

House Concurrent Resolution No. 53

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOHRMAN.

4488H.01I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States participated in World War II from December 7, 1941,
2 until the conclusion of the war on September 2, 1945; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of American troops served the Allied efforts all over
5 the world, and more than 400,000 American soldiers were killed during the war; and

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7 **WHEREAS**, the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops and 3133 Signal Service Company,
8 also known as the Ghost Army, served our nation in an innovative way; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, the Ghost Army risked their lives by diverting attention from real
11 operations to their fake ones, including phony convoys, phantom divisions, and fake
12 headquarters; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, the Ghost Army employed creativity to save thousands of lives and help
15 the Allied Nations win the war by using inflatable tanks, sound effects, radio trickery, and
16 impersonation to confuse the enemy; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, the Ghost Army carried out over twenty-one deception missions from
19 Normandy to the Rhine including Operation Brittany in July 1944, to mislead the enemy as to
20 General Patton's intentions as he raced across France to smash the German Army; Operation
21 Bettembourg in September 1944, to hold a dangerously unmanned part of Patton's line as he
22 attacked the fortress city of Metz; Operation Viersen in March 1945, to draw enemy attention
23 away from the Ninth Army's crossing of the Rhine River; and Operation Craftsman in April

24 1945, to support the Allied effort to break through the German defensive “Gothic Line” north
25 of Florence, Italy; and

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27 **WHEREAS**, at least six Missourians, Robert J. Bunt, Gurvis D. Scism, Floyd F.
28 Weinrich, Omar D. McCully, Louis Smethers, and Buford A. Patten were members of the Ghost
29 Army:

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31 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
32 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
33 concurring therein, hereby urge Congress to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the
34 Ghost Army in recognition of their service to our country in World War II; and

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36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
37 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
38 Speaker of the House of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore
39 of the United States Senate, the Governor of the State of Missouri, and to all members of the
40 Missouri Congressional delegation.

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