HONORING COLONEL RUSSELL D. GOLD

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay public tribute to Col. Russell D. Gold, an exemplary soldier and citizen from my congressional district. Colonel Gold recently announced his retirement as Director of Combat Developments at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

A native of West Palm Beach, Florida, Colonel Gold was first commissioned through ROTC as a Distinguished Military Student from The Citadel, beginning his military career as a Tank Platoon Leader, then Executive Officer with the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After completion of the Armor Officer Advance Course, he commanded Company B, 2d Battalion, 72d Armor, 2d Infantry Division, at Camp Casey, Korea. Upon completion of command, he served as a Small Group Instructor in the Armor Officer Advance Course, then, Executive Officer of the U.S. Army Armor School at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

From 1993 through 1995, Colonel Gold was assigned to the First Armored Division in Germany, where he served as the Battalion S–3 and Battalion Executive Officer with the 2d Battalion, 67th Armor, then as the Brigade S–3 for the First Brigade, 1st Armor Division. From 1995–1997, Colonel Gold was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC, where he served in the J–8 as Chief, War-Game Exercise Branch. Colonel Gold then commanded the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Hood, Texas. Following battalion command, Colonel Gold served as the III Corps Secretary of the General Staff, then after graduating from the Army War College, became the Director of Combat Developments at Fort Knox.

Colonel Gold commanded the 3d Brigade Combat Team, Iraq, 1st Armored Division, of Fort Riley, Kansas, from June 2002 to June 2004 before being assigned as Chief of Staff of the Armor Center on July 30, 2004.

Colonel Gold's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit award, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Valorous Unit Award, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Army Superior Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.

It is my great privilege to recognize Colonel Gold today, before the entire House of Representatives, for his lifelong example of leadership and service. His unique achievements and dedication to the men and women of the U.S. Army make him an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and respect.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5384) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) to strengthen the Resident Instruction Grants Program for the land-grant institutions in the U.S. territories. This amendment, which is also supported by the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. FORTUÑO) and the gentlelady from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), would increase the amount provided under this bill for this important Program by $200,000 for a total of $700,000.

This Program is a competitively-awarded grants program administered by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, CSREES, of the United States Department of Agriculture. This Program is authorized by Section 7503 of the Farm Security Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107–171), and has been funded for the past two consecutive fiscal years.

Resident Instruction Grants promote and develop teaching and education programs within the food and agricultural sciences, and related disciplines, at the landgrant institutions in the U.S. territories. This Program helps these institutions meet unique challenges by strengthening their institutional educational capacities in instruction and curriculum, and by enhancing the quality of teaching and learning. These unique challenges have been documented by CSREES and previously acknowledged by the Committee on Appropriations.

CSREES has awarded two grants this past year with the initial level of funding provided for this program. The land-grant institutions in the territories formed a consortium with the University of Guam as the lead institution for the first year. These eight institutions are working together to increase the quality of their academic programs in the food and agricultural sciences. The consortium is using the first ever awarded Resident Instruction Grant to enhance courses of study and curricula, to explore alternative methods of delivering instruction, and to increase enrollment and retention in their degree programs. Each of these three objectives is being pursued through the development of coordinated and comprehensive five-to-ten year strategic plan. We believe that each member institution will be able to implement this strategic plan with funding awarded through future Resident Instruction Grants.

We also believe that partnerships between faculties at institutions in the territories and on the mainland can be eventually forged as a result of continued and increased funding for this program. Such partnerships will allow for a more efficient use of existing educational funds by the institutions in the territories.

I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA), the Chairman of the Subcommittee, and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), for recognizing the unique needs of the land-grant institutions in the U.S. territories and for their support of the Resident Instruction Grants Program. We ask for their support of this amendment and for their support for funding this Program at the highest level possible in conference with the other body.

RECOGNIZING HARRY FULGHUM FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harry Fulghum, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 155, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Harry has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Harry has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Harry Fulghum for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING KAREN HOGAN

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a wonderful woman, Ms. Karen Hogan, who has worked tirelessly or the people of the State of Florida for over two decades, and to congratulate her on her retirement.

Karen Hogan has worked in the State of Florida's Washington, D.C. office since 1995. Most recently, Karen served as Senior Management Analyst for the Florida Department of Children and Families. In this capacity, she represented and advised the Governor and the Department Secretary on national issues relevant to the State, such as healthcare, immigration, the elderly and welfare. Karen is truly an expert on Health and Human Services issues, especially the welfare Program.

Before her service in the State of Florida's Washington office, Karen was Chief of Staff for our colleague and friend, the late U.S. Representative Tom Lewis (R–FL), for the 12 years he served in the U.S. House of Representatives. I know Tom's wife Marian Lewis joins me in offering thanks to Karen for her service to the residents of South Florida.

I congratulate Karen on her well deserved retirement. It has been a true joy to work with her over these many years. Karen epitomizes the phrase "consummate professional."