



For Immediate Release
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National Defense PAC Announces Endorsement of Ryan Zinke

Today, the **NATIONAL DEFENSE PAC** announces with pride its full endorsement of **Cdr Ryan Zinke, USN (ret)** for election to the United States **Congress** for the Big Sky State of **Montana**. **NATIONAL DEFENSE PAC**, Chairman, **Rear Admiral James J. Carey, USN (ret)**, stated, “Ryan has every quality that one would want in his or her congressman. He earned a great education with a MBA in Finance and an additional MS in Global Leadership. A third generation Montanan, Ryan knows the people of his state and their issues. As CEO of Continental Divide, he has had hands-on experience managing a business. Most importantly, however, **Ryan Zinke** is a true patriot who has exemplified leadership during a military career serving as a US Navy Seal. From the time he earned his Eagle Scout to this moment, he has lived his life aspiring to do his best for his country and his family. **Montana** will be sending **Ryan Zinke** to represent his state in Congress and our entire country will benefit from their wise decision. His proven leadership is exactly what we all need in D.C. for the good of his state and for the good of our country. “

Commissioned in 1985, he entered Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training. Assigned to SEAL Team ONE he was involved in Southeast Asian Operations. He led counter-insurgency operations in the Pacific Theatre and then was involved in Operation Desert Storm and operations in Bosnia. Next, Cdr Zinke was selected as a Member of SEAL Team Six where he was a Team Leader Cdr Zinke led the first exercise between Soviet Special Forces and Naval Special Warfare Forces. While SEAL Cdr of Joint Task Force TWO, he worked in support of Special Operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo. In 2004, **Cdr Zinke** was Deputy and (acting) Commander Combined Joint Special Operation Task Force –Arabian Peninsula in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom where he led 3500 Special Operations personnel in Iraq in the conduct of 360 combat patrols, 48 Direct Action Missions and hundreds of sensitive operations. His final assignment in the Navy was as “Dean” of the Naval Special Warfare Graduate School.

Zinke has received the Bronze Star Medal (Gold Star), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (Gold Star), Army Commendation Medal, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2 Gold Stars), the Combat Action Ribbon, the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, the NATO Medal, the SEAL Warfare Insignia, the Navy/Marine Corps Parachute Insignia, and various service and campaign medals.

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