

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

**Introduced: 3/8/96**

**Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Establishing YUKLA 27 Remembrance Day.**

**2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**3 WHEREAS** 24 American and Canadian airmen perished in the crash of an Airborne  
**4 Warning and Control System (AWACS) plane shortly after taking off from Elmendorf Air**  
**5 Force Base on September 22, 1995; and**

**6 WHEREAS** the crew members who perished were Lieutenant Colonel Richard G.  
**7 Leary, U.S.A.F., Navigator; Major Richard Patrick Stewart II, U.S.A.F., Mission Crew**  
**8 Commander; Major Marlon R. Thomas, U.S.A.F., Mission Crew Commander; Major Steven**  
**9 A. Tuttle, U.S.A.F., Airborne Surveillance Officer; Captain Glenn J. "Skip" Rogers, U.S.A.F.,**  
**10 Aircraft Commander; Captain Robert J. Long, U.S.A.F., Senior Director; Captain Bradley W.**  
**11 Paakola, U.S.A.F., Pilot; First Lieutenant Carlos A. Arriaga, U.S.A.F., Weapons Director;**  
**12 Master Sergeant Stephen C. O'Connell, U.S.A.F., Advanced Air Surveillance Technician;**  
**13 Technical Sergeant Bart L. Holmes, U.S.A.F., Flight Engineer; Technical Sergeant Ernest R.**  
**14 Parrish, U.S.A.F., Area Specialist; Sergeant David L. Pitcher, C.A.F., Battle Director**  
**15 Technician; Technical Sergeant Charles D. Sweet, Jr., U.S.A.F., Airborne Radar Technician;**  
**16 Technical Sergeant Brian K. Van Leer, U.S.A.F., Advanced Air Surveillance Technician;**  
**17 Technical Sergeant Mark A. Bramer, U.S.A.F., Flight Engineer; Technical Sergeant Timothy**

1 B. Thomas, U.S.A.F., Computer Display Maintenance Technician; Technical Sergeant Mark  
2 A. Collins, U.S.A.F., Communications Systems Operator; Master Corporal J.-P. Legault,  
3 C.A.F., Communications Technician; Staff Sergeant Scott A. Bresson, U.S.A.F., Airborne  
4 Radar Technician; Staff Sergeant Raymond O. Spencer, Jr., U.S.A.F., Airborne Surveillance  
5 Technician; Senior Airman Joshua N. Weter, U.S.A.F., Computer Display Maintenance  
6 Technician; Senior Airman Lawrence E. Defrancesco, U.S.A.F., Communications Systems  
7 Operator; Airman Darien F. Watson, U.S.A.F., Airborne Surveillance Technician; and  
8 Airman Jeshua C. Smith, U.S.A.F., Airborne Surveillance Technician; and

9 **WHEREAS** the call sign of this tragic flight was YUKLA 27;

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature establishes September 22 each  
11 year as YUKLA 27 Remembrance Day to commemorate the 24 airmen who perished in the  
12 AWACS crash on September 22, 1995; and be it

13 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the  
14 governor to issue a proclamation to commemorate YUKLA 27 Remembrance Day each year  
15 and urges the governor to direct that the Alaska flag be flown at half-mast on that day; and  
16 be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges civic groups and the  
18 public to observe the day by suitable observances and exercises.

19 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to and to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President  
20 of the United States; the Honorable William J. Perry, U.S. Secretary of Defense; the  
21 Honorable Sheila E. Widnall, U.S. Secretary of the Air Force; General John M. Shalikashvili,  
22 Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; General Ronald R. Fogelman, Chief of Staff of the U.S.  
23 Air Force; Lieutenant General Lawrence Boese, U.S.A.F., Commander, 11th Air Force, Alaska  
24 Command, NORAD; and to the next of kin of the deceased airmen.