

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Major James R. Stegall (Ret.) of Austin rendered
2 exceptional service to this country as an aviator in two wars and as
3 a career officer in the United States Army; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Bullard on February 6, 1922, and raised in
5 East Austin, Major Stegall enlisted in the Texas Army National
6 Guard directly after his graduation from Austin High School in
7 1940; he was mobilized into federal service on November 25, 1940, as
8 part of the 36th Infantry Division; and

9 WHEREAS, Major Stegall shipped out with the 36th Infantry for
10 North Africa in April 1943 and saw his first combat the following
11 September, when American forces established a beachhead at Salerno,
12 Italy; appointed as a liaison pilot, Major Stegall served as a
13 forward observer for the artillery, spotting targets and adjusting
14 artillery fire to increase its effectiveness exponentially; he
15 performed this duty flying at 55 miles per hour in unarmed,
16 single-engine Piper Cub L-4s, known as Grasshoppers, which measured
17 a mere 21 feet in length and 35 feet from wing tip to wing tip;
18 Major Stegall's tour of duty in Italy extended into 1944 and
19 included service at Rapido River; and

20 WHEREAS, At the conclusion of World War II, Major Stegall
21 decided to make the army his career; subsequently designated an
22 army aviator, he saw combat again in the Korean War, flying
23 Grasshoppers once more in support of artillery; after landing with
24 the 7th Infantry Division at Incheon in September 1950, he took part

1 in the push to the Yalu River, in fighting near the Chosin
2 Reservoir, and later in the drive back to the 38th parallel; and

3 WHEREAS, Time and again, Major Stegall demonstrated
4 unflinching courage and tenacity; once in Italy, a group of German
5 fighters shot his wing strut in half, but he was able to land his
6 plane, jump into another, and continue his mission; in Korea, when
7 the Chinese overran American troops and some of the latter were left
8 behind, encircled by the enemy, Major Stegall returned to the
9 trapped soldiers seven times to bring out the wounded, in spite of
10 intense ground fire; and

11 WHEREAS, Major Stegall was awarded the Silver Star with one
12 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross with one Oak Leaf
13 Cluster, the Air Medal with 25 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army
14 Commendation Ribbon, and a host of service medals and appendages;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, This valiant Texan retired from the service in 1961;
17 he and his wife, Doris, now make their home in East Austin, where
18 they have long resided; and

19 WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding military record,
20 the Texas Aviation Association has nominated Major Stegall for
21 induction into the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame at the Lone Star
22 Flight Museum in Galveston; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
24 hereby extend to Major James R. Stegall its profound appreciation
25 for a job well done and recommend that he be inducted into the Texas
26 Aviation Hall of Fame; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

H.C.R. No. 265

1 prepared for Major Stegall and forwarded to the Texas Aviation Hall
2 of Fame and the Lone Star Flight Museum as an expression of high
3 regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Dukes

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 265 was adopted by the House on May 25, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 265 was adopted by the Senate on May 26, 2007, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor