

HONORING THE UWCHLAN  
AMBULANCE CORPS

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps for their 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The Uwchlan Ambulance Corps was started in 1975, by a group of Chester County residents who recognized the need for a non-profit volunteer service in their community that could provide emergency medical services for those in need. This motivated group of citizens had a vision to provide critical emergency care to their neighbors and this vision has lived on and thrived throughout the past 30 years.

Today, the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps still operates a non-profit organization that provides 24 hour protection from their two community-based stations. They have four Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support ambulances and two Advanced Life Support paramedic units at their disposal. The Corps prides itself on its keen ability to grow and expand their unit to match the needs of their quickly expanding community.

The Corps covers nearly 45 square miles of territory ranging from rural Chester County to the more heavily developed areas in the community. Of the 70,000 residents and nearly 60,000 visitors and merchants in Chester County, there has been an average of 2,700 calls each year to the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps. With 60 active volunteers and 12 full-time staffers, the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps raises the bar in the region for exceptional emergency medical service.

Furthermore, the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps has contributed to their community on many different levels. The volunteers work diligently to provide numerous educational opportunities for the community, along with several outreach programs. The Corps also participates in capital campaigns, and building renovations, all of which are successful attempts to ensure the survival of this thriving ambulance corps. They work efficiently and swiftly with the changing needs of their community and in turn provide an outstanding service to the citizens.

Today, the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps prides itself on providing high-quality emergency and medical transportation services to the ill and injured citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps for their commitment to providing quality care, and community service to the region. It is an honor to recognize an organization that selflessly provides for its community each day and in turn creates a better quality of life for the citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

DEMS PLAYING POLITICS WITH  
MAJORITY LEADER DELAY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Social Security is in major trouble, hundreds of

thousands of Americans still I need the opportunity to obtain health insurance, and much more work must I be done to secure our ports and borders.

Yet the Democrats must have all those important issues solved because they are wasting all their time playing politics and making unsubstantiated accusations against United States House Majority Leader, TOM DELAY.

Like their stance on most important issues, facts seem to matter very little to most Democrats. They have done nothing to help create jobs in this country. Nothing to help lower the cost of health care, nothing to help root out waste, fraud and abuse of the people's money, and to date, have not presented one plan to save Social Security.

Yet they make politically motivated, unsubstantiated accusations without any evidence against Majority Leader DELAY and because they know that an investigation would clear his name, they are now putting up road blocks for the Republicans on the Ethics Committee to do their job.

My friends on the other side of the aisle, your constituents need more from you than this. Voters sent you here for a purpose; I don't think these childish games are what they had in mind.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED  
SERVICE OF COLONEL JOHN R.  
BATES, USMC

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 33 years of dedicated service of Colonel John R. Bates to our Nation and the United States Marine Corps.

Colonel Bates dropped out of college in 1966 to enlist in the United States Marine Corps, then Private Bates was trained as both an infantryman and a machine gunner, and deployed to Vietnam where he was assigned to Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. In Vietnam, he participated in eight major combat operations and many more unnamed battalion and smaller hostile-fire operations. He was wounded in combat three times, the most serious of which resulted in the loss of much of his right lung by an enemy machine-gun round. Bates was promoted to the rank of Sergeant while serving in Southeast Asia. While in Vietnam, he held the billets of Fire Team Leader, Squad Leader, and acting Infantry Platoon Commander. After thirteen months in Vietnam, then-Sergeant Bates was ordered to Camp Pendleton, California, and assigned as a Troop Handler for the 2d Infantry Training Regiment and was subsequently discharged due to medical disabilities attributed to his earlier wounds.

Re-entering college using the GI Bill, state rehabilitation funding, and a disability pension, Bates completed his Bachelor of Science and Education degree, followed by a Master of Science degree from the University of Central Arkansas. In 1975, seven and a half years after his medical discharge, his repeated requests to compete for a commission were granted and in November of that year he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Marines at Quantico, Virginia. Upon completion of

the Basic School, he was awarded an infantry MOS and assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Bn, 7th Marines at Camp Pendleton as an infantry platoon commander. Lt. Bates' next assignment was as Service Company Commander at Camp Courtney, Okinawa. Returning to the United States and promoted to Captain, he assumed duty with the 12th Marine Corps District Recruiting Command at Treasure Island, California. His following duty assignment was that of Inspector Instructor for Echo Co, 2nd Bn, 23rd Marines, at San Bruno, California. Promoted to Major, Bates was next assigned to Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii as the "Group Grunt" for Marine Air Group Two-Four. There he flew numerous hours in both fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft. After two years at the MAG, he was assigned Executive Officer for 1st Bn, 3rd Marines, and later as the acting commander of that battalion during Desert Shield and Desert Storm hostilities in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Returning from the Persian Gulf in the spring of 1991, Major Bates was assigned as the S-3, Operations Officer, of The Basic School, Quantico, Virginia, and was subsequently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Following that assignment, in 1994 LtCol Bates was ordered back to Hawaii and assumed the duties as the G-3 Ground Operations Officer for Marine Forces Pacific, spending much of the time in Korea, Japan and other areas of the Far East.

In 1996, LtCol Bates assumed command of 2nd Bn, 3rd Marines, and deployed the battalion to Okinawa, mainland Japan, Korea, and Hong Kong. Promoted to Colonel in 1998, Bates was transferred to become the Fleet Marine Officer, Second Fleet, in Norfolk, Virginia. In 2000, Col Bates was next assigned to Seventh Fleet, headquartered in Yokosuka, Japan, where he commanded Task Group 71.34, as the Fleet Anti-Terrorism Officer, requiring duty in much of Asia, Australia, New Caledonia and Micronesia.

His present assignment is as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Training, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. In February of 2003, Col Bates assumed the duties as the Liaison Officer for I Marine Expeditionary Force to Marine Forces Central Command in Kuwait, Bahrain and Iraq and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has completed the resident courses of Amphibious Warfare School and the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College. Bates holds life membership in the Disabled American Veterans. He is an avid ultra-distance runner, having completed more than 50 marathons and in 1986 was co-holder of the American Record for the 146-mile run from Badwater, California, (Death Valley) to the summit of Mt. Whitney. He is an experienced and current Military Free-Fall parachutist and civilian USPA "D" licensed skydiver. His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Purple Heart with two gold stars, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, the Combat Action ribbon with one gold star, and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal with one gold star. He is married to the former Stephanie Tucker of St. Louis, Missouri. They have one son, 1st Lt. Joshua Rustin Bates, currently the S-3 Alpha for 1st Bn, 7th Marines.

On behalf of the American people whom Colonel Bates spent a career serving, I thank him for his service, honor and commitment to our country.