

while making enduring contributions to the nation's defense and welfare. His principle message and command philosophy is perfectly epitomized by his maxim: "One Mind focused on the mission; One Heart willing to serve; One Purpose to keep soldiers alive". At all levels of command in peace and war, Major General Kevin Leonard has demonstrated himself to be an exceptionally adept leader and logistician, a sincerely caring commander, and a consummate Soldier.

Major General Leonard exemplary service culminated with his assignment as Commanding General, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. This organization is a jointly staffed Army Service Component Command (ASCC) of United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) and a Major Subordinate Command (MSC) of United States Army Materiel Command (AMC). As Commander of Surface Deployment and Distribution Command he was responsible for all SDDC operations and for directly leading a headquarters and five subordinate commands composed of over 4,825 active and reserve military personnel and civilians. Major General Leonard's contributions to SDDC are significant and enduring. His leadership has cultivated an SDDC team that is readily postured to respond to any contingency ranging from abrupt closures of the Pakistan Ground Lines of Communication (PAKGLOC) to humanitarian disasters across the globe.

During Major General Leonard's tenure SDDC successfully executed 235 unit cargo deployments in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Operation NEW DAWN, and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM as well as the movement of 101 million square feet of cargo. Under his direction, SDDC successfully coordinated the drawdown of ocean shipping containers in Iraq from over 43,000 containers in June 2011 to fewer than 20,000 containers in November 2011 thereby resulting in a \$6.4 million dollar reduction in container detention costs. He also effectively employed SDDC Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMA) to serve as the command's liaison officers (LNO) in Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan. He deployed forces to effectively posture and support the rapid reverse surge and departure of all U.S. forces from Iraq; the largest drawdown of forces since Vietnam. Major General Leonard demonstrated exceptional dexterity while overseeing the execution of over-the-shore logistics operations into earthquake ravaged Japan during Operation TOMODACHI while simultaneously and seamlessly supporting operations in the CENTCOM area of responsibility (AOR). Additionally, the Defense Transportation Tracking System (DTTS) directorate received the 2010

St. Louis Federal Executive Board's "Team Excellence" award for their expert response to over 200 incidents and emergencies involving the commercial carrier movement of arms, ammunition, and explosives (AA&E) and other sensitive materials on behalf of the DoD. Overall, DTTS personnel effectively tracked over 70,000 high security risk shipments during the past year. Regarding household goods (HHG) movements, SDDC successfully oversaw the movement of well over 500,000 HHG shipments and 80,000 personally owned vehicle shipments in fiscal year 2011 alone. Through collaboration with the US Department of Defense (DoD), the United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), and DoD's commercial moving partners, MG Leonard oversaw the final development and successful implementation of the Defense Personal Property System (DPS) an internet-based system to manage DoD household goods moves. Major General Leonard proved himself to be an able consensus builder as well. His Strategic Planning initiatives integrated the priorities and plans of two four star headquarters achieving significant synergies leading to better and more efficient distribution operations.

SDDC accomplished these achievements and far too many more to mention during Major General Leonard's 19 months of command. Because of Major General Leonard's superb leadership, SDDC has indeed become the recognized and trusted leader in delivering innovative end-to-end deployment and distribution excellence across the full range of military operations.

Major General Leonard's exemplary leadership and selfless devotion to duty has touched fully three generations of Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, and their Families. His integrity and credibility are unsurpassed, and his expertise is unquestioned. Major General Leonard's 33 years of service to our Army and the Nation can only be characterized as honorable and distinguished.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Major General Kevin A. Leonard for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to his country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Army and we wish him, his wife Pam, his daughters Melissa and Jessica, and son Kris, all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in Indiana last week due

to family health problems and therefore unable to be on the House Floor for rollcall votes 294 through 314 inclusive.

Had I been present I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall vote 294; "yea" on rollcall vote 295; "yea" on rollcall vote 296; "yea" on rollcall vote 297; "yea" on rollcall vote 298; "yea" on rollcall vote 299; "nay" on rollcall vote 300; "yea" on rollcall vote 301; "nay" on rollcall vote 302; "yea" on rollcall vote 303; "nay" on rollcall vote 304; "yea" on rollcall vote 305; "nay" on rollcall vote 306; "yea" on rollcall vote 307; "nay" on rollcall vote 308; "yea" on rollcall vote 309; "yea" on rollcall vote 310; "yea" on rollcall vote 311; "nay" on rollcall vote 312; "nay" on rollcall vote 313; and "nay" on rollcall vote 314.

RECOGNIZING MATT WOODRUM

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of Central Ohio's very own hometown heroes, fifth-grader Matt Woodrum of Worthington, Ohio.

Matt is battling Spastic Cerebral Palsy, but his courage, inner strength, and determination came together in May when he ran and completed a 400-meter race at a Colonial Hill Elementary School field day.

When I learned of Matt's story from a YouTube video that gained worldwide attention, I was particularly moved by his courage and perseverance. The inspiration I felt became two-fold when Matt's classmates surrounded him and cheered by his side all the way to the finish line. The explosion of excitement at the end of the video from the children, parents, and teachers was truly infectious.

I invite all Members of Congress to take a moment to think about the drive and discipline Matt Woodrum demonstrated that day when he charged through the pain of his condition to continue onward and finish that race—one determined step at a time.

I am so proud to represent the people of Central Ohio in Congress, because our communities shine with genuinely kind and selfless heroes like Matt and his classmates. Those same students at Colonial Hill Elementary School will grow up to be the future of our communities in Central Ohio, and their story gave me hope that it will be very, very bright.