

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 523

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Marine Staff Sergeant Michael L. Youngblood of
2 Gilmer has been awarded a Combat Distinguishing Device for his
3 valiant actions in Saudi Arabia; and

4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Youngblood was serving as detachment
5 commander of the Marine Security Guard Detachment in Jeddah, Saudi
6 Arabia, on December 6, 2004, when five heavily armed terrorists
7 attacked the United States Consulate in that city; armed with
8 automatic weapons, improvised explosive devices, and incendiary
9 devices, the terrorists gained entrance to the embassy compound in
10 a coordinated assault that began about 11 a.m.; and

11 WHEREAS, Before the terrorists could enter the consulate
12 itself, however, the Marines succeeded in locking down the
13 building; then, under sustained small arms fire, Sergeant
14 Youngblood moved his Marines from their quarters to the consulate,
15 where they manned defensive positions while also clearing the
16 building and moving embassy personnel to safety; during this
17 operation, Sergeant Youngblood engaged one of the attackers and
18 repelled the terrorist with gunfire; and

19 WHEREAS, Once the building was cleared and all American
20 citizens and other designated personnel had reached safety,
21 Sergeant Youngblood withdrew his Marines from their defensive
22 positions to the safe haven, which he himself was the last to enter;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Under Sergeant Youngblood's expert direction, the

1 Marines used classic textbook procedures for securing the
2 consulate, manning defensive positions, and clearing the building,
3 and his and his unit's actions undoubtedly saved the lives of many
4 Americans and foreign nationals employed at the consulate; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
7 Legislature hereby congratulate Marine Staff Sergeant Michael L.
8 Youngblood on his receipt of the Combat Distinguishing Device and
9 extend to him profound appreciation for his courageous service in
10 behalf of this country; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Sergeant Youngblood as an expression of high regard by
13 the Texas House of Representatives.