

and for a free market system, we can see the legacy of Ronald Reagan and his unconventional thinking.

So I think it is important for us to remember that this genial President was a man of ideas, of all the Presidents I have worked with, as much a man of ideas as any one of those Presidents.

Ronald Reagan also taught us something about leadership. I recall in 1980 when he and Mrs. Reagan visited the Tennessee Governor's mansion during the Presidential campaign. I had not known him very well. He had served as Governor. He was several years older. He was from the West. It was really my first chance to meet him.

After 1 hour or an hour and a half of breakfast with him the next morning, I remember going away thinking this man has a better concept of the Presidency than anyone I have ever been privileged to meet.

Ronald Reagan understood what George Reedy said in his book, "The Twilight of the Presidency," is the definition of Presidential leadership: No. 1, see an urgent need; No. 2, develop a strategy to meet the need; and, No. 3, persuade at least half the people that you are right.

Ronald Reagan was as good as anyone at persuading at least half the people that he was right. He taught that and he also taught us the importance of proceeding from principles.

Sometimes we are described in Washington these days as being too ideological, too uncompromising, too partisan. President Reagan was a principled man. He operated from principles in all of his decisions, insofar as I knew. He advocated his principles as far as he could take them, but he recognized that the great decisions that we make here are often conflicts between principles on which all of us agree. It might be equal opportunity versus the rule of law. And once we have argued our principle and the solution, and strategy has been taken as far as it could go, if we get, as he said 75, 80, or 85 percent of what we advocated, well, then that is a pretty good job.

So he was very successful because he argued from principles. He argued strenuously. He was good at persuading at least half the people he was right. Then he was willing to accept a conclusion because most of our politics is about the conflict of principles.

There is another lesson that he taught us, and that was to respect the military. Now, that seems unnecessary to say in the year 2004 where we have a volunteer military that is better than any military we have ever had in our history; when we have witnessed the thousands of acts of courage, charity, kindness, and ingenuity in Iraq and Afghanistan recently; when the men and women of our National Guard and Reserves are also being called up. We have a lot of respect for our military.

In 1980, we were showing a lot less respect for the men and women of our military. I remember riding with Presi-

dent Reagan in a car in Knoxville during the 1980 campaign. As we pulled out of the airport by the National Guard unit, there were a number of the soldiers waving at him, understanding and sensing that he respected them. He turned to me and said something like this: I wish we could think of some way to honor these men and women more. He said: We used to do that in the movies in the 1930s and 1940s. We would make movies honoring men and women in the military and that is how we showed our respect for them.

Well, he did find a way to honor them during his Presidency in the 1980s, and by the time he left at the end of that decade there was no question but that the American people remembered to honor the men and women in the military.

There is one other aspect of President Reagan's leadership that I would like to mention, which is probably the most important aspect of the American character, and that is the belief that anything is possible. The idea that we uniquely believe in this country, and people all around the world think we are a little odd for believing it, is that no matter where you come from, no matter what race you are, no matter what color your skin, if you come here and work hard, anything is possible.

That is why we subscribe to ideals such as all men are created equal, even though we know achieving that goal will always be a work in progress and we may never reach it. That is why we say we will pay any price, bear any burden, as President Kennedy said, to defend peace, even though we know that is a work in progress and we may never reach it.

That is why we say more recently we want to leave no child behind when it comes to learning to read. We know that is a work in progress and we may not reach it, but that is our goal.

We Americans say that anything is possible, and nothing symbolizes that more than the American Presidency. And no President has symbolized that more in the last century than Ronald Reagan. He has reminded us of what it means to be an American. He lifted our spirits, he made us proud, he strengthened our character, and he taught us a great many lessons.

HONORING THE 278TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT

Mr. ALEXANDER. I rise today to comment on some of those military men and women that President Reagan felt so strongly about. On Saturday, I went to Knoxville, TN, for the casing of the colors of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Four thousand troops, the largest unit in the Tennessee National Guard, are being sent to Mississippi for training, then to California and then, just before Christmas, to Iraq. This was a large number of men and women from across Tennessee, mostly east Tennessee. While their command headquarters are in Knox-

ville, their squadron headquarters are in Athens, Cookeville, and Kingsport. The whole community had organized a tremendous day of celebration and parade to honor these men and women.

Randy Tyree, the former mayor of Knoxville, was the master of ceremonies. Joe Alexander was the parade chairman. The East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association was the event sponsor. It was a bright, sunny day. It came during a week we had filled with honoring the men and women in our military. Earlier in the week was Memorial Day and before that the opening of the World War II memorial. The week ended with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of D-day, honoring those military heroes of the past.

But Saturday was not about the past. The men and women we honored in Knoxville, TN, on Saturday live among us. We know them. We see them in those communities every day. They are members of the Knox County Sheriff's Office. They include McMinn County school superintendent John Fogerty. They are Casey Boring, Tony Loveday, Kevin Fuller, Roger Lawson, and Randy Cruz all from Blount County, my home county's sheriff's office. They are our fathers, brothers, sons, sisters, and daughters. They are not all 24 or 26 or 30 years old either. They are in their thirties and their forties. Some are in their fifties.

Jim Leinart is an Anderson County deputy who fought in Vietnam and is a grandfather. He is a part of the 278th and is heading to Iraq, a month after he was supposed to have retired from the military. He is a tank mechanic, and he and nearly 4,000 other members of the 278th leave June 14 for Mississippi for training.

This is what he had to say about it:

Right after I got that alert, I figured out I wasn't going to be able to retire. I kind of dread it in a way and kind of look forward to it in a way. It'll be different; an adventure in another country.

The families there, and the men and women in the 278th, all knew the truth. They are not going to Iraq and Afghanistan for support activities. They will be the first National Guard unit from Tennessee in a long time to be on the front lines, to be combat troops. But there was not a word of complaint that day, and the men looked forward to that.

This unit has a fantastic history. The 278th traces its roots to the American Revolution in what may have been the first early American war of preemption. A British colonel named Patrick Ferguson on the eastern side of the Great Smokey Mountains sent word across the mountains to Tennessee that the mountaineers should lay down their arms or the British would come across the mountains and arrest them and hang their leaders.

This angered the mountaineers so they gathered, in October of 1789 near Watauga, TN, near Sycamore Shoals. They marched across the mountains to

find this general who sent this warning, killed him, won that battle, destroyed the left wing of Cornwallis' army and, according to President Theodore Roosevelt, changed the course of the Revolutionary War. These militiamen were the early members of the 278th.

At the ceremony on Saturday, MAJ Charles R. Southerland, who is Adjutant of the 278th ACR, gave a beautiful speech, setting out the history of the 278th and its significance.

I ask unanimous consent to have the text of Major Southerland's address, as well as a story from the Knoxville News Sentinel of Saturday, June 5, about Anderson County Deputy Jim Leinart to be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ADDRESS GIVEN ON 5 JUNE 2004 BY MAJOR CHARLES R. SOUTHERLAND, ADJUTANT OF THE 278TH ACR, FOR THE PARADE IN KNOXVILLE, TN

Today the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment writes another page in our rich history of military service for Tennessee. In 1780, Colonel John Sevier called for 100 good men and 200 men answered the challenge. Tennessee has been known as the Volunteer State ever since. The 278th ACR is the only enhanced Armored Cavalry Regiment within the National Guard, and one of only two Armored Cavalry Regiments in the United States Army.

The history of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment began before the American Revolution when local militia units formed throughout communities in East Tennessee. These units were organized to protect the early settlers in Tennessee from the Creek and Cherokee Indians who often raided settlements in East Tennessee. Once these militia units were formed, the Indian raids subsided and life on the Tennessee frontier settled down.

During the American Revolution, these militia units joined along the Nolichucky River in East Tennessee under the command of Colonel John Sevier to form a mounted Militia Company of east Tennesseans. They formed with other "Over the Mountain Men" and defeated a superior British force under the command of General Patrick Ferguson in the Battle of Kings Mountain, North Carolina. The battle, fought on October 7, 1789, destroyed the left wing of Cornwallis' army and effectively ended the Loyalist in the Carolinas. The victory halted the British advance into North Carolina, forced Lord Cornwallis to retreat from Charlotte into South Carolina, and gave General Nathaniel Greene the opportunity to reorganize the American Army.

In 1796, Tennessee became the sixteenth state to join the union. Colonel John Sevier became the State's first governor. He organized the State's Militia into three brigades with the Third Brigade of the Militia in East Tennessee.

During the War of 1812 with Great Britain, Militia units from East Tennessee marched with General Andrew Jackson and fought engagements at Pensacola, Florida and defeated a superior English force on 8 January 1815 in New Orleans.

In 1846, a call went out for 2,800 Volunteers from the State of Tennessee to take part in the War with Mexico, 38,000 Tennesseans answered the call, sealing the Tennessee Militia the ever-lasting nickname of "Volunteer." From that heritage, the 278th Ar-

mored Cavalry Regiment's motto "I Volunteer Sir" was derived.

The Third Brigade of the Tennessee Militia was absorbed into the National Guard of the United States on March 25, 1887 as the Third Tennessee Infantry Regiment with Headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

On 29 April 1977, the 278th Infantry Brigade was reorganized and re-designated the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Colonel Russell A. Newman was appointed as the 1st Colonel of the Regiment.

Today we will embark on yet another journey to answer our nations call to protect the freedom and quality of life for our families, communities and the citizens of our great nation. The Casing of the Regimental Colors today symbolizes the end of our current mission in the State of Tennessee. The colors represent the soldiers, past and present, which comprise the Regiment and are the physical symbols of its spirit, tradition and lineage. The act of casing the colors is symbolic of the Regiment's upcoming journey and expresses our rich heritage and the heroism of our forefathers. The Regimental Colors will be uncased again when the Regiment arrives at our new location as we begin our next mission. This tradition carries on our willingness to preserve the rights and privileges of our great nation and our resolve against terrorism. Today is one step in our journey to a foreign land with our Regimental Colors encased during this transition and will be soon unfurled to fly freely in our new location with the gesture of freedom and the future for that area. The pride and love we have for our families and the state of Tennessee will go with us as we take this journey and we will return with a richer and more affluent value for these people and places in our hearts. We look forward to the part of the journey that will return us back here to Knoxville and the uncasing of our Regimental Colors with the knowledge that we made a difference.

The Regimental Command Sergeant Major, who is in charge of the Colors, will case the Colors on command from the Regiment's 8th Commander, Colonel Dennis J. Adams.

[From the News Sentinel, June 5, 2004]

ANDERSON DEPUTY'S PLANS FOR RETIREMENT
PUT ON BACK BURNER

(By Bob Fowler)

CLINTON.—An Anderson County deputy who fought in Vietnam and is a grandfather is heading to Iraq—a month after he was supposed to have retired from the military.

Shift Supervisor Jim Leinart is one of five Anderson County Sheriff's Department officers—three of them in leadership positions—who will begin an 18-month deployment June 14.

Their departures create a huge void in the already short-staffed sheriff's department that will likely delay responses to non-emergency calls, Chief Deputy Lewis Ridenour said.

"Some calls may have to be prioritized," he said. "It may also take away from proactive law enforcement."

As for Leinart's upcoming duty in Iraq, "I'm sure that's the last thing he was expecting, to be re-commissioned to a war 30 years after serving his country in Vietnam," Ridenour said.

Leinart is a 54-year-old resident of the tiny, remote Briceville community, tucked into the mountains of Anderson County near Lake City.

He has four children and eight grandchildren and is a member of Troop B of the National Guard's 278th National Armored Cavalry Regiment.

A tank mechanic, he and nearly 4,000 other members of the 278th will leave June 14 for

Camp Shelby in Mississippi for training. They'll be on the way to Iraq in the fall.

For Leinart, his upcoming tour of duty is tinged with irony: He was supposed to have retired May 16 from the National Guard.

But that retirement was put on hold in March when he was placed on "stop-loss," the military's term for stopping a soldier from leaving the military during an operation.

"Right after I got that alert, I figured out I wasn't going to be able to retire," said Leinart, a burly man with a quick wit, ready laugh and a neatly trimmed moustache fading to gray.

"I kind of dread it in a way and kind of look forward to it in a way," Leinart said. "It'll be different; an adventure in another country."

He said he and his wife, Joyce, a dispatcher with the county's 911 emergency communications center, are preparing for his departure.

"I'm getting all the stuff done around the house that needs to be done," he said.

His wife, their children and grandchildren "are accepting it, but they don't like it," Leinart said of his marching orders.

Leinart joined the army when he was 17 and was shipped out to Vietnam shortly after his 18th birthday. He said he was stationed next to Saigon in 1967-68 and was involved in the Tet Offensive, when the Vietcong staged simultaneous attacks on major South Vietnamese cities in January 1968.

It was a time, he said, "when there was a lot of confusion" and when he was "shot at a few times."

After Vietnam, Leinart joined the Army Reserves in 1981 and transferred to the National Guard's 278th in 1988.

Ridenour said Leinart has been a shift supervisor in the sheriff's department for more than a year. "It was apparent he was someone we wanted in a leadership role," Ridenour said. "He's just the type of person who has that ability."

Other shift supervisors who are headed to Iraq include Sgt. Chucky Beach and Sgt. David Davis. Deputies, Steve Alcorn and Daniel McFee are also on their way to Iraq.

Ridenour said even with the assignment changes made to fill in while the five men are in Iraq, the sheriff's department "will still be short three people on a full-time basis."

A school drug awareness program may be put on hold next year so the officer assigned to that job can go on patrol, Ridenour said.

Two drug enforcement officers have been placed on patrol, and a training officer will become a road deputy three days a week, he said.

"It's going to be a very big problem for us, but these guys are making a bigger sacrifice than we are," Ridenour said of the five National Guardsmen.

Mr. ALEXANDER. The men and women of the 278th are going across the ocean to fight for us so we can live safely at home. They are doing that the same way militiamen in Tennessee did more than 200 years ago, men who went across the mountains to fight for the settlers so they could live safely in the pioneer villages. What I said to them on Saturday in Knoxville I would like to say to them and to their families again today:

We are proud of you. We support you. We will pray for your safety, and we are grateful that you are going across the ocean to fight so we can be safe at home.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). The Senator from Mississippi.