

2013 DRAFTING REQUEST

Senate Joint Resolution

Received: **8/2/2013** Received By: **smiller**
 Wanted: **As time permits** Same as LRB:
 For: **Frank Lasee (608) 266-3512** By/Representing: **Kevin Jenkins**
 May Contact: Drafter: **smiller**
 Subject: **Memorials - life and public ser.** Addl. Drafters:
 Extra Copies:

Submit via email: **YES**
 Requester's email: **Sen.Lasee@legis.wisconsin.gov**
 Carbon copy (CC) to:

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Major Thomas C. Griffin (ret) US Army Air Corps

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	smiller 8/2/2013	evinz 8/5/2013		_____			
/1			jfrantze 8/5/2013	_____	sbasford 8/5/2013	sbasford 8/14/2013	

FE Sent For:

<END>

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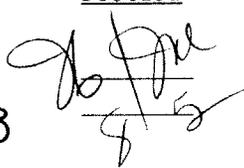
Topic:

Major Thomas C. Griffin (ret) US Army Air Corps ✓

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FE Sent For:

<END>

Miller, Steve

From: LRB.Legal
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 10:48 AM
To: Miller, Steve
Subject: FW: Drafting request
Attachments: SJR_Griffin.docx

See below..thanks ☺

From: Jenkins, Kevin
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 10:45 AM
To: LRB.Legal
Cc: Kovach, Robert
Subject: Drafting request

Attached please find language for a Senate Joint Resolution. If you could look over this for completeness and place into a bill format, it would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jenkins
Chief of Staff, Senator Frank Lasee
Room 316 South, State Capitol
(608) 266-3512

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Senate Joint Resolution

Relating to: Commending the life and military service of Major Thomas C. Griffin (RET), US Army Air Corps.

Whereas, Thomas C. Griffin was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin to Jane and John Griffin on July 10, 1916 and passed away on February 26, 2013 in Green Township, Ohio; and

Whereas, Thomas grew up during the Great Depression, witnessing his father's hardworking spirit and drive to never go without, influencing a young Thomas to live a life of dedication and hard work; and

Whereas, Thomas was fascinated throughout his childhood about aviation heroes Charles Lindberg and James Doolittle, leading him to attend college and join the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC); and

Whereas, Thomas' ROTC experience led him to grow fonder of aviation and increased his desire to serve his country; and

Whereas, upon graduation, Thomas was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Coast Artillery, later volunteering for aviation cadet training and subsequently being rated as a Navigator and re-commissioned in the Army Air Corps, Seventeenth Bomb Group; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin was reassigned to Eglin Field, Florida where he and 119 other aviators were asked to volunteer for a classified mission, of which they were provided no details; and

Whereas, the mission, now named "Special Aviation Project #1" consisted of intense training including learning how to takeoff in a B-25 in 250 feet or less, a feat that was never accomplished before on a fully loaded bomber; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin and his fellow aviators, upon completion of special training, were re-assigned to the Navy's newest carrier, the USS Hornet, to carry out their mission which was now disclosed as bombing Tokyo; and

Whereas, on April 18, 1942 at 0820, Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle led the first of 16 B-25s off the deck of the hornet, including Lt. Griffin's B-25, the Whirling Dervish; and

Whereas, the distance to Japan was 650 nautical miles (300 miles longer than planned), yet the 16 B-25s known as the Doolittle Raiders continued with their mission at great personal risk, carrying out a successful bombing campaign on Tokyo; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin's crew, upon completion of the bombing run, turned toward China with the anticipation of landing safely, but instead crash-landed behind enemy lines where they would stay for seven days; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin, upon leaving China, was reassigned to a B-26 crew in the European theater, conducting bombing missions over Northern Africa and Italy; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin's B-26 was shot down by German aircraft over Sicily on July 4, 1943; and

2833

Whereas, Lt. Griffin was captured by German forces once he was on the ground, and was held at the Stalag Luft III prisoner of war camp for the next twenty two months; and

Whereas, Lt. Griffin and his fellow POWs were liberated by General Patton's 3rd Army, and Lt. Griffin returned home to America on May 15, 1945 and married the love of his life, Esther, on June 22, 1945, and;

Whereas, Thomas Griffin retired from the Army Air Corps in September, 1945 as a Major. His decorations include a Distinguished Flying Cross, four Air Medals and the Chinese Army, Navy and Air Corps Medal, Class A, 1st Grade; and

Whereas, Thomas Griffin, upon his retirement from the Army Air Corps, became a father to his two sons, Gary and John, and operated a successful accounting business in Cincinnati, Ohio, until his retirement in 1983; and

Whereas, Thomas Griffin spent countless hours speaking to people young and old about the Doolittle raid, teaching how the courage and actions of a few can change the morale and discourse of an entire country; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature salutes Thomas Griffin's military service and mourns his passing.



in 8-2



Leev

~~PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION~~

2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to:** commending the life and military service of Major Thomas C. Griffin

2 *retired* (RET), U.S. Army Air Corps.

3 Whereas, Thomas C. Griffin was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Jane and
4 John Griffin on July 10, 1916, and passed away on February 26, 2013, in Green
5 Township, Ohio; and

6 Whereas, Thomas grew up during the Great Depression, witnessing his father's
7 hardworking spirit and drive to never go without, influencing a young Thomas to live
8 a life of dedication and hard work; and

9 Whereas, Thomas was fascinated throughout his childhood *with* aviation
10 heroes Charles *Lindbergh* and James Doolittle, leading him to attend college and join
11 the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC); and

12 *S* Whereas, Thomas' ROTC experience led him to grow fonder of aviation and
13 increased his desire to serve his country; and

1 Whereas, upon graduation, Thomas was commissioned a ~~Second Lieutenant~~ in
 2 the United States ^{Army} ~~Coast Artillery~~ ^{Corps} later volunteering for aviation cadet training and
 3 subsequently being rated as a Navigator and re~~com~~missioned in the Army Air
 4 Corps, ~~Seventeenth~~ ^{17th} Bomb Group; and

5 Whereas, Lt. Griffin was reassigned to Eglin Field, Florida, where he and 119
 6 other aviators were asked to volunteer for a classified mission, of which they were
 7 provided no details; and ^{about}

8 Whereas, the mission, now named "Special Aviation Project #1" consisted of
 9 intense training including learning how to takeoff in a B-25 in 250 feet or less, a feat
 10 that was never accomplished before on a fully loaded bomber; and

11 Whereas, Lt. Griffin and his fellow aviators, upon completion of special
 12 training, were re^eassigned to the Navy's newest carrier, the USS ^{Hornet}, to carry out
 13 their mission, which was now disclosed as bombing Tokyo; and ^I

14 Whereas, on April 18, 1942, at 0820, Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle led the
 15 first of 16 B-25s off the deck of the hornet, including Lt. Griffin's B-25, the Whirling
 16 Dervish; and ^I

17 Whereas, the distance to Japan was 650 nautical miles (300 miles longer than
 18 planned), yet the 16 B-25s known as the Doolittle Raiders continued with their
 19 mission at great personal risk, carrying out a successful bombing campaign on Tokyo;
 20 and

21 Whereas, Lt. Griffin's crew, upon completion of the bombing run, turned toward
 22 China with the anticipation of landing safely, but instead crash-landed behind
 23 enemy lines, where they would stay for seven days; and

24 Whereas, Lt. Griffin, upon leaving China, was reassigned to a B-26 crew in the
 25 European theater, conducting bombing missions over ~~Northern~~ Africa and Italy; and
^{of war}

1 Whereas, Lt. Griffin's B-26 was shot down by German aircraft over Sicily on
2 July 4, 1943; and

3 Whereas, Lt. Griffin was captured by German forces once he was on the ground,
4 and was held at the Stalag Luft III prisoner^{of}war camp for the next ~~twenty-two~~ 22
5 months; and

6 Whereas, Lt. Griffin and his fellow POWs were liberated by General Patton's
7 ^{Third} 3rd Army, and Lt. Griffin returned home to America on May 15, 1945, and married
8 the love of his life, Esther, on June 22, 1945; and

9 Whereas, Thomas Griffin retired from the Army Air Corps in September, 1945
10 as a Major. His decorations include a Distinguished Flying Cross, four Air Medals,
11 and the Chinese Army, Navy and Air Corps Medal, Class A, ^{First} 1st Grade; and

12 Whereas, Thomas Griffin, upon his retirement from the Army Air Corps,
13 became a father to ^{his} two sons, Gary and John, and operated a successful accounting
14 business in Cincinnati, Ohio, until his retirement in 1983; and

15 Whereas, Thomas Griffin spent countless hours speaking to people young and
16 old about the Doolittle raid, teaching how the courage and actions of a few can change
17 the morale and discourse of an entire country; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That* the legislature
19 salutes Thomas Griffin's military service and mourns his passing.

20

(END)

Parisi, Lori

From: Jenkins, Kevin
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 12:07 PM
To: LRB.Legal
Subject: Draft Review: LRB -2833/1 Topic: Major Thomas C. Griffin (ret) US Army Air Corps

Please Jacket LRB -2833/1 for the SENATE.

Representative Jacque is the Assembly author on this resolution. Please release a jacketed Assembly version for his office.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jenkins

Chief of Staff, Senator Frank Lasee
Room 316 South, State Capitol
(608) 266-3512

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