

Forces remained segregated by units until President Truman integrated the military services by executive order in 1948. There was intense resistance against any attempts to integrate the military academies and only a half dozen or so African Americans had graduated from West Point by the time Lieutenant Commander Brown was commissioned as the first African American graduate of the Naval Academy.

After Lieutenant Commander Brown graduated from the Naval Academy in 1949, he was commissioned into the Navy Civil Engineer Corps. Prior to that, he served honorably in World War II and after he graduated, he served in Korea and Vietnam. As a Navy civil engineer, he also built houses in Hawaii, roads in Liberia, waterfront facilities in the Philippines, and a seawater conversion plan in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba before retiring from the Navy in 1969. Lieutenant Commander Brown continued his professional life working for the New York State University Construction Fund, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, and Howard University before retiring in 1998. He also served as chairman of District of Columbia Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON's Service Academy Selection Board.

In spite of the challenges Lieutenant Commander Brown faced at the Naval Academy, he maintained a close connection to the school throughout his life and served as a member of the Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees. And in 2008, USNA honored Lieutenant Commander Brown by dedicating a new athletic facility in his name, a decision I supported while I served in the House of Representatives and since I have become a United States Senator. The Wesley A. Brown Field House was the first and only building dedicated to a living alumnus and, in his honor, the building hosts an annual track and field invitational. During the dedication of the building on the banks of the Severn River, ADM Michael Mullen, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, stated, "He fought a war his whole life for all of us to improve who we are as individuals, who we are both as a Navy and a nation. It was his noble calling and it was his call to service and citizenship that led to lasting change in our Navy and in our nation." In another tribute to this pioneer, a consortium of minority Naval Academy alumni established the Lieutenant Commander Wesley A. Brown '49 Honor Scholar scholarship in 2007 which awards up to \$5,000 annually to four individuals who are accepted into any 4-year university in Maryland.

Although we have come a long way since Lieutenant Commander Brown's days as a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, our Armed Forces and Nation are still challenged with discrimination based on race, gender, religion, and the other attributes of heterogeneity that make up this great country. While minority and female

students may walk freely through our military academies without the audible taunts and slurs, we know that some of them face hazing and harassment behind closed doors because of who they are. While I know that Department of Defense leaders have a zero-tolerance policy regarding discrimination and harassment in their Service Academies, commands and units, that is not enough. I call on them to go a step further and redouble their efforts to communicate to those who currently serve and those who will serve our Nation in the future what makes our military the greatest force in history: the fact that our Armed Forces reflect the rich diversity of America. We owe it to Lieutenant Commander Brown and others like him who bravely endured racism and discrimination to pave the way so that others could serve honorably, too, and accomplish exceptional achievements on behalf of our country. Therefore, let Lieutenant Commander Brown's life be a testament to how his strength, courage, and humility through adversity not only transformed the people around him but profoundly affected the Naval Academy and our Nation. Today, minorities comprise more than 20 percent of the brigade of midshipmen and many of these young men and women have stated that Lieutenant Commander Brown was their inspiration. All Americans are fortunate to have had Lieutenant Commander Wesley Anthony Brown's selfless service and example.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MICHAEL GEORGE DULONG

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Madam President, today I wish to congratulate LCDR Michael George Dulong of Brockton, MA on his retirement from the U.S. Navy. Lieutenant Commander Dulong dedicated more than 24 years of his life to serving our Nation as a Navy SEAL. I am privileged to recognize Michael's accomplishments today, and Massachusetts is fortunate to have a man like Michael who has served in our Navy and defended our Nation.

The grandson of a World War II Normandy beachhead and the son of a decorated Vietnam-era 101st Airborne Division veteran, at an early age Michael chose to serve our Nation. He enlisted in the Navy at the age of 16 through the Delayed Entry Program and completed the Navy's basic school of electronics and electricity, followed by the basic underwater demolitions/SEAL training in Coronado, CA. He would go on to spend 8 years in the enlisted ranks serving in three platoons within SEAL Team 8 at Naval Base Little Creek in Norfolk, VA.

As a team member on SEAL Team 8, Michael deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as well as numerous other special operations deployments throughout the

Mediterranean and Persian Gulf. Needless to say, as part of our Nation's premier special operations forces, Michael was integral to his Team's success and performed exceptionally in some of the most challenging and austere conditions around the world.

Michael would go on to earn his bachelor's degree while simultaneously serving on SEAL Team 4 in the Navy Reserve, followed by successful completion of Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL. After completing his training, Michael was commissioned as an ensign on active duty and was assigned to SEAL Team 1. There Michael would deploy as the assistant platoon commander for two SEAL platoons in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Michael always led from the front and inspired SEALs under his command throughout his career and did so again in combat following September 11.

Throughout numerous deployments around the world in support of the global war on terrorism, Michael received countless awards and promotions in the Navy. He would go on to serve in various assignments in the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility with the Naval Special Warfare Unit 4 in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, combating narco-terrorism, the U.S. Embassy in Guyana as the Joint Special Operations Commander, as well as platoon commander of SEAL Team 4. His final assignment brought Michael and his family to our Nation's Capital, at the Washington Navy Yard, where he served as the program manager for the SEAL Delivery Vehicle acquisition program.

Michael has dedicated his life to serving our country, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his service. Even in retirement, I am confident that Michael will continue to serve his Nation. On behalf of all Massachusetts residents and all Americans, I am proud to thank Michael, his wife Michaelle, son Gabriel, and daughter Eva for their service to the Nation and the Navy.

RECOGNIZING THE MACOMB ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, a few weeks ago I met a remarkable group of young people. They call themselves the Fighting Pi, and they are the FIRST Robotics Competition team from the Macomb Academy of Arts & Sciences in Armada, MI.

FIRST is an annual, international robotics competition for high school students. Teams have 6 weeks to design, build, and test robots to compete in a game, which changes every year. For this year, teams competed in the "Rebound Rumble," which required them to design robots capable of shooting small basketballs into baskets as high as 8 feet off the ground.

This competition demands many things of its teams. They must demonstrate the ability to plan and work