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May 17, 2023

Mr. Joseph R. Biden Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

and, Mr. Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington D.C. 20301-1000

Subject: Medal of Honor (MOH) Request on behalf of Private Philip G. Shadrach and Private George D. Wilson, 2nd Ohio Voluntary Infantry (Case No. DX221027), AND

The Presidential Medal of Freedom Request on behalf of U.S. Citizens James J. Andrews and William Hunter Campbell

Dear Mr. President and Secretary of Defense Austin,

Our military leaders have long endorsed awarding the Medal of Honor to Private Shadrach and Private Wilson for their selfless heroic action during the Andrews Raid of April 12, 1862. The 2008 Congress acted, and President George W. Bush signed into law approval for the Medal of Honor to be awarded to these men under HR 4896 Defense Authorization Act 2008.

Subsequently, the Army Awards and Decorations Branch (ADB) at Ft. Knox and the Senior Army Awards and Decorations Branch (SADB) at the Pentagon thoroughly reviewed and vetted this case with unanimous approval for awarding these soldiers the Medal of Honor. That approval includes former military personnel EC'd below. Supporting documentation and details of the Medal of Honor Request submittal(s) to the ADB and Department of Defense (DOD) may be reviewed at: <http://www.shadrachandwilsonmoh.com/> or at the QR code provided below.

While all the Raiders were captured, tortured receiving severe treatment, some escaped or later were repatriated and received the first Medal of Honor for this action behind enemy lines. Private Shadrach and Private Wilson were tried, convicted as spies, executed by hanging June 18, 1862, and buried at the site of execution in Atlanta. Following the Civil War, their bodies were discovered, exhumed, and buried with their Medal of Honor comrades in the Chattanooga National Cemetery. However, unlike their comrades, their headstones are not emblazoned with the Medal of Honor for their valor in combat.

If this matter is not currently on your desk for action, we request that your office inquire with U.S. Army Human Resources Command as to the status of this honor so that these brave soldiers may finally be rightfully recognized by this great nation for which they gave their lives to preserve.

Regarding their leader, James J. Andrews, and that of William H. Campbell, both U.S. citizens, who were also captured, tried, and executed as spies we honorably request that strong consideration be given to likewise award these men posthumously with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The consideration of these highest honors merits a response from your office on behalf of these men and their families as to the status of the Medal of Honor and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald J. Shadrach,
On behalf of the Shadrach and Wilson Families

CC: Christine E. Wormouth, Secretary of Army
General Mark A. Milley, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
General James C. McConville, Army Chief of Staff
MG Thomas R. Drew, Commanding General Ft. Knox
Honorable Senator Sherrod Brown
Honorable Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur

EC: General Burwell B. Bell, U.S. Army (Ret)
MG William B. Raines Jr., U.S. Army (Ret)
Lt. Gen. Bob Wagner, U.S. Army (Ret)
RADM Noah H. Long Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret)
Keith Hardison, Executive Director of National MOH Heritage Center – Chattanooga
Bradley Quinlin, Historian
Michael J. Raymondi

