[Urging public disclosure of information related to Holocaust-era lawsuits.]


WHEREAS, Millions of Jewish people, Poles, gypsies, lesbians and gay men, disabled persons and others were exterminated or forced into slave labor for multinational German corporations and their European subsidiaries during the Third Reich of Nazi Germany from 1933 to 1945; and

WHEREAS, The rise of the Third Reich in Nazi Germany resulted in the persecution of the German left and led to violent attacks on academics and dissenters; and,

WHEREAS, Holocaust survivors and their descendants have filed suit to recover damages from these corporations for the slave labor from which they gained tremendous benefit; and,

WHEREAS, Eastman Kodak Company, Standard Oil Company, International Telephone and Telegraph Company, International Business Machines, Ford Motor Corporation and other companies have failed to divulge the full extent of their wartime transactions with Germany and the Axis nations; and,

WHEREAS, These companies have refused to cooperate with U.S. and international efforts to remedy these human rights violations; and,

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Justice has not released all files that pertain to trade by United States companies and their subsidiaries with Nazi Germany from 1933 to 1945; and,
WHEREAS, The Jewish community and other groups impacted by the Holocaust will observe Holocaust Remembrance Day on April 19, 2001, a remembrance of those who lost their lives during the Warsaw Uprising of 1943, with the admonition to "Never Forget"; and, WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes the corrosive impact of hate and the tragedy of the Holocaust; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the United States Department of Justice, Eastman Kodak Company, Standard Oil Company, International Telephone and Telegraph Company, International Business Machines, Ford Motor Corporation and other companies to fully disclose their wartime records.

April 23, 2001  Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 6 - Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin
Absent: 5 - Ammiano, Leno, Newsom, Sandoval, Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 23, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Jean Lum
Acting Clerk of the Board

MAY 04 2001
Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.