

# *Resolution No. 2018 -*

## **RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN F. GONGE FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DURING HIS DECADES-LONG MILITARY CAREER, INCLUDING SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II, AND RECOGNIZE NOVEMBER 5, 2018 AS LT. GEN. JOHN F. GONGE DAY IN SOLANO COUNTY IN HONOR OF HIS BIRTHDAY**

**WHEREAS**, upon serving an illustrious and distinguished career in the United States Air Force, to include more than 13,000 flying hours as a command pilot, Lieutenant General John F. Gonge has served his country admirably and with great honor; and

**WHEREAS**, born on Nov. 5, 1921, General Gonge graduated high school in 1938 and entered active military service as an aviation cadet and attended the U.S. Army Air Corps Flying School at Lubbock Army Air Field in Texas. It was there that he earned his pilot wings and commission as a second lieutenant; and

**WHEREAS**, during World War II, General Gonge flew the "Hump" in the China-Burma-India campaigns with the Army Air Corps Air Transport Command. In 1956 he was assigned to the 47<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group; and

**WHEREAS**, a career transport pilot, General Gonge remained with airlift forces through Air Training Command, Military Air Transport Service and Military Airlift Command. By 1953, he was assigned as special projects officer in the Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for operations, Pacific Division and later, as administrative assistant to the commander. In 1956, he was assigned as commander of the 1506<sup>th</sup> Support Squadron at Clark Air Base, Philippine Islands; and

**WHEREAS**, General Gonge arrived at Travis Air Force Base in 1960 where he served first as chief, Program Division, and later as assistant deputy chief of staff for plans and manpower. After becoming deputy assistant chief of staff, Military Air Transport Service, he went on to attend the National War College in Washington, D.C. He was next assigned to the organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and

**WHEREAS**, by 1969, General Gonge returned to Travis Air Force Base as vice commander of the 60<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Wing and would go on to assume additional command roles across the country, including command of the 22nd Air Force at Travis and ultimately becoming vice commander in chief of Military Airlift Command; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his 13,000 flying hours, General Gonge's military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal and the Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem. He was promoted to the grade of lieutenant general on Sept. 1, 1975 and retired from the United State Air Force in 1977.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Solano County Board of Supervisors hereby honor Lieutenant General John F. Gonge for his contribution to the safety and security of the United States of America and commend him for a long and distinguished career with the United State Air Force and recognize November 5, 2018 as Lt. Gen. John F. Gonge Day in Solano County.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018

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JOHN M. VASQUEZ, Chair  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanette Neiger, Chief Deputy Clerk