

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 90

BY SENATORS PERRY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To extend the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Air Force Master Sergeant Austin Dallie Bennett upon his death while in the service of his country.

WHEREAS, Master Sergeant Bennett was a resident of Roseland, Louisiana, when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force at the conclusion of World War II and began a distinguished military career; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett held high level positions, and his many responsibilities took him around the world where he learned much of the unique cultures and people that were very different from the rural farms and people of Tangipahoa Parish; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett trained hard and mastered the duties and responsibilities of the missile command that was part of the highly technical, newest branch of the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, he assumed the duties of a senior noncommissioned officer with the 390th Missile Maintenance Squadron of the Strategic Air Command, at Davis-Moahan Air Force Base located near Tucson, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett used the air base as a center for control of operations to maintain a new fleet of missiles that would ensure the safety of the United States and the rest of the free world; and

WHEREAS, it was in pursuit of completing this mission that MSG. Bennett was flying out of McChord Air Force Base in Washington State on June 3, 1963, to work on the extensive and growing missile system at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, when fate entered his life; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett and one hundred other passengers onboard the DC-7 aircraft went down over the Gulf of Alaska approximately sixty miles northwest of Queen Charlotte Islands, and no remains were ever recovered; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett left behind a wife, Marian, and five small children, Charles, Barbara, Carol, Donald, and Steven, to remember him, mourn him, and suffer his absence; and

WHEREAS, MSG. Bennett's awards and decorations included the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal 4th Award, the Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon 2nd Award, the World War II Victory Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation of the Republic of Korea and the World War II Honorable Service Lapel Button.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest condolences to the family of U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant Austin D. Bennett for their loss and his sacrifice during the two wars he fought on behalf of his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant Austin D. Bennett.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE