

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 21, 1999

Mr. Steve McDonald  
Missouri Department of Transportation  
Division Engineer  
105 W. Capitol Ave.  
P.O. Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. McDonald:

It has been brought to our attention that the Audrain and Callaway County Commissions have adopted resolutions requesting a portion of Highway 54 from I-70 to the Business 54 exit at Mexico, Missouri be named the "Exercise Tiger Veterans Expressway." We want to express our support for this proposal to honor Missouri's veterans.

On April 28, 1944, United States and British forces were attacked by German Navy "E" boats as they conducted "Exercise Tiger" on the Devon coast of Great Britain. Deemed a practice run for the D-day invasion, the goal of this military exercise was to prepare the allied forces for the actual landing on the beaches of Normandy. Included in these ranks was the 3206<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company from Missouri. Under surprise attack, the out-manned allied forces fended off the superior enemy warships. The courage and determination of U. S. Army and Navy soldiers enabled the "Exercise Tiger" operation to resume later that same day, and the D-day invasion at Normandy occurred on schedule.

As the construction of "The Missouri Exercise Tiger Army and Navy Memorial" nears completion at the Audrain County Courthouse, we believe that the Tiger veterans' unheralded commitment to defending our democratic ideals will be more fully recognized by the creation of this Mid-Missouri landmark.

It is our hope that the Missouri Department of Transportation gives favorable consideration to the Highway 54, "Exercise Tiger Veterans Expressway" proposal.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Bond



John Ashcroft