

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa recognizes the proud and dutiful service rendered by the men and women who served on board the United States of America's **USS Ticonderoga**, named for the capture of Fort Ticonderoga that occurred in 1775 during the American Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, the first of five USS Ticonderoga ships was a gunship launched in 1814 and served until 1825, the second was a sloop-of-war that served from 1862 to 1881 and was the first steam-powered ship to circumnavigate the world, and in 1917, the third ship was a German freighter that was impounded by the United States and used as a transport ship until she was torpedoed by a German submarine in 1918; and

WHEREAS, the fourth USS Ticonderoga, commissioned a CV-14, was an elite Essex-class aircraft carrier built in 1944, decommissioned in 1945 and recommissioned a CVA-14 in 1954, serving during five combat deployments to Southeast Asia that earned 5 Battle Stars, 3 Navy Unit Commendations, a Meritorious Unit Commendation and an additional 12 Battle Stars for the Vietnam Conflict; and

WHEREAS, the fifth and final USS Ticonderoga was designated a CG47 in 1983 and was the lead ship of the Aegis Guided Missile Cruiser Class, the world's first surface combatant equipped with the Aegis combat system, and it received 2 Joint Meritorious Unit Awards, 2 Navy Unit Commendations, 2 Meritorious Unit Awards and 3 Battle Efficiency Awards before being decommissioned in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the **USS Ticonderoga Veterans' Association**, with approximately 800 shipmate members, will host its Annual Reunion on May 18-22, 2017 at the Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore Hotel in Tampa, Florida to honor the over 30,000 who honorably served on board the USS Ticonderoga Aircraft Carrier and USS Ticonderoga Cruiser during World War II, Korean War, the Vietnam Conflict, the NASA Space Program and during Desert Storm.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 18, 2017 as

"USS TICONDEROGA DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in expressing gratitude to all who have served on the USS Ticonderoga and to the USS Ticonderoga Veterans' Association for preserving this valued history and honoring those who have served.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 15th day of March, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor