

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3250

To authorize the President to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to the Sioux Indians who served as Sioux Code Talkers during World War II in recognition of their service to the Nation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2001

Mr. THUNE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize the President to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to the Sioux Indians who served as Sioux Code Talkers during World War II in recognition of their service to the Nation.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sioux Code Talkers
5 Recognition Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Sioux Indians used their native languages,
2 Dakota, Lakota, and Nakota Sioux, as code during
3 World War II.

4 (2) These people, who manned radio commu-
5 nications networks to advise of enemy actions, be-
6 came known as the Sioux Code Talkers.

7 (3) Under some of the heaviest combat action,
8 the Code Talkers worked around the clock to provide
9 information which saved the lives of many Ameri-
10 cans in the Pacific and Europe, such as the location
11 of enemy troops and the number of enemy guns.

12 (4) The Sioux Code Talkers were so successful
13 that military commanders credit the code with sav-
14 ing the lives of countless American soldiers and
15 being instrumental to the success of the United
16 States in many battles during World War II.

17 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

18 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President
19 may present, on behalf of Congress, a gold medal of appro-
20 priate design, to each Sioux Code Talker, including the
21 following:

22 (1) Eddie Eagle Boy.

23 (2) Simon Brokenleg.

24 (3) Iver Crow Eagle, Sr.

25 (4) Edmund St. John.

- 1 (5) Walter C. John.
- 2 (6) John Bear King.
- 3 (7) Phillip “Stoney” LaBlanc.
- 4 (8) Baptiste Pumpkinseed.
- 5 (9) Guy Rondell.
- 6 (10) Charles Whitepipe.
- 7 (11) Clarence Wolfguts.

8 (b) MEDALS AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY.—Medals
9 authorized by this Act may be awarded posthumously on
10 behalf of, and presented to a surviving family member of,
11 a Sioux Code Talker.

12 (c) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—The medals authorized
13 by this Act are to express recognition by the United States
14 and its citizens and to honor the Sioux Code Talkers who
15 distinguished themselves in performing a unique, highly
16 successful communications operation that greatly assisted
17 in saving countless lives and in hastening the end of World
18 War II in the Pacific and Europe. For the purposes of
19 the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Sec-
20 retary of the Treasury shall strike gold medals with suit-
21 able emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined
22 by the Secretary.

23 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

24 The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell
25 duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant

1 to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may
2 prescribe, and at a price sufficient to cover the costs there-
3 of, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and
4 overhead expenses, and the cost of the bronze medal.

5 **SEC. 5. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.**

6 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
7 medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United
8 States Code.

9 **SEC. 6. FUNDING.**

10 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
11 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
12 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000
13 to pay for the costs of the medals authorized by this Act.

14 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—Amounts received from the
15 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be
16 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise
17 Fund.

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