

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes No. 294–314, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: On rollcall No. 294, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 295, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 296, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 297, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 298, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 299, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 300, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 301, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 302, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 303, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 304, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 305, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 306, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 307, had I been present, I would have voted “yea”; on rollcall No. 308, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 309, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 310, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 311, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 312, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 313, had I been present, I would have voted “no”; on rollcall No. 314, had I been present, I would have voted “no”.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST  
ARRONN D. FIELDS**HON. LARRY BUCSHON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army Specialist Arronn D. Fields.

SPC Fields, a 27-year-old native of Terre Haute, Indiana, lost his life in combat on May 21st in Parwan Province, Afghanistan, during an insurgent attack when his military vehicle received rocket-propelled grenade fire.

SPC Fields was assigned to the 381st Military Police Company, 81st Troop Command, Army National Guard located in Plymouth, Indiana. SPC Fields deployed to Afghanistan as a member of Task Force Guardian, a multi-unit military police force from Indiana.

Indiana lost a great citizen, who enlisted in the Indiana National Guard in 2006.

I would like to offer my most heartfelt condolences to SPC Fields' family and friends. His commitment to his fellow soldiers and the Indiana National Guard make SPC Fields a patriot. We are a grateful Nation and SPC Fields will be missed, but not forgotten.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT  
COMMANDER WESLEY A. BROWN**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lieutenant Commander Wesley A. Brown '49, CEC, USN (Ret.), the first African American graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, who died on May 22, 2012, for his service to his country and to the residents of the District of Columbia. Tomorrow, Wednesday, June 6, 2012, the U.S. Naval Academy will hold Commander Brown's memorial service in the Academy's Main Chapel, a short walk from the stadium, the Wesley A. Brown Field House, named for him in recognition of his historic place in history.

The District of Columbia had no representation in Congress at the time, but Representative Adam Clayton Powell (NY) nominated Mr. Brown to the Naval Academy in 1945. According to historian Robert J. Schneller, Jr., who was commissioned by the Navy to write a book about Lieutenant Brown, *Breaking the Color Barrier: The U.S. Naval Academy's First Black Midshipmen and the Struggle for Racial Equality*, “Having attended high school, played sports, led the Cadet Corps, held a full-time job, and taken a college course all at the same time, Brown was accustomed to working hard, working smart, and budgeting his time.”

Commander Brown never stopped serving his country. He chaired the District of Columbia Service Academy Selection Board and was Chairman Emeritus until his death. A life-long resident of the District of Columbia, Lieutenant Commander Brown, the first in his family to be college-educated, grew up in Washington's Logan Circle neighborhood, and attended Dunbar High School, where he led the Dunbar Cadet Corps battalion. Upon his graduation, Mr. Brown attended Howard University through the Army's Specialized Training Reserve Program, because he was not old enough to apply to West Point.

Lieutenant Commander Brown is remembered as a hero at the United States Naval Academy and in his home town. With his beaming smile, Wes, who was always good for conversation and armed with an extraordinary memory and a sharp intellect, offered anecdotes instructed with living history. Lieutenant Commander Wes Brown, who withstood battle and gave generously of himself, had the heart of a warship.

I ask the House to join me in offering our sincere condolences and sympathy to Wes Brown's widow, Crystal, his children, Willeta, Carol, Wesley, Jr. and Gary, and his seven grandchildren, and in thanksgiving for a lifetime of service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
KEVIN A. LEONARD'S 33  
YEARS OF UNIFORMED SERVICE  
TO OUR NATION**HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Major General Kevin A.

Leonard for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Major General Leonard will retire from the United States Army in May 2012 after serving his country with integrity, dedication and visionary leadership for over 33 years. While his accomplishments are numerous, these deserve special notice. Major General Kevin A. Leonard has distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service to the United States Army from May 1979 to May 2012, concluding 33 years of exemplary service culminating in his assignment as Commanding General, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. Major General Leonard is a genuine selfless servant leader who consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, professionalism, dedication, and a genuine heart-felt concern for the welfare of Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families. His efforts, sacrifices, and selfless service have made significant and enduring contributions to the development, training, and leadership of the United States Army and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Major General Leonard has performed with expert distinction in all of his assignments throughout a remarkable career. He has led and molded Soldiers while serving in a myriad of significant positions of ever-increasing responsibility to include the following: Infantry Rifle and Scout Platoon Leader in Germany during the Cold War; Company Commander at both Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Fort Riley, Kansas; every key development position at battalion level to include Battalion Commander in the 1st Infantry Division; Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC), Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Commander Special Operations Support Command (Airborne), in both Afghanistan and Iraq; Chief Sustainment Division and Executive Assistant (EA) to the Director, Joint Staff, The Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.; Deputy Commander, United States Army Field Support Command with duty as Commanding General, Army Materiel Command Forward-Southwest Asia/C-4, Coalition Land Forces, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Commanding General 1st Corps Support Command (Airborne)/1st Sustainment Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina and Camp Arifjan Kuwait; Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and Operations, United States Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; and finally, Commanding General Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command.

Major General Leonard's phenomenal success leading SDDC and several other organizations is attributable to the core traits and values he has demonstrated throughout his service in the United States Army. He is a committed and resolute leader who has consistently built incredibly agile, innovative, and mission oriented teams. His formula for success is simple: he knows, trusts, and empowers his subordinates to execute his intent; he has always founded his leadership on the credo “Mission First, Soldiers Always, and Self Last”; and he has led by example with his professional competence and unflinching confidence in his team. He believed each of his organizations could achieve the highest standards possible and without fail, they did. Through his energy, optimism, and emphasis on collaboration, he has created teams of nimble and innovative problem solvers that have fundamentally improved organizational efficacy

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.