

141st CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H.R.7

To authorize the President to posthumously award the Medal of Honor to Alwyn C.
Cashe for acts of valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 18, 2021

Mr. Wolf of Georgia (for himself), Mr. Ross of Arizona, Mrs. Toward of California, Mr.
Gimenez of Florida, Mr. Miller of Georgia, Mr. O'Connor of Minnesota, Mr. Atwater of
New York, and Mr. Reagan of Virginia (for themselves) introduced the following bill
(on behalf of Mr. Mark)

AN ACT

To authorize the President to posthumously award the Medal of Honor to Alwyn C.
Cashe for acts of valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of
America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the Posthumously Awarding the Medal of Honor to Alywn C.
Cashe Act of 2021 ”

SEC. 2. FINDINGS

Congress Finds the Following

- (a) On the evening of 17 October 2005, Sergeant First Class Cashe's heroic actions saved the lives of six of his fellow soldiers. At approximately 1920 hours, 1st Platoon of Alpha Company, 1-15 Infantry departed FOB MACKENZIE to conduct a route clearance in the city of Daliaya, Iraq. Along Route JAIME, the lead Bradley Fighting Vehicle, of which Sergeant First Class Cashe was gunner having just moved from a NMC vehicle, struck a victim detonated pressure-switch IED at grid MC 25357243.
- (b) The blast ignited the fuel cell on the vehicle causing fuel to spew everywhere. The vehicle came to a stop and immediately erupted in flames. Sergeant First Class Cashe was initially slightly injured and drenched with fuel. Despite his condition, he courageously managed to get out of the gunner's hatch, crawl down the BFV and assist the driver out of the driver's hatch. The driver had been burned and Sergeant First Class Cashe extinguished his flames. The following minutes were crucial.
- (c) Six soldiers and a translator were in the back of the Bradley. Flames had engulfed the entire vehicle from the bottom and were coming out of every crevice. The squad leader inside the vehicle managed to open the troop hatch door to help the soldiers escape. Without regard for his personal safety, Sergeant First Class Cashe rushed to the back of the vehicle, reaching into the searing fire and started pulling out his fellow soldiers. The flames gripped his fuel-soaked uniform. Flames quickly spread all over his body.
- (d) Despite the terrible pain, Sergeant First Class Cashe placed the injured soldier on the ground and returned to the blazing vehicle to retrieve another burning soldier; all the while, he was still on fire. A crew from a trail Bradley arrived within moments and assisted with CASEVAC. During all this and with severe burns, Sergeant First Class Cashe continued to take command of the situation. Within minutes, the company First Sergeant was on the scene and began to evacuate the seriously injured soldiers. One of which was Sergeant First Class Cashe.
- (e) Through his actions which were instrumental in saving the lives of his fellow brothers in arms, he demonstrated the finest traditions of the United States Military.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD MEDAL OF HONOR TO
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ALWYN C. CASHE FOR ACTS OF
VALOR DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.**

- (a) **WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.**—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the President may award the Medal of Honor under section 7271 of such title to Sergeant First Class Alwyn C. Cashé for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).
- (b) **ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.**—The acts of valor referred to in subsection (a) are the actions of Sergeant First Class Alwyn C. Cashé on October 17, 2005, as a member of the Army serving in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, for which he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

SEC. 4. ENACTMENT.

EFFECTIVE DATE.— The provisions of this Act shall come into force immediately upon passage.

*Drafted by David S. Mark (L-CA) for Congress' use.
Credit to Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7](D) for inspiration from H.R.8276*