

the future leaders of the Nation understand the history of military action and the contributions and sacrifices of those who conduct such actions; and

Whereas on October 30, 2001, President George W. Bush issued a proclamation urging all Americans to observe November 11 through November 17, 2001, as National Veterans Awareness Week; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of November 10 through November 16, 2002, as “National Veterans Awareness Week” for the purpose of emphasizing educational efforts directed at elementary and secondary school students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe National Veterans Awareness Week with appropriate educational activities.

#### NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 242 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will read the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 242) designating August 16, 2002, as “National Airborne Day”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and that statements regarding this matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 242) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 242

Whereas the airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as units of adventuresome, hardy, and fierce warriors who, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project effective ground combat power of the United States by Air Force air transport to the far reaches of the battle area and, indeed, to the far corners of the world;

Whereas August 16, 2002, marks the anniversary of the first official validation of the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind battle lines by means of parachute;

Whereas the United States experiment of airborne infantry attack was begun on June 25, 1940, when the Army Parachute Test Platoon was first authorized by the United States Department of War, and was launched when 48 volunteers began training in July 1940;

Whereas the Parachute Test Platoon performed the first official Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940;

Whereas the success of the Parachute Test Platoon in the days immediately preceding the entry of the United States into World

War II led to the formation of a formidable force of airborne units that, since then, have served with distinction and repeated success in armed hostilities;

Whereas among those units are the former 11th, 13th, and 17th Airborne Divisions, the venerable 82nd Airborne Division, the versatile 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the airborne regiments and battalions (some as components of those divisions, some as separate units) that achieved distinction as the elite 75th Infantry (Ranger) regiment, the 173rd, 187th, 503rd, 507th, 508th, 517th, 541st, and 542nd airborne infantry regiments, the 88th Glider Infantry Battalion, and the 509th, 550th, 551st, and 555th airborne infantry battalions;

Whereas the achievements of the airborne forces during World War II provided a basis for evolution into a diversified force of parachute and air assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf region, and Somalia, and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, the Sinai Peninsula, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo;

Whereas the modern-day airborne force that has evolved from those World War II beginnings is an agile, powerful force that, in large part, is composed of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 75th Infantry (Ranger) regiment which, together with other units, comprise the quick reaction force of the Army's XVIIIth Airborne Corps when not operating separately under the command of a Commander in Chief of one of the regional unified combatant commands;

Whereas that modern-day airborne force also includes other elite forces composed entirely of airborne trained and qualified special operations warriors, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Reconnaissance, Navy SEALs, Air Force Combat Control Teams, Air Sea Rescue, and Airborne Engineer Aviation Battalions, all or most of which comprise the forces of the United States Special Operations Command;

Whereas, in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, the 75th Infantry (Ranger) regiment, Special Forces units, and units of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), together with other units of the Armed Forces, have been prosecuting the war against terrorism, carrying out combat operations in Afghanistan, training operations in the Philippines, and other operations elsewhere;

Whereas, of the members and former members of the Nation's combat airborne forces, all have achieved distinction by earning the right to wear the airborne's “Silver Wings of Courage”, thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, 69 have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished-Service Cross, Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of such traits as heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor;

Whereas, the members and former members of the Nation's combat airborne forces are members of a proud and honorable fraternity of the profession of arms that is made exclusive by those distinctions which, together with their special skills and achievements, distinguish them as intrepid combat parachutists, special operations forces, and (in former days) glider troops; and

Whereas the history and achievements of the members and former members of the airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the American people as the airborne community celebrates August 16, 2002, as the 62nd anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate requests and urges the President to issue a proclamation—

(1) designating August 16, 2002, as “National Airborne Day”; and

(2) calling on Federal, State, and local administrators and the people of the United States to observe “National Airborne Day” with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

#### HONORING THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS AND COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 97 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 97) honoring the Buffalo Soldiers and Colonel Charles Young.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements regarding this matter be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 97) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 97

Whereas the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units, (in this resolution referred to as the ‘Buffalo Soldiers’) have made key contributions to the history of the United States by fighting to defend and protect our Nation;

Whereas the Buffalo Soldiers maintained the trails and protected the settler communities during the period of westward expansion;

Whereas the Buffalo Soldiers were among Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, and crossed into Mexico in 1916 under General John J. Pershing;

Whereas African-American men were drafted into the Buffalo Soldiers to serve on harsh terrain and protect the Mexican Border;

Whereas the Buffalo Soldiers went to North Africa, Iran, and Italy during World War II and served in many positions, including as paratroopers and combat engineers;

Whereas in the face of fear of a Japanese invasion, the Buffalo Soldiers were placed along the rugged border terrain of the Baja Peninsula and protected dams, power stations, and rail lines that were crucial to San Diego's war industries;

Whereas among these American heroes, Colonel Charles Young, of Ripley, Ohio, stands out as a shining example of the dedication, service, and commitment of the Buffalo Soldiers;

Whereas Colonel Charles Young, the third African-American to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, served his distinguished career as a