



**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES**  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Department Of Montana

8245 Half Moon CRT

Helena, Mt 59602

1-406-475-3792

To: Veteran Affairs Committee

From: The Disabled Veterans of America (DAV), Montana

Dear Veteran Affairs Committee:

The following Veterans have represented the service to the United States, the State of Montana, the Counties to which they lived, and the home towns that they resided. They also represented and Served with the Armed Services of this great Nation with great Honor and Courage. We need to Recognize and Honor these great Servicemen by every means that we possibly can.

Joseph Medicine Crow was an author and historian of the Crow Nation of Native Americans. For his service to our country in the U.S. Army, Joseph received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Bronze Star Medal, and the French Legion of Honor award. Joe was the last member of the Crow tribe to become a war chief.

POW Benjamin Charles Steele was a brave man who made the Bataan Death March. After his service to our country, Ben served as post crafts director for the Department of Army at Fort Riley, Kansas and as staff crafts director for the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Army. He graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art, earned his Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Arts degree. The Ben Steele Prisoner of War Collection has been displayed in colleges and universities throughout Montana. A "Survivor," Ben was devoted to his Creator, his family, his country and his art.

David Jonathan Thatcher enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and completed engine and airplane mechanic training. He is noted for his heroic actions during the Doolittle Raid, also known as the Tokyo Raid, on April 18, 1942, when he saved the lives of his crew after their plane crashed. On April 15, 2015, the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their outstanding heroism, valor, skill and service to the United States of America.

The Department of Montana, Disabled American Veterans ask your consideration in naming these facilities in honor of these great service men mentioned above. We ask your consideration in this great endeavor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Clouse', is written over a horizontal line.

Mike Clouse  
Department Adjutant (MT)  
Disabled American Veterans