

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1874

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Fort Riley upon 150 years of continuous military service.

WHEREAS, Fort Riley was established in 1853 at the junction of the Smoky Hill and Republican Rivers adjacent to present day Junction City. It was named in honor of Major General Bennett C. Riley who led the first military escort along the Sante Fe Trail. The fort was established on a broad plain that overlooked the river valleys; and

WHEREAS, During the early years of its existence the fort provided escorts for mail carriers and travelers crossing the plains and utilizing the Sante Fe and Oregon Trails. During the Civil War regular army units participated in the fighting while militia units provided some protection for travelers going west; and

WHEREAS, After the Civil War the fort provided protection for construction of railroad lines across the state and for settlers coming to homestead the land. Of note, the 7th Cavalry Regiment was mustered-in at Fort Riley in 1866 with Brevet Major General George Custer as its commander. As the frontier disappeared the fort hosted a school of light artillery. It was also used for encampments of state militia units, and the famed Buffalo Soldiers of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments were stationed at Fort Riley. At the start of the 20th century the Army's Cavalry School was established at Fort Riley, ushering in an era of the finest horsemanship in the world with associated horse shows, hunts and polo matches and the quality of life known as "the life of Riley"; and

WHEREAS, During World Wars I and II the fort functioned as a full divisional training facility. During the Korean War the fort was home to the 10th and 37th Infantry Divisions and later was home to the 1st Infantry Division, the 9th Infantry Division and the 24th Infantry Division. Today, soldiers from Fort Riley continue to be deployed to areas throughout the world: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Fort Riley upon 150 years of continuous military service and to the soldiers that have served there; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send three enrolled copies of this resolution to Brigadier General Dennis Hardy, Commanding General, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, 500 Huebner Road, Ft. Riley, KS 66442 and two copies to Senator Oleen.

Senate Resolution No. 1874 was sponsored by Senator Oleen.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*