

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Third Year, 2021

AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; URGING PRESIDENT BIDEN, UNITED STATES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AND ARIZONA SENATOR KELLY AND CONGRESSMAN GALLEGOS TO INSTITUTE A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATHS OF UNITED STATES (U.S.) ARMY SPECIALIST, MIGUEL DOUGLAS YAZZIE, AND ARMY PRIVATE CARLTON CHEE; STATIONED AT FORT (FT.) HOOD, TEXAS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS:

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation and has a government-to-government relationship with the United States. 2 N.N.C. § 102 (A).
- B. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council is empowered to review all proposed legislation which requires final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A) (9).
- C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.
- D. U.S. Army Specialist, Miguel Douglas Yazzie (Specialist Yazzie), enlisted in 2016, and was an Air Defense Early Warning Systems Operator.
- E. Specialist Yazzie was stationed in South Korea prior to being stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas.
- F. On July 3, 2020, Specialist Yazzie was discovered deceased on the Ft. Hood Army Base
- G. In an unrelated incident, U.S. Army Private Carlton Chee (Private Chee), a Navajo from Pinehill, New Mexico died at Ft. Hood two months earlier.
- H. Specialist Yazzie's and Private Chee's deaths are two (2) of twenty-eight (28) deaths that occurred at Ft. Hood in 2020.
- I. On November 24, 2020, Specialist Yazzie's father, Michael Yazzie (Mr. Yazzie), stated during a telephone communication, there is no closure of the matter and the Defense Department has not provided an official cause of death.


- J. Mr. Yazzie seeks continuous support from the Navajo Nation and urges the Defense Department to thoroughly investigate his son's, Specialist Yazzie's, death. See three (3) page letter authored by Michael Yazzie incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.
- K. On December 16, 2020, a family spokesman of Private Chee's family was contacted and did not object to the Defense Department to conduct thorough investigations into the untimely deaths of Specialist Yazzie and Private Chee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Navajo Nation supports and urges President Biden, United States Commander-In-Chief, and Arizona Senator Kelly and Congressman Gallego to institute a Congressional Investigation into the deaths of Specialist Miguel Douglas Yazzie and Private Carlton Chee.
- B. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the Navajo Nation President, the Navajo Nation Speaker, to advocate and support the investigation of Specialist Miguel Douglas Yazzie's and Private Carlton Chee's deaths.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 18th day of March 2021.


Honorable Carl R. Slater, Chairman Pro Tem
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

3 / 22 / 21
Date

Motion: Honorable Eugene Tso
Second: Honorable Daniel E. Tso

Chairman Pro Tem Carl R. Slater not voting



Yaa teeh;

INTRODUCTION:

I am the son of former Council Delegate Edith Damon Yazzie of Saint Michaels chapter. My name is Michael Yazzie, of Edgewater clan, born for Towering house. I live in Window Rock, Apache County, Arizona. I currently work for the Navajo Nation within the Division of Natural Resources, Navajo Forestry Department. I have been employed with this Department for 38 years.

PURPOSE:

I am requesting and support the Navajo Nation leadership with regards to a full Congressional Inquiry into the deaths of the 28 soldiers who have loss their lives at Fort Hood Army base. Along with the 28, as our Navajo Nation continue to mourn the loss of two of our Navajo soldiers; US Army Pfc Corlton Chee and U.S. Army Specialist Miguel Douglas Yazzie with full cooperation from the US Army Units, Fort Hood, Texas. Releasing pertinent medical and military records for a complete investigation to interview command staff related to each Units.

I am unable to carry this out without backing from our Navajo Nation Council, whom I believe can make a government to government request in legislative format.

I firmly believe that the U.S. Army is not being forthright and covering up their negligence in my son Miguel Douglas Yazzie's well-being as to where the U.S. Army would be held accountable for any wrongdoing.

Spc. Yazzie has 10 siblings, Janilee Whiterock, Michaelson Yazzie, Douglas Yazzie, Rachael Yazzie, Velma Keeto, Zachary Yazzie, Naomi Yazzie, Nizhoni Yazzie, Christina Yazzie and Xavier Yazzie.

Each one has a special place in their hearts for MIGUEL, of which now has void. But that love and special meaning is their's only individually. The love they have for MIGUEL is forever. We ask for justice for the loss we will ALL bear forever. Get our families a closure that we might move on as Navajo brothers and sisters. Pray that ALL the other lives lost at Fort Hood will be in vain. Godspeed.

BACKGROUND:

June 06, 2020

Drove all night from Fayetteville, North Carolina to Killeen, Texas. Contacted Miguel to meet us off base. The establishments (restaurants) were not open until 11:00 am. Miguel offered to pay for our lunch, which he did at Outback Steakhouse in Killeen, Texas.

It was a short two hour get together. Miguel was excited to see us, Myself, Teresa, Nizhoni and Xavier Yazzie. We talked about the Hogan at Defiance Plateau, a fishing trip with the older siblings and doing some family time. I thought it odd of how he carried himself. There was something going on with him. We never got to talk about it. He wanted to fill our gas, but we had already filled it up earlier. We ALL hugged and went our ways.

June 28, 2020

I got a text from Miguel Douglas Yazzie, saying "I'm depressed."

I text back "FOCUS" & we would talk later. We never did.

Tried calling & texting Him. No answer.

July 2, 2020, I was preparing to report for Fire assignment on the "Woodsprings Fire", west of Sawmill, AZ. At 10:00 am, I received a phone call at the office on my cell phone. It was Captain Joshua Moore from Fort Hood, Texas.

I was informed my son was in the Emergency Room. He had a 0-70% survival rate. They had to use the defibrillator four times to keep his heart going. IV with 3 different meds were being administered to him. He was hooked up to a breathing machine. Four units of helium. Bleeding of stomach. He might have permanent brain damage; Gastroenterologist Doctors came down.

He was admitted. They tried getting ahold of his mother Sueann Yazzie.

July 2, 2020 at 1429. Baylor Scott & White Medical Center-Temple

Phone # 1(254) 724-2111 Room 235. Status: stable, in the ICU

Dr. Shurley ICU (254) 553-9801

Social worker Gomez (254) 553-4514

I informed my boss, Alexious Becenti, Sr. of the situation. he advised to take off and I got ready and called my son, Douglas to get ahold of his mother to inform her of the situation. Finally got in touch with her through our son, Douglas Yazzie who was on a truck route. I told her to call the number they provided. She did, and commenced to drive to Temple, Texas where our son was on life care. I got home and prepared to drive to Temple, Texas with a daughter. As I drove a call came in; the physician asked to do a procedure. I said "No," you call his mother. She asked for the physician to keep our Son on the respiratory ventilator until we arrived. My daughter, Nizhoni and I arrived on July 3rd, 2020 at 0149 am. Soon afterwards Sueann and our son Douglas arrived at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Temple, Texas.

The attending physician met with us and updated us on Miguel's situation. We gathered around Miguel and hugged Him, talking to Him as he laid. We had the Chaplain say a prayer over Miguel. As we ALL said our good byes, I told Miguel that the outlook for you to remain in this world does not look good. You are now in GOD'S hands, we ALL love You. We release you unto GOD's care. With that, a tear came out of His left eye, then a moment later a tear came out of His right eye. I know He heard us even in His coma. The attending physicians disconnected His life support and He left this earth on 03 July 2020 at 0433 am Texas time.

GOD forbid another parent; sole that has to go thru this. Stop the deaths from occurring at FORT HOOD, Texas. Account for the 28 deaths is needed.

The above statement is only to the date of my son, Spc. Miguel Douglas Yazzie's last breath.

I request for a complete unbiased Congressional Report and recommend changes be incorporated on the circumstances of the future Fort Hood soldiers whom gave a solemn oath to protect our Nations and the US government should protect them that sacrifice their lives for US.

Thank You for allowing me this time. I realize Your time is sacred as we ALL will be held accountable.

Sincerely,

Michael Yazzie

NAVAJO NATION

902

3/18/2021

Naa'bik'iyati' Committee Special Meeting

07:05:07 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Legislation 0029-21: Urging the

PASSED

MOT Tso, E

United States Department of

SEC Tso, D

Defense to Investigate the

Deaths of United States (U.S)..

Yeas : 18

Nays : 0

Excused : 3

Not Voting : 2

Yea : 18

Begay, K

Daniels

Smith

Tso, O

Begay, P

Halona, P

Stewart, W

Walker, T

Brown

Henio, J

Tso, D

Wauneka, E

Charles-Newton

James, V

Tso, E

Yellowhair

Damon

Nez, R

Nay : 0

Excused : 3

Yazzie

Tso, C

Crotty

Not Voting : 2

Begay, E

Freeland, M

Presiding Speaker: Slater, C