

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 30, 2016

The Honorable Eric Fanning
Secretary of the U.S. Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0101

Dear Secretary Fanning:

We are writing to urge you review the Medal of Honor nomination package for Colonel Paris Davis, a Virginian and a Special Forces officer who fought admirably for our country during the Vietnam War.

It is our understanding that Colonel Davis had been nominated twice for his heroic actions during a battle against North Vietnamese forces from June 17-18, 1965, but for unknown reasons these nomination packages failed to be processed. Numerous witnesses report that Colonel Davis demonstrated personal valor during this battle by saving two wounded non-commissioned officers and leading his patrol through two days of fighting against a better positioned enemy force despite being twice wounded himself.

A final disposition of his Medal of Honor nomination packages—the first in 1965 and a substantive equivalent package in 1969—appears to never have been made because they went missing. Colonel Davis was awarded a Silver Star in 1965; however, it is not known whether this citation was an interim or downgraded award related to his missing Medal of Honor nomination.

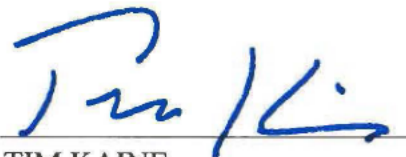
We are enclosing copies of a substantive equivalent award packet for Colonel Davis and other supporting documentation regarding this case. Should a review of his packet suggest that his actions meet the criteria for a Medal of Honor or that a past favorable disposition was not provided to him due to an administrative error, we urge the Army to act quickly to bestow upon Colonel Davis the recognition he deserves.

Due to the advanced age and health of Colonel Davis and the counterparts he saved that day, your timely review and response is appreciated. And if the Army has made a final determination regarding Colonel Davis' award, please inform us of that determination.

Sincerely,



MARK R. WARNER
United States Senate



TIM KAINE
United States Senate