

By: Farabee

H.R. No. 1370

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Tom Danaher of Wichita Falls has been presented a  
2 Living Legends in Aviation award by Airport Journals; and

3           WHEREAS, This prestigious honor is awarded annually to  
4 individuals who have made significant contributions to the history  
5 of flight, and with his receipt of this notable accolade, Mr.  
6 Danaher joins the ranks of such notable figures as Chuck Yeager,  
7 Buzz Aldrin, and Neil Armstrong; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Danaher began his career as a pilot in 1942, a  
9 year after he graduated from high school, when he joined the Navy V5  
10 pilot training program; in the Marine Corps during World War II, he  
11 flew the Grumman F6F-5N Hellcat night fighter and was credited with  
12 shooting down a number of Japanese bombers; and

13           WHEREAS, Continuing his service to his country during the  
14 Korean War, he piloted the F3D Skynight and escorted B-29s during  
15 night bombing missions and night combat air patrols, and he was a  
16 part of the last combat mission flown by the B-29s; and

17           WHEREAS, Throughout the ensuing years, Mr. Danaher has  
18 continued to distinguish himself both above and below the clouds;  
19 he has flown to South America, Africa, Europe, and the Middle East;  
20 piloted his 1948 185 HP Bonanza across the Atlantic for an audience  
21 with Pope Pius XII; opened the Lake Wichita Airport; and piloted  
22 planes in more than 20 movies; and

23           WHEREAS, In Steven Spielberg's words, Mr. Danaher is "the  
24 embodiment of America and a damn great flier," and he may truly take

1 great pride in his unique and accomplished career; now, therefore,  
2 be it

3           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
4 Legislature hereby congratulate Tom Danaher on his receipt of the  
5 Living Legends in Aviation award from Airport Journals and extend  
6 to him best wishes for the future; and, be it further

7           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for Mr. Danaher as an expression of high regard by the  
9 Texas House of Representatives.