

HONORING COLONEL WILLIAM L.
WEBB, III

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay special tribute to an outstanding soldier who has dedicated his life to the service of our Nation.

Colonel William L. Webb, III, will take off his uniform for the last time this month as he retires from the United States Army following more than 28 years of active duty service.

Colonel Webb's career culminated with duty as the Legislative Director for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he served as the principal liaison between the Nation's most senior military officer and the U.S. Congress.

He prepared the Chairman, Vice Chairman and senior Joint General/Flag officers for congressional hearings, briefings, and testimony, and coordinated their legislative efforts on joint national security decisions with OSD, the Services, and the interagency community.

He interacted continuously with Members of Congress and their staffs, and developed and executed the strategy for presenting Joint Staff and Unified Command agendas to Congress.

Born in Tokyo, Japan, and raised in a military family, Colonel Webb has lived and traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Asia.

His outstanding all-around high school performance in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, earned him a Presidential appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

While at West Point, he excelled as a varsity wrestler, student leader, and school spirit coordinator.

He graduated in 1972 with a concentration in National Security and Public Affairs.

In 1983, Colonel Webb earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School, concentrating in General Management/Human Resource Management.

His military education includes completion of the Armor Officer Basic and Infantry Officer Advanced Courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College, as well as the Rotary Wing Aviator Course and Air Assault School.

He has served on Fellowships in the White House, the U.S. Congress, and the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Colonel Webb has served in ground and air cavalry units in Germany, Colorado, Korea, Hawaii, Panama, and California, and commanded an aviation brigade in Germany, Bosnia, and Hungary.

His previous assignments include: Armored Cavalry Platoon Leader and Troop Executive Officer, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry; Aero Scout Section Commander, Aero Rifle Platoon Commander and Squadron Motor Officer, 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry; Aero Weapons Platoon Commander, Assistant Squadron S3 and Ground Troop Commander, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry; Associate Professor of Financial Management and Department Executive Officer at the United States Military Academy; White House Fellow in the Executive Office of President Reagan; Aviation Brigade S3 and Executive Officer, 7th Infantry Division (Light); Squadron Commander, 2nd Squadron, 9th

Cavalry; Senior Military Fellow at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies; Congressional Staff Officer and Legislative Fellow in the Office of the Secretary of the Army; and Aviation Brigade Commander, 1st Armored Division.

Colonel Webb's combat experience includes service as Deputy Commander of the Aviation Brigade Task Force with Joint Task Force South and 7th Infantry Division (Light) during Operation Just Cause, the liberation of Panama.

From December 1995 to December 1996, Colonel Webb's aviation brigade was deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a multinational peace implementation force during Operation Joint Endeavor.

His Aviation Task Force was command and control headquarters for 120 Task Force Eagle helicopters that safely flew over 33,000 flying hours in treacherous conditions to compel peace in the war-ravaged Balkans.

Colonel Webb's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, three awards of the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Armed Forces Service Medal, NATO Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and Army Superior Unit Award, as well as the Senior Army Aviator, Assault, Presidential Service, Joint Staff, and Army Staff Badges.

Colonel Webb's units have been recognized for the following Army level professional excellence awards: Draper Armor Leadership Award (1980), AAAA Outstanding Army Aviation Unit of the Year (1989, 1996), Army Outstanding Aviation Logistics Support Unit of the Year (1992, 1996), Combat Support Air Traffic Control Unit of the Year (1996), LTG Parker Top Army Combat Battalion of the Year (1995, 1996), and LTG Parker Overall Winner and Top Army Combat Support Battalion of the Year (1996).

Colonel Webb is committed to his community, where he has served actively in church, neighborhood, youth sports, welfare, and family support activities.

He is blessed by his wife, Kathryn, and their children, David (19), Kristy (17), and Willy (9). Their life together is thoroughly focused on service to the Lord and their country, as well as enjoyment of family, friends, sports, travel, and people.

In 1990, First Lady Barbara Bush honored the Webb family as a recipient of the Great American Family Award.

Colonel Webb is a dynamic and resourceful Army officer who throughout his career has proven to be an indispensable professional.

His contributions and distinguished service will have long-term benefits for both the military and our Nation he so proudly served.

As Colonel Webb enters into his new profession, we will certainly miss him and wish him and his family the very best.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE PHASED
RETIREMENT LIBERALIZATION
ACT**

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague Senator Grassley in introducing the Phased Retirement Liberalization (PRL) Act. This legislation would allow in-service distributions from defined benefit plans once a participant has reached the earliest of the plan's normal retirement age, age 59½, or 30 years of service. By providing for more flexible retirement options in defined benefit plans, this legislation will benefit employers and workers alike.

Over the next 20 years, the aging of the baby boom generation and other demographic factors will transform the very nature of retirement. These factors, which include a shrinking labor supply, increased life expectancy, the desire of remain active, and a greater need for financial security, will combine to change the concept of retirement from an "on-off" switch to a wide spectrum of options, including phased retirement. As embodied in the PRL legislation, phased retirement would allow individuals to continue working for their current employer even after they begin drawing down their pension benefits.

Many older Americans who want to continue working for their employer find that it makes more sense to switch jobs simply so that they can continue working and still receive their pension benefit. Other workers retire from their employer and start receiving pension benefits; only to be rehired later—either as a full-time or part-time employee or as an independent contractor. While these arrangements have allowed some workers to take advantage of phased retirement, permitting in-service distributions from defined benefit plans at age 59½ or 30 years of service will allow more employers to offer flexible retirement programs.

Employers have expressed a keen interest in phased retirement as a method of retaining skilled older workers. In a survey of 586 larger employers conducted by Watson Wyatt in 1999, 60 percent of employers reported they were having difficulty attracting workers, and fully 70 percent agreed that implementing a phased retirement program is a viable strategy for addressing labor shortages. Sixteen percent of employers surveyed reported that they offer phased retirement, while another 28 percent said they are interested in establishing such programs in the next two to three years. Employers currently offering phased retirement report that it enables them to retain skilled older workers.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's pension laws have not kept pace with the need for flexible approaches to retirement. Under current law, defined benefit plans are permitted to make in-service distributions to active employees only if they have reached the plan's "normal retirement age." Under our legislation, however, the vast majority of defined benefit plans would have the flexibility to adopt a phased retirement arrangement.

Congress recently recognized the changing nature of the workforce and of retirement by passing legislation to eliminate the Social Security earnings test for beneficiaries age 65

and older. It is time that Congress took a similar step in the private sector by examining phased retirement proposals.

COMMENDING JUD M. LOCKWOOD'S ARTICLE ON THE AMERICAN FLAG

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, when I was in my district over the 4th of July weekend, I read a newspaper article in my hometown paper that deserves the attention of the House.

The article explains how Jud M. Lockwood, of Spokane, WA, came to write a very moving paean to the American flag. Mr. Lockwood is a veteran of World War Two and he fought in North Africa and Europe. He knows first-hand of the sacrifices our fellow Americans have made to defend our nation and believes that the American flag is the living symbol of the price of freedom.

Last year, Mr. Lockwood decided to write the story of the American flag. In five short paragraphs, writing from the point of view of the flag itself, the story brings to life the silent symbol of America. Mr. Lockwood is urging all Americans to take the time to read the story of our flag. I wish to join his crusade by entering into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Mr. Lockwood's story, as well as the newspaper article describing his passionate efforts to promote this worthy cause.

Thank you Jud Lockwood, both for reminding Americans about the history and symbolism of our flag, but also for standing up for the flag in its time of need more than 50 years ago.

AN INSPIRATION FOR PATRIOTISM

(By Tracy Eilig)

In a neon orange Hawaiian shirt, Jud Lockwood folds his arms behind his head, rocks back in his easy chair and tries to explain how the idea came to him.

He can't. He hasn't a clue. He woke up one morning and the idea was in his head, like a baby in a basket left on the doorstep.

But he's taken care of it ever since. Or, maybe, the idea has taken care of him.

"I woke up and thought, 'I fought hard for the American flag and so did millions of others, and maybe I could write a story to give it the credit it deserves,'" he said.

His wife, Ruth, was skeptical. "Jud, you can't even write a good letter," she said.

But Lockwood sat down in his living room last fall with a yellow legal pad in hand and wrote. He came up with five paragraphs and 479 words that he wants everyone in America to read.

Lockwood calls it a story. But it's not really a story or a poem. It takes the point of view of the flag talking about itself in a way that ends up like a history lesson, a reminder and an admonition. It's sort of a red-white-and-blue Post-it note of patriotism;

"When you pledge your allegiance to me, remember that it stands for 'Liberty and justice for all.' Please rest assured that I will fly over your last resting place. Love and respect me as I shall be yours forever."

That's the final paragraph. It brings tears to Lockwood's eyes.

"My thrust is to get it out to the people because we should all respect the flag," he said, "To me, the flag is priceless. I am a

firm believer that it's an emblem of peace in the world and as long as the flag flies we're safe."

A retired insurance salesman, former mayor of Omak, Wash., and former manager of the Omak Chamber of Commerce, the octogenarian and his wife moved to Spokane four years ago.

He is a World War II veteran, having fought in North Africa and Europe. He remembers watching fleets of B-17s fly over Italy on their way to bomb German targets. Some of the planes would vanish in a black cloud, in taking a direct hit from anti-aircraft fire.

In Tunis, he huddled with the rest of the troops as German Messerschmitt fighters strafed and bombed their positions.

"You're just at their mercy," he said.

It was a part of the war that Lockwood brought home with him in 1945 and lingered for a while before vanishing. Sitting at the dinner table, the sound of an airplane would make him race outside and dive for cover.

"I think you get fear built up in you," he said.

But Lockwood would do it again. He'd go to war for his country again even at his age.

"Freedom is priceless as far as I'm concerned," he said.

To Lockwood the flag is the embodiment of that freedom and everyone should respect it. It's that belief that has driven him for months.

With the help of a neighbor in his apartment complex, Lockwood got his flag story edited. With the help of the building manager, he got it formatted on paper with stars in the background and stripes around the border. With the encouragement of his wife, daughter and strangers he's met along the way, he's tried to sell his admonition to respect the flag.

He copyrighted his story and then made himself business cards. He puts blue and red edging on them by hand with a felt-tip marker. He finishes them with a sticker of, naturally, an American flag.

He's gone to schools. To fire departments. To the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Everywhere, he tries to sell copies of his flag story.

"Do you realize 600,000 immigrants enter the country annually?" he said.

Every one of them should have a copy, Lockwood thinks. Why not?

He's taken his story to congressmen. He's offered it to banks. He'd like it to be printed on the back of brochures for political candidates. He's sold about 500 trying to cover his expenses and given away hundreds of other copies.

"I would like to get this into a national concern. Maybe someday, one of my children will take over," he said. "I would like to see the flag story on the Statue of Liberty, put into bronze or something."

Lockwood woke up one morning with his version of the American dream. He took care of it, made it grow. It's taking care of him, too.

Before the idea for his flag story came to him, Lockwood was feeling a little adrift.

"I really didn't do much. I'd walk downtown, got involved with my church. Basically, I don't think I had a lot of direction until this bombshell—this story hit," he said. "I wonder if I didn't have this, what really would I be doing?"

But it's a question he doesn't need to probe. He's got his mission.

"I get carried away, each day I get up seeing where I can sell them. I think the possibilities are unlimited. It keeps me going, keeps me active," Lockwood said. "It gives me a goal every day to go out and meet people."

I AM YOUR FLAG—THE AMERICAN FLAG

I am also known as the Grand Old Flag. I am the greatest flag in the world. I am thrilled and overjoyed that I can represent you. As I fly from many high and lofty heights, you honor me from places such as the United States capital, state capitals, your home, city halls, cemeteries, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the island of Iwo Jima. I am doing my best to remind you that I represent the home of the brave and the land of the free.

My beginning is uncertain. Some scholars claim that Francis Hopkins designed me, while other say Betsy Ross made me. Which-ever, it doesn't change my goals. It has been a grand and glorious life for me. I have led this great country in thousands of parades. I have been saluted by millions, and sung to at events of all kinds. I am happy to wave to you as a symbol of peace and hope. I am also known as Old Glory. What an honor to have a name like that. I tingle with pride when you sing the Star Spangled Banner, or graciously give the Pledge Of Allegiance.

Sometimes I get cold and lonesome flying high above. The wind whips me in many directions, but my life is to give you courage and direction. As I see a big storm approaching, I become somewhat concerned and brace myself for the wind, rain, hail, sleet, snow or whatever nature has in store. Being afraid of the elements doesn't hurt my pride because the American people are thinking of me, and what I proudly stand for.

For centuries I have been the symbol of peace and honor, yet I have been burned, tattered, and torn by warfare. I have been cursed, worn on people's anatomy, hairpieces and clothing. I don't like it! It's disrespectful of my intent and purpose to represent freedom. At times it is hard for me to realize that I have been the emblem of peace and justice for so many years. Why do some people want to destroy me, and what I stand for? I hope that my days as your flag are not numbered. Cherish me, respect and love me for centuries to come. Sometimes I get so battered, torn and faded that I need to be replaced. I know that one of my brothers or sisters is willing and able to take my place as Old Glory. When my time to depart arrives, I never want to leave without knowing that another flag is flying for you on top of a flagpole or at half-mast in honor of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great country.

When you pledge your allegiance to me, remember that it stands for liberty and justice for all. Please rest assured that I will fly over your last resting place. Love and respect me as I shall be forever yours.

INCREASE OF \$40 MILLION TO THE ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATION ALLOCATION

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MARK UDALL and I recently introduced, and Chairman PACKARD accepted, an amendment to add \$40 million to the FY 2001 Energy and Water budget. The following chart appropriates that \$40 million in a manner agreed upon by Chairman PACKARD. I submit this chart for inclusion in the RECORD.