Frederick D. Gray Chairman, Iwo Jima Black Veterans 6712 Hastings Drive Capitol Heights, MD 20743 August 21, 1991

Honorable Joseph R. Biden Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As chairman of the Iwo Jima Black Veterans group, I was asked by the membership to submit to your committee their names in support of Judge Thomas's nomination to the Supreme Court. This is in addition to my letter of August 20, 1991.

Mr. Leroy Davis 7414 Bel Haven Court Landover, MD 20785

Mr. Bertrand Patterson 5206 Broadway Avenue Shreveport, LA 71109

Mr. Sam Green 4345 McCord Circle Shreveport, LA 71109

Mr. Artie Coleman 3125 Ashton Street Shreveport, LA 71103 Mr. Lyman Brent P.O. Box 74011 Baton Rouge, LA 70874

Mr. Haywood Johnson 314 Oneida Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20011

Mr. Thomas Perrin 3212 G Street, S.E. Washington, DC 20019

Sincerely,

Frederick D. Gray

My name is Frederick Douglass Gray. I live at 6712 Hastings Drive, Prince George's County, Maryland 20743. First, I would like to thank the members of this committee for permitting me to appear before you today. On this very date 46 years ago, I was walking the volcanic ashes of Iwo Jima happy as one could be that the war had ended, and, I, along with millions of other young veterans, would be coming home.

Now, 46 years later, having survived one of the worst battles in military history, I come before you asking this committee to look favorably and fairly upon the information you have before you concerning Judge Thomas's appointment to the Supreme Court. I believe Judge Thomas will prove to be what some are saying he is not. He will be a justice for all Americans. He will carry out the laws of this land to the best of his ability.

Yes, he comes from rural Georgia, and I come from rural Southern Maryland from the town of St. Leonards in a little county called Calvert. We both understand hardship. We both believe in the true American way: working for a living. We both do not believe in handouts. We both do not believe in quotas. So, Mr. Chairman, if the above is reason to deny a seat on the Supreme Court to Judge Thomas, so be it.

Judge Thomas would never let his personal beliefs in any way interfere with his ability to render a just and fair decision for all Americans. I thank you, again, Mr. Chairman and the members of this committee.

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