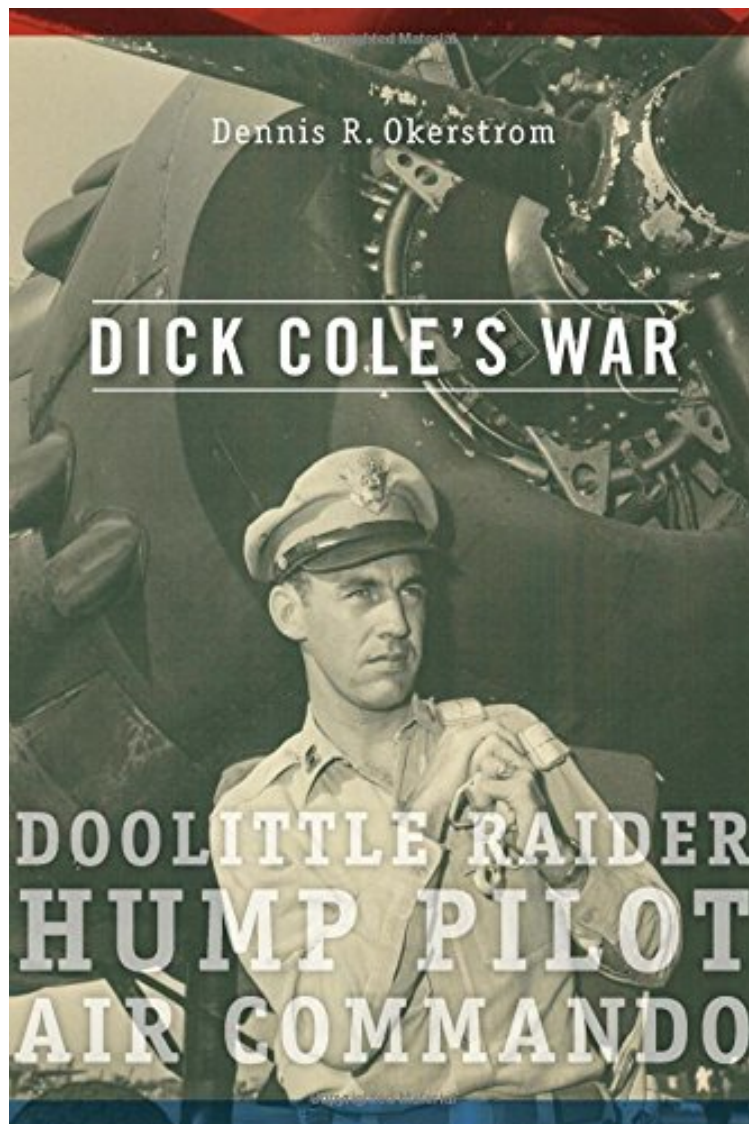


(Mobile pdf) Dick Cole's War: Doolittle Raider, Hump Pilot, Air Commando (American Military Experience)

Dick Cole's War: Doolittle Raider, Hump Pilot, Air Commando (American Military Experience)

Dennis R. Okerstrom

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Dennis R. Okerstrom : Dick Cole's War: Doolittle Raider, Hump Pilot, Air Commando (American Military Experience) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dick Cole's War: Doolittle Raider, Hump Pilot, Air Commando (American Military Experience):

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Dick Cole - A Reluctant HeroBy John LanzaI had the pleasure of

attending the last five Doolittle Raider Reunions. They were incredibly uplifting events?made you proud to be an American?and Dick Cole was a big reason why. As spokesman for the surviving Raiders, he would voice the sentiment of his fellow Raiders that hero wasn't in their vocabulary; they were just doing their jobs, and they did them well. Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey, one of America's great fighting admirals, called the Doolittle Tokyo Raid "one of the most courageous deeds in military history." Dennis Okerstrom's book, *Dick Cole's War*, shows that the Doolittle Raid was only the beginning of many dangerous missions flown by Cole during World War II. Most people only knew of his famous first combat mission, but he was placed in harm's way many times after the Raid. Cole flew more than 250 combat missions during World War II. Okerstrom writes of his experiences as Jimmy Doolittle's co-pilot in the historic Doolittle Raid; his experiences as a pilot "flying the Hump" over the Himalayas into Japanese-occupied China, delivering vital equipment and supplies to keep China in the war; and his experiences as a pilot for the 1st Air Commandos, towing gliders with troops, equipment and supplies into the jungles of Japanese-occupied Burma in the first air invasion in history. Cole believed in what he was doing and performed his assigned tasks with courage, competence and humility. He is the embodiment of the ideals of "Duty, Honor, Country." Okerstrom learned of Cole when he was writing his book *Project 9, Birth of the Air Commandos in World War II*. He also learned that Cole's story had never been told because Cole never wanted it told. He felt he was just doing his job and that many others were heroes, not him. Okerstrom was persistent and the result is this book published on September 7, 2015, Cole's 100th birthday. It was a long time coming, but is well worth the wait. It's a good story about a good man, and well told. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating look at the World War II experiences of ...By Blackrock A fascinating look at the World War II experiences of the man who was the co-pilot of Doolittle during the Tokyo raid. Well-known for his raid experience, his experiences as a Hump pilot and Air Commando are virtually unknown. Indeed, the Air Commando experiment itself is one of the lesser-known events during the war. Altogether, a well-told tale of one man's journey through the morass of the CBI theater. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Glad he is a fellow Texas living in the Texas ...By Cecil Ellis This book should be a read for all to be proud of this gentleman - Richard Cole. Fellow aviators should have this as required reading. I was proud to meet Dick Cole at our Wings Over Houston in October, 2016 and for 101 years old, he looks much younger. Glad he is a fellow Texas living in the Texas Hill Country NW of San Antonio. The author Dennis Okerstrom did an excellent job in reciting Dick Cole's War adventures with personal conversation and research. Cecil Ellis Houston, TX

With the 100th anniversary of his birth on September 7, 2015 Dick Cole has long stood in the powerful spotlight of fame that has followed him since his B-25 was launched from a Navy carrier and flown toward Japan just four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor. In recognition the tremendous boost Doolittle's Raid gave American morale, members of The Tokyo Doolittle Raiders were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in May 2014. Doolittle's Raid was only the opening act of Cole's flying career during the war. When that mission was complete and all of the 16 aircraft had crash-landed in China, many of the survivors were assigned to combat units in Europe. Cole remained in India after their rescue and was assigned to Ferrying Command, flying the Hump of the Himalayas for a year in the world's worst weather, with inadequate aircraft, few aids to navigation, and inaccurate maps. More than 600 aircraft with their crews were lost during this monumental effort to keep China in the war, but Cole survived and rotated home in 1943. He was home just a few months when he was recruited for the First Air Commandos and he returned to India to participate in Project 9, the aerial invasion of Burma.

"Dennis Okerstrom is establishing himself as one of the leading scholars of the American combat aviation experience in World War II. As an academic and an experienced pilot, Okerstrom brings a unique blend of skills to this topic. With his pilot's penchant for detail and his professorial eye for high quality scholarship, Okerstrom illuminates the mindset of combat aviators like few other authors. He is also a skilled writer with a real knack for bringing this important subject to life."—John C. McManus, General Editor of The American Military Experience series; author of *The Dead and those About to Die: D-Day: The Big Red One at Omaha Beach*