

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 161

Recognizing the outstanding efforts of the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2003

Mr. OSBORNE (for himself, Mr. BEREUTER, and Mr. TERRY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the outstanding efforts of the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946.

Whereas at the beginning of World War II residents of North Platte, Nebraska, received information that members of the Nebraska National Guard from the North Platte area would be traveling through the community of North Platte on a troop train en route to the west coast;

Whereas residents of the North Platte community met the troop train on December 17, 1941, with food and other

gifts for the troops when they arrived at the Union Pacific train station;

Whereas although the troop train carried young men from Kansas instead of members of the Nebraska National Guard, the residents of North Platte presented the young men from Kansas with the food and other items that were donated;

Whereas Rae Wilson, of North Platte, proposed establishing the North Platte Canteen to the North Platte community so residents would greet every troop train that traveled through North Platte and provide the military troops with comforts from home on their way to serve their country during World War II;

Whereas on December 25, 1941, the North Platte Canteen began serving food and other items to the United States military troops traveling across the United States to either the east or west coast before being shipped overseas;

Whereas during World War II, the North Platte Canteen greeted and served food to approximately 6,000,000 men and women from every State in the Union;

Whereas individuals from 125 communities in Nebraska, Colorado, and Kansas donated food and volunteered at the North Platte Canteen over its period of operation of approximately 5 years;

Whereas the North Platte Canteen operated strictly with volunteers from local communities, organizations, churches, schools, and other groups and received no Federal assistance for its operation;

Whereas the North Platte Canteen received \$137,000 in cash contributions from benefit dances, scrap-metal drives, school victory clubs, donation cans in local businesses,

and relatives of servicemembers who traveled through the Canteen to help maintain the Canteen's operations over its period of operation of approximately 5 years;

Whereas the North Platte Canteen served each month about 40,000 homemade cookies, 30,000 hard-boiled eggs, 6,500 doughnuts, 4,000 loaves of bread, 3,000 pounds of meat, 450 pounds of cheese, 60 quarts of peanut butter, 1,350 pounds of coffee, 1,200 quarts of cream, 750 dozen rolls, and 600 birthday cakes; and

Whereas the North Platte Canteen was honored by the United States military with the War Department's Meritorious Wartime Service Award: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3           (1) recognizes the outstanding efforts of the in-  
4       dividuals and communities involved with the North  
5       Platte Canteen that served the needs of 6,000,000  
6       military personnel, who traveled through North  
7       Platte, Nebraska, on troop trains from December  
8       25, 1941, to April 1, 1946, during World War II;  
9       and

10          (2) requests that the President issue a procla-  
11       mation recognizing the gallant efforts of those who  
12       made enormous sacrifices to make the North Platte  
13       Canteen a success during World War II.

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