

In the months leading up to the Normandy Invasion, Rudder's elite group of Army Rangers underwent rigorous training in preparation for the part that they would play for the invasion named Overlord at Normandy.

Colonel Rudder put his 2nd Ranger Battalion through hell in order to prepare them for their mission at Pointe du Hoc. He made them march in full gear for over 20 miles. He had them train in hand to hand combat, climb rope ladders without safety harnesses and endure difficult amphibious training.

The success that the Rangers had on D-Day was a direct result of Rudder's intense personal involvement with their training. The amount of effort and dedication he put forth into the training is why the troops were able to manage the chaos and complete their mission. Rudder made sure that every man was prepared to do the impossible.

James Earl Rudder was born in the small Texas town of Eden, about 45 miles southeast of San Angelo, in 1910. After graduating from high school, he played football for two years at Tarleton State. He then transferred to Texas A&M in 1930. He graduated in 1932 with a degree in education. After graduation he joined the US Army Reserves as a second lieutenant.

In 1937, he married Margaret Williamson (who graduated from the University of Texas), and together they had five children. In 1941, he was doing what he loved, coaching football, when duty called.

These brave men who cracked the Nazi grip on Europe began with the liberation of France 70 years ago. From there, the Rangers went on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge and U.S. forces on to Germany. Nothing like it had ever been done before in history. Over 150,000 Allied soldiers hit the beaches during the assault landings on the 6th of June. By the 4th of July, over 1 million joined in the invasion force through Normandy. It was a miraculous feat for 1944.

Colonel Rudder received many military honors including the second highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross. He was a full Colonel by the end of the war and was promoted to Brigadier General of the U.S. Army Reserves in 1954 and Major General in 1957.

After the war, Rudder returned to Texas. He remained a highly successful and distinguished Texan until his death.

He served as Mayor of Brady for 6 years, visited the White House frequently—advising Lyndon Baines Johnson on many military issues and was hired to clean up the corruption going on in the General Land Office.

Col. Rudder became president of Texas A&M University in 1959 and president of the entire A&M system in 1965, holding both positions until his death in 1970.

The boys of D-Day came; they liberated; and some went home. Over 9,000 other GIs are buried at the top of the cliffs of Normandy France. As we reflect on those Rangers on D-Day, 70 years ago, and the Texan who led them into battle, Lt. Col. James Earl Rudder, we once again marvel at the lives of those we call the Greatest Generation of Americans. And that's just the way it is.

FIT FOR LIFE INTRODUCTION

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, May is Health and Fitness Month, a critical time to encourage our communities to live healthier lives. It is also an appropriate time to highlight an issue that, in recent years, has greatly impacted the physical and economic health of our country.

Nearly one third of all children in this country are overweight or obese—a rate that has tripled over the past fifty years. Largely due to obesity and obesity-related diseases, this is the first generation of Americans that are likely to be less healthy and have shorter life expectancies than their parents.

Though this is a nationwide epidemic, childhood obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority populations. Earlier this year, scientists touted some significant progress in the fight against childhood obesity among the youngest children, however, African American and Hispanic Children experienced a smaller reduction in obesity rates and remain three and five times more likely than Caucasian children to be obese.

To address this troubling epidemic, I introduced the Fit for Life Act of 2014, which increases access to healthy foods, expands prevention and treatment options for low-income children, and increases opportunities for physical activity for our youth. Further, this critical legislation supports mobile healthy food programs, broadens access to healthy foods for children in child care, increases coverage for obesity prevention and treatment options for low-income children, and expands opportunities to take part in joint use agreements, opening existing facilities in low-income areas to community use.

This country cannot afford for our children to continue to feed into the cycle of obesity. We must begin to aggressively combat this epidemic before it puts more of our children at risk.

I encourage my colleagues to stand with me in this fight and cosponsor the Fit for Life Act.

HONORING IOWA CENTRAL OFFICE
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR
MARY ELLEN MASKE

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Ellen Maske on being selected as the Iowa Central Office Administrator of the Year. Mary Ellen serves as the deputy superintendent of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools in my district. Mary Ellen was selected because of her leadership in establishing Professional Learning Communities and her efforts to create school-community partnerships for parents and students in the community.

Mary Ellen began her career as an elementary school teacher in Iowa City. She also previously served as an executive administrator in Cedar Rapids. She received her bachelor's

degree in elementary education and her master's degree in educational administration, both from the University of Iowa.

Mary Ellen was selected for this award by a committee of Iowa central office administrators. Mary Ellen has proven that she is a leader at her school and throughout the Cedar Rapids community. I'm proud to call her a constituent, and congratulate her on all of her success.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH
SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR
DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND
OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF
NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR
HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL
HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE REC-
OGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 13 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Air Force. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the Nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Air Force:

Joshua Gragg, Jaren Gregory, Erin Harmon, Skylar Johnson, Calvin Kim, Alan Menacho, Joshua Mims, Patrick Moon, Christopher Pidgeon, Shaun Reardon, Cassidy Smith, Carlos Soto-Flores, and Jackson Sullivan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our Nation's freedom.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. NUNES. Madam Chair, the United States has a strong history of negotiating high-standard trade agreements that grow our exports and create jobs. Already, international trade supports more than 4.4 million jobs in California and 38 million jobs nationwide. We are in the midst of negotiating significant trade agreements with partners in the Asia-Pacific, Europe, and elsewhere. But because Trade Promotion Authority is not in place, we are negotiating with one hand tied behind our back.

As a result, some of our negotiating partners are seeking to lower the standards of our trade agreements by excluding key products from full tariff elimination. In the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, countries such as Japan and Canada are seeking to exclude critical agriculture products from full tariff elimination. I am deeply concerned about this development for several reasons.

First, such exclusions from full tariff elimination would harm U.S. exporters and put them at a significant disadvantage, denying them their valuable market access and leading to a ripple effect as other countries seek to exclude their sensitive products from liberalization. In fact, just yesterday, key agriculture groups called on the Administration to conclude TPP without Japan if it continues to resist opening its agriculture market.

Second, allowing exclusions in TPP would make it harder to reach good outcomes in future negotiations. Already, EU negotiators, empowered by Japan's intransigence, argue that they should be able to exclude products in the TTIP negotiations. And the Chinese are doing the same in negotiations to expand the information technology agreement in the WTO.

Madam Chair, I had intended to introduce an amendment today that would ensure that the United States concludes only high standard agreements by prohibiting the Administration from negotiating or entering into a trade agreement that excludes any product from full tariff elimination.

Such an amendment would ensure that we continue to secure maximum market access for our job-creating exporters. However, I decided not to introduce this amendment based

on an understanding with the United States Trade Representative, Ambassador Froman, that he would work very closely with Chairman Camp and me to conclude a strong and ambitious agreement and would keep us informed about these negotiations in detail so that we may advise the Administration. I take that commitment very seriously, and it is only with this specific understanding that I am not offering this amendment tonight.

Again, I note that the current state of our negotiations shows the urgent need for TPA. Negotiating trade agreements with a strong Congressional mandate is vital to ensuring the best agreements possible. That's why I joined in introducing H.R. 3830, the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act, earlier this year. This legislation gives our negotiators maximum leverage to get the best deal possible in our trade negotiations and is key to unlocking new markets and creating U.S. jobs.

RECOGNIZING OZARK HIGH
SCHOOL JUNIOR ROTC DRILL
TEAMS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ozark High School Junior ROTC Drill Teams for being named national champions at the 2014 U.S. Army JROTC National Drill Championships.

Ozark High School represents the 3rd Brigade of the Army Cadet Command, which is comprised of teams from 10 states. The 3rd Brigade consists of 119 Army JROTC programs, and Ozark was one of just six honored to compete in the 2014 National Drill Championship.

The Ozark Unarmed Team placed first overall in their division with a total score of 3,833 points. The Ozark Armed Team placed second overall with a score of 3,690 points. The Ozark Rifle Team won their third consecutive National Championship.

Of the 1700 plus schools that have JROTC, there is only one school, one city and one state that can claim two National Championship teams in the same year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the instructors of the JROTC program and the family members of the students who support them.

I am honored to recognize the Ozark High School JROTC for their National Championships this year and wish them continued success in the future.

CAROL URNER

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with my colleagues to honor Carol Urner, a community leader in Portland, Oregon who has worked for decades to pro-

mote peace, social justice, and global safety through nuclear disarmament.

Carol first voiced concerns about nuclear weapons testing in the 1960s and imagine her surprise when she found hundreds of other women who shared her passion that something must be done.

She co-founded Women for Peace, based in Portland, OR, which served as a model for grassroots groups around the country, each working to promote the first nuclear test ban treaty.

In 1963, Carol traveled to Japan and took one thousand white roses that she exchanged for one thousand peace cranes to honor the nuclear disarmament work of Women Strike for Peace.

Throughout her life, Carol survived many tragedies. Yet she always persevered and overcame difficult circumstances to continue her work.

For 35 years, Carol lived abroad with her husband and raised two children. In the midst of this, she sought to improve human rights for some of the world's poorest citizens.

Today she is still an active leader with the Portland Chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility.

It is a great honor to recognize Carol. She remains a dedicated leader and mentor in our community and her vision for a safer world is one we will continue to aspire towards.

RECOGNIZING ABILITYONE
PROGRAM

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an AbilityOne program. Located at Tinker Air Force Base, the program has resulted in the employment of more than 1,300 people with disabilities around the state of Oklahoma.

The AbilityOne Program buys products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. In doing so, the program affords Americans with disabilities opportunities to acquire job skills and training, earn wages and benefits, and gain greater independence. This program provides vital assistance to a segment of the population that has one of the highest levels of unemployment in our country.

Since 1996, the Dale Rogers Training Center, with the assistance of Professional Contract Services, Inc. (PCSI) has improved the quality of life, helped remove barriers to independent living. The benefits to those that participate in the program cannot be overstated. The opportunity to work, be independent, and participate in community life enhances participant's lives and provides an avenue for them to contribute society.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I would like to thank all the people involved with the AbilityOne program, and PCSI for their important work to Oklahomans of all ages and abilities reach their full potential.