

RESOLUTION NO. 201920 FEB 16 1971

WHEREAS, the traditional policy of the United States is to support the principle of the freedom of the seas, and to this end this country does not recognize claims to jurisdiction over waters greater in breadth than 12 miles from the baseline of the territorial sea, and it is the view of the United States, acting through the Department of State, that under international law, it is not required to recognize such claims; and

WHEREAS, seizures of American-Flag vessels, and in particular, tuna clippers based in ports of San Pedro and San Diego, California, have taken place as the result of territorial sea claims of no less than 200 miles from the baseline of the territorial sea by naval forces of the countries of Ecuador and Peru; claims which are strictly contrary to the traditional position of the United States with regard to the seaward limits of national jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, within the past 10 years, the naval forces of Ecuador and Peru have seized 99 U.S. flag tuna clippers on the high seas; and

WHEREAS, during the month of January 1971, alone, the military forces of Ecuador have used aircraft and warships to shoot at and seize 17 U.S. flag tuna clippers on the high seas as recognized by the U.S., and has imposed fines as a condition for the release of such vessels and the

crews aboard in an amount in excess of \$830,000.00; and

WHEREAS, such actions may cause California fishing vessels to be driven from the high seas with resulting critical, if not fatal, damage to the California tuna fishing industry; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of the Department of State to end seizures and detentions of American-Flag tuna vessels have been ineffective, and the United States Navy and the United States Coast Guard are without authority to exercise protective activities over American-Flag vessels on the high seas, and in particular the eastern tropical Pacific; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

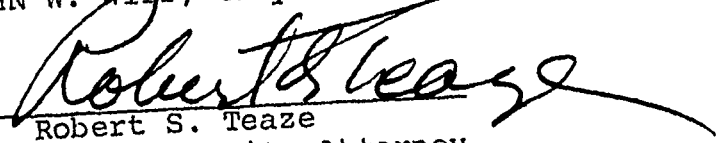
1. The Congress of the United States of America is respectfully petitioned to enact legislation relative to the unlawful seizure of United States vessels by foreign countries on the high seas.

2. The President of the United States is respectfully requested to take whatever action he may deem proper to ensure that further seizures will not occur.

3. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United

States, and to the Honorable Senator Warren G. Magnuson,
Chairman, Senate Commerce Committee, and to the Honorable
Representative Edward A. Garmatz, Chairman, Committee on
Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By 
Robert S. Teaze
Assistant City Attorney

RST:rb
2-4-71

20

Passed and adopted by the Council of The City of San Diego on FEB 16 1971,
by the following vote:

Councilmen	Yeas	Nays	Excused	Absent
Helen Cobb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sam T. Loftin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Henry L. Landt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leon L. Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floyd L. Morrow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Martinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Hitch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Schaefer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Frank Curran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AUTHENTICATED BY:

FRANK CURRAN
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

JOHN LOCKWOOD
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

By Elfa P. Hamel, Deputy *pc*

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Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

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