

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 567

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Omer Dee Simms, who died during World War II on March 19, 1945, aboard the USS *Franklin* in defense of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Under attack from the Japanese Navy, the USS *Franklin* took two direct hits from a dive bomber, resulting in massive damage to the flight deck and aft section; only the valor and tenacity of the crew saved the aircraft carrier; and

**WHEREAS**, Trapped belowdecks with a group of younger sailors, Omer courageously took charge; with disregard for his own safety, he opened a hatch and led the men to safety across a heavily damaged hangar deck; and

**WHEREAS**, Omer was killed while directing this escape when a napalm bomb exploded; his bravery and resolve will remain as an example of one who gave "the last full measure of devotion" to his nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the patriotism, courage, and sacrifice of Omer Dee Simms; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the family of Omer Dee Simms as an expression of high esteem from the Texas Senate.

Brimer

---

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 12, 2005.

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate