

By

Dale Kelly

H.C.R. No. 303

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, May 28, 1997, marks the 26th anniversary of the
2 death of war hero and entertainer Audie Murphy, and it is indeed
3 fitting on this occasion to honor the memory of this remarkable
4 Texan; and

5 WHEREAS, Born June 20, 1924, near Kingston, Major Murphy's
6 childhood was marked not only by the privations of the
7 sharecropper's existence but also by the death of his parents;
8 despite those difficult circumstances, he was determined to serve
9 in the armed forces, and the slightly built young Texan was
10 rejected by the United States Marines and the Paratroopers before
11 joining the United States Army; and

12 WHEREAS, Assigned to the renowned Fifteenth Infantry Regiment
13 of the Third Infantry Division, his courageous leadership in North
14 Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, and Germany earned him a battlefield
15 commission as a first lieutenant, and within his first 400 days on
16 the front lines, he had earned 33 military awards, citations, and
17 decorations, including every possible American award for valor and
18 French and Belgian medals; and

19 WHEREAS, Major Murphy's military feats became legendary, as
20 when the company under his command came under attack by German
21 armor near Colmar, France; determined not to relinquish Allied
22 control of the region, Major Murphy climbed aboard a burning German
23 tank destroyer and turned its machine gun on the enemy, killing
24 roughly 50 German soldiers and preserving his unit's position; and

1 WHEREAS, This remarkable act of cool-headed heroism earned
2 Major Murphy the Congressional Medal of Honor, and by the time he
3 was discharged from the service with the rank of major, he had also
4 received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the
5 Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart, which he
6 received when a bullet shattered his hip; after leaving the Army he
7 was also awarded the Army's Outstanding Civilian Service Medal; and

8 WHEREAS, On completing his military duty, Major Murphy
9 returned to Texas, where he bought a home near Greenville and
10 retrieved his brother and sisters from the orphanages in which they
11 had been placed; he also joined the Dallas Memorial Veterans of
12 Foreign Wars Post 1837, making his first dues payment of five
13 dollars; and

14 WHEREAS, Although he had expressed interest in becoming a
15 veterinarian, the silver screen beckoned, and, urged on by such
16 luminaries as James Cagney, Major Murphy embarked on a second and
17 equally successful career as an actor; appearing in more than 40
18 films, he starred in the film version of his own life story, *To
19 Hell and Back* and became one of the nation's most popular western
20 stars; and

21 WHEREAS, A talented poet and songwriter as well as an actor,
22 Major Murphy wrote the lyrics to 16 country and western songs,
23 including the standard "Shutters and Boards," and his songs were
24 recorded by artists as diverse as Jerry Wallace, Porter Waggoner,
25 and Dean Martin; and

26 WHEREAS, On May 28, 1971, Major Murphy was one of six people
27 killed in an air crash near Roanoke, Virginia, and on June 3 he was

1 interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors;
2 and
3 WHEREAS, Audie Leon Murphy distinguished himself as one of
4 the most notable historical figures of the 20th century, and Texans
5 from across the state join the members of Veterans of Foreign Wars
6 Post 1837, now known as the Audie L. Murphy Memorial VFW Post 1837,
7 in saluting this great American's many contributions to his nation;
8 now, therefore, be it
9 RESOLVED, That the 75th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby pay tribute to the life of Major Audie Murphy.

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By Dale Kelly

In memory of Major Audie Murphy.

RULES AND RESOLUTIONS

MAY 26 1997

Filed with the Chief Clerk

MAY 27 1997

Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

Reported ___ favorably (as amended)
(as substituted)

Sent to Committee on (Calendars)
(Local & Consent Calendars)

MAY 28 1997

Read (_____), (_____) and adopted (_____) by a (non-record vote)

Engrossed

MAY 28 1997

Sent to Senate

S Sharon Carter

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

OTHER HOUSE ACTION:

MAY 28 1997 RULES SUSPENDED TO PERMIT CONSIDERATION

MAY 28 1997

Received from the House

Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

Reported favorably _____

Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read first time

Laid before the Senate

Consideration ordered by (unanimous consent)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays)

Read, _____, and adopted by (a viva voce vote)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays)

Returned to the House

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

OTHER SENATE ACTION:

_____ Returned from the Senate (as substituted)
(with amendments)

_____ House concurred in Senate amendments by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ House refused to concur in Senate amendments and requested the appointment of a conference committee
by a (non-record vote) (record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ House conferees appointed: _____, Chair; _____,
_____, _____, _____

_____ Senate granted House request. Senate conferees appointed: _____, Chair;
_____, _____, _____, _____

_____ Conference committee report adopted (rejected) by the House by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ Conference committee report adopted (rejected) by the Senate by a (viva voce vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays)