

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
JOANN C. TADLOCK

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the wonderful people of the third district of North Carolina, which includes hundreds of military families and civilians that work for our military.

Today, I would like to honor one such civilian—Mrs. Joann C. Tadlock will retire from the Naval Air Systems Command, Fleet Readiness Center East, Cherry Point, North Carolina on February 3, 2010.

Mrs. Tadlock's distinguished government career spans over 31 years, a career that is full of achievements and accolades that greatly reflect upon her and upon the organizations with which she has served.

In April of 1978, Mrs. Tadlock began her Federal career as a Clerk for the Department of the Interior, holding progressively responsible administrative positions within the Department of the Interior and the Naval Air Systems Command.

Mrs. Tadlock returned to school and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees and became a Personnel Management and Equal Employment Opportunity Intern.

Mrs. Tadlock subsequently served as the principal classifier for the Human Resources Office, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and has most recently served as Total Force leader and Navy's Multi-Trade expert in supporting the Fleet's best interests.

Madam Speaker, I am very proud of Mrs. Joann Tadlock and I thank her on her many years of service to our great Nation and our military. Her contributions to the Department of Navy will be missed as she moves forward to new and exciting opportunities.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Joann Tadlock on such an extraordinary career.

Mrs. Tadlock epitomizes the dedication and professionalism that make our Federal Government a model all over the world.

God bless Joann, all of our troops, and may God continue to bless America.

TRIBUTE TO THE USASOC

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, USASOC, which celebrates 20 years of service to the Army and Nation. Having been at war for over one-third of that time, the men and women of USASOC continue to make great contributions worldwide with an operations tempo that has never been greater. Operating with a strong roadmap for development, USASOC remains committed to maintaining the world's finest ground special operations force. USASOC's personnel take quiet professional pride in executing each mission with excellence, honor and valor.

Since its inception on December 1, 1989, the pace of USASOC's operations has been

extraordinary; operating around the world, often behind-the-lines, in some of the most remote and hostile regions on the planet. The command's operations and range of military contributions reads like a travel guide to America's foreign policy; Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Rwanda, Haiti, the Philippines, Somalia, Columbia, Afghanistan and Iraq—to name just a few.

At more than 27,000 personnel, USASOC is only 5 percent of the U.S. Army. However, USASOC is the largest of the service components that make up U.S. Special Operations Command, USSOCOM, and provides approximately 70 percent of the special operations personnel in Central Command's theater and approximately 63 percent of America's total overseas military commitments. USASOC provides trained and ready Army special operations forces to support the Geographic Combatant Commanders, GCC, the Theater Special Operations Commands, TSOC, and Ambassadors throughout the world.

Today the operations tempo for Army Special Operations has never been greater, and is unlikely to decrease in the near future. USASOC currently has soldiers deployed on 103 missions in 56 countries around the world, and is operating across the spectrum of lethality and influence. On any given day elements of 3 of the 5 active duty Special Forces groups, units from the 2 National Guard Special Forces Groups, 1 ranger battalion, some 36 special operations aircraft, and more than 35 civil affairs teams and 35 Psychological Operations Teams and Sustainment Brigade logistics units are deployed around the world.

Currently 222 of the Army's 228 CONUS-based Special Forces operational detachments "A", ODA, are committed to supporting operations worldwide, either deployed or preparing for deployment. USASOC's ability to manage the high operations tempo is directly attributable to the caliber of its personnel, currently the best the Nation has ever seen and at the heart of Army Special Operations' extraordinary capabilities.

That range of skills within USASOC is embraced by a spectrum of Army unconventional units, with legendary bloodlines running back to Roger's Rangers, the Devil's Brigade and the OSS, among others. The seven principle units that make up today's USASOC include the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, U.S. Army Special Forces Command, 75th Ranger Regiment, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, 4th Psychological Operations Group, 95th Civil Affairs Brigade, and the 528th Sustainment Brigade.

President Barack Obama has stated in his agenda for defense, "We must build up our special operations forces, civil affairs, information operations and other units and capabilities." The demand for special operations personnel, skills and training remain high. Faced with often desperate, unconventional enemies our approaches for defeating them involve unwavering commitment combined with unique unconventional skills.

That range of USASOC's expertise ensures the Army's special operations forces can execute the most lethal, highly complex and sensitive special operations, wage unconventional warfare, conduct high risk helicopter operations, or prosecute civil military and influence operations.

Few commands can match USASOC's contributions over the past two decades, its count-

less mission most often quietly executed and unheralded. For those in today's USASOC, the pace is fast, the challenges great, and morale and job satisfaction have seldom been greater. The command's motto, "Without Equal", captures the spirit of its personnel and their commitment to maintaining the world's finest ground special operations force.

The command's missions, however, have not come without a sizable cost in lives lost. In the eight years since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, 244 of USASOC's personnel have made the ultimate sacrifice. Their names are cast in bronze on a wall in USASOC's Memorial Plaza at Fort Bragg, NC.

In summary, the performance and contributions of Army Special Operations Forces in the Central Command theater of operations and around the world have been nothing short of magnificent. Whether in the combat theaters, Iraq and Afghanistan, the Philippines, Trans-Sahara Africa or wherever friends and partners find themselves challenged by the forces of disintegration, oppression and extremism, Army Special Operators from across the Command's formations are unquestionably among America's most relevant answer to the threats our Nation faces.

U.S. Army Special Operations Command is honored to play its role within the finest, most capable Army and Joint Special Operations Force ever to serve our great Country. May God bless them all.

BRIAN J. HAUG IS PROMOTED TO
LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brian J. Haug on his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force.

Lieutenant Colonel Haug earned his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, AFROTC, program at Southeast Missouri State University. He began his Air Force career as a Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile crew commander/instructor at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming. There, he was responsible to national command authorities for the positive control, operation, and security of 50 ICBMs maintained on constant 24-hour nuclear alert status.

From 1999 to 2002, Lieutenant Colonel Haug was the assistant professor of aerospace studies and commandant of cadets for the AFROTC program at the University of Southern California. Lieutenant Colonel Haug was directly responsible for the selection, education, and professional development of Air Force officer candidates. His comprehensive unit program developments earned him "Education Officer of the Year" distinction for the AFROTC Southwest Region, which includes thirty-two major colleges and universities.

In September 2002, Lieutenant Colonel Haug joined the "Schreiber Team" as a member of the 2d Space Operations Squadron at Schreiber AFB, Colorado. As a global positioning system crew commander, he captured back-to-back "Crew of the Quarter" titles before assuming command of the operations

support flight. In January 2004, he was hand-selected to serve on the 50th Space Wing's staff as deputy inspector general where he developed a detailed compliance inspection program to enhance operational warfighting readiness.

In 2005, Lieutenant Colonel Haug was requested to be the chief, GPS Operations Branch at the Pentagon. In this assignment, he was responsible for the GPS and nuclear detection system future year defense program funding, which helped define current and future space-based navigation systems requirements. In 2007, Lieutenant Colonel Haug was selected to the Air Force Legislative Fellowship program where he served in my office as an advisor on military and veteran issues.

Lieutenant Colonel Haug was tasked to the Air Force Global Strike Command, provisional staff in January 2009. As deputy director of plans & programs, he was instrumental in establishing the programmatic framework for the Air Force's first new major command in 27 years. Today, Lieutenant Colonel Haug is the chief, Space Force Programming Branch, Space Superiority and Global Integrated Intelligence, under the deputy chief of staff, Strategic Plans and Programs at the Pentagon. In this job, he evaluates, analyzes, and integrates space capability requirements, while providing resource prioritization recommendations for the Air Force space portfolio to the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I would like to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Brian J. Haug for his promotion in the United States Air Force. Lieutenant Colonel Haug has been an asset not only to the United States Air Force but to the people of Washington State, and it has been an honor and privileged to work with him. I wish him great success as he continues his Air Force journey.

**CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
RICK SMIEDENDORF**

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Rick Smiedendorf of the St. Joseph Police Department who is retiring after 31 years of outstanding service. Sergeant Smiedendorf has had a deep and lasting impact on the St. Joseph community, especially in his work with young people.

A native of Niles, Michigan, Sergeant Smiedendorf is a graduate of Western Michigan University and began his career in St. Joseph in 1979. Rick was a tireless advocate in the area of crime prevention. He started a number of programs in the department, including the Crime Prevention Unit, the Neighborhood Watch program, the Dedicated Officer Program in the elementary schools, and the Community Child Watch. Generations of children knew him as Officer Rick, or Sergeant Rick, or McGruff the Crime Dog.

Throughout his career, Sergeant Rick connected prevention and law enforcement programs to the residents of Southwest Michigan. He helped organize the local National Night Out program, and the Community Emergency Response Team. He was named Officer of

Year twice by the Benton Harbor St. Joseph Exchange Club, and was recently named Outstanding Crime Prevention Practitioner of the Year by the West Michigan Crime Prevention Association.

Southwest Michigan is very fortunate Rick Smiedendorf stayed close to home. Thousands of people have been impacted by his hard work and commitment to crime prevention and keeping the public safe. I salute his efforts and thank him for his service in my hometown of St. Joseph. I wish Sergeant Rick all the best in the future.

**H.R. 3590, THE SERVICE MEMBERS
HOME OWNERSHIP TAX ACT**

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, on August 17, 2009, I became a cosponsor of H.R. 3590, the Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act. This legislation, which passed the House of Representatives on October 8, 2009, by a vote of 416 to 0, was designed to make certain changes in the tax code to assist members of the military in becoming homeowners. Thankfully, the legal changes envisioned in H.R. 3590 were included in a different bill to extend the first-time homebuyer tax credit that received bipartisan support and was signed into law by the President.

After the military tax issue was resolved, the Senate Majority Leader used H.R. 3590 as the legislative vehicle to pass health care reform. On December 23, 2009, the Senate adopted a manager's amendment to H.R. 3590 which removed the provisions of the bill as it passed the House and replaced them with provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The amendment also changed the title of the bill.

A public search of legislation I have cosponsored in the 111th Congress shows that I am a cosponsor of the original H.R. 3590. I take this opportunity to clarify that I cosponsored and voted for the Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act, not the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

**HONORING VERDIA L. HAYWOOD
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor one of the finest public servants in Fairfax County and Northern Virginia's history for a 32-year career in which he shepherded regional efforts to provide for the basic needs of children and families throughout our community.

Verdia L. Haywood will retire Jan. 19, 2010, from his role as deputy county executive for human services, but his legacy—in terms of services, mentoring and partnerships—will endure. I had the great pleasure of working with Verdria during my 14 years of service on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including

five years as chairman. When retirement notices would come before the board, my colleagues and I often would say in good humor that someone should pass a law prohibiting such decisions because we could not bear to part with such dedicated and talented people, and that certainly is the case here.

Verdia began his career in Fairfax in 1978 as Executive Assistant to the County Executive, which made him the primary liaison between the county executive's office and the Board of Supervisors. He soon began working with the county's human services agencies and in 1981 was appointed to his current position as deputy county executive. During a career spanning more than three decades, Verdria oversaw the expansion and delivery of a wide array of services to meet the diverse needs of Fairfax County's population. Verdria was responsible for every facet of the human services portfolio, which included the departments of health; community and recreation services; housing and community development; family services; juvenile and domestic relations court services; human rights; community services board, which includes behavioral and mental health; homelessness; and much more. He was the architect of a coordinated service delivery system that has become a regional and national model.

During his tenure, the county's population doubled, increasing the demands for new and basic services. Verdria was one of the first to recognize that the county alone could not meet the multitude of needs, and he led a successful effort to cultivate the network of nonprofit, faith, business, school and other local partners that now comprise the safety net of our community. Behind his soft-spoken leadership was an unwavering passion for people, which along with his infectious optimism and laughter, motivated people from all sectors of the community to want to be a part of improving the lives of others and maintaining the critical investments we made in Fairfax County.

When I was chairman of the county board, Verdria was instrumental in advancing major initiatives to address the lack of affordable housing, the needs of our growing senior population and the challenges of homelessness. In each of these cases, we hosted community summits, assembled task forces of community stakeholders and developed action plans with measurable outcomes. We preserved more than 2,000 affordable housing units for low- and moderate-income families that otherwise would have been lost to redevelopment pressures from the marketplace. We opened a new family homeless shelter, initiated a 10 year plan to prevent and end homelessness using the "housing first" model, and created a new office to oversee its implementation. We expanded the mission of our Agency on Aging with a 50+Action Plan that laid out more than 60 recommendations for improving the quality of life for our exploding senior population—including expanded health and transportation services and volunteer opportunities. Also during this time, Verdria oversaw a complete redesign of our Community Services Board model, through which we provide mental health, mental retardation, and alcohol and drug prevention and intervention services. These are just a sampling of Verdria's accomplishments that will have a profound and lasting impact on our community.

Prior to his service in Fairfax County, Verdria spent a few years working with the City of