

By: Homer

H.C.R. No. 6

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Terrell Boyd of Paris, Texas, who took part in the
2 Normandy invasion, has been named a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor
3 by the French Republic, in recognition of his meritorious service
4 in France during World War II; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Boyd received this illustrious award, the
6 highest distinction accorded by the French government, from
7 President Nicolas Sarkozy at Les Invalides in Paris on June 5, 2009;
8 the induction ceremony, which honored several dozen American,
9 British, and Canadian veterans, was held in conjunction with the
10 65th anniversary of the Allied landing on June 6, 1944; proudly
11 accompanying Mr. Boyd at the awards presentation were his wife,
12 Dorothy, and their sons and daughters-in-law, Gary Boyd, Craig and
13 Maudie Boyd, and Alan and Sherrie Boyd; and

14 WHEREAS, Assigned to the 359th Infantry Regiment, 90th
15 Infantry Division, Terrell Boyd was one of the first American
16 troops to go ashore at Utah Beach on D-Day; from then until the end
17 of the war in Europe, he and his unit were involved in continual
18 fighting; in addition to the assault in Normandy, Mr. Boyd served in
19 the Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central
20 Europe campaigns; of the 200 original members of his company, 15
21 returned home; and

22 WHEREAS, This courageous Texan is the recipient of numerous
23 other military decorations, including two Bronze Stars, the Purple
24 Heart, a bronze Arrowhead for the D-Day landing, and the Combat

1 Infantryman Badge; he has also been honored by the French
2 government on two previous occasions, once with the Croix de Guerre
3 and again with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal; and

4 WHEREAS, The day following the Legion of Honor ceremony, Mr.
5 Boyd and his family traveled to the Normandy American Cemetery and
6 Memorial, at Colleville-sur-mer, for a commemorative observance
7 attended by Presidents Sarkozy and Barack Obama; situated on a
8 cliff above Omaha Beach, the cemetery serves as the resting place of
9 more than 9,000 American military personnel, most of whom lost
10 their lives during the D-Day landings and in ensuing operations,
11 and memorializes 1,557 military personnel who were counted as
12 missing in action; and

13 WHEREAS, After his discharge from the army, Mr. Boyd joined
14 the faculty at Paris Junior College and taught for 27 years in what
15 became the Texas Institute of Jewelry Technology, where he trained
16 many disabled veterans in the jewelry craft; he was cited for his
17 work by the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically
18 Handicapped in 1961 and inducted into the PJC Hall of Honor in 1996;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, A soldier who saw battle during the most
21 far-reaching conflict in world history, Terrell Boyd endured the
22 immeasurable hardships of war with bravery and tenacity, and
23 through his service and sacrifice he helped to preserve the flame of
24 liberty for millions of people; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas,
26 1st Called Session, hereby warmly congratulate Terrell Boyd on his
27 designation as a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor and extend to him

1 sincere appreciation for his selfless and heroic efforts in that
2 time of peril; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Boyd as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives and Senate.