

House of Representatives



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

In the House, June 3, 2013

Whereas, The 65th Infantry Regiment hailed from Puerto Rico and its members were known as the Borinqueneers; and

Whereas, The unit was founded in 1899 and remained a vital part of the United States Armed Forces until 1956, when the regiment was inactivated; and

Whereas, This distinctive military unit served in multiple conflicts and members were known for their fierce fighting spirit; and

Whereas, During World War I and in 1943, the Borinqueneers were sent to guard the Panama Canal and in 1944 they were deployed to North Africa, Italy, Corsica, France and the Maritime Alps, where they engaged in their first combat and suffered 47 casualties; and

Whereas, In Korea, the regiment saw its finest, and gravest, hour when facing off against Chinese soldiers in order to hold open the retreat route from the Chosin Reservoir; and

Whereas, On February 2, 1951, two battalions of Borinqueneers took part in the last battalion bayonet charge in United States history; and

Whereas, Puerto Rican soldiers also defended a recuperating United States Army division from infiltrating North Korean soldiers; and

Whereas, By the time the regiment was inactivated, more than 750 Borinqueneers had died and 2,400 had been wounded in the Korean War alone; and

Whereas, In 1959, the regiment was allotted to the Puerto Rico Army National Guard, where the 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry still serves; and

Whereas, While defending the United States, these brave soldiers earned 628 Bronze Stars, 258 Silver Stars, 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, and more than 2,700 Purple Hearts; and

Whereas, Their commitment and courage are indeed deserving of this country's praise and gratitude; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives hereby commend the 65th Infantry Regiment for its outstanding dedication and service to the United States Armed Forces; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for the regiment as an expression of esteem from the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 311, introduced by Cruz, Youngblood, McGeehan, Boyle, Cohen, Sainato, Neilson, Major, Caltagirone, Clay, Readshaw, Metzgar, Freeman, Rock, Fleck, Thomas, V. Brown, O'Neill, Watson, Kortz and Heffley.



Samuel H. Smith

Samuel H. Smith, Speaker