

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COMBAT  
MARINE OUTDOORS

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a great American hero and the exceptional organization he founded—the Combat Marine Outdoors—which exists to serve our severely wounded Marines, soldiers, airmen, and sailors with unique and extraordinary opportunities to participate in outdoor hunting and fishing excursions. As we all know, behind every great endeavor there is a great personality. In this case, that great personality, that person of extraordinary character, is United States Marine Corps Colonel Alan Orr.

Colonel Orr, while a solid Marine Corps Artillery officer (and in full disclosure my former battalion commander), is a special man whose love for our Marines, sailors and soldiers extends from the front lines of battle to the hospitals where our wounded warriors recover, and most exceptionally, to life past the battlefield. Extending beyond the stifling halls of military hospitals and recovery barracks, Colonel Orr, along with a group of dedicated hunters, ranch owners and patriots, have reinstalled our wounded heroes to the realization that excitement, adventure and Teddy Roosevelt's "Strenuous Life" doesn't end with their service wounds.

In 2005, Combat Marine Outdoors founding members Colonel Orr, Rusty Hicks, Master Gunnery Sergeant Arturo Garcia and my father, former Congressman Duncan L. Hunter, visited wounded Marines from the 1st Marine Division at Brooke Army Medical Center. None were strangers to what they saw—they witnessed the full impact of war injuries. But it was their actions that made all the difference. They responded by creating an organization that would not only accelerate the recovery process, but restore hope in our servicemen and women.

In collaboration with thousands of contributors and over 50 ranches, the Combat Marine Outdoors has provided well over 200 wounded veterans from Balboa Hospital to Walter Reed with the opportunity to hunt and fish, often at a once-in-a-lifetime adventure location, such as the Two Dot Ranch and the Y.O. Ranch in Texas. These outdoor experiences on ranches, bays and lakes foster the opportunity to engage in a challenging experience that promotes teamwork and camaraderie. In many cases, these excursions facilitated a turning point in emotional recovery through a challenging experience that helps our wounded military men and women regain confidence through a sense of accomplishment.

A story then: a United States Marine wounded in combat, blinded, with both legs amputated. He sits in Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, waiting to recover and wondering what his future holds. For a weekend, he is taken by Colonel Orr and his band of patriots to an American treasure, the Texas Ranch. In the great outdoors, this blind, double amputee is, amazingly, guided by Colonel Orr and successfully shoots a big game animal. The excitement and feeling of accomplishment and the outdoors is no less real for this Marine for the fact that he cannot see his

trophy. He has lived the hunt and is more alive for it.

While many people, myself included, make the effort to show our veterans our appreciation, whether hunting elk in Colorado or deep sea fishing in San Diego, the exceptional few transition good intentions and singular acts of compassion into a systematic execution of true benevolent action. Colonel Orr is the consummate professional, more versed in the art of artillery than any officer I have ever known. But his impact is immeasurable when he takes one of our country's greatest treasures and returns the excitement of "living life" to him. That is the beauty of what Colonel Orr has accomplished through Combat Marine Outdoors.

Mr. Speaker, most Americans will never know the pain and discomfort of combat, or what those who bear the scars of war feel when the smoke clears and they return home. But when they do return, what we can do beyond providing the care that restores the highest quality of life and self-reliance is to open doors that give new meaning, encouragement and excitement to those who were willing to sacrifice everything so that we can stay safe. This is what Combat Marine Outdoors is all about.

As a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, I am pleased to support the mission and service of the Combat Marine Outdoors for our wounded service personnel, and I am honored to have served with Colonel Alan Orr, a man who not only epitomizes military discipline, but exudes a steady compassion and love for our young warriors through a life of service above self. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this exceptional organization and the exceptional man who started it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 633, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RETIREMENT OF MARVIN L.  
BERENSON

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the retirement of Marvin L. Berenson, the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Broadcast Music, Inc. ("BMI") after 35 years of service to the organization. BMI licenses the public-performing rights on approximately 6.5 million musical works on behalf of its 500,000 affiliated songwriters, composers and music publishers.

Mr. Berenson joined BMI in 1976 as a member of the legal staff specializing in copyright litigation. He was named Senior Vice President and General Counsel in 1991. During his tenure, Mr. Berenson actively participated in the modernization of copyright law, from the Copyright Revision Act of 1976 to the Berne

Convention Implementation Act of 1988 to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998. On multiple occasions, he testified before Congress and the Copyright Office, and he served on the staff of the National Information Infrastructure Advisory Committee during the Clinton Administration.

Throughout his legal career, Mr. Berenson honed and maintained a reputation for fundamental fairness and good judgment. As part of his advocacy, he developed a disarming sense of humor. He fervently reflected the spirit and history of BMI as an open collective rights licensing organization. During congressional testimony, he explained: "Most BMI affiliates are ordinary citizens who receive a modest income for the creative efforts of writing music that is publicly performed by others. There can be no question that the majority of songwriters are not wealthy. They struggle to make a living, day to day, just as the average citizen does."

Mr. Berenson's present and past industry affiliations include member and past Treasurer of the Copyright Society of the USA, member of the Board of Directors of the American Copyright Council, staff member of the National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council, Executive Board of the International Literary and Artistic Association—USA, Intellectual Property Organization, American Bar Association—Intellectual Property Section, and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York—Antitrust Section. He also served on the CISAC (International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers) Technical Committee for the Promotion of Repertoire, and currently serves on the CISAC Legal Committee.

Mr. Berenson graduated from Michigan State University in 1963 and from Boston University Law School in 1966. With his spouse Gloria, he raised two children, a son Harris and a daughter Allison. The Berensons are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

As Del Bryant, BMI's President and CEO, put it: "Marvin has worked diligently and uncompromisingly to protect the interests of songwriters, composers and music publishers for the past 35 years, and we all in the music industry salute his valuable contributions." Bryant added that Mr. Berenson would "be leaving his department and BMI in an excellent position to deal with the many complex and challenging legal issues we face."

Mr. Speaker, because of Mr. Berenson's work, our Nation's songwriters, composers and publishers will be the beneficiaries for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF VINCENT TURNER FOR BEING NAMED CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR BY THE UNITED STATES CORPS OF CHAPLAINS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2011*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a special Chaplain today, Vincent Turner.

Chaplain (Second Lieutenant) Turner of Alabama was named Chaplain of the Year by the United States Corps of Chaplains for 2011.