

CONFIRMATION OF MARVIN KAPLAN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I voted in opposition to the nomination of Marvin Kaplan to the National Labor Relations Board, NLRB. The NLRB has an important responsibility to resolve labor disputes, protect worker rights, and ensure fair access to collective bargaining. Mr. Kaplan does not have experience arguing the law before the NLRB; rather, he has a history of working to erode its authority to protect the workforce.

As a staffer on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, Mr. Kaplan has worked on legislation to overturn key NLRB decisions and delay and distort the union election process. He has provided no assurance that he would recuse himself from issues pertaining to his prior work that might lead to bias. Throughout his career, he has pursued policies that would undermine worker protections. He should not be appointed to a board that is charged with safeguarding them.

President Trump has repeatedly promised to put the American worker first. The NLRB has a key role to ensure a fair deal for workers. It is unfortunate that the President's nominees for the Board have not demonstrated a commitment to that mission.

227TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, on August 4, the U.S. Coast Guard will celebrate its 227th anniversary. On this special occasion, I want to commend the men and women of the Coast Guard for their valiant service on, under, and over our Nation's high seas and waters.

They have a proud history.

Most Americans know the Coast Guard for its orange and white helicopters, fast small boats, cutters, and rescue swimmers, but they probably don't know that the Coast Guard is one of our country's oldest institutions of the U.S. Government.

On August 4, 1790, President George Washington signed the Tariff Act, authorizing construction of the first 10 cutters of what would eventually become the Coast Guard. They were known as the revenue cutters, and their original mission was to enforce tariffs and trade laws and to prevent smuggling. For more than a hundred years, the cutters and their crew operated under the names Revenue Marine Service and the Revenue Cutter Service. Not until 1915, when Congress merged the Revenue Cutter Service and the U.S. Life-Saving Service, did the Coast Guard get its name.

Over time, the Coast Guard has become synonymous with saving those in peril on the sea. Their wide red bar and narrow blue bar, canted at 64 degrees, will always be a sign of assistance to mariners in danger.

Today, in times of peace, the Coast Guard operates as a part of the Depart-

ment of Homeland Security, performing its 11 critical, statutory missions.

Right now, there are courageous young men and women aboard buoy tenders and icebreakers, ensuring our waterways remain open for commerce. Fast response cutters patrol the seas, enforcing the law and conducting search-and-rescue missions. Small boat stations enforce our laws while educating the public on safe-boating practices. As a ready and capable partner to a multitude of Federal, State, and local agencies, the Coast Guard does so much more, from responding to oil spills to combating drug trafficking.

In times of war or at the direction of the President, the Coast Guard valiantly serves as part of the Navy Department.

As you can see, the Coast Guard is a small but mighty organization. As ranking member of the Commerce Committee, I have had the privilege to meet many of the men and women of our Coast Guard and see their valuable work firsthand.

Through all the passing decades, some things about the Coast Guard have always been the same: the service's proud tradition and the skill and professionalism of its men and women whose sacrifices contribute to protecting our national security. The Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty are evident in everything it does. As the Coast Guard motto says, *Semper Paratus*, it is always ready for the call.

I want to congratulate and express our sincere gratitude to the men and women of the Coast Guard on 227 outstanding years of exemplary service to our Nation.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 88TH REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the 100th anniversary of the 88th Regional Support Command. I am humbled to recognize the men and women who are bravely fighting for our country's freedom.

The 88th Regional Support Command, RSC, began as the 88th Infantry Division, ID. Organized in August 1917 at Camp Dodge, IA, the members of the "Cloverleaf Division" fought among the Allied Forces in the Alsace Campaign. They returned home following the war, and the Army demobilized the unit in June 1919.

Three years later, the 88th reformed within the Organized Reserve, with headquarters in Minneapolis and subordinate units elsewhere in Minnesota, Iowa, and North Dakota. The 88th ID mobilized in 1942 to serve the United States in World War II. It was one of the first units comprised solely of drafted soldiers. Despite a lack of experience, the 88th quickly gained a reputation as an effective unit of well-trained soldiers, which the Germans referred to as the "Blue Devils."

The 88th ID fought on the front lines during the 1944 Italian campaign. Its

arrival provided much-needed relief to the allied soldiers fighting on the Italian front. Led by Major General John E. Sloan, the 88th was the first division to enter the newly liberated Rome. After 100 straight days of activation, the Blue Devils were finally scheduled to receive a much-needed respite from the war. However, MG Sloan quickly instituted a training regimen that kept his soldiers in fighting condition, and they were ordered to head north to combat the Germans and provide support for American soldiers in Northern Italy.

For 344 days, the 88th Infantry fought to protect our American values during World War II. At the beginning of the war, MG Sloan promised, "the glory of the colors will never be sullied, as long as one man of the 88th still lives." Although many lives were lost, the 88th Infantry Division was deactivated in October 1947, having fulfilled MG Sloan's promise.

In April 1996, the 88th ID was redesignated as the 88th RSC. Headquartered in Fort McCoy, WI, the 88th RSC provides logistical and administrative support for Army Reserve soldiers. Whether they are providing training logistics, equipment maintenance or medical support, the members of the 88th RSC are making a difference for servicemen and servicewomen from Wisconsin all the way to the Pacific Coast.

Today the 88th ID lives on through the 88th Regional Support Command. Having fought in the Vietnam war, Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the soldiers of the 88th RSC continue to support the more than 55,000 U.S. Army Reserve soldiers, families, and civilians across the United States. I am proud to recognize 100 years of their remarkable service and accomplishments.

REMEMBERING RICHARD DUDMAN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, Richard Dudman, one of our Nation's most esteemed journalists, passed away at his Maine home last night. I rise today in tribute to a great American reporter and engaged citizen.

After serving in the Merchant Marine and U.S. Navy Reserve during World War II, Mr. Dudman began his journalism career at the Denver Post in 1945 and joined the St. Louis Post-Dispatch 4 years later. In his more than three decades at the Post-Dispatch, he covered Fidel Castro's Cuban revolution, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Bay of Pigs invasion, the Watergate and Iran-Contra scandals, as well as armed conflicts from the Middle East and Asia to Central and South America.

In 1970, while covering the Vietnam war, Mr. Dudman was captured by the Viet Cong and held prisoner in Cambodia, a harrowing experience he wrote about in his acclaimed book, "Forty Days With the Enemy." In 1981, on his last day as Washington bureau chief for