

Hearing held on Pat Tillman death account

by UPI

WASHINGTON - The brother of Army Ranger Pat Tillman Tuesday said the U.S. military deliberately spread untrue stories about his brother's 2004 death in Afghanistan.

Tillman, a former player for the Arizona Cardinals, interrupted his NFL career to join the Army after Sept. 11, 2001. He was killed by "friendly fire" in a skirmish near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border in April 2004, but Army officials spread a story that Tillman had died in a firefight with enemy combatants during an ambush in a mountain pass, CNN said.

Kevin Tillman, his brother, said the military released a "manufactured narrative" of the incident that was "utter fiction" and stuck with the false account before admitting it was misleading.

Tillman said a field report that Spc. Pat Tillman was "transferred to an intensive care unit for continued CPR after most of his head had been taken off by multiple .556 rounds is not misleading. These are deliberate and calculated lies," he told the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

The panel is looking into whether there was deliberate misinformation in the stories the U.S. military released in Tillman's death and the rescue of Pvt. Jessica Lynch, who was wounded and captured during the 2003 Iraq invasion.

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