

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 1616

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Retired Brigadier General David L. Hill of San  
2 Antonio has received the Distinguished Service Cross for his heroic  
3 action during World War II; and

4           WHEREAS, General Hill received this prestigious award for the  
5 exceptional bravery he demonstrated on October 25, 1942, when he  
6 led nine P-40 Warhawks of the 23rd Fighter Group as escort for 12  
7 B-24 bombers in a raid against the Japanese in Hong Kong; suffering  
8 with malaria, he successfully guided his squadron in driving off  
9 the enemy, while suffering little damage; and

10           WHEREAS, Born in Korea on July 13, 1915, Tex Hill moved with  
11 his family to San Antonio in 1921; he attended military schools as a  
12 young man, and graduated from the San Antonio Academy in 1928 and  
13 the McCallie School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1934; he also  
14 attended Texas A&M University and Austin College, and subsequently  
15 decided to pursue a career in military aviation; and

16           WHEREAS, Beginning his career as a pilot for the U.S. Navy  
17 during World War II, General Hill soon joined the American  
18 Volunteer Group, the original Flying Tigers, a group initially  
19 charged with defending the Burma Road from the threat of Japanese  
20 aircraft; after the group was deactivated in July 1942, this  
21 notable airman became a major in command of the 75th Fighter  
22 Squadron, part of the 23rd Fighter Group, leading one difficult  
23 mission after another, including raids on China, Hong Kong, and  
24 Formosa; he left active duty in 1946, then was soon thereafter

1 appointed the youngest one-star general in the Texas National  
2 Guard; and

3 WHEREAS, Today, Tex Hill still exhibits the same  
4 characteristics that established him as a leading fighter pilot; a  
5 tall, Texas cowboy, he has a quick wit and optimistic demeanor, and  
6 delights his friends and family with detailed stories of days past;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Dedicated to the ideals of patriotism and freedom,  
9 this esteemed fighter ace ably defended his country during World  
10 War II, and after many years, he is finally assuming his rightful  
11 place in the history books; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby congratulate retired Brigadier General David L.  
14 Hill on his receipt of the Distinguished Service Cross and commend  
15 him for his brave and steadfast service in this nation's behalf;  
16 and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for General Hill as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.