

HR 9101

2005

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution honoring World War II Veteran Roens W.
3 Shearwood.

4
5 WHEREAS, after having gained recognition as a student at
6 West Point Preparatory School for his excellent qualities of
7 character and intelligence, a high sense of duty, and a desire
8 to advance in the Army, then-Private Roens W. Shearwood was
9 recommended on October 5, 1941, as a candidate for flying cadet,
10 the resultant appointment taking him to Wichita Falls, Texas,
11 where he studied navigation, meteorology, and related
12 aeronautical courses until the government closed the flight
13 training program there and he applied for transfer to Flight
14 Engineer Gunner on B-17 planes, and

15 WHEREAS, in November 1944, Technical Sergeant Shearwood's
16 orders took him to England, assigned to the 351st Bombardment
17 Squadron, 100th Bombardment Group, at Thorpe Abbot Airdrome, at
18 which post he achieved an excellent record for his participation
19 in 21 highly successful missions over enemy-occupied Europe and
20 was awarded the Air Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, and

21 WHEREAS, Sgt. Shearwood's 22nd mission began on April 10,
22 1945, when his B-17 Flying Fortress, heading toward an airfield
23 near Magdeburg, Germany, was attacked by two German jet-
24 propelled planes and sent spinning out of control and in flames,
25 killing six of the crew members and leaving three others in
26 enemy hands, and

27 WHEREAS, in spite of the machine-gun fire directed at him,
28 Sgt. Shearwood managed to parachute to the ground, landing in a

HR 9101

2005

29 | wooded area, where he hid under a brush pile and eluded the
30 | enemy for three days and nights before he cautiously approached
31 | a passing procession of American armored vehicles and was
32 | enabled to make his way safely back to England and the United
33 | States, and

34 | WHEREAS, not content with the service he had given to his
35 | country during World War II, Roens W. Shearwood later enlisted
36 | as an Air Reserve Technician in the United States Air Force
37 | Reserves and returned to active service as Staff Sergeant
38 | Shearwood during the Cuban crisis of 1961 and 1962, NOW,
39 | THEREFORE,

40 |

41 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
42 | Florida:

43 |

44 | That the House of Representatives proudly and gratefully
45 | acknowledges Veteran Roens W. Shearwood, truly a sterling
46 | example of "America's Greatest Generation."

47 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
48 | presented to Roens W. Shearwood as a tangible token of the
49 | sentiments expressed herein.