

By: Mercer

H.R. No. 1597

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Since its creation almost a century ago, the U.S.
2 Army's Second (Indian Head) Division has rendered exceptional
3 service to this nation in both times of war and times of peace; and

4 WHEREAS, The Second Division was formed in France in October
5 1917, when it was composed of one brigade of artillery, one brigade
6 of infantry, and one brigade of U.S. Marines; it is the only U.S.
7 Army division ever to be formed on foreign soil and also the only
8 one ever to be commanded by a Marine, Major General John A. LeJeune;
9 the Second Division distinguished itself in six major campaigns in
10 World War I, capturing more enemy soldiers than any other division;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Landing on Omaha Beach on D-Day plus one during
13 World War II, the Second Division subsequently fought in five major
14 campaigns and at one point stayed on the front line for 71 days,
15 longer than any other division; in the Battle of the Bulge, the
16 Second Division faced three German divisions and stopped the enemy
17 advance on Antwerp, thereby saving the First U.S. Army; it later led
18 the liberation of Czechoslovakia, the first country captured by the
19 Germans and the last one freed; and

20 WHEREAS, During the Korean War the Second Division fought
21 gallantly in eight major campaigns; at Kuna Ri, it faced and stopped
22 troops of the Chinese army, allowing the Eighth U.S. Army to
23 withdraw and reorganize; over the course of that long and grueling
24 war to ensure a free and secure South Korean peninsula, the Second

1 Division suffered the heaviest casualties of all divisions under
2 U.N. command; and

3 WHEREAS, Between the First and Second World Wars, the Second
4 Division was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio; members
5 of the division routinely hiked with full packs and equipment along
6 19 miles of Farm-to-Market Road 1535 to Camp Bullis, where they
7 trained in tick-infested woods and bivouacked for a week or more in
8 pup tents before hiking the return route to the fort; and

9 WHEREAS, In honor of the thousands of brave and dedicated
10 soldiers who have served under the banner of the Second (Indian
11 Head) Division and those who are serving today at Camp Casey, South
12 Korea, as the Second Infantry Division, the chief U.S. force
13 stationed in that country as a deterrent to North Korea, the Texas
14 Legislature has designated FM 1535 in San Antonio as the Second
15 Indian Head Division Memorial Highway; and

16 WHEREAS, Citizens of this nation owe an immeasurable debt to
17 the members of the Second Division, who have served valiantly
18 through many arduous trials and whose efforts and sacrifice have
19 secured the liberties of countless people at home and abroad; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the members of the U.S. Army's
23 Second (Indian Head) Division for their devotion to duty, honor,
24 and their country and extend to them profound appreciation for
25 their heroic and steadfast service.