

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- **298401**

ADOPTED ON **SEP 22 2003**

WHEREAS, in 1941, the American Air Force began a program at the Tuskegee Army Air Field to train black Americans as military fighter pilots; and

WHEREAS, the first graduating class of Tuskegee Airmen were trained to be fighter pilots for the decorated 99th Fighter Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group; and

WHEREAS, over 450 Tuskegee Airmen were stationed overseas, where they demonstrated unsurpassed bravery and patriotism as combat pilots in North Africa and the Mediterranean; and

WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Airmen demonstrated superior combat skill in their capacity as “bomber escort” where they did not lose a single bomber and forced down as many as 250 enemy aircraft; and


WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Airmen were awarded over 800 medals of honor for their valiant and heroic efforts during World War II; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen led to the eventual desegregation of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Airmen are outstanding examples of Americans who overcame prejudice and discrimination in the 1940s to leave their mark on history; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby proclaim September 20, 2003, as "TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DAY" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Lisa A. Foster
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab
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