

“(B) is outside the United States and is a national of the United States or a legal entity organized under the laws of the United States (including any of its States, districts, commonwealths, territories, or possessions); and

“(2) knowingly conceals or disguises the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of any material support, resources, or funds—

“(A) knowing or intending that the support or resources were provided in violation of section 2339B of this title; or

“(B) knowing or intending that any such funds or any proceeds of such funds were provided or collected in violation of subsection (a); shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (d)(2).

“(d) PENALTIES.—

“(1) SUBSECTION (A).—Whoever violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both.

“(2) SUBSECTION (C).—Whoever violates subsection (c) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘funds’ means assets of every kind, whether tangible or intangible, movable or immovable, however acquired, and legal documents or instruments in any form, including electronic or digital, evidencing title to, or interest in, such assets, including coin, currency, bank credits, travelers checks, bank checks, money orders, shares, securities, bonds, drafts, and letters of credit;

“(2) the term ‘government facility’ means any permanent or temporary facility or conveyance that is used or occupied by representatives of a state, members of a government, the legislature, or the judiciary, or by officials or employees of a state or any other public authority or entity or by employees or officials of an intergovernmental organization in connection with their official duties;

“(3) the term ‘proceeds’ means any funds derived from or obtained, directly or indirectly, through the commission of an offense set forth in subsection (a);

“(4) the term ‘provides’ includes giving, donating, and transmitting;

“(5) the term ‘collects’ includes raising and receiving;

“(6) the term ‘predicate act’ means any act referred to in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1);

“(7) the term ‘treaty’ means—

“(A) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, done at The Hague on December 16, 1970;

“(B) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on September 23, 1971;

“(C) the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 14, 1973;

“(D) the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 17, 1979;

“(E) the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted at Vienna on March 3, 1980;

“(F) the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on February 24, 1988;

“(G) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on March 10, 1988;

“(H) the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms located on the Continental Shelf, done at Rome on March 10, 1988; or

“(I) the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the

General Assembly of the United Nations on December 15, 1997;

“(8) the term ‘intergovernmental organization’ includes international organizations;

“(9) the term ‘international organization’ has the same meaning as in section 1116(b)(5) of this title;

“(10) the term ‘armed conflict’ does not include internal disturbances and tensions, such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence, and other acts of a similar nature;

“(11) the term ‘serious bodily injury’ has the same meaning as in section 1365(g)(3) of this title;

“(12) the term ‘national of the United States’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)); and

“(13) the term ‘state’ has the same meaning as that term has under international law, and includes all political subdivisions thereof.

“(f) CIVIL PENALTY.—In addition to any other criminal, civil, or administrative liability or penalty, any legal entity located within the United States or organized under the laws of the United States, including any of the laws of its States, districts, commonwealths, territories, or possessions, shall be liable to the United States for the sum of at least \$10,000, if a person responsible for the management or control of that legal entity has, in that capacity, committed an offense set forth in subsection (a).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 113B of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“2339C. Prohibitions against the financing of terrorism.”

(c) DISCLAIMER.—Nothing contained in this section is intended to affect the scope or applicability of any other Federal or State law.

SEC. 203. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except for paragraphs (1)(D) and (2)(B) of section 2339C(b) of title 18, United States Code, which shall become effective on the date that the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism enters into force for the United States, and for the provisions of section 2339C(e)(7)(I) of title 18, United States Code, which shall become effective on the date that the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing enters into force for the United States, section 202 shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE III—ANCILLARY MEASURES

SEC. 301. ANCILLARY MEASURES.

(a) WIRETAP PREDICATES.—Section 2516(1)(q) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by—
(1) inserting “2332f,” after “2332d,”; and
(2) striking “or 2339B” and inserting “2339B, or 2339C”.

(b) FEDERAL CRIME OF TERRORISM.—Section 2332b(g)(5)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) inserting “2332f (relating to bombing of public places and facilities),” after “2332b (relating to acts of terrorism transcending national boundaries),”; and

(2) inserting “2339C (relating to financing of terrorism),” before “or 2340A (relating to torture)”.

(c) PROVIDING MATERIAL SUPPORT TO TERRORISTS PREDICATE.—Section 2339A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting “2332f,” before “or 2340A”.

(d) FORFEITURE OF FUNDS, PROCEEDS, AND INSTRUMENTALITIES.—Section 981(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(H) Any property, real or personal, involved in a violation or attempted violation, or which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation, of section 2339C of this title.”

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendment be

considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1500

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1475

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor of H.R. 1475.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the further motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken tomorrow.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL FORCES

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 364) recognizing the historic significance of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Special Forces and honoring the “Father of the Special Forces”, Colonel Aaron Bank (United States Army, retired) of Mission Viejo, California, for his role in establishing the Army Special Forces, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 364

Whereas on June 22, 2002, the Special Forces Association will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the first permanent special forces unit in the United States Army;

Whereas such unit was created in response to the advocacy of Colonel Aaron Bank (United States Army, retired), known as the “Father of the Special Forces”;

Whereas Colonel Aaron Bank’s service in the Office of Strategic Services and his experience leading resistance fighters against Nazi Germany convinced him of the need for permanent, elite units in the Armed Forces that would specialize in small unit and counterinsurgency tactics, intelligence operations, and the training of indigenous soldiers;

Whereas in 1952 the Army created its first special forces unit, the 10th Special Forces Group, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, which would later be known for the distinctive green berets worn by its soldiers;

Whereas Colonel Aaron Bank was assigned as the first commanding officer of the 10th Special Forces Group;

Whereas the success of the United States Army Special Forces encouraged the incorporation of principles of force multiplication into the military doctrine of the United States and paved the way for the revitalization of special operations forces in the Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps;

Whereas these special operations forces have helped revolutionize the conduct of modern warfare;

Whereas special operations soldiers have served with bravery and distinction in every major military conflict in which the United States has been involved in the last 50 years and in innumerable covert operations;

Whereas special operations soldiers are sometimes called upon to conduct missions so secret that their bravery cannot be fully recognized;

Whereas special operations soldiers are playing a critical role in the war against terrorism; and

Whereas thanks to Colonel Aaron Bank and the thousands of United States Army Special Forces soldiers who have followed him, the Armed Forces are better prepared to conduct unconventional warfare and to protect the United States from developing threats: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Special Forces;

(2) honors the "Father of the Special Forces", Colonel Aaron Bank (United States Army, retired) of Mission Viejo, California, for his role in establishing the United States Army Special Forces;

(3) recognizes the sacrifices and accomplishments of United States Army Special Forces soldiers and of all other special operations soldiers in the Armed Forces;

(4) expresses deep gratitude for the continuing sacrifices of United States Army Special Forces soldiers and of all other special operations soldiers in the Armed Forces now fighting throughout the world in defense of the freedoms challenged by the heinous events of September 11, 2001; and

(5) honors the sacrifices made by United States Army Special Forces soldiers who have trained hard and acquitted themselves with honor by serving valiantly in battle, with many making the ultimate sacrifice to their country, many times in missions so secret that their valor may never be fully acknowledged.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 364, the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, we pay honor and tribute to the fine men and women of our U.S. Army Special Forces and commemo-

rate them on the 50th anniversary of Special Forces this coming Thursday, June 22.

Fifty years ago, Colonel Aaron Bank's service in the Office of Strategic Services and his experience leading resistance fighters against Nazi Germany convinced him of the need for permanent elite units in the Armed Forces. He envisioned a force that would specialize in small unit and counterinsurgency tactics, intelligence operations, and the training of indigenous soldiers. As a result of Colonel Bank's efforts, in 1922 the Army created the first permanent special operations force, the 10th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Colonel Bank became the commander of these soldiers, who are known for their distinctive green berets. Becoming a highly specialized and effective component of our military, the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force have all followed suit in creating special operations units.

The Special Forces have helped revolutionize the way we wage war, and they are an integral part in prosecuting the war on terrorism. When I was in Afghanistan a few months ago, I was not only very impressed by the capabilities and effectiveness of Special Forces, but also very touched by their professionalism and positive impact on the Afghan society. These are the key to the security and the future of Afghanistan, and they are doing a fantastic job.

Today we honor the sacrifices made by the special operations soldiers of the Armed Forces who have trained hard, served valiantly in battle, and made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, many times in missions so secret that their valor may never be fully acknowledged. It is right that we also express our deep gratitude for the continuing sacrifices of Army Special Forces soldiers, many of whom are based in my district at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and of all other special operation soldiers in the Armed Forces now fighting throughout the world in defense of the freedoms challenged by the heinous events of September 11, 2001.

I call on my friends and colleagues to pass this legislation, sending a message loud and clear today to our U.S. Special Forces that your efforts are honored, and your sacrifices are appreciated by this Congress and a truly grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox).

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I am very pleased that the committee would bring forth my legislation today to honor both Colonel Aaron Bank, my constituent, and the Special Forces that he played such an indispensable role in founding.

Colonel Bank is widely recognized as the founder of America's Special Forces. This weekend, the Special Forces will be celebrating their 50th

anniversary. Given this historic anniversary and Colonel Bank's contribution to the way in which America successfully conducts modern warfare, it is appropriate to honor this man to whom we owe so much.

Colonel Bank, who is now 99 years old, was an officer during World War II assigned to the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency. He fought in Europe behind enemy lines, and after the war he spent time in Southeast Asia searching for U.S. prisoners of war.

Colonel Bank's experience in leading resistance fighters taught him the potential of these new tactics in modern warfare. It showed him the usefulness of military personnel trained in small unit tactics, foreign languages, and subversion. His prescience led him to undertake a new mission: The formation of Special Forces within the Army. They would specialize in small-unit counterinsurgency tactics, intelligence operations, and the training of indigenous soldiers throughout the world.

The idea for such small elite units with specialized training was not at first recognized by military thinkers. It was not accepted. The United States had just emerged from a war fought with enormous citizen armies in which large swaths of territory were occupied and held by ground forces. The invasion of Normandy in June 1944 seemed to epitomize this military doctrine: the use of overwhelming force and numbers to drive back, in this case, the German forces. The military successes of World War II and the emerging threat of the massive Red Army in Eastern and Central Europe seemed to provide little reason to question this line of thinking.

However, much of the key fighting that secured Normandy for the Allies in fact took place not along the beaches there, but behind German lines, where American and British paratroopers dropped in and operated small units. These men had more specialized training and had operated more as teams than the average GI. Here were the ingredients for a new thinking on military maneuver, and Colonel Bank himself had parachuted behind German lines in occupied France to train German defectors in sabotage and other methods of undermining Nazi control.

These experiences convinced him that with the proper training, guerilla forces could effectively fight the enemy from within. They could disrupt communications and could conduct special operations to prepare the area for conventional forces. Colonel Bank then made a career decision. He placed his own prestige and his own reputation behind this idea and fought for it. He lobbied the Pentagon intensively for the creation of such forces, and his advocacy paid off.

In June 1952, the U.S. Army Special Forces were created with the establishment of the original 10th Special Forces Group. Appropriately, Colonel

Bank was made the first commanding officer of the unit. That unit eventually spawned the Green Berets and provided the impetus for the formation of the Navy SEALs, the Marine Corps' Force Recon, and the Army's counterterrorism specialists, the Delta Force.

Over the past half century, Colonel Bank's vision of small-unit operations has proven prophetic. The Special Forces have played a role in almost every major military engagement and, just as importantly, in crucial clandestine missions that have never made the headlines. The Special Forces have trained counterinsurgency operations and conducted diversionary campaigns to distract enemy forces. They have hunted drug kingpins throughout Central America. They have secured pathways for the distribution of humanitarian supplies in the Horn of Africa.

Now our Special Forces are engaged in a new challenge: finding and destroying the cells of al-Qaeda. Our Special Forces are figuring prominently in our war on terrorism. They have operated for weeks at a time behind enemy lines, and they have incurred the brunt of U.S. casualties in this new 21st century war. Their successes, though, are a testament to Colonel Bank's vision, his legacy that has revolutionized how America conducts 21st century warfare.

It is thus fitting, Mr. Speaker, that we should show our appreciation for the sacrifices that our Special Forces are currently making on the war on terror and in every corner of the world. This measure honors the brave men and women who have served in this capacity over the past 50 years, and especially the man who created these elite units. It is with great pride that I ask this body to pass this legislation to honor Colonel Bank for his achievements.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 364, introduced by the gentleman from Orange County, California (Mr. COX) which recognizes the 50th anniversary of the United States Army Special Forces. The United States Army Special Forces was created on June 20, 1952, when the original 10th with Special Forces Group commanded by Colonel Aaron Bank was activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From this a permanent force of unconventional soldiers serving in small-scale conflicts behind enemy lines was formed.

The success of this group, to be known as the Green Berets, acted as a catalyst for the creation of similar special operations units within our Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. Colonel Aaron Bank, an OSS operative who remained in the military after the war, worked tirelessly to convince the Army to adopt its own conventional guerilla-style force. Bank and Volckmann convinced the Army chiefs that there were areas in the world not susceptible to conventional warfare, but that would

make ideal targets for the unconventional harassment and guerilla fighting.

Special operations as envisioned by Bank were a force multiplier where you had a small number of soldiers who could sow a disproportionately large amount of trouble for the enemy. Confusion would reign among enemy ranks, and the objectives would be accomplished with an extreme economy of manpower. It was a bold idea, one that went against the grain of traditional concepts.

In the spring of 1952, Bank went to Fort Bragg to choose a suitable location for a psychological warfare/Special Forces center. He then went about assembling a group of soldiers who would serve as the foundation of the new unit. Bank did not want raw recruits. He wanted the best troops in the Army, and he got them. They were a group of men who were looking for new challenges to conquer. They were all volunteers willing to work behind enemy lines in civilian clothes if necessary.

And that last item was of no small matter. If caught operating in civilian clothes, a soldier was no longer protected by the Geneva Convention and would more than likely be shot on site if captured. These first volunteers were extremely brave, and they did not worry about these risks, and after months of intense preparation, Bank's unit was finally activated on June 19 of 1952 at Fort Bragg. It was designated the 10th Special Forces Group, with Bank as the commander, and on the day of activation, the total strength of the group was 10 soldiers: Bank, 1 warrant officer, and 8 enlisted men.

That was soon to change, however. Bank began training his troops in the most advanced techniques of unconventional warfare, and as defined by the Army, the main mission of Bank's unit was to infiltrate by land, sea, or air deep into enemy-occupied territory and organize the resistance/guerilla potential to conduct Special Forces operations with an emphasis on guerilla warfare.

But there were also secondary missions. They included deep-penetration raids, intelligence missions and counterinsurgency operations. It was a tall order, one which demanded a commitment to professionalism and excellence perhaps unparalleled in our American military history. But Bank's men were up to that challenge, and by 1958 the basic operational unit of Special Forces had emerged as a 12-man team known as the detachment, or the "A-team." Each member of the A-detachment, two officers, two operations and intelligence sergeants, two weapons sergeants, two communications sergeants, two medics, and two engineers, were trained in unconventional warfare and cross-trained in each other's specialties, and they spoke, each of them, at least one foreign language. This composition allowed each detachment to operate if necessary in two six-

man teams or basically split the A-team.

On November 23, Colonel Bank will be 100 years old, and throughout his life he has demonstrated unwavering loyalty and willingness to take on the most dangerous assignments to achieve the goal of his mission.

□ 1515

During World War II, he served at the Office of Strategic Services. Under that capacity, he was called on to organize a team of German-speaking Americans and French soldiers to dress and train as German SS soldiers with the mission to assassinate Hitler. Although the mission was terminated on the eve of its deployment, Colonel Bank and his soldiers risked certain death by agreeing to serve on this incredibly dangerous mission.

He was the commander of the 107th Airborne Infantry Regimental Combat Team during the Korean War. He has a rich past. He is respected by many military and world leaders. And even recently, leaders of the Special Forces contacted Colonel Bank for his advice on military strategy. In 1997, I spoke and kicked off the Operation Bank to Bank, the Walk Across America, which brought the retired members of the Special Forces Association who started in Newport Beach, California, to walk across America covering eight States and 2,640 miles honoring the Green Berets and raising money for a Special Forces museum.

It was my pleasure on that day when I met Colonel Aaron Bank. Today it is my pleasure to call him the Father of the Special Forces on the 50th anniversary of his contribution to our Nation's efforts to preserve democracy and freedom.

Given their contribution to the war on terrorism, it is even more appropriate that we honor the tens of thousands Special Forces alum and the more than 8,000 men and women currently serving as Special Forces soldiers in defense of America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the ranking member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for allowing me to add my voice to this effort.

Mr. Speaker, when one walks into the Special Operations Center, in the lobby thereof on the right-hand side there will be a portrait of the late gentleman from Virginia, Dan Daniels, for it was he on June 26, 1986, who introduced a bill to establish the National Special Operations Agency. We have Special Operations Command as a result of his efforts, and the efforts on the other side of the Capitol, particularly with the help of Retired Lieutenant General Sam Wilson; this command was activated on April 16, 1987. U.S. Special Operations Command provides highly trained, rapidly deployable and regionally focused personnel to support the combatant commanders. Today,

there are some 46,000 Special Forces personnel in the Army, Navy and in the Air Force.

Today we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Special Forces of the Army. I rise to support H. Con. Res. 364. The First Special Service Force of the Second World War is considered to be the predecessor to the present U.S. Army Special Forces. General George C. Marshall determined that an elite force recruited in Canada and our country was required to conduct raids and strikes in snow-covered mountainous terrain. These men were trained in demolitions, rock-climbing, amphibious assault, and ski techniques, and were also provided airborne instructions. The First Special Service Forces was known as The Devil's Brigade. It was inactivated in the south of France near the end of World War II.

Colonel Aaron Bank, who served in the OSS at the time, proposed a permanent, small elite unit to do this counterinsurgency work. So in June 1952, the first unit of Special Forces was activated. The 10th Special Forces Group was established at Fort Bragg. Let me add my voice to that of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ), the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES), and others, and urge that it be adopted.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT).

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask unanimous support of H. Con. Res. 364.

This Thursday, June 20, will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Army Special Forces under the leadership of Aaron Bank.

The Special Forces are the best of the best. Through their storied history, they have achieved popular recognition and acclaim as the Green Berets in honor of their distinctive headgear.

As a Marylander, I am proud to say that the Maryland Army National Guard Second Battalion 20th Special Forces Bravo Company makes its home at the Gunpowder Military Reservation in Baltimore County.

At age 99, Aaron Bank is still alive and vigorous. It is without reservation that we acclaim him as a living legend. He is indeed the father of the Special Forces, and it is right and proper that he is recognized as such in H. Con. Res. 364. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Aaron Bank and all of the current and former generations of Green Berets for 50 years of outstanding service to our country.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership on this issue and the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for the sponsorship, with the leaders of the Committee on Armed Services; and I rise to support H. Con. Res. 364 and honor the father of the Special Forces in such a great leader as Colonel Aaron

Bank, and to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of this great organization.

I can speak first hand of the organization only through the constituents that I have represented in Texas, so many who have been part of the Army Special Forces. I have heard their commitment, dedication, but particularly their pride in the service that they have given, the extra mile, the challenges that they are willing to accept, that no challenge is too great for them to be able to achieve or accomplish.

It is interesting as I have traveled to a number of sites since my election to Congress where there have been armed conflict, Bosnia, the Albanian ethnic purification that was attempted, we realize that the Armed Forces and their Special Services were key to the success of ending those conflicts. But now more than ever with the continuing war against terrorism and the continuing presence that we will have to have in Afghanistan, I can say first-hand that the Special Services are key to this country's success in fighting terrorism.

It is a vision of Colonel Bank's that should continually be admired and promoted. I thank him for his thoughts and vision, for thinking about that special type of force that is needed to provide the leadership, the courage and the refinement of fighting these unique and special circumstances. It is with great admiration that I join in supporting this particular resolution honoring the Special Forces for their 50 years, and to say that we hope that they will succeed and be in service for 50 more years on behalf of the United States of America.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS), who also is a lieutenant colonel, airborne and ranger-qualified in the Army Reserve.

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be here speaking about what Colonel Bank has done for the country. It has been mentioned about the fruit not falling far from the tree. I want to mention some of the Special Operations Command individuals that had an impact on my life through this organization.

I just briefly remember my first company commander, who is now a retired lieutenant colonel in the Army, John Everett, who was an A Team leader before he commanded my company, where I was a lowly second lieutenant platoon leader. Then there was my brigade commander, Wayne Downing, who now is retired Special Operations Command commander, and now works for the former governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Ridge, and the Agency of Homeland Security; and also my first command Sergeant Major Quesada, who was on the raid to Sontay in North Vietnam. All had great impacts on my

life, along with my friends and classmates in airborne class who graduated in July of 1980, and my ranger class that graduated in April of 1981.

The Special Forces are designed around light, lethal mobile, and independent operations. A key to that is NCO leadership: proficient, trained soldiers who can operate on their own and operate successfully. That is really now the mode for the transformation of the Army, and the success in Afghanistan just shows that the vision of Colonel Bank has produced great fruit.

As the Army struggles with transformation in this new era when we have new enemies, the model of the Special Operations Command of lighter, quicker, independent action, more lethal, and junior NCO leadership, is a model by which I think we will be well served in the defense of this country for many, many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am really honored to have this opportunity to speak on the floor in support of my classmates who are still members of the Special Operations Command, and all those who have gone before to make this country a better place.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Bank is a very interesting guy. He will be 100, as I said, in November. I want to reiterate that he is still alive and kicking and doing a great job for us. I will remind Members that until his 75th birthday, he ran several miles a day. In fact, when he had his troops, sometimes he had an ambulance follow them during their workouts because some of the new young recruits did not know how difficult it was going to be in those units. Even today, he rides a stationary bike four days a week. He lives in Orange County, California; and we are very proud of him, as we are of all our Special Forces from over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for his leadership in helping bring this resolution forward, and also I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) for her leadership and interest in this vital project, and the ranking member of our Committee on Armed Services, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Their efforts and their time spent in bringing this measure to the floor expeditiously are most appropriate and appreciated. These folks that we honor today, past and present, are first and foremost warriors; but they are also engineers, teachers, and medics. They bring stability and peace to the regions in the areas that they touch.

□ 1530

They represent us with incredible distinction and make clear the old adage that simply says, our citizen soldiers clearly recognize the difference

between good and evil, and they are not willing to live in a world where evil prevails.

In honor of the Airborne, the Special Forces and for Colonel Shimkus, I close by saying simply:

Stand up, hook up, shuffle to the door
Leap right out and count to four.
If your main don't open wide,
You got a reserve by your side.
Airborne.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the fog and friction of war ruled the day when seven American special operations forces died on an isolated mountaintop in Afghanistan. The battle at Takur Ghar took place during Operation Anaconda. U.S. military officials sent a special operations reconnaissance element to a key piece of terrain. As the team reached the 10,000-foot mountaintop, the team's assault helicopter took immediate ground fire. In the course of the next two hours, the special operations team went back to rescue their mate, who had fallen out the back of the assault helicopter. He continued to fight until his death. That fight is a microcosm of men and women who are in the Army's Special Forces. The military personnel that fought on Takur Ghar, displayed dedication, bravery, selflessness, courage and unity. This is who our Special Forces are.

The Special Forces Regiment uses a twelve-member team concept. It assigns multifaceted missions including counter-terrorism, direct action, strategic reconnaissance, psychological warfare, civil affairs, and training foreign military and para-military forces in counter-insurgency operations. Special Forces Soldiers are teachers who are trained in foreign languages and are called on to teach military skills to people around the world. They operate in urban, jungle, desert, mountain, maritime, and arctic environments and are sometimes called on to survive for months at a time behind enemy lines.

Special Operations Forces are an elite, specialized military unit which can be inserted behind the lines to conduct a variety of operations, many of them clandestine. Special Operations Forces are characterized by "combinations of specialized personnel, equipment, training and tactics that go beyond the routine capabilities of conventional military forces." SOF personnel are carefully selected and undergo highly demanding training. U.S. Army SOF include 26,000 soldiers from the Active Army, National Guard, and Army Reserve who are organized into Special Forces units, Rangers units, special operations aviation units, civil affairs units, psychological operations units, and special operations support units. Special operations forces and predecessor U.S. units have played a role in most U.S. conflicts. In 1985, Congress noted that the U.S. SOF provide an immediate and primary capability to respond to terrorism.

Colonel Aaron Bank is truly a legend. If life were like fiction, Colonel Bank would be the leading character in one of the most dramatic stories of the 20th century. He is called the "Father of the Green Berets." Colonel Bank was born in New York City in November of 1902. As a young man he lived in Europe and learned French and Russian. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in late 1939 and graduated from OCS in 1940. He was commissioned in the Infantry and served as the Tactical Officer of a railroad battalion at Camp Polk in Lou-

isiana. In 1943, when the Army called for linguists to join the newly formed Office of Strategic Services (OSS) [predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency], Colonel Bank stepped forward. Under the Command of Colonel William B. ("Wild Bill") Donovan, Colonel Bank parachuted into occupied France in the Rohn Valley to train and fight with the French resistance. Colonel Bank was made Chief of Guerilla Operations. He operated in the area of Avignon and Nimes, along with other OSS Jedburgh Teams. Colonel Bank was involved with some of the most intriguing operations and personalities of that era. He was actively involved with the famous Operation "Iron Cross"—the plot to assassinate Adolph Hitler.

Following World War II, Colonel Bank served as Commander of Counter-Intelligence in Bavaria until 1950. He also served in Korea, where he was the executive officer of a Regimental Combat Team. From 1951–1952, Colonel Bank was assigned to the Special Operations Branch, Psychological Warfare Staff at the Pentagon. It was here that the idea for the First Special Forces Group took form. On June 19, 1952, this idea became reality. This occurred when Colonel Bank activated the 10th Special Forces Group, the original Special Forces unit. Colonel Bank commanded the Group at Bad Toelz, Federal Republic of Germany until 1954. In 1986, Colonel Bank was honored with the title of Colonel of the Regiment for all U.S. Army Special Forces.

The Army Special Forces live quietly by their motto "De Oppresso Liber", Latin for "To Free the Oppressed". Therefore, I salute the United States Army Special Forces and Colonel Aaron Bank on the historic significance of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Special Forces.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 364, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-227)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to Union Calendar and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby transmit to the Congress proposed legislation to create a new Cabinet Department of Homeland Security.

Our Nation faces a new and changing threat unlike any we have faced before—the global threat of terrorism. No

nation is immune, and all nations must act decisively to protect against this constantly evolving threat.

We must recognize that the threat of terrorism is a permanent condition, and we must take action to protect America against the terrorists that seek to kill the innocent.

Since September 11, 2001, all levels of government and leaders from across the political spectrum have cooperated like never before. We have strengthened our aviation security and tightened our borders. We have stockpiled medicines to defend against bioterrorism and improved our ability to combat weapons of mass destruction. We have dramatically improved information sharing among our intelligence agencies, and we have taken new steps to protect our critical infrastructure.

Our Nation is stronger and better prepared today than it was on September 11. Yet, we can do better. I proposed the most extensive reorganization of the Federal Government since the 1940s by creating a new Department of Homeland Security. For the first time we would have a single Department whose primary mission is to secure our homeland. Soon after the Second World War, President Harry Truman recognized that our Nation's fragmented military defenses needed reorganization to help win the Cold War. President Truman proposed uniting our military forces under a single entity, now the Department of Defense, and creating the National Security Council to bring together defense, intelligence, and diplomacy. President Truman's reforms are still helping us to fight terror abroad, and today we need similar dramatic reforms to secure our people at home.

President Truman and Congress reorganized our Government to meet a very visible enemy in the Cold War. Today our Nation must once again reorganize our Government to protect against an often-invisible enemy, an enemy that hides in the shadows and an enemy that can strike with many different types of weapons. Our enemies seek to obtain the most dangerous and deadly weapons of mass destruction and use them against the innocent. While we are winning the war on terrorism, Al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations still have thousands of trained killers spread across the globe plotting attacks against America and the other nations of the civilized world.

Immediately after last fall's attack, I used my legal authority to establish the White House Office of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Council to help ensure that our Federal response and protection efforts were coordinated and effective. I also directed Homeland Security Advisor Tom Ridge to study the Federal Government as a whole to determine if the current structure allows us to meet the threats of today while preparing for the unknown threats of tomorrow. After careful study of the current structure, coupled with the experience