

By: Miller

H.R. No. 1367

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The United States Army III Corps, based at Fort Hood
2 under the command of Lieutenant General Thomas F. Metz, boasts a
3 proud record of exceptional service to this country; and

4 WHEREAS, First organized during World War I, the corps was
5 activated in France in May 1918; over the following six months,
6 before the armistice was signed in November, it won battle
7 streamers for its participation in five European campaigns; and

8 WHEREAS, During the Second World War, III Corps trained
9 thousands of troops for combat before deploying to Europe in
10 September 1944; in the ensuing months, the corps took part in most
11 of the critical fighting between Normandy and the German-Austrian
12 border, including a daring counterattack against the German salient
13 during the Battle of the Bulge; nicknamed the "Phantom Corps," for
14 hitting the enemy when and where it least expected, III Corps added
15 campaign streamers for Northern France, Rhineland,
16 Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe, took more than 225,000
17 prisoners, and seized more than 4,500 square miles of German
18 territory; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1954, III Corps moved from Camp Roberts,
20 California, to Fort Hood, Texas; throughout the 1950s, the corps
21 participated in a number of exercises designed to test new
22 doctrines, organizations, and equipment, a mission that grew in
23 scope over the following decades; and

24 WHEREAS, The period of the Cold War presented III Corps with a

1 succession of challenges; it trained more than 40,000 individual
2 replacements for duty in Vietnam and supervised the training of
3 more than 137 units and detachments for service in Southeast Asia;
4 in addition, III Corps units fought and supported operations in
5 Grenada, Panama, and Honduras and provided humanitarian support for
6 Operation Restore Hope in Somalia; and

7 WHEREAS, Formerly part of the U.S. Strategic Army Forces, III
8 Corps became part of Forces Command in 1973; its active-duty, Fort
9 Hood-based peacetime organization consists of more than 47,000
10 soldiers and is composed of the 1st Cavalry Division, 4th Infantry
11 Division, 13th Corps Support Command, and three separate brigades;
12 in peacetime, the corps also commands forces stationed at Fort
13 Bliss, Texas; Fort Carson, Colorado; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and Fort
14 Riley, Kansas; a number of reserve units are also associated with
15 the corps; and

16 WHEREAS, Since the end of the Cold War, units of III Corps
17 have been heavily involved in overseas operations; the 1st Cavalry
18 Division, with the attached 1st "Tiger" Brigade of the 2nd Armored
19 Division, deployed to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in
20 October 1990; as the theater reserve, the 1st Cavalry played an
21 instrumental role in the famed "Left Hook" to defeat Iraqi ground
22 forces; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1998-1999, the 1st Cavalry participated in
24 Operation Joint Endeavor, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and from
25 January 2004 to April 2005, the unit deployed in support of
26 Operation Iraqi Freedom; during its tour in Iraq, the 1st
27 Cavalry--the army's premier heavy-armored division--assumed

1 responsibility for securing the city of Baghdad and its environs;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The 4th Infantry Division, the army's first fully
4 digitized division, deployed in February 2003 with its 17,000
5 soldiers as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom; in December 2003,
6 members of the unit captured the former Iraqi dictator Saddam
7 Hussein; and

8 WHEREAS, With nearly 6,000 soldiers, the 13th Corps Support
9 Command shipped out to Iraq in two stages between 2002 and 2004, to
10 provide logistical and medical support for III Corps troops;
11 Headquarters III Corps also deployed to Iraq, where it assumed the
12 role of Multinational Corps--Iraq, the organization that directs
13 all tactical operations and intelligence functions in the Iraqi
14 theater; in January 2005, that group oversaw the Iraqi national
15 elections; and

16 WHEREAS, Sustained by their unwavering devotion to duty,
17 honor, and the cause of freedom, the men and women of III Corps have
18 forged a tradition of courageous and selfless military service and
19 earned their fellow citizens' deepest respect and gratitude; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
22 Legislature hereby honor the members of the United States Army III
23 Corps and extend to them profound appreciation on behalf of all
24 Texans.