

7016 Maple Tree Lane
Springfield, Virginia

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am honored to recommend Marilyn A. Quagliotti to be the Deputy Director for Supply Reduction in the Office of National Drug Control Policy. As you know Marilyn Quagliotti retired from the United States Army as a Major General. I have personally known her for over 15 years and by reputation far longer. She was highly successful leading commanding Soldiers and large organizations operating in international environments of both Latin America and Europe. Having served as the Acting Commander-in-Chief for United States Southern Command, I fully appreciate the criticality of the position for which she has been nominated and am certain she will serve our Nation extremely well in that capacity.

As Deputy Commander of United States Army South in Panama during 1996 to 1998, I supervised then Colonel Quagliotti where she commanded the theater signal brigade responsible for the emerging signal and communications architecture for Latin American and the Caribbean. With the immature and difficult communications environment throughout the area of operations, she planned and deployed Soldiers in over 50 different operational support missions throughout Central and South America. She was instrumental to the success of critical operations such as the successful peacekeeping Military Observer Mission for Peru and Equator (MOMEPE), humanitarian and civic action programs (Nuevos Horizontes), multinational peacekeeping, humanitarian, and counterdrug exercises, and the emerging counter-drug operations primarily in Colombia

but extending through the Andean Ridge and Central America. Marilyn planned, coordinated, and executed the annual communications conference with senior Latin American army officials and subject matter experts. Of note, the commanding general dispatched her to advise the Colombian Army at a critical development time.

Subsequently, while serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans, Training, and Strategy for United States Army Europe in 2002, I again worked very closely with General Quagliotti who commanded the 5th Signal Command and was responsible for the signal, IT, and communications architecture for the European Command Area of Operations which spanned from Russia to South Africa. As a Senior Tactical Commander for the Mannheim military community, she worked diligently and effectively with German state and local officials to provide added security to military families immediately following 9/11. She was instrumental in the planning, equipping, and preparation of the European-based V Corps Headquarters, its Signal Brigade, and subordinate units as they prepared to lead the invasion from Kuwait into Iraq. Additionally, General Quagliotti was deeply involved with the planning for the communications architecture for the potential northern option for Iraq as well as the overwatch of the satellite step-site at Landstuhl which became essential to guarantee communications between the United States and Afghanistan.

In every position throughout her military career, General Quagliotti demonstrated superb leadership, often under difficult operational, cultural, and multinational conditions. Her savvy diplomatic and keen communications skills enhanced her acceptance and effectiveness. On both a personal and professional basis, her integrity and ethics are beyond reproach.

I strongly recommend that you and the Committee favorably consider Marilyn A. Quagliotti's nomination to be the Deputy Director for Supply Reduction in the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Upon Senate confirmation, she will apply the same selfless service, values and dedication to her duties that have characterized her performance throughout her military career.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary D. Speer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" being more prominent.

Gary D. Speer
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army (Retired)