On September 6 of 1781, the British forces, commanded by Benedict Arnold, attacked New London and burned the city. At Fort Griswold, were approximately 150 colonial militia and local men under the command of Colonel William Ledyard. After the British had penetrated the fort itself, Ledyard ordered his men to stop fighting to avoid further casualties. The British, however, continued to shoot at the now defenseless Americans. Seventy more men were murdered, including Ledyard, who according to legend was slain with his own sword after handing it over to a British officer.
This will be a limited series of challenge coins created, with one or more each year leading up to the 250th anniversary of the United States of America in 2026.

2019 – Invasion of New Haven – July 5, 1779

Capt. Phineas Bradley pictured on the right, defending the West River bridge in the defense of New Haven. “Our Artillery was well served by Capt. Bradley and threw shot, successfully across to Milford Hill and prevented the enemy passing the causeway and so into the town that way. Thereupon they turned off and continued their route around to Derby bridge.”