

## House Resolution 36

By: Representatives Birdsong of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, Murphy of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Connell of the 115<sup>th</sup>, Hudson of the 156<sup>th</sup>, Tillman of the 173<sup>rd</sup> and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. John F. Gwizdak and inviting him to appear before the House of  
2 Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. John F. Gwizdak of Stockbridge, Georgia, was elected  
4 Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States at the  
5 organization's 101st National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwizdak was born in Revloc, Pennsylvania, grew up in Carrolltown, and  
7 enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1958; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1968, he attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a second  
9 lieutenant; and

10 WHEREAS, his service career included three tours in Germany, including a rotational tour  
11 in Berlin and in Vietnam with Company E, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry, 199th Light Infantry  
12 Brigade; and

13 WHEREAS, starting out as a heavy mortar platoon leader, he eventually assumed command  
14 of Company E based at Long Binh. He held the distinction of having served in all leadership  
15 positions from squad leader to company commander of an infantry company; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwizdak retired from the U.S. Army in 1978 with the rank of captain and  
17 he was inducted into the United States Army Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame; and

18 WHEREAS, his military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit; Meritorious  
19 Service Medal; four Bronze Star Medals (including one for valor); the Purple Heart; Vietnam  
20 Cross of Gallantry with palm device; three Army Commendation Medals; Army of  
21 Occupation Medal (Berlin); Vietnam Campaign and Service Medals; three Good Conduct  
22 Medals; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Combat  
23 Infantryman's Badge; Parachutist Badge; and Drill Sergeant's Badge; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwizdak joined the VFW in 1977 and established a distinguished record  
25 of service at the post, district, and department levels. In 1988, he attained the status of  
26 All-American Department Commander, VFW Department of Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, recognized as a leader in veterans affairs, Mr. Gwizdak received numerous  
2 appointments to national VFW positions and was elected to the VFW National Council of  
3 Administration in 1990, representing the Departments of Georgia and Alabama; and

4 WHEREAS, he is the owner and president of John F. Gwizdak, Inc., specializing in  
5 residential and commercial construction and sales and is the owner and a real estate broker  
6 of Builders Realty; and

7 WHEREAS, his wife, Betty, is a past department president and a past national council  
8 member of the Ladies Auxiliary, and they are the proud parents of five children, seven  
9 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwizdak has brought great honor and recognition to the State of Georgia  
11 as a result of being elected to this prestigious office.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
13 the members of this body commend Mr. John F. Gwizdak on his distinguished military career  
14 and many outstanding accomplishments and especially for being elected as the  
15 Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLED that Mr. John F. Gwizdak, Commander-in-Chief of the  
17 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, is invited to appear before the House of  
18 Representatives on Tuesday, January 30, 2001, at a time designated by the Speaker of the  
19 House of Representatives.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
21 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. John F. Gwizdak.