

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3143

To posthumously promote Lieutenant Colonel Richard E. Cole, United States Air Force (retired), a colonel on the retired list.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 2019

Mr. ROY (for himself, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FLORES, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. WEBER of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To posthumously promote Lieutenant Colonel Richard E. Cole, United States Air Force (retired), a colonel on the retired list.

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. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

5 (1) Lieutenant Colonel Richard E. Cole, United
6 States Air Force (retired), was born on September
7 7, 1915, in Dayton, Ohio.

1 (2) On November 22, 1940, Lieutenant Colonel
2 Cole enlisted as an aviation cadet in Lubbock,
3 Texas.

4 (3) In July 1941, Lieutenant Colonel Cole was
5 commissioned as a second lieutenant and rated as a
6 pilot.

7 (4) Lieutenant Colonel Cole was one of the air-
8 men who took part in the Doolittle Raid on Japan
9 in April 1942, serving as co-pilot to then Lieutenant
10 Colonel James (Jimmy) Doolittle.

11 (5) After the Doolittle Raid, Lieutenant Colonel
12 Cole remained in China until June 1943.

13 (6) Lieutenant Colonel Cole served again in the
14 China–Burma–India Theater from October 1943 to
15 June 1944.

16 (7) Lieutenant Colonel Cole later served as Op-
17 erations Advisor to the Venezuelan Air Force from
18 1959 to 1962.

19 (8) Lieutenant Colonel Cole retired from the
20 Air Force in 1966.

21 (9) On September 19, 2016, the B–21 bomber
22 developed by Northrop Grumman was formally
23 named “Raider” in honor of the Doolittle Raiders.

24 (10) Lieutenant Colonel Cole died on April 9,
25 2019, at 103 years of age.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is as follows:

2 (1) Recognizes the accomplishments, sacrifices,
3 and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Richard E. Cole,
4 United States Air Force (retired).

5 (2) Encourages citizens of the United States to
6 remember the legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Cole and
7 the legacy of all the Doolittle Raiders.

8 **SEC. 2. POSTHUMOUS ADVANCEMENT OF LIEUTENANT**
9 **COLONEL RICHARD E. COLE, UNITED STATES**
10 **AIR FORCE, ON THE RETIRED LIST.**

11 (a) ADVANCEMENT.—Lieutenant Colonel Richard E.
12 Cole, United States Air Force (retired), is advanced to the
13 rank of colonel on the retired list of the Air Force.

14 (b) ADDITIONAL BENEFITS NOT TO ACCRUE.—The
15 advancement of Richard E. Cole on the retired list of the
16 Air Force under subsection (a) shall not affect the retired
17 pay or other benefits from the United States to which
18 Richard E. Cole would have been entitled based upon his
19 military service or affect any benefits to which any other
20 person may become entitled based on his military service.

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