

"Little did I know 3,000 days later this routine would be the normal mode of operations," he said.

Typically, deployments are a little more than 120 days, Anderson said, meaning that there have been more than a million "airmen days" of deployment since the first.

Dyess' C-130s have been key in providing combat and humanitarian aid in overseas operations, most recently in Operation New Dawn since the withdrawal of combat troops from Iraq, said Master Sgt. Matt Rossi, 39th Airlift Squadron loadmaster superintendent.

"But when we're not doing that, we answer the nation's call with humanitarian aid, whether it's in South America, Japan, Africa or wherever it's needed," Rossi said.

Anderson said that the airdrop and medical evacuation are essential pieces of what the 317th's planes are regularly called to do.

"The airlift piece is probably something you could equate to the air-land mission of FedEx or UPS," he said. "We are delivering goods, but with us, we're delivering what the military needs. So it's not only beans, bullets and water but people, as well, to different locations. And a lot of the time, we do that in harm's way, so that's where we're different."

The airdrop portion of the C-130 mission is primarily dropping "air packages, supplies, sometimes even special reconnaissance teams" to forward-operating bases, such as those in the mountains of Afghanistan.

The medical evacuation component is "the saving lives piece" of the mission, Anderson said.

"You can think of us as a hospital in the sky," he said.

Wounded soldiers, "even wounded Iraqis," are served by that part of the mission, he said, while other humanitarian missions, such as providing aid to those affected by flooding in Pakistan, are another vital component.

Time away from home can be tough, said Rossi, who once spent a year deployed in Afghanistan as an air adviser.

Being away from home for a year, and working with individuals of an at-times profoundly different culture, proved challenging but rewarding, he said.

"You're not only building an air force but a good relationship between the Americans and the Afghans, and not just the soldiers but the civilians," he said.

When squadron members come home, their work doesn't end, Rossi said.

"We have to maintain proficiency in the aircraft," he said. "We're constantly training, and we train like we fight."

Such training can include low-level flying, tactical approaches and landings, Rossi said, with a goal of becoming proficient in such before being in a deployed environment, especially if facing combat.

For Anderson, training also is time to prepare for "a multitude of different types of contingencies."

"We have to be forward-looking at what could happen and make sure our military is ready," he said. "If we fight in other theaters, like we're down in South America or we're in a different theater, it's a very different scenario."

Looking back on the accomplishment of 3,000 deployment days Tuesday, Bridwell said he was exceptionally proud of all the Dyess personnel "who serve our country so well."

"I especially want to thank the families for their daily contributions to our nation's hard-earned security," he said.

Anderson said that the support of the community is essential in achieving the milestone.

"Living in Abilene, folks here understand what we go through and support us, and they do that in a million different venues," he said.

Rossi said that the accomplishment was important not only to highlight what troops had done but also to "highlight the support that we've received."

"People on the base would be lying if they say they don't get a warm spot in their heart when someone out in the public thanks them for their service," he said.

A seven-aircraft launch is among activities scheduled today, a day of storytelling and remembrances, Anderson said.

"When you're running so hard, a lot of the time you don't remember how far you've gone," he said of the need to stop and reflect.

And then? Back to work.

"We know this is not stopping," Anderson said of the 317th's future. "And we know we are ready and will be ready to answer the nation's call."

HONORING DR. BERNARD SIEGEL FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to stand today to join the many family, friends, colleagues and community members who have gathered to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our community and my good friend, Dr. Bernard Siegel, as he is honored by the Connecticut Children's Center of Hamden. Bernie, an Oncologist who earned national and international acclaim for his focus on the correlation between a patient's emotional state and the healing process, has not only brought a powerful voice to patient empowerment, but has also devoted much of his time to supporting local organizations like the Children's Center of Hamden. His work has touched countless lives around the world and I am honored to have this opportunity to join our community in recognizing his remarkable career and invaluable contributions.

Bernie has dedicated a lifetime to teaching those facing the most difficult of life's challenges about the healing power they hold within themselves. Well before his time, Bernie recognized that the better a patient was able to cope with the emotional complexities of health issues, the more improved their overall health outcome was—the mind-body connection. Upon this simple, yet innovative idea, Bernie has built a distinguished career. He is the founder of ECaP, an individual and group therapy program for recovering cancer patients, the author of twelve books which have been invaluable resources to patients and loved ones alike, and retired from Yale-New Haven Hospital as the Assistant Clinical Professor of General and Pediatric Surgery.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to Bernie for his many years of special friendship and counsel. During my tenure in Congress, I have focused much of my attention on health issues and I have often sought Bernie's expertise and guidance. He has always made himself available, proving to be a wealth of knowledge on even the most complex of matters. I, like so many others, consider myself fortunate to call him my friend.

Physician, author, advocate, mentor, community leader, and friend, Dr. Bernard Siegel has changed the face of how we view the re-

lationship between the patient and the healing process. His compassion and generosity has also gone a long way in helping those most in need in our community. For his many invaluable contributions, I am proud to rise today to join the Children's Center of Hamden and all of those who have gathered in extending my deepest thanks and appreciation to Bernie Siegel as well as my very best wishes to him, his wife, Bobbie, and their five children and eight grandchildren for many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED MILITARY SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHELLE GREENE

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Michelle Greene, an exceptional Army officer and true patriot, in honor of her upcoming retirement. For over twenty years, Lieutenant Colonel Greene has worn her nation's colors with grace and honor. Her career-long steadfast commitment to the defense of liberty is a testament to her inherent courage and selflessness.

Lieutenant Colonel Greene began her distinguished career in the Army at Fort Stewart in Georgia, where she served as the C Company Ambulance Platoon leader and Battalion S-1/Adjutant in the 24th Forward Support Battalion, 24th Infantry Division, and then as the Patient Administration Officer at Winn Army Community Hospital. From there, she went on to work at Walter Reed Medical Center as the A Company Commander of the Medical Center Brigade, before going to work within the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, first in the Office of Clinical Operations, and then as Secretary to the General Staff.

After earning a Master's of Science in Health Evaluation Sciences from the University of Virginia in 2001 through the Army's Long Term Health Education and Training program, Lieutenant Colonel Greene moved to Hawaii, where she served in the Patient Administration Division at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu.

Lieutenant Colonel Greene's most recent assignments have been in Washington, DC. In 2004, she became the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Surgeon General. After two years in this capacity, she went to work as a Legislative Liaison in the Army Budget Congressional Liaison Office. It was here that then-Major Greene began working with my boss and predecessor, the late-Congressman John P. Murtha—and she soon became a capable and trusted liaison between the Chairman and the Army. Most recently, she has served as Chief of Congressional Affairs for the Office of the Army Surgeon General.

Lieutenant Colonel Greene moves on to the next chapter of her life bolstered by the abiding love and support of her husband, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Craig Greene, her two sons, Jackson and Austen, and her parents, Ken and Linda Snow.

Mr. Speaker, the strength of Lieutenant Colonel Greene's character will ensure that she is successful in whatever she chooses to

do next. I congratulate her on a distinguished career, and I thank her for her many years of service.

COMMENDING THOMAS GILMORE
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE NEW
JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Thomas Gilmore for nearly three decades of leadership and dedication to the New Jersey Audubon Society. Tom Gilmore is a known conservation visionary and respected voice for wildlife and I congratulate him on this well deserved retirement.

Under Tom's dedicated watch, thousands of acres of threatened and endangered species habitats have been protected and open space, farmland and historic preservation became a priority in our great Garden State.

Throughout Tom's tenure, wildlife research and environmental education blossomed across the state. Tom's leadership paved the way for the Audubon Society's Citizen Science program to flourish. This important program empowers volunteers of all skill levels and backgrounds to engage in wildlife conservation and leverages the strengths and talents of hundreds of individuals while training our state's future conservation leaders.

Tom's passion, skill and perseverance have transformed New Jersey, marshalling in the preservation of our most significant and beloved natural treasures.

I honor this remarkable leader and welcome the new era of conservation talent that will guide the Garden State's environmental future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DR.
DOROTHY INGRAM

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute to a great educator, pioneer, mentor, and role model, Dr. Dorothy Ingram.

Dr. Dorothy Ingram, the first African American teacher in San Bernardino County, passed away March 14, 2012, at the age of one hundred six.

Dr. Ingram was the youngest of 7 children, born on November 9, 1905, to Henry and Mary Ingram in San Bernardino, California. She started school in 1911 at Mt. Vernon Elementary School and graduated from San Bernardino High School in 1923.

Dr. Ingram later attended San Bernardino Valley College from 1928 until 1933, where she wrote the school's alma mater, which is still in use today. Dr. Ingram was the first African American student to attend the University of Redlands. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in music education in 1934.

After graduating from college, and teaching in Texas for a few years, Dr. Ingram moved back to San Bernardino in 1939 to continue her teaching career. In 1951, Dr. Ingram was promoted to the position of principal of Mill

School. In 1953, Dr. Ingram elevated to the position of the San Bernardino School District Superintendent. That made her the first African American school district superintendent in the State of California.

Based on her childhood experiences and the strong example set by her parents, Dr. Ingram was an outspoken advocate for underprivileged children to have an equal opportunity to succeed. She stood above the racial prejudices of her time and served as an excellent role model for others to emulate. Dr. Ingram was seen as a mentor for her tireless work and dedication to the children of San Bernardino.

As a community leader, Dr. Ingram encouraged others to always do their personal best and to work towards making a positive contribution to society. In recognition of her numerous contributions, the City of San Bernardino honored Dr. Ingram in 1977 by naming one of the city's libraries after her. At age 97, she was again recognized for her outstanding work by receiving an honorary doctorate degree from California State University San Bernardino.

Dr. Ingram's siblings also left their mark on San Bernardino. Her brother, Howard, was the first African American physician in San Bernardino. Another brother, Ben, worked as a chef at one of the finest restaurants, the Chocolate Palace. And her sister Ruth worked as a nurse.

My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Rialto City Councilman Joe Baca, Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer are with Dr. Ingram's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Dr. Dorothy Ingram.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE CRAWFORD
HOUSE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exemplary organization in Colorado Springs that provides shelter and services for homeless veterans in Southern Colorado.

The Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition is celebrating the 10th Anniversary of its Crawford House this year. The House provides emergency shelter to veterans in downtown Colorado Springs.

Established in 2002, the House is named after World War II Medal of Honor recipient, retired Master Sergeant William J. Crawford.

The Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition takes great pride in offering safe, healthy, alcohol and drug-free emergency housing. The group also offers VA-sponsored substance abuse rehabilitation.

The Crawford House and the transitional homes can take in up to 25 residents at a time. Currently, the House has a waiting list of 100 veterans. The Crawford House is very unique in homeless programming in that, they provide job placement assistance through coordination with workforce centers, compensated work therapy and numerous other partners including the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition has served more than 1,100 homeless veterans since it was established.

Eighty-one percent of veterans who successfully completed the 90-day homeless program were gainfully employed and moved into their own housing.

I thank the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition for their compassionate service to our veterans in Colorado Springs and congratulate them on the 10th Anniversary of the Crawford House.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
RICHARD MILANOVICH

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute to a great tribal leader, role model, and veteran Richard Milanovich. Richard, Chairman of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, passed away on March 11, 2012, at the age of sixty-nine.

Richard was born on December 4, 1942, and spent his childhood living with his mother, LaVerne Saubel, who was a strong advocate for Indian rights in her own right. LaVerne set an outstanding example for her son, and was a member of the all-female tribal council that persuaded Congress to allow self-governance for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians in 1957. Richard's upbringing in his mother's home instilled in him a passion for the Indian community.

Richard lived with his mother until the age of 17, when he left home to join the United States Army. After his time in the service, Richard worked as a door-to-door salesman, selling items such as vacuum cleaners and encyclopedias, until joining the tribal council at age 35.

Richard was one of the earliest patriarchs of Indian gaming in California. During his first few years on the council, he convinced the tribal council to purchase the Spa Hotel in downtown Palm Springs in 1992. This purchase helped to revitalize downtown Palm Springs and paved the way for the future economic stability of the Agua Caliente band of Cahuilla Indians, as well as other tribes in California.

At the time of his passing, Richard was the Chairman of the Agua Caliente band of Cahuilla Indians. Richard's 30 years of service to the tribe left a lasting impact not only on his tribe, but California at large. Richard was not only passionate about protecting the future and stability of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, but he also gave back to his surrounding community through his advocacy for the gaming industry. Indian gaming is one of the surest ways to create economic development in a region; proving jobs and revenue for tribal self governance, maintenance, and education.

Richard's strong advocacy at the state and national level for the rights of the Indian people and gaming allowed his tribe to gain respect and high standing among tribes across the country.

Richard was known as a great mentor to the younger leaders; his tireless work on behalf of the Indian community left younger tribal leaders with a strong example of hard work and