

TRIBUTE TO LT COL PAULA S.
LORICK

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the outstanding career of an extraordinary United States Army Reserve officer, Lieutenant Colonel Paula Shaun Lorick. General George C. Marshall once said, "There is no limit to the good you can do if you let someone else take the credit for it." Lt Col Paula Lorick spent her career in the Army proving that principle.

During twenty-five years of exemplary service, Lt Col Lorick embodied the duty, loyalty,

and love of country, the selfless service and personal courage that are the core values of the United States Army. Since November 16, 1978, Lt Col Lorick has served in some of the Army's most demanding positions, and served always with distinction. She was a Finance Company Commander, a Postal Company Commander, a key staff member with the Joint Operations Center at US Atlantic Command. In addition to her administrative assignments, Lt Col Lorick was a warfighter, deploying to Dhahran in Saudi Arabia at the height of the Persian Gulf War, and earning the Southwest Asia Service Medal and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Lt Col Lorick pulled other demanding duty as Deputy Director, Military Member Support and Ombudsman Services with the Employer Support of the Guard/Reserve Organization for

the past three years. She played a key role in helping Guard and Reserve members make the transition from civilian jobs to deployment status in support of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Today marks the end of Lt Col Lorick's long and distinguished career. Having been diagnosed with cancer, Lt Col Lorick is being medically retired in a ceremony fittingly held in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. In a rare event, Lt Col Lorick is being awarded the Legion of Merit medal, a medal typically reserved for higher-ranking officers. It is a well-deserved, parting tribute from a grateful nation.

I offer Lt Col Lorick our gratitude for her service, our congratulations on the honor bestowed upon her today, and our prayers and support in the months ahead.