

108TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 439

Honoring the members of the Army Motor Transport Service that served during World War II and participated in the trucking operation known as the Red Ball Express for their service and contribution to the Allied advance following the D-Day invasion.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 2, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Honoring the members of the Army Motor Transport Service that served during World War II and participated in the trucking operation known as the Red Ball Express for their service and contribution to the Allied advance following the D-Day invasion.

Whereas June 6, 2004, is the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, the Allied invasion of Normandy, France, during World War II that marked the decisive moment in the war against the Nazis;

Whereas on June 6, 2004, Americans will commemorate the sacrifices of the individuals who fought to preserve the liberty and freedom of the people of the United States;

Whereas on August 21, 1944, the Army Transportation Corps created a trucking operation called the Red Ball Express;

Whereas the Red Ball Express was a massive 82-day convoy effort that supplied the Allied armies moving through Europe after the successful D-Day invasion;

Whereas the convoy system stretched from Normandy to Paris and eventually to the front in the northeastern borderland of France;

Whereas the Red Ball Express played a major role in the defeat of the Nazis by ensuring that United States and other Allied soldiers were properly supplied;

Whereas members of the Red Ball Express persevered through arduous driving conditions and constant threats of ground and aerial ambushes and performed their duties with precision and efficiency;

Whereas, by the time the Red Ball Express ended in November 1944, Red Ball Express truckers had delivered nearly 500,000 tons of fuel, ammunition, food, and other essentials needed for the Allied forces to succeed in Europe;

Whereas during World War II many commanders believed that African-Americans were not suitable for war and relegated them to service and supply outfits;

Whereas the majority of Red Ball Express drivers were African-Americans;

Whereas the success of the advance through France was due in great measure to those individuals who drove the supply trucks; and

Whereas the members of the Army Motor Transport Service that participated in the Red Ball Express contributed un-

selfishly to the war effort despite the indignities and double standards that they endured: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress honors the members of the
3 Army Motor Transport Service that served during World
4 War II and participated in the trucking operation known
5 as the Red Ball Express for their service and contribution
6 to the Allied advance following the D-Day invasion.

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