



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JUL -6 2011

The Honorable Mike Pompeo  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pompeo:

Thank you for your letter to the Secretary of Defense requesting clarification regarding Department support of time waiver legislation providing the President of the United States with authority to award the Medal of Honor to Chaplain (Captain) Emil J. Kapaun. This matter falls under my purview as the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and I have been asked to respond.

The Department supports the Medal of Honor time waiver legislation for Chaplain Kapaun contained in H.R. 1540, the House version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012. While the Department supports enactment of the time waiver legislation, that endorsement should not be seen as an endorsement of the award of the medal itself, which is a matter for the President to determine. The Medal of Honor nomination for Chaplain (Captain) Kapaun is being considered in the same manner that all other Medal of Honor nominations are considered.

I trust that this information is helpful, and deeply appreciate your continued support to those who serve our great Nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Ann Rooney", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jo Ann Rooney  
Principal Deputy