

Since adoption of its first Constitution in June 1, 1959, Tunisia has made great progress in embracing procedural and substantive democratic reforms by holding contested presidential and legislative elections that provide for the opposition party to hold seats in parliament; expanding freedom of expression among its people; providing a free public education for all children; and promoting the equality of women, including the election of women to parliament.

As a result, the Republic of Tunisia has reaped the benefits of becoming a world trading partner through bilateral free trade agreements, trade agreements with European Union, and nearly two decades of sustained economic growth.

The relationship between the United States and Tunisia dates back to the 18th century when our two countries signed a treaty of friendship. Strong ties of cooperation continued after Tunisia gained its independence in 1956 and continue today as Tunisia joins us in the fight against terrorism. Today, we commemorate the independence of the Republic of Tunisia and celebrate our special relationship with the Tunisian people.

"FROM FRONT LINES TO BACK ROADS"

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of our colleagues an article in the March 11, 2002, edition of the Washington Post which tells the story of a decorated flight surgeon with the Army's elite Delta Force who now spends his time in the rural areas of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia as a beloved country doctor making house calls.

His name is John O. Marsh III, better known as Rob, the son of John O. Marsh Jr., better known to many of his former colleagues in this House as Jack. I am proud to represent as part of Virginia's 10th District areas which used to be included in the 1960's in the old 7th District, which was ably represented by then Congressman Jack Marsh. As many of our colleagues will recall, Jack went on to serve in the administration of President Ford and as Secretary of the Army under both Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

We congratulate Dr. Rob Marsh, who has followed in his father's footsteps in his service to the people of his nation and to his state.

The Post article follows:

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 4, 2002]

FROM FRONT LINES TO BACK ROADS—DELTA FORCE DOCTOR NOW DELIVERS CARE IN RURAL VIRGINIA

(By Carol Morello)

MIDDLEBROOK, VA.—The only doctor in this crossroads of a Shenandoah Valley village does not volunteer details of his years with an elite Army unit, or how he almost died in Somalia of mortar wounds. And his patients are too polite to probe.

But while waiting in the clinic to see Rob Marsh, many of them study the watercolor prints on the walls, depicting soldiers rappelling into battle and downed Black Hawk helicopters. How, they wonder, did this decorated combat physician come to treat the

aches and pains of farmers and factory workers in the valley?

"They remind me every day where I came from, and why I'm here," explains Marsh while driving over gravel roads and one lane bridges in his pickup truck. He's making house calls. And he won't send a bill. It's not very efficient, he allows, but this is what a good country doctor does.

They didn't have a doctor before Marsh moved here six years ago with his wife, Barbara, and their children—now two boys and two girls, ages 3 to 9. "I feel that's why I was saved, to come back here and do this," he says. "This is my calling."

At a time when rural America is starved for physicians to provide basic health care, Marsh practices medicine with a care and attention that seem lost to another era. How many doctors are left whose patients drop by just to leave a home-baked cake or to show off photographs of the animals they've raised in 4-H?

Marsh's practice in a University of Virginia satellite clinic is all the more extraordinary when contrasted with the life he used to lead as a flight surgeon for Delta Force, the Army's secretive Special Forces unit.

His office is filled with mementos of war zones where he mended wounds and lost friends before settling on a farm near here. A bookshelf holds the iconic Delta Force dagger inside a triangular frame along with the motto "Oppressors Beware." In two examining rooms, drawings of Delta Force battles share wall space with osteoporosis posters. Even his clock is on Zulu time. His Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars and Purple Heart are stashed at home and in his truck.

What is missing is anything that smacks of the Hollywood version of what happened to Delta Force and Ranger troops in Mogadishu, Somalia, in October 1993. Marsh has not seen the blockbuster film "Black Hawk Down."

"I don't have to go watch a reenactment of seeing 18 of my friends die," he says.

Nor did he consent when producers asked him to be a consultant. "I couldn't leave my patients," he explains.

Friends and colleagues say a common thread runs through Marsh's work in polar-opposite environments.

"His dedication to the military was just as intense as his dedication is now to his patients," says Lewis Barnett, the former head of the University of Virginia's family medicine program. "He's a devoted servant."

Marsh, 46, had wanted to be a Green Beret ever since a third-grade visit to Fort Bragg with his father, John O. Marsh Jr., then a Democratic congressman from the Shenandoah Valley who later became secretary of the Army under presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. The son is John O. Marsh III, but everyone knows him as Rob.

The quickest route into the Green Berets was as a medic, so Marsh enlisted and eventually received a degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School.

He had his share of close calls. During the Persian Gulf War in 1991, for example, a medic who replaced him on a helicopter flight into Iraq was killed when the chopper crashed.

But nothing compared to his experience in Somalia two years later. U.S. troops set out to capture two aides to a local warlord. Army Rangers and Delta Force operatives became pinned down during a night of pitched combat.

The casualties arrived at the airport base in waves. First a handful, then by the dozens—some 60 serious casualties in all. Marsh and two other physicians worked through the night and into the next day. Eighteen Americans and hundreds of Somalis died in the fighting, chronicled in the book "Black

Hawk Down" by Mark Bowden, and the movie of the same name.

For Marsh, the worst was yet to come. Two days later, he was standing on the tarmac with other officers when a mortar hit. The man next to him was killed. Twelve soldiers were wounded, including Marsh.

Here is what he remembers before losing consciousness: "A flash. Noise. I remember feeling pain."

Shrapnel shredded his abdomen. A shard pierced an artery in his leg. Yet even as he lay bleeding from his nearly fatal wounds, he ordered soldiers to carry the injured to his side so he could perform triage. "They were my people. I wanted to know who was hit."

Marsh's father, who vividly recalls his son's arrival at Andrews Air Force Base two weeks later, believes the experience made him a better doctor: "It's given him empathy and insight into people who are sick."

Even before his injury, Marsh had talked of returning to the valley, which he always considered home, though he was largely educated in Arlington public schools.

The university's health system was looking to open a rural office in this area and show medical students the life of a country doctor—a breed that has largely vanished over the last 50 years as physicians have gravitated to specialties and urban areas.

"Rural areas can be hard on the family," says Claudette Dalton, an anesthesiologist who heads the university's community education program. "There are no cultural attractions. You have to drive 10 miles to the Piggly Wiggly to get groceries."

Marsh saw it differently.

"He goes where the need is greatest," says Dalton. "There aren't many physicians who will take on all comers as patients."

One day recently, Marsh spent the afternoon crisscrossing the back roads of this cattle-raising area south of Staunton. He made a half-dozen house calls, most to elderly, housebound patients. Testing the memory of a stroke victim, he asked her how many chickens her daughter owns. At the home of a cancer patient struggling to pay for his arsenal of medicine, Marsh left a supply of salesman's samples. In the run-down farmhouse of a man who had been acting confused, Marsh found an addling blend of outdated drugs, some of which had expired in 1986.

He would not ask for payment.

"If I sent them a bill for \$150 for a house visit, they would pay," he explains. "But I probably wouldn't keep them as a patient."

They are not just his patients, he says, but "my friends."

That's why he attends their funerals, serves on their volunteer fire and rescue unit, makes apple butter with the Ruritan club, and is an elder in his Presbyterian church.

"You can become very close to everyone, very quickly," he says of this hamlet of 200, so small it lacks even a stoplight. "If you're a good doctor, you treat people right and get involved in the community."

It's a philosophy he's passing on to the coming generation of doctors. "He believes we should make sure we give more to our community than just medicine," says Frank Petruzella, a U-Va. medical student who spent a month working with Marsh. "He's very involved in all aspects of people's lives."

Marsh has been involved in Carl Sprouse's life for a decade. They were in Delta Force together, and Sprouse now lives down the road.

"When my father had complications after open heart surgery, Doc Marsh would stop by at 11 or 12 at night to see him in the hospital," recalls Sprouse. "He wasn't his doctor. He just has compassion for people. He was a good soldier. He's a great man."

Marsh deflects such praise. In this small farming community that he and his family call home, he has rediscovered what he loved most about Delta Force. "It's the same atmosphere," he says. "Everybody takes care of each other, and we do our jobs."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on March 7 I missed roll call vote number 52. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the vote.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOE CRAIG

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of one of my constituents, Dr. Joe Craig.

Dr. Craig has spent his entire life working to better the lives of others. Since 1978, he has traveled overseas to the poorest of regions, including Africa and Latin America, to provide free medical and dental care. This is a special year for Dr. Craig because he is 70 years old and will be conducting his 70th and final overseas medical mission.

Dr. Craig's altruistic work also extended to his local community of Charlotte, North Carolina. He greatly helped our local Charlotte community by providing free dental services to recovering drug users and alcoholics and by counseling dozens of families through marriage and family problems. He also volunteered in the Charlotte Police Crime Lab in the 1960s before a full-time chemist was hired.

Dr. Craig is a perfect example of the selfless call to volunteerism recently highlighted by President George W. Bush. For this reason, I am honored to recognize Dr. Craig for his life work and congratulate him and his family for his 70 years of dedication to making this world a better place.

CELEBRATING THE WOMEN OF LEWISTON/AUBURN

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to a dinner being held next week in the Lewiston/Auburn community of Maine. The event, "Celebrating the Women of L/A," will honor women who have touched the lives of others in their communities.

I am proud to have the opportunity to pay tribute to the following Women of L/A here in the House of Representatives. The Honorees are Diane Ancil, Gail Baillargeon, Kathryn Beale, Sue Capponi, Sandy Conrad, Theresa Cote, Christine Clabby, Lori Cummings, Robin Duffy, Belinda Gerry, Nancy Hinds, Patience

Johnson, Rachel Kay, Kathleen Noel King, Simonne Lavoie, Linda Mynahan, Venise Pratt, Muriel Richard, Patricia Robitaille, Trena Hamblin Steele, Linda Tanguay, Ann Tourtelotte, Dr. Luz Maria Umpierre, and Kathy Varney.

Those submitting nominations were asked to briefly describe what it was about the nominee that made her such a special and important part of the community. Here are a few examples: "She truly cares about the company's employees . . . She is interested in their lives, and she treats everyone with respect and dignity."

"My sister has been an example to me. We came from a single parent home where our father was an alcoholic. She quit school at 16 and worked as a nurses' aide to earn money so our family could stay together. No one thought she would make anything of herself. Through hard work she proved them wrong."

"Despite an extended career with many successes and contributions, she is always focused on the next opportunity to serve. . . . Her dedication to family and friends is equally as selfless."

"How can a daughter even begin to explain how much her mother means to her? There are certainly not enough words in the dictionary for me to tell you who and what my mother is to me."

"She is a loving person with a 'Heart of Gold,' who has touched the lives of many people through her love and dedication in helping others and never wanting anything in return."

"If there could be only one person that I look up to it would be my grandmother. . . . She is the bravest, most courageous person I have ever met and no one could ever replace her."

"Now that I'm grown up with children of my own, I love and appreciate my mother more than ever. I now know how much hard work is involved in being a good mother, although she always made it seem so effortless. . . . When people tell me how much I am like her I take that as the greatest compliment, for I hope I could be half of the woman that she is."

"She saw my need, reached out her hand, and impacted another life—which is just what she does on a daily basis."

These are but a few examples of the testimonials received on behalf of the honorees. They speak to the importance and influence that these women have had on their families, colleagues, and communities.

For decades, the women of Lewiston and Auburn—like those throughout Maine, the nation and the world—have raised children, served as caregivers, worked inside and outside the home, and volunteered their time and talents. They have maintained a strong and quiet foundation for our families that has nourished us all. This celebration recognizes all that women bring to families and our community.

These 24 women are all extremely deserving of this honor, and I congratulate them as they are recognized for their efforts in the home, in the workplace and in the community. I know that they are also representative of many other women throughout these communities and as we honor them, we also look around at the many other women who have made positive differences in L/A. I offer my thanks and best wishes to all the women of L/A for making Lewiston and Auburn such a strong and vibrant community.

A RESOLUTION ADJOURNING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN LOVING MEMORY AND HONOR OF WILLIAM ANDREW CANNON

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, The most prominent glory of a country is in its great men. A nation's spirit and its success will depend on its willingness to learn from their example. In life we shall find many men that are great, and some men that are good, but very few men that are both great and good. William Andrew Cannon was such a man.

With deepest respect and admiration, we pay homage and tribute to William Andrew Cannon, and we pause in silent reverence for his soul.

Whereas, William Andrew Cannon was born on August 25, 1920, a native of Sweeny, Texas, and longtime resident of the State of Mississippi, and he traversed these earthly bounds on February 28, 2002; and

Whereas, William Andrew Cannon was the devoted husband of Lucy de Forcade de Biaix, a member of the Italian aristocracy, whom he married on the Isle of Capri in 1945; he was the loving father of a son, Fred, and a daughter, Tina Jennie, and he was the proud grandfather of six grandchildren, Carlo, Crystel, Francesco, Elena, Lauren, and Guglielmo; and

Whereas, William Andrew Cannon graduated from Corinth High School in Corinth, Mississippi in 1938, and he attended Western Kentucky University School of Business in Bowling Green from 1938 to 1941, after which time he became a managing partner of the Van Bibber Lumber Plant in Fulton, Mississippi, before joining the United States Air Force to serve in World War II; and

Whereas, William Andrew Cannon served his country with pride and distinction during World War II; he was a pilot, stationed in Foggia, Italy, from 1943 to 1946, and he held the rank of 1st Lieutenant with the 463rd Bombardment Group of the United States 15th Air Force; and during this perilous time, along with the personnel of the 463rd Bombardment Group, he exhibited commendable efficiency in skill, devotion, courage, and determination while facing intense enemy opposition over the skies of Germany and Eastern Europe, flying gallantly through in wing formation to reach designated targets; and William Andrew Cannon, receiving an honorable discharge in May 1946, was the recipient of the Second Presidential Unit Citation for his extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in military operation against the enemy at Ploesti on May 18, 1944, and at the Daimler Benz Tank Works in Berlin on March 24, 1945; and

Whereas, William Andrew Cannon, upon being discharged from the United States Air Force in 1946, returned to the Van Bibber Lumber Plant in Fulton, Mississippi, serving as a partner until 1954, before joining the United States Department of Defense in 1955 in Naples, Italy, where he worked as Maintenance Control Engineer for Public Works at the Naval Support Facility until 1983, and afterwards, he received many honors for his outstanding service; and in 1983, he joined the Naval Communications Mediterranean as Facility Manager, and he retired from that post on March 31, 1990; and

Whereas, having received numerous awards for active service, William Andrew Cannon, at the time of his retirement, also was the recipient of the Department of the Navy's