



HUBERT L. "HOOKS" JONES CHAPTER - TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, INC.

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The Tuskegee Airmen served this country as soldiers during World War II and continued to serve as private citizens. They are recognized as men and women who steadfastly defended this country abroad while fighting against racism and bigotry back home. This was known as the "Double Victory Campaign"⁽¹⁾. This campaign helped move the United States towards greater freedom and equality.

We are approaching Colorado's Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day – the 4th Thursday in March. As members of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter (HLHJ) headquartered in Denver, CO, we feel that it is important to express our thoughts on recent acts of violence at the U.S. Capitol Building.

We are troubled by actions and words that either actively encouraged, or silently condoned, violence against our duly elected representatives and the symbols of our democracy. We fully agree with the message from the Joint Chiefs of the Armed Forces of the United States on January 12 addressing the U.S. Capitol Riot, which reads in part:

"The violent riot in Washington, D.C. on January 6, 2021, was a direct assault on the U.S. Congress, the Capitol building, and our Constitutional process. We mourn the deaths of the two Capitol policemen and others connected to these unprecedented events.

We witnessed actions inside the Capitol building that were inconsistent with the rule of law. The rights of freedom of speech and assembly do not give anyone the right to resort to violence, sedition, and insurrection.

As Service Members, we must embody the values and ideals of the Nation. We support and defend the Constitution. Any act to disrupt the Constitutional process is not only against our traditions, values, and oath; it is against the law."⁽²⁾

Commemoration Day is an opportunity to honor their legacy, to support what they as citizens/soldiers of this Nation fought for! To be clear, we are not against protest. We stand in full support of the right to lawful, peaceful assembly and speech.

We look to the future, striving to make our union more perfect. We do so by advancing the noble ideals of the original Tuskegee Airmen. We encourage youth success through trade school and college scholarships, flight training, and mentoring programs. We WILL continue the fight to protect our country, uphold the Constitution, and support the democratic ideals that are the basis for our nation, the United States of America.

(1) <https://historyengine.richmond.edu/episodes/view/4682>

(2) <https://news.usni.org/2021/01/12/message-from-joint-chiefs-on-u-s-capitol-riot>

This message captures the position of the HLHJ Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen. It is not intended to reflect views or positions of the National Organization or any other chapter.