

## 2015-J5671

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Captain Michael A. Phillips, Major Select upon the occasion of his retirement as Assistant Operations Officer of the 3D Marine Raider Support Battalion Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize those remarkable individuals who honorably and courageously serve their country in order to protect the life and liberty of our citizens, and whose military service, professional lives, and civic

endeavors serve to enhance the stature of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Captain Michael A. Phillips, Major Select upon the occasion of his retirement as Assistant Operations Officer of the 3D Marine Raider Support Battalion Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command; and

WHEREAS, Captain Michael A. Phillips holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from the State University of New York at Geneseo; additionally, he graduated from Aviation Intelligence Officer Course, Marine Corps Martial Arts Instructor Course, Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course, MAGTF Intelligence Officer Course, Special Activities Leaders Training Course, Expeditionary Warfare School non-resident, Special Operations Forces Intelligence Leaders Training Course, Navy and Marine Corps Collections Management Course, 11 Intelligence Squadron ISR Tactical Controller Course, and Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape East School; and

WHEREAS, Following graduation from TBS, Captain Michael A. Phillips attended Aviation Intelligence Officer Course at NAS Oceana in Dam Neck, Virginia; after successfully graduating as an Aviation Intelligence Officer, he received orders to Air Combat Intelligence (ACI) Branch, G-2, 2d Marine Air Wing (MAW) and served as the Commanding General's

Current Intelligence Briefer and Analysis Section Officer in Charge (OIC); and

WHEREAS, In July of 2007, Captain Michael A. Phillips was reassigned to Military Transition Team (MITT) 0311, 3rd Battalion Quick Reaction Force (QRF), 1st Iraqi Army Division as the Intelligence Advisor to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army; and

WHEREAS, Captain Michael A. Phillips was deployed with MITT 0311 to Iraq from October of 2007 to October of 2008, operating in various locations ranging from Ar Ramadi, Al Basra, Al Baquah and Al Fallujah in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Following his deployment, Captain Michael A. Phillips returned to the ACI Branch, G-2, 2d MAW and served as the Assistant Operations Officer for six months before returning to Al Asad, Iraq as the Deputy AC/S G-2 for 2d MAW Forward from March of 2009 to August of 2009; and

WHEREAS, In September of the same year, Captain Michael A. Phillips immediately reported to Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Arizona, and successfully graduated from the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI) in November of 2009; and

WHEREAS, Once he returned back to ACI, G-2, Captain Michael A. Phillips served as the Collections OIC and Training Officer before reporting to MCAS Yuma as an augment instructor in April of 2010; upon completion, he returned and checked into TBS in May of 2010 with the assignment in the Command Section as a Warfighting Instructor and the Primary Package Instructor for the Intelligence and Counterinsurgency (COIN); and

WHEREAS, In addition, Captain Michael A. Phillips served as the Staff Platoon Commander (SPC) for Charlie Company BOC 3-11 for two months before sustaining biceps and shoulder reconstructive surgery; thereaft-

er, he served as the SPC for Mike Company, Alpha Company BOC 1-12 as the 3rd Platoon Commander, and then immediately after, the Executive Officer for Delta Company BOC 4-12; and

WHEREAS, Captain Michael A. Phillips wrapped up his tour at TBS as the Executive Officer for the Command Section, Warfighting for the remainder of time while recovering from surgery; from there, he successfully graduated from MAGTF Intelligence Officer Course in August of 2013; and WHEREAS, After graduation, Captain Michael A. Phillips reported to Bravo Company, Marine Special Operations Command Support Battalion and was quickly placed as a team leader for a Direct Support Team (DST) 643-2 and deployed to Special Operations Command Forward-Western Africa (SOCFWD-WA); and

WHEREAS, During deployment, Captain Michael A. Phillips was hand selected to serve as the Team Abuja Insert Team Leader, Intelligence and ISR Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria for the presidentially mandated mission Operation JUNIPER NIMBUS; and

WHEREAS, Upon return, Captain Michael A. Phillips was assigned as the MSOST Kilo OIC and trained the team for the ITP Phase at which he was identified as non-medically deployable and returned to serve as the Operations Officer for 3D Marine Raider Support Battalion; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious military career, Captain Michael A. Phillips earned the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device and gold star in lieu of second award, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who dedicate their lives to military service merit the commendation and applause of all citizens for their commitment to the preservation of American freedom; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Captain Michael A. Phillips, Major Select upon the occasion of his retirement as Assistant Operations Officer of the 3D Marine Raider Support Battalion Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Captain Michael A. Phillips, Major Select.