

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the date of June 26, 1998, marks the 50th anniversary of the commencement of the Allied effort to supply the people of Berlin, Germany, with food, fuel, and supplies in the face of the illegal Soviet blockade that divided the city;

Whereas this 15 month Allied effort became known throughout the free world as the “Berlin Airlift” and ultimately cost the lives of 78 Allied airmen, of whom 31 were United States fliers;

Whereas this heroic humanitarian undertaking was universally regarded as an unambiguous statement of Western resolve to thwart further Soviet expansion;

Whereas the Berlin Airlift was an unqualified success, both as an instrument of diplomacy and as a life saving rescue of the 2,000,000 inhabitants of West Berlin, with 2,326,205 tons of supplies delivered by 277,728 flights over a 462-day period;

Whereas historians and citizens the world over view the success of this courageous action as pivotal to the ultimate defeat of international tyranny, symbolized today by the fall of the Berlin Wall; and

Whereas this inspiring act of resolve must be preserved in the memory of future generations in a positive and dramatic manner: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the Berlin Airlift, which marks its 50th an-
4 niversary of commencement in June 1998, is one of
5 the most significant events in post-war European
6 history; and

7 (2) the Berlin Sculpture Fund should be com-
8 mended for commemorating the 50th anniversary of
9 the Berlin Airlift by presenting to the citizens of the
10 Federal Republic of Germany a gift of representa-
11 tional art, funded by private subscriptions from citi-
12 zens of the United States.

Passed the Senate June 26, 1998.

Attest:

Secretary.

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 81

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Honoring the Berlin Airlift and commending the
Berlin Sculpture Fund.