

their 10th Anniversary of being located on the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

As a current Representative and Senator-Elect in the CNMI Legislature, I appreciate your efforts to honor the dedication of our troops, and for recognizing the commitment and challenges the spouses and families face when their loved ones are deployed.

Company E not only preserves our freedoms, but is a valuable part of our community. They participate in many community events, such as every July 4th as part of Island Liberation Day, provide all funeral details on the CNMI and participate in the Go for Broke baseball and canoeing teams.

Go for Broke is the motto of Company E, and they live that way in all they do and I am proud to support H. Con. Res. 199.

Sincerely,

RALPH TORRES,

Representative and Senator-Elect.

Godspeed to Company E, to all our men and women for your sacrifice and for all that you have done for our people and for the United States of America.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 199, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING THE SOLDIERS AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL STATIONED AT FORT GORDON

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 206) commending the soldiers and civilian personnel stationed at Fort Gordon and their families for their service and dedication to the United States and recognizing the contributions of Fort Gordon to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and its role as a pivotal communications training installation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 206

Whereas in 1940, in preparation for possible involvement in World War II, the United States Army identified a site near Augusta, Georgia, that was suitable for division-level training, and the War Department entered into a \$22 million contract to construct the new installation;

Whereas, at the groundbreaking ceremony on October 18, 1941, the new installation was named Camp Gordon in memory of John B. Gordon, a general in the Civil War and former Georgia Governor;

Whereas during World War II, Camp Gordon was home to three Army divisions, namely the 4th Infantry Division, the 26th Infantry Division, and the 10th Armored Division until they were deployed to Europe, where all three served with distinction;

Whereas after the war, on November 1, 1948, Camp Gordon began its signal corps tradition by becoming the home of the Signal Corps Training Center;

Whereas by 1950, the need for signalmen for the Army during the Korean War led to a major expansion of the Signal Corps Training Center, making it the largest single source of Army communications specialists;

Whereas, on March 21, 1956, Camp Gordon was made a permanent installation and re-named Fort Gordon;

Whereas the military conflicts in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and 1970s, together with advances in communications-electronics (C-E) technology, placed heavy training demands on Fort Gordon;

Whereas at the height of the Vietnam War, the Signal Corps Training Center was re-named the Southeastern Signal School and became the primary source of personnel for tactical C-E units in Vietnam;

Whereas in September 1965, the Southeastern Signal School activated the Signal Officer Candidate School, from which more than 2,000 officers graduated by February 1968;

Whereas in the post-Vietnam era, as the Army reorganized and modernized, signal training at Fort Gordon progressed to keep pace with rapid technological advances on the modern battlefield, and the Southeastern Signal School was re-named first as the United States Army Signal School and subsequently the United States Army Signal Center at Fort Gordon;

Whereas in June 1986, the United States Army Signal Corp Regiment was established, and Fort Gordon was designated as the regimental home base;

Whereas the Signal Center's efforts included the development of Mobile Subscriber Equipment, the Army's communications architecture and assuming the lead for the Army's Information Mission Area, which included the integration of automation, communications, visual information, records management, and publications and printing;

Whereas in 1990 and 1991, the Signal Center played a vital role in preparing soldiers for deployment during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm;

Whereas in the 1990s, Fort Gordon became the home for training most of the personnel within the Department of Defense who operate and maintain satellites and continued to train signal troops of allied and foreign countries;

Whereas Fort Gordon continues to serve as a power projection base for several Signal units responsible for conducting operations overseas;

Whereas approximately 19,000 soldiers are stationed at Fort Gordon, and many of these soldiers have been deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom multiple times; and

Whereas the strength and unwavering support of the soldiers and their families of Fort Gordon and the entire Augusta community have contributed to making the United States a safe and secure country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes Fort Gordon as the home of the United States Army Signal Corps on the

occasion of the 60th anniversary of Fort Gordon serving as the home of the Signal Corps Training Center;

(2) commends the soldiers, their families, and the civilian personnel at Fort Gordon for their service and dedication to the United States; and

(3) recognizes the contributions of Fort Gordon to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support House Concurrent Resolution 206, commending the dedication of soldiers, civilian personnel, and families stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and recognizing the 60th anniversary of Fort Gordon as the vital training center of the United States Army Signal Corps.

Fort Gordon has a long and storied history of preparing our soldiers to effectively utilize technological advances on the battlefield. Now, Fort Gordon is training our soldiers in the advanced communication technologies needed to execute missions in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

I also want to commend the civilian personnel at Fort Gordon who are key members of the United States Army Signal Corps team and whose hard work and dedication to the mission are critical to the United States Army's success. To be the best, we need soldiers and civilians working together.

And finally, I want to express my gratitude to the families stationed at Fort Gordon. While their loved ones train for long hours and deploy overseas for extended periods of time, the families remain supportive and steadfast, understanding the sacrifice that comes from keeping the United States safe and secure. I also commend the entire Augusta, Georgia, community who rally around the great men and women of Fort Gordon.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. BROUN of the State of Georgia, for his work in bringing this resolution to the floor, and I ask all my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 206.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 206, which commends the soldiers, civilian personnel, and their families stationed

at Fort Gordon, Georgia, for their service and dedication to the United States.

I want to commend Representative PAUL BROUN of Georgia for sponsoring this legislation which has drawn wide support of other Members as cosponsors, including a great number of non-Georgians.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Gordon has been an important site of Army training for more than 60 years. Initially a training area for newly formed combat divisions preparing for battle in World War II, the 4th Infantry, the 26th Infantry, and the 10th Armored Divisions trained at the then-Camp Gordon before they were deployed to combat in Europe and distinguished themselves in hard fighting across France, the Low Countries, and Germany.

After the war, the newly designated Fort Gordon became the home of the Army's Signal Corps. In every conflict since, from Korea through today's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Fort Gordon has trained Army combat communicators in their essential combat duties.

This is why it is, therefore, right and proper that we recognize Fort Gordon, the home of the Army Signal Corps, for its outstanding contributions to our Nation. I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, at this time I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 206, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING 373RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL GUARD

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 940) recognizing and honoring the National Guard on the occasion of its 373rd anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 940

Whereas the National Guard celebrates its 373rd birthday on December 13, 2009;

Whereas the National Guard and its citizen-soldiers have participated in all major American conflicts, most recently Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the National Guard is the oldest component of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the National Guard has served with distinction as America's first line of defense against natural and man-made disasters within the United States;

Whereas Colonial and State militias were the precursors to the National Guard;

Whereas the militia stood their ground during the opening shots of the Revolutionary War at Lexington Green and Concord Bridge in 1775;

Whereas more than 164,000 members of the militia from the 13 colonies served under the command of George Washington during the Revolutionary War;

Whereas in 1824, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Regiment, New York Artillery became the first military organization in the United States to adopt the title "National Guard";

Whereas during the Mexican War of 1846-1848, more than 70 percent of the total manpower effort was from citizen-soldiers through volunteer militiamen;

Whereas the Union and Confederate Armies relied heavily on militias and volunteer regiments during the Civil War of 1861-1865;

Whereas, on April 15, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln invoked the Calling Forth Act of 1792 and ordered 75,000 militiamen into Federal service for 90 days;

Whereas during the Spanish-American War in 1898, over 160,000 National Guardsmen volunteered for active duty;

Whereas a group of National Guardsmen from Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas were called the "Rough Riders" and were led by Lieutenant Colonel and future United States President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt;

Whereas in 1902, Major General Charles W. Dick, commander of the Ohio Division of the National Guard and a member of the United States House of Representatives, became president of the National Guard Association;

Whereas the Militia Act of 1903 created the modern National Guard and affirmed the National Guard as the primary organized combat Reserve force of the Armed Forces;

Whereas in World War I, the National Guard made up 40 percent of the United States combat divisions;

Whereas the National Defense Act of 1920 established the Army of the United States, to consist of the Regular Army, the Organized Reserve Corps, and the National Guard, when called into Federal service;

Whereas an amendment to the National Defense Act enacted on June 15, 1933, established the National Guard of the United States as a Reserve component of the Army;

Whereas the National Security Act of 1947 established the Air National Guard as a Reserve component of the Air Force;

Whereas more than 300,000 members of the National Guard, including 18 infantry divisions, participated in World War II;

Whereas more than 138,000 members of the Army National Guard and more than 45,000 members of the Air National Guard were called to active duty during the Korean War;

Whereas almost 23,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard were mobilized for two years of active duty during the Vietnam War;

Whereas more than 70,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard were called upon to participate in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991;

Whereas since the attacks on September 11, 2001, hundreds of thousands of members of the Army and Air National Guard have been called upon by their States and the Federal Government to provide security at home and combat terrorism abroad; and

Whereas more than 50,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard were deployed in the Gulf States following Hurricane Katrina in 2005: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) thanks the members of the National Guard for their service in response to the attacks on September 11, 2001, and their continuing role in homeland security and military operations;

(2) supports providing the National Guard with the necessary resources to ensure its readiness;

(3) expresses its condolences and gratitude to the families of those members of the National Guard who have lost their lives through their dedication and commitment to the freedom and security of the United States while serving in the National Guard; and

(4) honors and supports the compassionate, courageous, and dedicated members of the National Guard who serve a critical role in protecting the United States and its citizens' freedoms and treasured liberties.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 940, introduced by my colleague from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), which recognizes the 373rd birthday of the Nation's military first responders, our National Guard.

On December 13, 2009, we will celebrate the enormous contributions that our Nation's citizen soldiers and airmen have contributed to our national defense for over 300 years. Our forefathers relied on its citizen soldiers to protect this young Nation, and today we continue to rely on our citizen soldiers to protect the values and the rights that Americans enjoy today.

Our men and women in the National Guard not only volunteer to serve overseas in our Nation's defense, they are also an integral part of our local communities, providing assistance, support, and protection to their neighbors and loved ones in cases of natural and man-made disasters within the United States.

The history of the National Guard began back during the early days of our Nation. The colonists adopted the English militia system which required all males between the ages of 16 and 60 to bear arms and contribute to the defense of their community. In those early years, the militia provided the first line of defense in our Nation, which continues to this very day.