

“Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5468

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CAMP PENDLETON MEDAL OF HONOR POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1103 USPS Building 1103 in Camp Pendleton, California, shall be known and designated as the “Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Camp Pendleton Medal of Honor Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, of the several postal namings that we are voting on today, almost all of them are honoring members of the military and, disproportionately, members who have given their lives in service to their country, and it is fitting that we should do that. However, H.R. 5468 seeks something very different.

Currently called the “Mainside” Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Post Office, it is not named for anyone. Camp Pendleton has produced more Medal of Honor recipients—most of them posthumously—through World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the various gulf wars. Even as we speak today, marines are engaged now in Iraq again, having completed their missions in Afghanistan, and, undoubtedly, the valor they show will someday result in additional Medal of Honor recipients.

It is impossible to name the post office at Camp Pendleton after one marine, no matter how great, or after a few marines, even if they died together in battle—therefore, the unusual naming here at Camp Pendleton, a base that opened in 1942 and that, today, is the largest base of marines anywhere in the world. Over 42,000 marines and corpsmen call Camp Pendleton their home when they are not away from home.

I am humbled and honored to be able to represent Camp Pendleton for my entire nearly 14 years of service in the Congress. As a former Army officer, I have learned a great deal about ma-

ries. I have learned even more about their valor. Only in a place like Camp Pendleton would you find that the base band is named after a band leader who earned a Medal of Honor during the Korean conflict as he, in fact, laid covering fire for his fellow marines from a burning tank.

Therefore, today, we are considering—and I am confident we will name—this post office after all of those who earned America’s highest honor. I envision that the post office will bear the names and, in a book, the recitation of how they each earned America’s highest honor. It has been inspiring to represent them. Those Medal of Honor recipients, I must mention, will include Navy corpsmen, and they will include officers and enlisted men. They will include all of those battles from World War II to tomorrow and the days beyond.

As I ask for this post office to be named, one that I have had the honor of authoring, I might note, for all of those who wonder why we name post offices, I believe, if they come to Camp Pendleton, they will find out why this post office bears the name of a medal and not any one soldier, sailor, marine, or airman.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

First of all, I want to thank the gentleman from California. There is nothing I can add, really, to the eloquence of his remarks, and it is fitting that he made them as the person in this body who is representing the men and women of Camp Pendleton.

I have been there, but I don’t serve it. My brother served in the Navy, and I visited him many years ago when he was at Camp Pendleton, and I remembered then, as a very young person, being awed by just the incredible display of patriotism that was embodied in that.

The other thing, as I listened to you, Mr. Chairman, what I thought was so good about this is that the whole ethic of the military is that you are in it for everybody else. As for the story about the Medal of Honor winner who was in the band but, before he was in the band, was on a burning tank and provided covering fire at great peril to himself, that is the ethic of the military that, I think, all of us here so admire.

So having a postal naming which doesn’t specifically identify one person but identifies all of the recipients at the highest award that we can give to a military leader is a tremendous idea. In fact, I look forward to my next visit to Camp Pendleton, where, I think, like many Americans who will go visit, I will read this roster and will just stand in awe of the bravery that has been demonstrated by these people throughout our history.

□ 1430

So I really am glad that our remarks are recorded because this statement that the chairman gave, I think, is

going to be very good reading for all of us. I do join, of course, in supporting this naming. I think it is particularly suitable.

Mr. Speaker, 230 years of Camp Pendleton’s existence, think about it. It is just an amazing facility, but more importantly, it has had hundreds of thousands of wonderful Americans who have learned about how to be a patriot, who have gone from there to face very difficult challenges when we needed their bravery to defend our country.

So I join the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) in urging our colleagues to support this naming—it is an especially glorious one—honoring all men and women of the military.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I have but two things to say. First of all, I want to thank the California delegation for their unique, bipartisan, unanimous support for this bill.

Lastly, whether it is that bandleader who was a bandleader first, but would have said, “I am an infantryman first,” who served in World War II and died there in Korea, or it is the marines and corpsmen who have given their lives, their blood, their tears, their sweat, whether they were awarded the Medal of Honor, lesser medals, or were not fully recognized for their dedication, all of them, I now know, will have their daily activities, passing the post office or dropping a letter, they will have an opportunity to in fact realize that Congress is grateful for their contributions with the naming of this post office.

I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5468.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLONEL M.J. “MAC” DUBE, USMC POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5331) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the “Colonel M.J. ‘Mac’ Dube, USMC Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5331

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. COLONEL M.J. “MAC” DUBE, USMC POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, shall be known and designated as the “Colonel M.J. ‘Mac’ Dube, USMC Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Colonel M.J. ‘Mac’ Dube, USMC Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5331, introduced by my fellow Californian, Mr. PAUL COOK, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the Colonel M.J. “Mac” Dube, U.S. Marine Corps Post Office Building.

First, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California, Congressman COOK, the author of the bill, to speak more about this Vietnam war veteran.

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5331 would designate the facility that was already mentioned on Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms as the Colonel M.J. “Mac” Dube, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building.

Mac passed away this year, but will always be remembered in Twentynine Palms as a United States Marine and a dedicated public servant.

Mac and I, ironically enough, both served as colonels at the same time, an honor I will always remember and cherish. Mac was a great marine. He served for over 30 years. He earned four Purple Hearts, multiple wars, four Bronze Stars with Combat “V,” and a Silver Star.

After a career as the Chief of Staff at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, he retired in Twentynine Palms, where he went to work, ran for office, became the mayor, and became a council member. Then when he was done with that, he served in multiple county offices, oftentimes as a volunteer.

His children grew up there. He was deeply involved and was somebody that, ironically enough, was part of the Marine community on the military side and, obviously, the civilian community and the county side on the other side of the fence.

This is a tribute to a man who dedicated his life to serving his Nation, serving the Marine Corps, and serving the Twentynine Palms community. He left a legacy for all those who will come after him. He was always in

town. He gave so many things to so many people. He was the most generous individual I ever knew, and I think that he will always be remembered in the Twentynine Palms area for his hard work, his dedication, and his patriotism.

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

I am delighted to join in support of this postal naming, and it is just such a pleasure to listen to the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK) talk about a friend he knew who was a fellow colonel and then to see what he did after his life of service in the military, his life of service with his own folks back home, and I look at some of the things he did, and I am just amazed.

He served in 46 combat missions. He earned four Purple Hearts. That means, basically, he dodged death at least four times. How he managed to do this and then put it all behind him—he probably never talked about it; instead, he preferred much more to just find a way to help folks back home when the bullets weren’t flying.

But he knew service in the military and service back home were equally important. This is an extraordinary person, and we are very honored that the gentleman is bringing this bill forward and that we will be able to recognize his contributions in the memory of a postal naming.

Mr. COOK. Will the gentleman yield for a comment?

Mr. WELCH. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. COOK. I thank the gentleman.

As I mentioned, I knew Mac very, very well, and I used to joke with him, and I said, “You know, I have two Purple Hearts, and it showed that I was dumb enough to not duck twice, and you have four of them. What does that say about your IQ?”

But he was a true American and would do anything, and I thank the gentleman from Vermont so much for his support of the bill.

Mr. WELCH. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK), and Mr. ISSA also thanks you.

It is a tough business we do here, but one of the things about these namings is that it allows us to remind ourselves of what we can aspire to be. I mean, these folks, in war and in peace, who just give themselves to public service selflessly and effectively and then earn the gratitude of the people back home, regardless of party, regardless of politics, they just are trying to do a good thing to make their community a better place and their country a stronger country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. I urge strong support for this bipartisan bill and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5331.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LT. DANIEL P. RIORDAN POST OFFICE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5386) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the “Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5386

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LT. DANIEL P. RIORDAN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the “Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, this bill, authored by Congresswoman ANN WAGNER of Missouri, recognizes the last full measure of support for Lieutenant Daniel P. Riordan, and I can add nothing more than the author will add, so I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of a great hero.

On June 23, 2007, Missouri’s Second Congressional District lost a brave young man when United States Army First Lieutenant Daniel Riordan made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the life of this young patriot. Daniel Patrick Riordan was born to Rick and Jeanine Riordan on February 17, 1983. He had a twin brother, Nick, and an older sister, Suzanne.