

of Vietnam. The only battalion from Fort Sill to deploy on its original deployment date, the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery departed Ft. Sill, OK, with the personal good wishes and promised continued support from the Fort Sill commanding general. The battalion's equipment, including its 12 175mm guns, departed in early July. The equipment was moved by rail to Houston, TX, then by ship through the Panama Canal and on to Vietnam.

The men of the battalion traveled by air to Tacoma, WA, and boarded a U.S. naval troop ship, the USNS *UPSHUR*, along with two smaller Army units. On the high seas, after a 12-hour shore break on Okinawa, we were notified our mission had changed. We were being diverted to Da Nang with a support mission to the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions. The battalion was originally assigned the dual mission of supporting both the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions with long-range heavy artillery fire until November 1, 1967, when it was assigned to the 108th Artillery Group, reinforcing the 12th Marine Regiment.

From January 31, 1968 until March, the battalion supported the 5th Marines and the Americal Division during "Operation Auburn." It participated in "Operation Rock" by firing in support of the 7th Marines from March 6 until March 10, 1968. From March 13 until March 26, 1968, it supported the 7th Marines during "Operation Worth." From August 1968 until September 1968, the battalion provided general support for units operating near the DMZ.

During the first year in Vietnam, the battalion changed over 300 gun tubes. In its 4 years in the Republic of Vietnam, the battalion had fired more than 450,000 rounds of 175mm/S inch ammunition in support of the United States and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces. It had supported operations throughout the northern sector of South Vietnam and had fired from positions at Da Nang, Dong Ha, Quang Tn, Bastone, Camp Lo, Camp J J Carroll, Thon Som Lam ("Rockpile"), True Khe, FSB C-1, FSB C-2, and FSB A-4 (Con Thien).

In ceremonies held August 6, 1971, at Dong Ha Combat Base, the battalion was presented the Meritorious Unit Citation. The award covered the period from January 31, 1968 to January 31, 1969, and was primarily for actions in support of the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions. The battalion was also awarded the Naval Presidential Unit Citation in support of the 3rd Marine Division and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

As the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces began their withdrawal from Laos and the Khe San area, the need for artillery support along the route of egress became vital. By April 1971, all remaining elements of the battalion departed the Khe San Plains. The 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery, was the first heavy artillery battalion into the Khe San area and the last heavy unit to return.

In the 63 days that the battalion was involved with the Khe San Operation, it suffered losses of 4 persons killed and 41 wounded, with 17 vehicles destroyed. It was credited with costing the enemy 1,238 killed, unknown numbers wounded, 26 field guns destroyed, 3 tanks destroyed, 5 fighting positions destroyed, 16 wheeled vehicles destroyed, and 2,644 secondary explosions. During this same period, in line with increased troop with-

drawals, the American ground troops in the area turned over their fire bases to the ARVN and withdrew to Quang Tri for their consolidation.

At 0930 hours, 15 October 1971, the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery, conducted a redeployment ceremony at Quang Tri Combat Base. The battalion colors were furled and cased for redeployment to Fort Sill, OK, where the 3rd Battalion, 73rd Artillery, was being redesignated the 4th Battalion, 4th Artillery. On this date, the unit completed its tactical mission, and after completing the Keystone stand down operations from October 15 through November 15, 1971, sent its color guard and colors to Fort Sill to begin a new phase in the illustrious career of the 4th Artillery.

After a stay of 4 years on the DMZ, the battalion had truly earned its unofficial motto, "The Guns of the DMZ," with 26 killed in action and numerous wounded. Today the 4th Artillery continues with the 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery, a multiple launch rocket system battalion stationed at Fort Sill, OK. The 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery deployed to Iraq during the initial assault of "Desert Storm," and continue their combat role in the great tradition of the historic 4th Artillery Regiment.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer these remarks and share my appreciation for our veterans. We are forever grateful to the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery and all the veterans who have preserved our country.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CONSTANCE
MIERENDORF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Constance Mierendorf and to celebrate her inauguration as the first female President of Sussex County Community College.

Constance Mierendorf brings a wealth of experience to this position as a teacher, academic leader and innovative small businesswoman. Dr. Mierendorf holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; earning her Bachelor and Master degree in English from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She also holds certificates for secondary teaching and teaching English as a second language. Her post-graduate work includes coursework at Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management.

Dr. Constance Mierendorf comes to the Presidency of SCCC from Raritan Valley Community College, where she held the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs. She held the same position at Santa Fe Community College in New Mexico, and was also a faculty member and department chair at Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

In addition to her education background, Dr. Mierendorf brings considerable business expertise to the College. She worked as a corporate trainer to Chief Executive Officers of several Fortune 500 companies and was a partner and business manager for Mierendorf Productions, a three-time Emmy Award winning independent documentary film company.

Sussex County Community College is a true gem of the Fifth Congressional District. It currently serves more than 3,500 credit and 1,700 non-credit students each year. SCCC is ranked 11th in the country, as the fastest growing community college of its size, with a 43-percent increase in enrollment over the past 5 years. I am confident Dr. Mierendorf will continue to raise the bar of SCCC's educational standards.

I commend Dr. Mierendorf on her appointment as the President of Sussex County Community College. I wish her all the best as she embarks on this opportunity and congratulate her on this remarkable accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES DANIEL

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and a fine citizen of Marshall, Arkansas. I am proud to recognize Dr. Charles Daniel in the United States Congress for his four decades of service to Arkansas. He has made numerous invaluable contributions to his community, his State and our Nation.

Dr. Charles Daniel was born in Marshall, Arkansas on July 1, 1940 and currently resides there today. After graduating from Marshall High School in 1958 as valedictorian, he received his medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1967. He married his wife Sharon Guthrie in 1964 and they have two children.

In addition to his decades of service to the community as a leading medical professional, Dr. Daniel has dedicated 40 years of service to both the Rotary Club and the Searcy County Economic Development Commission. He was a leading advocate for the construction of the Searcy County Civic Center and was recognized by the Searcy County Economic Development Commission as Citizen of the Year in 2007.

Dr. Daniel is one of the few remaining genuine, southern gentlemen. He is a humble man who goes out of his way to help others simply because it is the right thing to do, never for personal gain. Dr. Daniel's office was always open to people in need of medical attention. Often he would keep his doors open well into the evening and would visit with patients at their homes on weekends to ensure they received the care they needed. Not only does he epitomize what a family doctor should be, he is the living example of how we should treat our neighbor.

Dr. Daniel embodies the old fashioned values of service, leadership and commitment to his community that has made our State and our Nation great. He has dedicated his life to serving the people of Searcy County as a leader in both his profession and his community. On behalf of the United States Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to my good friend Dr. Charles Daniel for a lifetime of outstanding personal and professional achievements.