

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 86—REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ISSUE A COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP HONORING THE 9TH AND 10TH HORSE CAVALRY UNITS, COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Mr. DEWINE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

S. CON. RES. 86

Whereas the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units, collectively known 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 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units maintained the trails and protected the settler communities during the period of westward expansion;

Whereas the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units, who came to be known as the Buffalo Soldiers while in combat with the Native Americans, secured land for the Union from the Native Americans;

Whereas the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units 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 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units to serve on harsh terrain and protect the Mexican Border;

Whereas these African-American units went to North Africa, Iran, and Italy during World War II and worked in many positions including paratroopers and combat engineers;

Whereas in the face of fear of a Japanese invasion, the soldiers in the 9th and 10th Cavalry units 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; and

Whereas the 21 currently existing chapters of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Association, with 20 domestic chapters and 1 in Germany, have built a Buffalo Soldiers Memorial in Junction City, Kansas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress requests that the United States Postal Service issue a commemorative postage stamp in honor of the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Units, collectively known as the Buffalo Soldiers.

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, as my colleagues know, February is designated as "Black History Month." As part of the celebration of African American achievements and contributions to our country, I would like to draw your attention to the heroic and courageous acts of the African Americans who served in the Ninth and Tenth Horse Cavalry Units of the United States Army.

These units were established at the end of the Civil War and composed of former slaves. Their first charge was to maintain trails and protect settlers from Native Americans during the period of westward expansion. The units were called to combative service during the wars against the Native Americans, where they were also given the name of "Buffalo Soldiers."

During the Spanish American War, the Buffalo Soldiers were among Theo-

dore Roosevelt's Rough Riders. In 1916, they crossed into Mexico under the direction of General John J. Pershing. At a time when the majority of the troops fighting in Mexico were from the South, these soldiers faced many internal obstacles and discriminatory actions, even while defending our country.

The Buffalo Soldiers were last called into service during World War II. The soldiers went to North Africa, Iran, and Italy and held various positions as combat engineers and paratroopers, among others. When the Army feared 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 to ensure the safety of crucial war industries in San Diego.

Currently, there are twenty-one existing chapters of the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry associations, one in Germany and twenty in the United States.

Mr. President, I am submitting a resolution today to honor these brave men through the creation of a commemorative postage stamp. This stamp is a way to pay tribute to the Buffalo Soldiers' great acts of courage and dedication to our country. It is my hope that this stamp can serve as a reminder of their valor and to help teach future generations about their contributions to our nation. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

An informative article about the Buffalo Soldiers in my home state of Ohio was recently featured in the Cincinnati Enquirer. I ask unanimous consent that the text of this article be reprinted in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Cincinnati Enquirer, Feb. 9, 2000]

LAST OF A STORIED CAVALRY FIGHT'S FOR RECOGNITION—ALL-BLACK UNIT SERVED IN WW II AFTER LONG HISTORY

(By Mark Curnutte)

In 1943, Lorenzo Denson was one of about two dozen men from Cincinnati drafted to serve in an all-black cavalry unit on the Mexican border.

"The only horse I'd ever seen was the milkman's horse on Seventh Street," he said. Shortages of men in segregated black infantry units took Mr. Denson and other Cincinnatians overseas—without their horses—to North Africa, Iran and Italy. They worked as everything from paratroopers to combat engineers. Mr. Denson was a firefighter at an airfield.

"We did our job," he said. "We did what we were told."

These Tristate men also found their way into history as the last of the Buffalo Soldiers, members of the renowned all-black cavalry units formed during the Indian wars. The U.S. Army disbanded all horseback cavalry units in 1944.

This month—Black History Month—finds Cincinnati's Buffalo Soldiers on a final ride. Like the Tuskegee Airmen and other groups of black veterans before them, the Buffalo Soldiers are trying to win recognition for contributions that they say have been overlooked for more than 50 years.

Mr. Denson, now 79, retired and living in Columbia Township, will be among a group of nine living World War II-era Buffalo Soldiers scheduled to make its first Tristate ap-

pearance Thursday at the public library in Corryville.

"We helped to win World War II," said Linwood Greene Jr., 79, of Silverton, another Buffalo Soldier.

At least 14 of Cincinnati's World War II Buffalo Soldiers are dead—none was killed in action—and chances are this piece of Tristate history would have faded away if not for George Hicks III. A retired Army veteran who's a fan of the all-black cavalry units; Mr. Hicks moved from Washington, D.C., to the Tristate a couple of years ago and immediately organized the Cincinnati-based Heartland Chapter of the Ninth and Tenth Horse Cavalry Association.

"These men are American heroes," said Mr. Hicks, 50.

There are 20 domestic chapters of the Ninth and Tenth Association and one in Germany. About 650 black cavalry veterans from World War II are still living.

"We owe a lot to George," said Mr. Denson, who appeared at the Buffalo Soldiers booth at the Indiana Black Expo in July in Indianapolis. Public reaction there added urgency to the black troopers mission.

People—black and white alike—didn't know who they were. "They thought we were actors," Mr. Denson said.

The men sported black hats with crossed cavalry swords and the No. 10 affixed to the front. With blue shirts they wore the cavalry's standard yellow neckerchief.

"Once people found out who we were and what we did, they wanted to have their pictures taken with us," Mr. Denson said.

William Snow, 77, of New Burlington will appear at the library with Mr. Denson and at least three other men.

"Overseas, we did everything we were instructed to do," said Mr. Snow, a Walnut Hills native and retired postal worker. "I was proud to be in the cavalry. I am proud to be part of the history."

The black cavalry dates to post-Civil War North America. It's first recruits in 1866 were former slaves who patrolled the frontier from Texas to Montana. They guarded settlers and protected wagon trains.

Buffalo Soldiers earned respect and their nickname from the Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indians they sometimes fought, a story captured in the song "Buffalo Soldier" by the late reggae icon Bob Marley. Indians said black soldiers' hair resembled buffalo fur.

Four all-black regiments, stationed throughout the western territories, were known as some of the fiercest fighters of the Indian wars.

They were among Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders in Cuba during the Spanish-American War and crossed into Mexico in 1916 under Gen. John J. Pershing.

During World War II, fearing a Japanese land invasion through Mexico's Baja Peninsula, the government placed cavalry units—first white, then black—along the rugged border terrain. Armed units on horseback protected dams, power stations and rail lines important to San Diego's war industries.

Black troopers from Cincinnati were sworn in at Fort Thomas and sent to train at Camp Lockett near San Diego.

"We were trained in infantry and how to be infantry on horseback," Mr. Denson said. "When you were assigned a horse, you were instructed to treat this animal like it was your best friend."

African-Americans could not rise beyond the rank of sergeant, so all commanding officers were white.

"They treated black troopers very well," Mr. Denson said.

Patrolling the border is how Buffalo Soldiers figured they would close out the war.

But within a year of arriving in California, the cavalry troopers were put on alert to go

overseas. They were put aboard a segregated train for a two-day ride to Newport News, Va.

A stop in Houston showed the men that many of their white countrymen wouldn't accept them, even though the troopers would put their lives on the line for them.

"We were in cramped quarters on the train, and the colonel got us out and had us marching up and down the platform to stretch our legs," said Mr. Greene, the Madisonville native who lives in Silverton.

"The mayor of Houston heard we were there, and he came out and said, 'Get them niggers back on the train.' And that's exactly what he said.

"So the colonel has us go back to a train car and assemble our .50-caliber machine guns. We went back out and marched until it was time to switch trains."

Many historians consider Buffalo Soldiers unsung heroes, troopers who did jobs a lot of white soldiers didn't want to.

"Blacks were second-class citizens in the military, and blacks were second-class citizens in society," said Pat O'Brien, a history professor and 20th century America expert at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kan.

Emporia is near Junction City, Kan., home of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry Association, which is raising money to build a Buffalo Soldiers memorial there.

"In many ways, World War II—and the performance of the black soldiers—provided the context for the civil rights movement," Mr. O'Brien said. "It readily exposed the paradox—how could you fight against one thing overseas and promote it at home."

Mr. Greene, who joined the combat engineers and worked as a welder, landed at Normandy on D-Day. He was wounded six days later when the Jeep in which he was riding ran over a mine.

He took shrapnel in the head, hand and stomach. The next 14 days were a blur. He received the Purple Heart and an honorable discharge at a Cleveland hospital on Aug. 4, 1945.

Mr. Greene came home to Cincinnati and went to work as a railway mail clerk. He experienced more racism at home than he did abroad.

"I was in the same boxcars sorting the same mail, and they wouldn't let me join the union," he said.

Paul Greene, his son, was a U.S. Marine killed in Vietnam in 1966. Paul Greene was 19.

"I'm proud of my son's service to his country," Linwood Greene Jr. said slowly. "I'm proud of my service to my country."

Mr. Snow, who also received an honorable discharge, didn't think he would live to see the United States again.

"I had as much fun as I could because I thought I would be gone at any minute," he said. "God was with me. That's how I didn't get hurt."

Mr. Denson is most proud of his honorable discharge, dated Nov. 6, 1945. He also received the American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and Victory Medal.

"The No. 1 thing is that honorable discharge. A lot of things happen in the service, and they had a lot of ways of busting you down," said Mr. Denson, who retired in 1981 from Cincinnati Public Schools as a plant operator.

Not far behind are his feelings for his unit.

"I liked the outfit. I liked the horses. I learned a lot," he said. "We didn't come in until the tail end, but we did a good job.

"No, we weren't actors. We were the real thing."●

SENATE RESOLUTION 264—CONGRATULATING AND THANKING CHAIRMAN ROBERT F. BENNETT AND VICE CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER J. DODD FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS LEADERSHIP, POISE, AND DEDICATION IN LEADING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM AND COMMENDING THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR FINE WORK

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BYRD, and Mr. EDWARDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 264

Whereas Senator Robert F. Bennett and Senator Christopher J. Dodd had the foresight to urge Majority Leader Lott and Senator Daschle to establish the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem under Senate Resolution on April 2, 1998;

Whereas under Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's leadership, the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem always acted in a bipartisan manner;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd presided over 35 hearings on various aspects of technology infrastructure including utilities, health care, telecommunications, transportation, financial services, Government involvement, and litigation;

Whereas the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem became the central repository for Y2K computer problem information both nationally and internationally;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd guided the Senate in working with the White House, the House of Representatives, the United Nations, and other international organizations, and the private sector in addressing the Y2K computer problem;

Whereas under Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's leadership, the Committee issued 3 excellent reports that quickly became the authoritative source on the progress of the Federal Government, the private sector, and foreign countries on the Y2K computer problem;

Whereas Chairman Bennett, Vice Chairman Dodd, and the committee helped the Federal Government, industry, nations, and global enterprises learn that by working together we can solve the kinds of technology problems we will likely face in the 21st century;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd always conducted hearings in a thoughtful and judicious manner, with the intent of addressing key issues so that the Senate could better evaluate and solve the problem;

Whereas because of Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's initiative, the Nation and the world began to take the Y2K computer problem seriously and worked to resolve the problem; and

Whereas due to Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's tremendous leadership, dedication, and the work of the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, the first potential catastrophe of the new century was avoided: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates and thanks Chairman Robert F. Bennett and Vice Chairman Christopher J. Dodd—

(1) for their tremendous leadership in addressing a massive and pervasive problem; a problem that was largely unknown, but thanks to Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd was studied, evaluated, and resolved;

(2) for presiding over the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem which did its work in a bipartisan and fair manner; and

(3) for helping the Government and the Nation minimize the Y2K computer problem.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE AFFORDABLE EDUCATION ACT OF 1999

DODD (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 2857

Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. REED)) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1134) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike section 101 and insert the following:
SEC. 101. IDEA.

There are appropriated to carry out part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \$1,200,000,000, which amount is equal to the projected revenue increase resulting from striking the amendments made to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by section 101 of this Act as reported by the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

WYDEN AMENDMENT NO. 2858

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1134, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . DETENTION OF JUVENILES WHO UNLAWFULLY POSSESS FIREARMS IN SCHOOLS.

Section 4112(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

"(5) contains an assurance that the State has in effect a policy or practice that requires State and local law enforcement agencies to detain in an appropriate juvenile community-based placement or in an appropriate juvenile justice facility, for not less than 24 hours, any juvenile who unlawfully possesses a firearm in a school, upon a finding by a judicial officer that the juvenile may be a danger to himself or herself or to the community; and".

KERRY AMENDMENT NO. 2859

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1134, supra; as follows: