

HCR 12 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: Regina Wilson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/4, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes the life and valor of Specialist Four Larry Gilbert Dahl (1949-1971).

Fiscal: No fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact issued

House Vote: Adopted. Ayes, 58; Excused, 2--Evans, Nearman

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Specialist Four Larry Gilbert Dahl was born on June 10, 1949, in Oregon City, Oregon. Specialist Four Dahl enlisted in the United States Army in 1969 and began his tour of duty in Vietnam on June 18, 1970. He was assigned to 1st Logistical Command, 27th Transportation Battalion, 8th Transportation Group, 359th Transportation Company. Specialist Four Dahl was assigned to the crew of the gun truck "Brutus."

On February 23, 1971, two fuel convoys were headed west on National Route 19 when the lead convoy was ambushed by a large enemy force as it crossed over the top of An Khe Pass. Brutus and other vehicles of the second convoy were sent forward to assist in defense of the first convoy. During the ensuing battle, an enemy soldier tossed a hand grenade into the gun truck. Specialist Four Dahl saw the grenade first, called a warning, and, without hesitation, threw himself directly on the grenade to protect his fellow soldiers. Specialist Four Dahl was killed by the explosion, which also wounded two other crew members. Due to the selfless actions of Specialist Four Dahl, the other crew members of Brutus survived the grenade attack.

For his "extraordinary heroism", "conspicuous gallantry", and bravery, Specialist Four Dahl was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration for valor in combat. Specialist Four Dahl was laid to rest in Willamette National Cemetery.

House Concurrent Resolution 12 honors the heroism and military service of Medal of Honor recipient, Specialist Four Larry Gilbert Dahl.