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February 4, 2021

To: House Committee on Rules; and others

Re: I Support [HCR 12] Medal of Honor Recipient Larry Gilbert Dahl

I am always taken back when a story of selfless dedication to duty to protect our Nation results in death of one of our service men or women.

Specialist 4 Larry Gilbert Dahl's selfless sacrifice by jumping on a live grenade thereby protecting his brother soldiers from harm at the cost of his own life chokes me up.

How many of you know the history of the Gun Truck "Brutus?"

"Brutus" was one of several Vietnam War Gun Trucks developed by the soldiers that drove them to protect convoys of heavily laden fuel trucks carrying fuel for helicopters amongst other supplies.

Here is the neat part, the soldiers fortified these trucks with extra steel plates and armament. At first they just had M60 light machine guns. Brutus's armament graduated to two M2 50 caliber machine guns and later the potent M134 Mini-gun.

The armament for the Gun Trucks were often pilfered from other military equipment without permission to do so. The 134 Mini-gun was stolen off of a Huey helicopter.

The Gun Trucks were painted Black with signature names of the time like; "Brutus, The Red Baron, Canned Heat, The Untouchables, and The Piece Maker" were some of the names painted on the sides of the Gun Trucks much like "nose art" seen on World War II fighter and bomber planes.

It was said the Viet Cong could hide in the tall grass or behind a trees and were hard to hit with the M60s. The dual M2 50 caliber guns were able to cut the trees down but, the addition of the M134 mini gun (4000-6000 rounds per minute) allowed the operator to cut down everything leaving no place to hide for the Viet Cong who were systematically cut to pieces. The Gun Trucks were feared by the Viet Cong, Some allegedly had bounties placed on their destruction.

It should be stressed that the Gun Trucks were created by the brilliant ingenuity of the soldiers in the field, for their survival to carry out their mission of protecting convoys. The Gun Trucks were not sanctioned by Command-even though they knew about them.

Brutus has been preserved in a Military Museum in Wisconsin and can be seen here:

http://mvmec.org/military-vehicles/

The M134 Mini-gun now can be fitted on Humvees. I think M134 Mini-guns should be applied to quell riots by the anarchist urban terrorist groups. I am certain once the M134 Mini-guns are used on these vermin; arson, looting, vandalism of all kinds and throwing harmful projectiles to Police Officers will cease.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall