loyalty to stand ready to aid and defend the Government of the United States of America against all subversive and armed conflicts and pledged loyalty to the system which recognized minority rights; and
- 3. From the Revolution through Desert Storm and presently in Somalia, Native Americans including Navajo men and women have served with distinction and honor for the cause of American freedom and the Navajo way of life; and
- 4. Statistical information reveals that over one-quarter million women served in the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War between 1959 to 1975; and
- 5. The Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs and the Navajo Veterans Task Force have identified and registered 230 Navajo women veterans who served in many foreign countries and within the continental United States of America and approximately 50 of these Navajo women veterans served in Southeast Asia; and
- 6. To pay tribute and to honor all women veterans, the Walk of the Warriors, an inter-tribal veterans organization, commenced walking 2,129 miles from Farmington, New Mexico to arrive in Washington, D.C., on November 7, 1993 to take part in the dedication of the Vietnam Women Veterans Memorial on November 11, 1993 (Veterans Day); and
- 7. It is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation that special recognition and honor be bestowed on all Navajo veterans and walkers to the U.S. Capitol.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Navajo Nation Council hereby recognizes and honors all Navajo women veterans for their dedicated services in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and in preserving the Navajo way of life and further endorses the Walk of the Warriors' 2,129 mile journey to the U.S. Capitol.
- 2. The Navajo Nation Council further endorses the Proclamation, which recognizes and honors all Navajo women veterans and the Walk of the Warriors (incorporated and attached as Exhibit "A".

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 63 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained, this 27th day of October 1993.

Speaker

Navajo Nation Council

November 1, 1993

Date Signed

Motion: Andrew Simpson Second: Anne Descheny

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

1. Pursuant to 2 N.T.C. Section 1005 (c)(1), I hereby sign into law the foregoing legislation on this day of

Peterson Zal, President Navajo Nation

Pursuant to 2 N.T.C. Section 1005 (c)(10), I hereby veto the foregoing legislation this _____ day of _____ 1993 for the reason(s) expressed in the attached letter to the Speaker:

> Peterson Zah, President Navajo Nation

Exhibit A

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 265,000 women served in the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam war from 1959 to 1975, and 11,000 of these women served In-Country; and

WHEREAS, these women served as nurses, physicians, physical therapists, personnel in medical service corps, air traffic controllers, communication specialists, intelligence officers and clerks. Civilian women in Southeast Asia served as news correspondents, red cross workers in USO clubs and as members of humanitarian organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Vietnam veterans generation is forging ahead together, seeking the truth about its history and making a difference for today's soldiers and veterans of all future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Navajo Veterans Affairs and the Navajo Veterans Task Force have identified and registered 230 Navajo women veterans who served with honors in many foreign countries and within the continental U.S.A. and approximately 50 of these Navajo women veterans served in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, the Walk of the Warriors an inter-tribal veterans organization commenced walking 2,129 miles from Farmington, New Mexico on August 21, 1993 and will arrive in Washington, D.C. on November 07, 1993, to pay tribute and to honor all women veterans and to participate in the dedication of the Vietnam Women Veterans Memorial on November 11, 1993 (Veterans Day); and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation acknowledges that the Navajo women hold a revered position in Navajo life as the center of the home, and now have distinguished themselves in service to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, it is only appropriate that the Navajo Nation and the Federal agencies support and honor all Navajo women veterans and the walkers to the U.S. capitol.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT,

The Branch Chiefs of the NAVAJO NATION, and Directors of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Services hereby bestow special recognition and honor all Navajo women veterans for their dedicated service in preserving the Navajo way of life in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

We further recognize and honor the participants of the Walk of the Warriors for their 2,129 mile journey to the U.S. capital to honor the Vietnam women veterans.

We further urge all citizens to help realize the full meaning and purpose of this special commemoration and to celebrate the patriotism and courage of all women veterans, especially the Navajo women veterans.

SIGNED THIS 20th DAY OF OCTOBER 1993, AT WINDOW ROCK, NAVAJO NATION (ARIZONA).

Nelson Gorman, Jr. SPEAKER Navajo Nation Council Peterson Zah PRESIDENT The Navajo Nation Robert Yazzie CHIEF JUSTICE The Navajo Nation

Wilson Barber, Jr. AREA DIRECTOR Bureau of Indain Affairs John Hubbard AREA DIRECTOR Indian Health Services