

competed for and received a three-year ROTC scholarship as a freshman at Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; he would transfer to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Pembroke, North Carolina the second semester of his freshmen year.

Captain Singletary graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a focus in Management. Upon graduation, Captain Singletary commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Quartermasters Corp (USAR). His first assignment was Transportation Officer and Executive Officer for the 385th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control Team) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina from May, 2006–July, 2007.

In July 2007, Captain Singletary was cross-leveled to the 221st Ordinance Company (Ammunition Modular) in Fort Wayne, Indiana and became a Platoon Leader of a Medium Lift Platoon tasked to prepare the company for the upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. While in Afghanistan from March 2008–April 2009, then Second Lieutenant Singletary was hand-selected to become the Officer-in-Charge of Bagram Airfield Ammunition Supply Point, the largest Ammunition Supply Point in Afghanistan.

From April 2009–October 2012, Captain Singletary served as the Commander of 385th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control Team) in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During this time, he mobilized in support of the U.S. Homeland Defense Office Command and Control Consequence Response Element (C2CRE) from January 2012 to October 2012. From December 2012 to June 2013, Captain Singletary served as Supply Officer for the 207th Digital Liaison Team in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In May 2013, Captain Singletary accepted an Active/Guard Reserve (AGR) tour.

Captain Singletary is currently on a Military Leave of Absence from the Department of the Army Civilian Corps where he is employed as a Supply Technician at the 171st Infantry Brigade, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Captain Singletary holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster University and has been awarded the Demonstrated Master Logistician Citation from SOLE—The International Society of Logistics and the Army Logistic University.

Captain Singletary's military education includes: the Quartermaster Officer Basic and Advance Course; Combined Logistics Captain Career Course; Unit Mobilization Planner Course; Hazardous Materials First Responder at the Operational Level Course; Contracting Officer Representative Course; and Support Operations Course.

His awards and decorations include: the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1OLC), Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M-device, NATO–ISAF Medal, and the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (1OLC).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain Ike Singletary II for serving our country honorably.

MOTHER HUGHES

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special woman, Mrs. Mary Sallie Clark Hughes, of Atlanta, Georgia. She turned 100 years old on December 8, 2013, and I am so grateful to call her a constituent and a friend.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 75 years, Mrs. Hughes has been a missionary for those left out and left behind. She has worked tirelessly to provide clothes to local homeless men and women, as well as victims of fires and other disasters. Her heart is so big that everyone who knows her calls her "Mother Hughes." She has dedicated her life to principle of service—service to God, service to others, and service to the Beloved Community.

At the beautiful age of 100, Mother Hughes is still going strong. She recently earned a certification in theology from the Interdenominational Theological Center. As their oldest graduate to date, Mrs. Hughes inspires others to never abandon their goals and dreams. Her compassion is remarkable, patriotic, and certainly worthy of recognition from this body.

As you can imagine, on her birthday this year, many people gathered in Atlanta to honor her tireless and caring spirit and dedication. I unfortunately was unable to attend this wonderful celebration because of the death of Nelson Mandela. I wish I could have joined so many others in my community in thanking Mother Hughes for her tireless work, lasting legacy of love, and compassion for those most in need.

HONORING SFC E7 LONNIE JAMES ROBERSON

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a Veteran, SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson, of the United States Army.

SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson was born on November 13, 1951 in Simpson County Mississippi, to the parentage of Mr. Lonnie Lee and Zeffie Lee Roberson. His siblings are: Joseph Williams; Stella Young of Chicago, IL; Dorothy Milton of McGee, MS; Mary Jane; Kenny; Karen; Patricia; and Joann of Harrisville, MS; and Jimmy Dale of Mendenhall, MS.

SFC E-7 Roberson attended the New Hymn School from 1st grade to 12th grade where he graduated and was elected president of his class in 1970.

SFC E-7 Roberson is married to Mrs. Evelyn Robinson Roberson of Georgetown, MS. They have 2 sons: Alex Kendrick Roberson and Lonnie Dymond Roberson.

After graduation SFC E-7 Roberson worked on various jobs until he was employed full time at Universal MFG in Mendenhall, MS, later known as Magnet MFG. He retired from Magnet MFG after working 27 years.

SFC E-7 Roberson attends Brushy Creek Missionary Baptist Church located in George-

town, MS where he wears many hats. He serves as: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; President of Usher Ministry; President of Layman ministry; and Vice-President of the Friar Branch New Hope Sunday School Institute and he has received the Copiah Deacon Ministry Award.

SFC E-7 Roberson is a member of Hopewell Lodge #507, Collins Consistory Lodge #190, 32nd degree located in Prentiss, MS.

SFC E-7 Roberson joined the Army Reserve and his duty before he retired was Instructor at Camp Shelby, MS. He was with the 365th Supply and Battalion (WQ7HAA) in Jackson, MS. He received numerous awards: The Army Achievement Medal in June, 1986 and The Army Achievement Medal in 1989. SFC E-7 Roberson served in Desert Storm in 1991 and retired November 13, 2011 after 26 years of dedicated service.

SFC E-7 Roberson is presently employed at ABB of Crystal Springs, MS, formerly known as Kuhlman Electric, where his job description is Field Service Engineer Technician.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic and dedicated Veteran, SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson.

HONORING DONNA JEAN KIRBY

**HON. JASON T. SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna Jean Kirby of Doniphan, Missouri for her outstanding service and involvement in Ripley County. In recognition of her hard work in the community, Ms. Kirby is receiving the Ripley County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. Ms. Kirby has volunteered her time with Relay for Life in addition to chairing the Christmas decorating committee of Heritage Park and pitching in at Independence Day, Labor Day, Timberfest, and other holiday festivities. She is a sister of Beta Sigma Phi sorority and supports a variety of other interests in the community, including working with a committee of local citizens to keep a local hospital open.

If there is an event taking place in Ripley County, chances are Donna Kirby is helping out to make it happen. She has made Ripley County a better place through her hard work and dedication. Ms. Kirby is also a mother of two and grandmother of four. I am grateful that we have such enthusiastic and committed members of the community, such as Ms. Donna Jean Kirby whose hard work makes a difference in so many lives. It is my pleasure to recognize her efforts and achievements before the House of Representatives.

MIKE HELMS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mike Helms for receiving the Charlie O'Brien Award from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award goes to members who are well respected within the organization and are motivated by an unselfish desire to contribute to

the community for the betterment of greater Golden.

Seven years ago Mike Helms had a dream to have a monthly event for residents of Golden who love the outdoors and who ride their bicycles. Mike, along with a few others who had this same dream, came up with Golden Bicycle Cruise. The excitement from the first cruise events quickly caught on. Through a partnership with the Golden Civic Foundation, in 2013 the Golden Bicycle Cruise had their most successful year with over 400 riders attending most cruises.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mike Helms for this well deserved recognition by the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. Your commitment has made our community a better place for all of us to live.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE BATTLE OF HORSESHOE BEND

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Horseshoe Bend National Military Park on the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend took place during the War of 1812 in what is now known as Daviston, Alabama. On March 27, 1814, General Andrew Jackson led American troops into a day-long battle against a faction of the Creek Indians. Although the battle was trying, General Jackson and his troops defeated the Red Sticks.

March 27, 2014, will mark the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. The area where the battle took place is now known as Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. From March 27th–29th, a celebration of the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend will be held. This event aims to recreate frontier life in the year 1814 and seeks to emphasize the importance of the battle in United States history. The Alabama Tourism Department named the event one of its Top Ten Events for 2014.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the community of Daviston, Alabama, in celebrating the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

ADMINISTRATION IS SEEN AS RETREATING ON ENVIRONMENT IN TALKS ON PACIFIC TRADE

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration is retreating from previous demands of strong international environmental protections in order to reach agreement on a sweeping Pacific trade deal that is a pillar of President Obama's strategic shift to Asia, according to documents obtained by WikiLeaks, environmentalists and people close to the contentious trade talks.

The negotiations over the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which would be one of the world's

biggest trade agreements, have exposed deep rifts over environmental policy between the United States and 11 other Pacific Rim nations. As it stands now, the documents, viewed by The New York Times, show that the disputes could undo key global environmental protections.

The environmental chapter of the trade deal has been among the most highly disputed elements of negotiations in the pact. Participants in the talks, which have dragged on for three years, had hoped to complete the deal by the end of 2013.

Environmentalists said that the draft appears to signal that the United States will retreat on a variety of environmental protections—including legally binding pollution control requirements and logging regulations and a ban on harvesting sharks' fins—to advance a trade deal that is a top priority for Mr. Obama.

Ilana Solomon, the director of the Sierra Club's Responsible Trade Program, said the draft omits crucial language ensuring that increased trade will not lead to further environmental destruction.

"It rolls back key standards set by Congress to ensure that the environment chapters are legally enforceable, in the same way the commercial parts of free-trade agreements are," Ms. Solomon said. The Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the World Wildlife Fund have been following the negotiations closely and are expected to release a report on Wednesday criticizing the draft.

American officials countered that they had put forward strong environmental proposals in the pact.

"It is an uphill battle, but we're pushing hard," said Michael Froman, the United States trade representative. "We have worked closely with the environmental community from the start and have made our commitment clear." Mr. Froman said he continued to pursue a robust, enforceable environmental standard that he said would be stronger than those in previous free-trade agreements.

The draft documents are dated Nov. 24 and there has been one meeting since then.

The documents consist of the environmental chapter as well as a "Report from the Chairs," which offers an unusual behind-the-scenes look into the divisive trade negotiations, until now shrouded in secrecy. The report indicates that the United States has been pushing for tough environmental provisions, particularly legally binding language that would provide for sanctions against participating countries for environmental violations. The United States is also insisting that the nations follow existing global environmental treaties.

But many of those proposals are opposed by most or all of the other Pacific Rim nations working on the deal, including Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam and Peru. Developing Asian countries, in particular, have long resisted outside efforts to enforce strong environmental controls, arguing that they could hurt their growing economies.

The report appears to indicate that the United States is losing many of those fights, and bluntly notes the rifts: "While the chair sought to accommodate all the concerns and red lines that were identified by parties regarding the issues in the text, many of the red lines for some parties were in direct opposition to the red lines expressed by other parties."

As of now, the draft environmental chapter does not require the nations to follow legally binding environmental provisions or other global environmental treaties. The text notes only, for example, that pollution controls could vary depending on a country's "domestic circumstances and capabilities."

In addition, the draft does not contain clear requirements for a ban on shark finning, which is the practice of capturing sharks and cutting off their fins—commonly used in shark-fin soup—and throwing back the sharks to die. The dish is a delicacy in many of the Asian negotiating countries. At this point the draft says that the countries "may include" bans "as appropriate" on such practices.

Earlier pacts like the North American Free Trade Agreement included only appendices, which called for cooperation on environmental issues but not legally binding terms or requirements. Environmentalists derided them as "green window dressing."

But in May 2007, President George W. Bush struck an environmental deal with Democrats in the Senate and the House as he sought to move a free-trade agreement with Peru through Congress. In what became known as the May 10 Agreement, Democrats got Mr. Bush to agree that all American free-trade deals would include a chapter with environmental provisions, phrased in the same legally binding language as chapters on labor, agriculture and intellectual property. The Democrats also insisted that the chapter require nations to recognize existing global environmental treaties.

Since then, every American free-trade deal has included that strong language, although all have been between the United States and only one other country. It appears to be much tougher to negotiate environmental provisions in a 12-nation agreement.

"Bilateral negotiations are a very different thing," said Jennifer Haverkamp, the former head of the United States trade representative's environmental office. "Here, if the U.S. is the only one pushing for this, it's a real uphill battle to get others to agree if they don't like it."

But business groups say the deal may need to ease up. "There are some governments with developing economies that will need more time and leeway," said Cal Cohen, president of the Emergency Committee for American Trade, a group of about 100 executives and trade associations that lobbies the United States trade negotiator on the deal. "When you think about the evolution of labor provisions, you realize how many centuries the development of high standards took."

Since the trade talks began, lawmakers and advocacy groups have assailed the negotiators for keeping the process secret, and WikiLeaks has been among the most critical voices. The environment chapter is the third in a series of Trans-Pacific Partnership documents released by WikiLeaks. In November, the group posted the draft chapter on intellectual property. In December, the site posted documents detailing disagreements between the negotiating parties on other issues. The site is expected to release more documents as the negotiations unfold.