

Captain Torre R. Mallard, U.S. Army USMA 2002
 Captain Timothy J. Moshier, U.S. Army USMA 2002
 Second Lieutenant Leonard M. Cowherd, U.S. Army USMA 2003
 First Lieutenant Derek S. Hines, U.S. Army USMA 2003
 Captain Rhett W. Schiller, U.S. Army USMA 2003
 First Lieutenant Laura M. Walker, U.S. Army USMA 2003
 First Lieutenant Garrison C. Avery, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 First Lieutenant Benjamin T. Britt, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 First Lieutenant Amos "Camden" R. Bock, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain Michael A. Cerrone, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain John R. Dennison, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain David M. Fraser, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain Paul W. Pena, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 First Lieutenant Robert A. Seidel III, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain Adam P. Snyder, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 Captain Daniel P. Whitten, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 First Lieutenant Dennis W. Zilinski, U.S. Army USMA 2004
 First Lieutenant Jonathan W. Edds, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 First Lieutenant Matthew C. Ferrara, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 First Lieutenant Jacob N. Fritz, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 First Lieutenant Thomas M. Martin, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 First Lieutenant Phillip I. Neel, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 Second Lieutenant Emily J. T. Perez, U.S. Army USMA 2005
 First Lieutenant Timothy W. Cunningham USMA 2006
 First Lieutenant Nick A. Dewhirst, U.S. Army USMA 2006
 Second Lieutenant Michael R. Girdano, U.S. Army USMA 2007
 First Lieutenant Daniel B. Hyde, U.S. Army USMA 2007
 First Lieutenant Tyler E. Parten, U.S. Army USMA 2007.

Notably, there are three from the class of 2007 so far in this campaign. So these are real patriots and these are young men and women who since the attacks—in fact, if you are at the academy and you go out to Lake Frederick and climb up on the hill and get on one of the old fire stands, you can see the outlines of New York City. And when I was there as a young man, you could see at that time the World Trade Center, which is no more.

West Point still inspires dedication, commitment, and young men and women who want to serve their country at a great institution of higher learning, being prepared to put their lives on the line in the defense of their country.

So I appreciate this time just to highlight what we do at West Point, but also at our other academies, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy—that is hard for me to say—Coast Guard Academy, Merchant Marine Academy. And we want to make sure that all our young men and women know that they have a great opportunity to serve their country, the best

one being at West Point. And I look forward to working with my colleagues to make sure that commitment to excellence continues for many years to come.

I thank my colleague for giving me the time.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the words of Mr. SHIMKUS. I appreciate his service. I hope everybody takes those words to heart.

I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU).

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MARSHALL for recognizing me for this period of time.

I want to recognize Mr. HALL for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor and for his service to the congressional district which includes West Point, and Mr. JONES on the Republican side, who has been a good friend and colleague.

I have always taken pride in sending good young people to the service academies, including West Point. And now I can say that for those who are going to West Point that Forbes has selected your institution as the finest college in America in 2009. I do believe, though, that these young people who go to our service academies are there not only to get a great education, they are there for service, and the highest kind of public service, because it puts them at great personal risk.

My first recollection of visiting West Point was at the age of 8. At that point I was an immigrant child. I am not sure that I knew English completely, but I could read well enough to read the stone, that not too large stone there that has a very large phrase on it: "Duty, Honor, Country," the words that the United States military has lived by, under civilian leadership, for over 200 years. And I want to honor that long gray line that I saw in 1962. I just also wonder whether those academy graduates from the class of '63 or '64, whether there are any left in active service, and perhaps they would be a four-star today.

□ 1515

There is a long line of service. Thank you very much, Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. HALL, for bringing this resolution to us.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I just want to briefly thank Mr. HALL and everyone who has spoken today.

I do not know a bigger thrill for me, as a congressman, when I call a young person in my district, whom I have nominated to one of the three academies, to tell them to expect a letter of appointment. It is a thrill that every time I make the call, every time it is a thrill.

I want to thank Mr. HALL for this resolution today and also Mr. MARSHALL and those who have spoken.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, earlier this year, the President made an announcement concerning troop buildup, the proposed plan where Af-

ghanistan is concerned and the plan to increase the presence of American soldiers there. He made the announcement in Eisenhower Hall at West Point. I was privileged, along with Mr. HALL and a few other Members of Congress, to attend that. I was really struck by the fact that the Commander in Chief, our President, was talking to thousands of young men and women, some of whom, for sure, will wind up being injured, protecting our country in Afghanistan.

I am wearing my infantry tie today. I have my CIB on. I had the privilege of having a couple years of service back during the Vietnam War. And I say it's a privilege, and I view it that way. People will often say to me, Thank you for your service. And sometimes I will respond, You don't really need to thank me. I got more out of this than I gave.

I encourage all young Americans to think about attending one of our academies. West Point has received its recognition as the best college in the United States, but all of the academies give wonderful educations, and they give you a wonderful opportunity to serve. It almost certainly will wind up being the most extraordinary thing that you do during your lifetime should you choose to go through one of the academies and then serve in our military. That's certainly the case where I am concerned, and I have done a lot of things in my life.

The most extraordinary time in my life was when I was in service, particularly when I was in combat. So I thank the country for having given me that opportunity. And if you're a kid and you are thinking about college, you ought to think about our service academies. You not only get a great education, but you have an opportunity to serve in a way that you will not be able to serve in any other capacity in this country, and you will really feel good about it if you do it well.

So I thank Mr. JONES. He is a great member of the Armed Services Committee, a great Member of this Congress, and a real supporter of the military.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MARSHALL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 747.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam 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 139TH AIRLIFT WING

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to

the resolution (H. Res. 699) expressing the appreciation of Congress for the service and sacrifice of the members of the 139th Airlift Wing, Air National Guard, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 699

Whereas the 139th Airlift Wing (AW), Air National Guard has its roots in the formation of the 180th Bombardment Squadron (Light), which was one of the first federally recognized Air National Guard units in the United States;

Whereas the 180th Bombardment Squadron deployed in support of the Korean War in December 1951;

Whereas in 1976, the unit was redesignated as the 139th Tactical Airlift Group (TAG);

Whereas in 1990, the 139th TAG assisted in troop deployment during Operation Desert Storm;

Whereas in 1992, the unit was redesignated the 139th Airlift Group (AG);

Whereas, between 1992 and 1996, the 139th AG supported humanitarian operations in Bosnia, Sarajevo, Africa, and Haiti;

Whereas in 1995, the unit officially became known as the 139th Airlift Wing;

Whereas, between 1998 and 2004, the 139th AW supported military operations alongside North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces as part of Operation Joint Forge in Europe;

Whereas in 2002, the 139th AW deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan;

Whereas in 2005, the 139th AW assisted with disaster relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina;

Whereas in December 2007, the 139th AW was enlisted to support efforts in response to a devastating ice storm that struck Northwest Missouri; and

Whereas the 139th AW hosts the renowned Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center (AATTC);

Whereas NATO air forces utilize the AATTC in support of training operations;

Whereas in 2008, the Headquarters United States Air Force General Officers' Steering Committee approved a Total Force Integration Initiative designating the AATTC as a blended unit of Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, and Regular Air Force members;

Whereas in 2008, the AATTC was designated the Mobility Air Forces Tactics Center of Excellence;

Whereas nearly 2,500 civilians and military personnel from Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas serve selflessly in the 139th AW: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the exemplary service and sacrifice of the members of the 139th Airlift Wing and their families; and

(2) commends the members of the 139th AW and their families (and all of the other members of the Armed Forces who have served, or who are currently serving, in support of United States military contingency operations) for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MARSHALL) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MARSHALL. I ask that all Members 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 gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 699, recognizing the service and sacrifice of the members of the 139th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard. I would like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES), for bringing this resolution before the House.

Units of the Air National Guard play a critical role in America's wars and major contingencies as well as provide valuable assistance to their States in times of crisis. I'm extraordinarily proud of Georgia's Air National Guard and the 116th blended wing that's housed at Robins Air Force Base. The 139th Airlift Wing has roots in one of the federally recognized Air National Guard units in the United States, and it continues to be an important part of defense efforts at home and abroad.

The unit deployed in support Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and assisted in troop deployment during Operation Desert Storm. In the 1990s, the 139th supported humanitarian operations in Bosnia, Sarajevo, Africa, and Haiti. In addition to their efforts overseas, in 2005, they assisted with disaster relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina. Today, thousands of civilian and military personnel from northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas serve selflessly in the unit.

The 139th Airlift Wing provides essential support to maintenance and growth of the armed services. The unit is home to the Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center that trains U.S. airlift crews and support personnel as well as NATO air forces in advanced tactics training.

House Resolution 699 recognizes the dedication and courage of not only the members of the 139th Airlift Wing and their families and service to the Nation, but also all of the members of the Armed Forces who have served or are currently serving in support of the United States military contingency operations. All our servicemembers and their families deserve our deepest gratitude and respect.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary service and sacrifices of the 139th Airlift Wing by supporting House Resolution 699.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of House Resolution 699, which recognizes the service and sacrifice of the members of the 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri Air National Guard. I want to commend my friend

SAM GRAVES of Missouri for sponsoring this legislation.

The 139th Airlift Wing is a remarkably diverse and capable unit. For example, one of its major subordinate units is the Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center. That unit exemplifies the total force concept because its members come not only from the Air National Guard but also from the Air Force Reserve and the active Air Force. They provide advanced tactical training to improve the effectiveness and suitability of airlift crews from all components of the Air Force—the Special Operations Command, the Marine Corps, and 15 allied nations.

Members of the wing have deployed in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, to include providing the security element for a Missouri agribusiness development team that returned last fall from a year-long mission in Afghanistan. The success of the 139th Airlift Wing is directly related to the dedication, sacrifice, and professionalism of the nearly 2,500 civilian and military personnel who carry out the unit's missions. Their efforts deserve our recognition and thanks. For that reason, I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) who introduced this resolution.

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, last July I was humbled and honored to introduce House Resolution 699, expressing the appreciation of Congress for the service and sacrifice of the members of the 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri Air National Guard. Since World War II, the men and women of the 139th have been based at Rosecrans Memorial Airport in St. Joseph, Missouri, which is in my district.

First, I want to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCKEON for allowing this important resolution to come to the floor today. And further, I want to thank my colleagues who joined me in cosponsoring this resolution and helping move forward such an important tribute. I would also like to recognize the 139th Airlift Wing's commanders—at least those whom I have been able to work with—General Steven McCamy, Colonel Davenport, General Stephen Cotter, and, most recently, the new commander, Colonel Mike McEnulty. Colonel McEnulty has been a dynamic leader in working to continue and expand the role of the Missouri Air National Guard, and he is an invaluable resource to my office, our military, and, obviously, the St. Joseph community.

The 139th Airlift Wing, initially designated as the 180th Bombardment Squadron, has been serving our Nation proudly since 1946, which makes it one of the first federally recognized Air National Guard units in the Nation. They have deployed, and it has already been pointed out, they have deployed and supported the Korean War, Operation Desert Storm, military operations

alongside NATO forces as part of Operation Joint Forge in Europe, and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. And the members of the 139th Airlift Wing have also assisted with humanitarian efforts in response to the great flood of 1993, Hurricane Katrina, severe storms that struck northwest Missouri in 2007, and most recently in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti.

In 1984, the 139th Airlift Wing became home to the Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center, which some have already pointed out today. The Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center increases the warfighting effectiveness and the survivability of mobility forces in a combat environment and is utilized by our military and NATO forces from around the world. It is used by Reserve units and active duty units.

It's always interesting, whenever I have the opportunity to travel abroad, whether it's to Afghanistan or to Iraq, a lot of times Members of Congress would travel with C-17 crews or C-130 crews, and one of the things I always ask them is if they've been through the school at St. Joe, and 80 percent of the time they say, yes, they have. They've been to the Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center, which has taught them survivability in those areas.

Lastly, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the nearly 2,500 civilian and military personnel from northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas which serve selflessly in the 139th Airlift Wing. I commend their exemplary service and sacrifice and that of their families and that of all other members of the Armed Forces who have served, who are currently serving and are supporting the United States military contingency operations at home and abroad.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking the men and women of the 139th Airlift Wing by supporting this important resolution.

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I certainly hope that the House will support House Resolution 699.

I just want to take this opportunity, on behalf of all members of the Armed Services Committee and all Members of the Congress, to thank the men and women of our National Guard, whatever branch, for the service that you provide this country and particularly the service that you are providing this country in our contingency operations. It's a strain on you. It's a strain on your families, and we're grateful. The Nation owes you. We appreciate your service.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MARSHALL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 699, 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.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam 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.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY WORKING DOG PROGRAM

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 812) recognizing the significant contributions of the Military Working Dog (MWD) Program to the United States Armed Forces, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 812

Whereas the Military Working Dog Program, or K-9 Corps, was developed in 1942, shortly after the United States entered World War II;

Whereas all four branches of the United States Armed Forces as well as other government agencies, including the Secret Service, Central Intelligence Agency, and Transportation Security Administration, use Military Working Dogs in service to the country;

Whereas Military Working Dogs are trained in explosive detection, narcotic detection, sentry, patrol, tracking, and other specific areas;

Whereas Military Working Dogs, through their training, have prevented injuries and saved the lives of thousands of United States citizens;

Whereas more than 19,000 Military Working Dogs were acquired by the United States Armed Forces during World War II and of those 19,000, a little more than 10,000 Military Working Dogs were utilized in the war effort;

Whereas more than 1,500 Military Working Dogs were employed during the Korean War and 4,500 in the Vietnam War;

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, Military Working Dogs have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and have been employed in detection work as part of homeland security and defense efforts;

Whereas today approximately 2,000 Military Working Dogs serve at nearly 170 United States military bases worldwide, including bases in 40 States and 3 United States territories;

Whereas retired Military Working Dogs are recognized for their lifetime of service in the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas charitable organizations and community groups are recognized for their work in coordination with the Department of Defense to help bring Military Working Dogs stationed overseas home to the United States for adoption when their active duty days are over and provide support to active K9 military teams worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the significant contributions of the Military Working Dog Program to the United States Armed Forces;

(2) honors active and retired Military Working Dogs for their loyal service and dedication to protecting the men and women of the United States Armed Forces; and

(3) supports the adoption and care of these quality animals after their service is over.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MARSHALL) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MARSHALL. I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 812, recognizing the significant contributions of the Military Working Dog Program to the United States Armed Forces. I would like to thank my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE) for bringing this measure before the House.

Military working dogs contribute essential services to our Armed Forces through their capacity to detect explosives, illegal narcotics, and unwarranted persons beyond the capacity of any human patrol. They offer an invaluable ability for tracking missing people as well as fleeing suspects. Their support with sentry is crucial for the protection of our soldiers and civilians, and they are vital in so many different roles. Our military would not be as effective without them.

Military working dogs serve the four branches of the military, the Secret Service, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Transportation Security Administration. Their service has developed and expanded since their implementation in 1942 during World War II and has since played important roles overseas in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

□ 1530

The Military Working Dog Program has increased its role in safeguarding our homeland. Since September 11, 2001, our expanded homeland and defense efforts would not be as effective if it were not for the expanded effort of the Military Working Dog Program. Thousands of dogs serve every year both in the United States and around the world, and I am glad to be here today in honor of their service.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 812, which recognizes the significant contribution of the Military Working Dog Program to the United States Armed Forces. Dogs have long been known as man's best friend. They are brave, loyal, and trustworthy. It is not a coincidence that these are the same traits so valued by the United States military services. It is these qualities that have made our Armed Forces unsurpassed. It is no wonder that the natural bond between man and dogs and these shared