

protects the environment for both the City and County of Sacramento. As he had demonstrated throughout his career up to that juncture, Butch achieved great success in this position. Butch soon developed a well deserved reputation as an effective problem-solver and a dedicated public servant. In September of 1994, Butch's outstanding track record would earn him the post of the Executive Director of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA.)

SAFCA is a joint organization with a Board of Directors comprised of members from Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Sacramento City Council, Reclamation District 1000 Board of Trustees, American River Flood Control District Board of Trustees and Sutter County Board of Supervisors. Its primary function is to address problems such as regional flood control and levee instability in the Sacramento area.

Under Butch's stewardship, SAFCA has grown in credibility, visibility, and reach. In a community in which everyone agrees that the region's current flood protection is woefully inadequate, but not everyone agrees on a solution, Butch has helped mold SAFCA into the definitive and unifying authority on all matters related to flood control in the Sacramento Area. Throughout his successful tenure as Executive Director, Butch has proven to be an effective consensus builder, pragmatic thinker, and tireless worker who has rightfully earned the respect and admiration of those who have worked with him.

In his retirement, Butch can look forward to spending more time with his wife, Christine and daughters, Shelly Lynn and Laurie. I am confident that Butch would achieve great success and happiness in his retirement, just as he had throughout his professional career.

Mr. Speaker, as Butch's friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate his great career; I am truly honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. The Sacramento region has benefited greatly from having Butch's strong leadership during turbulent times. He will be missed greatly by all who worked with him. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Butch continued success in all of his future endeavors, wherever retirement may lead him.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR RICHARD HANN OF IMPERIAL COUNTY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Richard Hann of Imperial County. Professor Hann recently retired from Imperial Valley College (IVC) after 35 years of devoted service and teaching. I believe it would be accurate to say that Professor Hann has touched the lives of thousands of students during his tenure.

Richard's leadership, enthusiasm for teaching and desire to have students develop and exercise their critical thinking skills as Chairman of the Social Science and Humanities Divisions at IVC will be sorely missed. It is becoming increasingly rare to find educators who

exhibit the effort and values Richard instilled into the academic environment at IVC. These were exhibited on a daily basis and earned Professor Hann the respect of his colleagues, students, and college administration.

I also want to recognize and thank Professor Hann for the work he has done on behalf of Imperial and San Diego Counties. During a time where the pursuit of knowledge and the commitment to one's community often becomes an afterthought, your continued efforts to preserve the history of Imperial and San Diego Counties will benefit our communities for years to come. For your work in this important area, we are forever indebted and are all grateful.

Congratulations again on your retirement Professor Hann, I wish you all the best with your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 29, 2004, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 94 and 95. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 94 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2584, to Provide for the Conveyance to the Utrok Atoll Local Government of a Decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Ship; and rollcall vote 95 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3723, the Vaughn Gross Post Office Designation.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 94 and 95.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday my original flight from my congressional district in North Carolina was canceled, forcing me to take a later flight. Therefore I was unavoidably detained and missed the following three votes: passage of H.R. 2584; passage of H.R. 3723; and passage of H.R. 3917.

Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes" on each of these rollcall votes. I ask unanimous consent that this statement be recorded in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL MICHAEL A. SHUPP

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional officer of Marines,

Colonel Michael A Shupp. Colonel Shupp will soon complete a highly successful 3 year tour as the Marine Corps' Liaison Officer to the U.S. House of Representatives. It is truly a pleasure for me to recognize a few of his many outstanding achievements.

Colonel Shupp was raised in Bethlehem, PA. He attended the Virginia Military Institute and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in History. He completed the Airborne Course at Fort Benning, GA in 1979, and the Marine Officer's Candidate School at Quantico, VA, in 1980. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon his graduation from VMI and entered the Marine Corps in May 1981.

His many assignments over the past 23 years have included command of Company "A" 1st Light Armored Infantry Battalion during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and command of the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion of 1st Marine Division at MAGTF-Training Command, Twenty-nine Palms, CA. Additionally, he has served in many important staff billets to include being an operational planner for II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, NC, Plans Officer for 26 MEU (SOC) during Operation Dynamic Response, and being the Marine Corps' representative to the Assessment Planning Team for Operation Allied Force in Kosovo.

In August 2001, Colonel Shupp arrived for duty as the Marine Corps Liaison Officer to the U.S. House of Representatives. For the past 3 years, he has expertly represented the Marine Corps on all matters in the House of Representatives and spearheaded the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives. Through direct and skillful interaction with Members of Congress, he ensured that Marine Corps capabilities and requirements were widely understood by key Members of this body, assisting them in their decision-making. His initiative, leadership, and tireless efforts as the House Liaison Officer have had a lasting impact on improving the war fighting capabilities and the quality of life for Marines throughout the Marine Corps. Most importantly Mr. Speaker, Colonel Michael Shupp has come to epitomize those qualities that we as a nation have come to expect from our Marines—absolutely impeccable integrity, moral character and professionalism.

Mike was promoted to Colonel while serving here with us in 2003. He has traveled with us to dozens of countries, introduced us to hundreds of Marines worldwide, educated us on the capabilities and needs of the Marine Corps, and served as a stellar example of commitment to this great Nation. As he reports to his next assignment as the Commanding Officer of 1st Marine Regiment, headquartered at Camp Pendleton, CA I know he will continue his legacy of steadfast leadership and devotion to his men. Together with his lovely wife, Sherrye, he will always exemplify the Marine traditions of honor, courage, and commitment. It has been my pleasure to know and work with Colonel Mike Shupp over the last 3 years; a distinction I know is shared by many of my colleagues. I feel sure you want to join me in wishing Mike, Sherrye, and their daughter Jessica continuing success as well as fair winds and following seas.