

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
OCTOBER 18-19, 2000**

**Resolution No. 22: The *USS John W. Finn***

Origin: NC 2000 Resolution No. 232 (Washington)

Submitted By: Internal Affairs

WHEREAS, The American Legion is an organization of war veterans dedicated to preserve and perpetuate the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; and

WHEREAS, On December 7, 1941, Lieutenant John W. Finn, then a Chief Aviation Ordnance man, on his own volition, set up and manned a machine gun throughout the entire attack on the Naval Station at Kaneohe, Hawaii, returning fire to attacking Japanese aircraft with telling effect and despite painful and numerous wounds from strafing fire continued to man his post until directly ordered to obtain medical attention; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant John W. Finn, USN (Retired) was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism and service above and beyond the call of duty by Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant John W. Finn is the last living survivor of fifteen Medal of Honor recipients for action at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant John W. Finn's heroic actions are in fact fully documented in Navy Department historical records; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion deems it fitting that a warship ship of the United States Navy be named in honor of Lieutenant John W. Finn, when he is deceased, in order to preserve and inspire present and future Americans; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 18-19, 2000, That The American Legion petition the Secretary of the Navy to name a U.S. naval vessel for Medal of Honor recipient Lieutenant John W. Finn, USN (Retired) who was honored for heroism and service above and beyond the call of duty at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.**