

bipartisan approach and bring the House Republican all-of-the-above energy bill to the floor for a vote. Let the American people's voices be heard.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

HONORING MR. SAMUEL SNOW

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Samuel Snow from Leesburg, Florida. Mr. Snow is a hero and a role model for every American, and especially African-Americans. At a time when most people would have rightly succumbed to anger and bitterness, Samuel Snow stood taller than us all.

Sixty-four years ago, Samuel and other African-American soldiers were accused and convicted of a crime they did not commit at Fort Lawton, in Seattle, one of the communities I represent. Last weekend, Assistant Secretary of the Army Ronald James came to Seattle to deliver an eloquent and heartfelt apology on behalf of the Army, and to honor the soldiers, including Samuel Snow, with honorable discharge plaques.

Mr. Snow's son, Ray, stood in for his father when Samuel was hospitalized unexpectedly. After the ceremony in which I was honored to participate, Ray Snow took the honorable discharge plaque to a Seattle hospital, where he showed it to his father and read Samuel the inscription. According to Ray, his father smiled broadly as he held the plaque. A few hours later, Samuel Snow died with his family at his side. His son Ray would say: "My dad has been standing in formation all these years waiting to have his name cleared. With the Army's honorable discharge he was at ease. He now has his discharge papers and he went home."

I am very proud to have had the honor and privilege of meeting and getting to know Samuel Snow, his family, and the families of the other soldiers whose fathers and grandfathers were falsely accused and convicted, and needlessly paid a heavy price for this racial injustice throughout their lives.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said: "An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Samuel Snow lived to lead the fight against a racial injustice that is a stain on our nation's history."

Samuel Snow was a man full of courage and optimism who had a wonderful sense of humor and a deep well of courage and conviction. He knew what was right and just, and he died knowing that he had finally defeated the racial injustice that had tried, and failed, to strike him down.

Samuel Snow raised a wonderful family and he lived a quiet, humble life working as a janitor, not once complaining about what might have been in life had he not been unfairly deprived of his GI benefits.

Samuel Snow's life will inspire others to fight for what is right and just, and to never give up on the country he loved so much. I was privileged to stand in the company of a giant of a man and I am certain that Samuel Snow, an American hero, will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO THE 345TH TACTICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATING COMPANY (AIRBORNE)

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the 345th Tactical Psychological Operations Company (Airborne) prepares to deploy to Afghanistan, I ask the Congress to join me in commending the distinguished military company. To the brave men and women off to serve on the front lines, thank you. God bless you and I salute you.

245th PSYOP Co. was constituted into the regular Army on December 20, 1965. The unit deployed to Vietnam in February, 1966. The 245th was assigned to the 6th BN, 7th PSYOP Group. 245th elements supported the 1 CAV DIV, 101st ABN DIV, and was awarded a Meritorious Unit Citation and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Device.

Deactivated in January 1968. The 245th was reconstituted on October 30, 1975 in the Army Reserve under the 90th ARCOM, 5th U.S. Army.

In 1980, the 245th supported the Cuban Refugee Resettlement Project at Ft. McCoy, WI. The 245th was placed under USACAPOC and U.S. Army Special Operations Command in 1990. December 27, 1990, 18 soldiers mobilized to support Operation Desert Shield.

Tactical PSYOP Teams conducted combat operations with elements of the 1st, 2nd Marine Divisions and the 5th Special Forces Group during Operation Desert Storm. 245th teams distinguished themselves at the Battle of Khafji, the liberation of Kuwait City, and with deception and surrender appeals in the Kuwaiti desert. Members earned Marine Combat Action Ribbons, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendations, and four Bronze Stars. The 245th also earned the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation.

September 16, 1994, a Tactical Detachment deployed to Haiti in support of Operation Uphold Democracy. Two soldiers supported a team of the 3rd Special Forces Group and the rest were with the 10th Mountain DIV. TPTs conducted civilian non-interference, civil information campaigns, and QRF operations.

In 1996, the 245th was redesignated the 345th Tactical PSYOP Co. (Airborne), 16th BN, 2nd PSYOP GRP. The unit conducted numerous training exercises at JRTC, NTC, and CMTC in Germany.

In 1997, the 345th was given the warning order to deploy to the Balkans for Operation Joint Guard. In 1998, the unit operated in war-torn Bosnia. The unit was primarily in the Multi-National Division North supporting the 3/2 Armored Cavalry Regiment. Other soldiers were in Sarajevo and Banja Luka. Teams conducted presence patrols in the Zone of Separation between the Serbs, Muslims, and Croats, civilian non-interference, civil information campaign, mine awareness, and passive intelligence gathering.

In 2000, a Tactical Detachment deployed to Kosovo to conduct missions, in support of Operation Joint Guardian. KFOR Teams ran similar missions as in Bosnia, with their 310th PSYOP Co. counterparts and the 82nd ABN DIV.

In the late 1990s through the early 2000s, the OPTEMPO of the unit steadily increased

with missions to Germany, Jordan, Oman, and Egypt. However, on September 11, 2001, the 345th prepared to defend freedom with the onset of the Global War on Terror.

In 2002, three Tactical Detachments and a Headquarters/PDD deployed with the 3rd Special Forces Group's 1st BN to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. 345th Teams were spread throughout the country to work with 3rd, 19th, 20th, and 7th SF GRP ODAs, other government agencies, Afghan militias, and conventional soldiers to hunt hostile Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorists, conduct civilian non-interference, tactical deception, surrender appeals, special recon, mine awareness, sensitive site exploitation, and direct action in support of unconventional warfare. 345th soldiers were recognized with numerous awards. The unit has had soldiers continuously deployed to OEF since, where they continue to set the standard for special operations in austere environments.

With less than a year home, the 345th was given a warning order to prepare to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. From February to October 2004, the 345th was assigned responsibility for tactical PSYOP in Baghdad, Iraq supporting elements of the 1st Armored Division, 1st Cavalry Division, 10th Mountain Division, and numerous other special operations, foreign, and host nation forces. Teams conducted the full spectrum of military operations in urban terrain. From direct action raids, cordon and searches, and sonic deception to humanitarian assistance, 345th teams were involved in direct combat operations against anti-coalition forces, foreign terrorists, Al Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, former Baathists, and other hostile forces. Six Purple Hearts were awarded and a multitude of other awards to individual soldiers and the unit. The 345th remains actively engaged in this theater, as well.

In 2006, reserve component PSYOP units were reassigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Command, though continue to train through the U.S. Army's JFK Special Warfare Center and School.

345th Soldiers have sent soldiers on every rotation in support of the Global War on Terror since 9-11. 345th soldiers have also been called to serve in small teams or as individuals in Romania, Korea, Japan, Ecuador, Germany, Italy, and Egypt with no sign of letting up. 345th soldiers continue to attend professional schools, training rotations, and prepare for future combat deployments.

RECOGNIZING THE OAKLAND COMPOSITE SQUADRON COLOR GUARD TEAM

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Oakland Composite Squadron Color Guard Team for their excellent performance at the National Cadet Competition last month. The members of the team have and continue to represent the Civil Air Patrol with honor, distinction, and professionalism.

The Civil Air Patrol, CAP, was established on December 1, 1947, as the all volunteer