

307<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY VETERANS SOCIETY, <sup>INC.</sup>  
P.O. Box 604931, Bay Terrace, NY 11360

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THE 77<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION RESERVE  
OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION, <sup>INC.</sup>  
P.O. Box 604931, Bay Terrace, NY 11360  
[www.77thindivroa.org](http://www.77thindivroa.org)

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COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

77<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

1917



2012

“New York’s Own”

HOSTED BY THE  
307<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY VETERANS SOCIETY

BACCARAT  
VESLE  
OISE-AISNE  
MEUSE-ARGONNE



GUAM  
LEYTE  
KERAMA RETTO  
IE SHIMA  
OKINAWA

**JUNE 9, 2012**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**307<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY REGIMENT MEMORIAL GROVE**  
**CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK, N.Y.**

**HISTORY OF THE 77<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION  
AND SUCCESSOR 77<sup>TH</sup> COMMANDS**

**Program**

*The 77<sup>th</sup> Division, National Army, was organized at Camp Upton, Yaphank, N.Y., on August 25, 1917. It was called the “Metropolitan Division” because its personnel came almost entirely from New York City.*

*On April 30, 1918, the 77<sup>th</sup> went ashore in France -- they were the first National Army division to reach France. The 77<sup>th</sup> attained its greatest fame in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive.*

*During this campaign, soldiers of the “Lost Battalion”, which consisted of elements of the 306<sup>th</sup>, 307<sup>th</sup> and 308<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments, made their historic stand. The division fought in four campaigns -- Baccarat, Oise-Aisne, Aisne-Marne, and Meuse-Argonne. At the end of WWI, the division counted 2,375 men killed or reported missing and 4,394 wounded. The 77<sup>th</sup> was deactivated in May 1919 and reactivated for World War II in the spring of 1942.*

*The 77<sup>th</sup> then trained for more than a year before being deployed to liberate the islands of the South Pacific. The 77<sup>th</sup> fought campaigns in Ie Shima, Guam, Leyte, Kerama Retto and Okinawa. By the end of WWII, 2,140 soldiers of the 77<sup>th</sup> had made the supreme sacrifice and 5,737 had been wounded. After the Japanese surrender in August 1945, the division was assigned to the occupation of Hokkaido, Japan. On March 15, 1946, the 77<sup>th</sup> Division was deactivated in Japan.*

*During the postwar period, from 1947 to 1965, the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was one of six combat divisions in the Army Reserve. The 77<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command (ARCOM) was formed in December 1967 as a part of the reorganization of the command structure of the Army Reserve. In April 1996, it was redesignated as the 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command (RSC).*

*Since September 11, 2001, thousands of 77<sup>th</sup> Reserve soldiers have been mobilized for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. They have served throughout the United States, and overseas. In 2003, the Command was redesignated as the 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command (RRC), which was deactivated in September 2008. At that time, the 77<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade was activated with the colors and lineage of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry (“Statue of Liberty”) Division entrusted to their care. In 2011, the Brigade served as a major logistical unit in Iraq.*

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| INTERLUDE                        | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |
| INTRODUCTORY REMARKS             | COL LOUIS H. SUDHOLZ, JR. (RET.)<br><i>President, 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division<br/>Reserve Officers Association</i> |
| NATIONAL ANTHEM                  | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |
| INVOCATION                       | COL (CHAP) FRANCIS S. MIDURA (RET.)<br><i>Former Chaplain, 77<sup>th</sup> Regional<br/>Readiness Command</i>            |
| REMARKS                          | COL ANDREW A. R. BURNS, USAR<br><i>Command Inspector General,<br/>99<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command</i>           |
| GOD BLESS AMERICA                | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |
| DEDICATION OF<br>COMPANY PLAQUES | COL EDWIN G. LOGAN (RET.)<br><i>President, 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry<br/>Veterans Society</i>                            |
|                                  | COL (CHAP) FRANCIS S. MIDURA (RET.)  |
| PLACING OF WREATH                | COL EDWIN G. LOGAN (RET.)  |
| GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.             | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |
| BENEDICTION                      | COL (CHAP) FRANCIS S. MIDURA (RET.)  |
| TAPS                             | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |
| CLOSING REMARKS                  | COL LOUIS H. SUDHOLZ, JR. (RET.)   |
| POSTLUDE                         | 319 <sup>TH</sup> U.S. ARMY BAND   |

**HISTORY OF THESE  
COMPANY PLAQUES**

*On 1 May 1921, oak trees were planted in this Grove by veterans of Company C and Company H of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in honor of their comrades who had perished in France during World War I. A similar tree was also planted by the veterans of Company E. Speakers at the ceremony reportedly included Colonel Raymond Sheldon, who had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his service in France with the 307<sup>th</sup>, and U.S. Representative Ogden L. Mills (17<sup>th</sup> N.Y. District), who had served as a Captain in the Army during the war.*

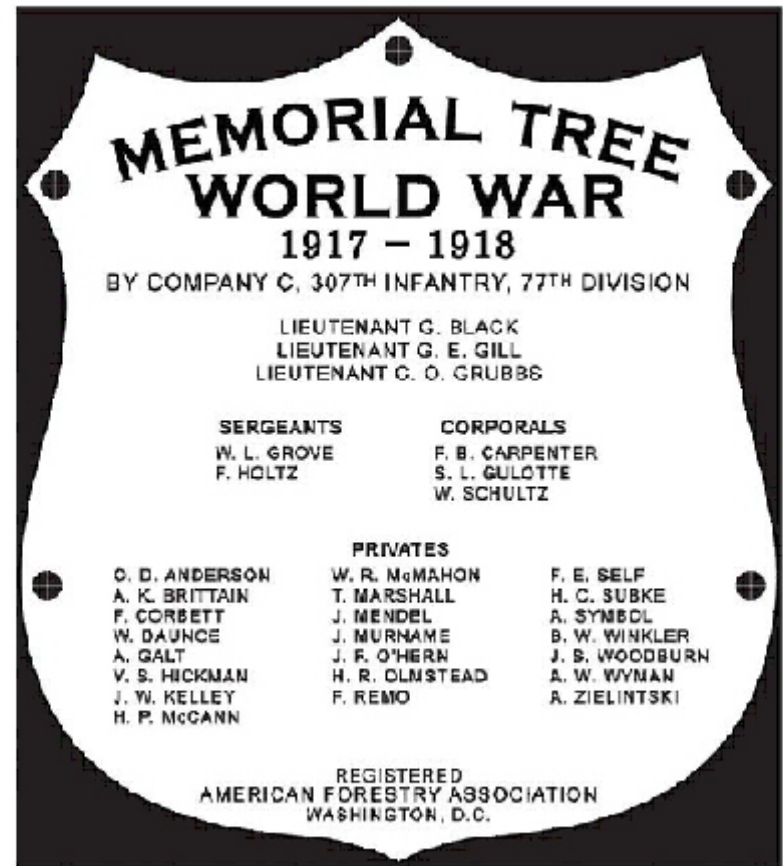
*On 8 May 1921, an oak tree was planted here by veterans of Company M in honor of their fallen comrades, together with similar trees in honor of Companies I, K and L. Three hundred former members of the companies reportedly marched to this site from the 72<sup>nd</sup> Street entrance to the Park, and addresses were made by Park Commissioner Francis D. Gallatin, Major General Robert Alexander, former Commander, 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Captain Samuel S. Nash, Jr., former Commander, Company M, and former Chaplain Stanley M. Cleveland, among others.*

*Each of these three memorial trees, and eleven other trees that were planted in this Grove during the early 1920's in honor of the other companies of the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, soon came to be marked with bronze plaques listing the members of each company who made the supreme sacrifice. A number of years ago, the plaques in honor of Companies C, H and M were stolen by vandals. Over the years, the tree planted in honor of Company M, and four additional company trees, have perished.*

*The three replacement bronze plaques being dedicated today have been provided by the 307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Veterans Society, Inc.*

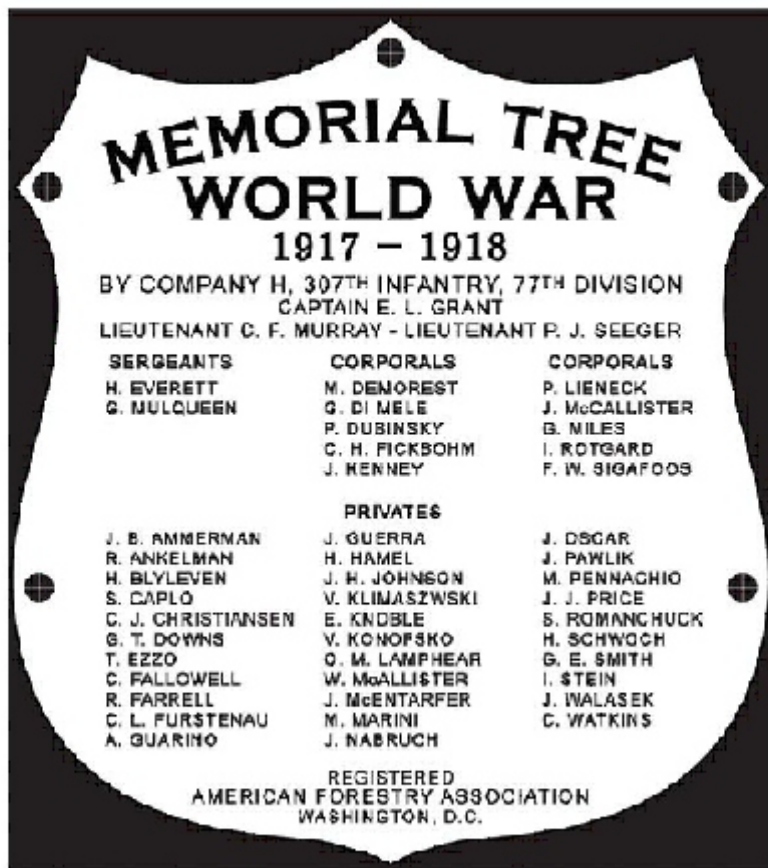
**REPLACEMENT PLAQUE  
DEDICATED 9 JUNE 2012**

*307<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Memorial Grove  
Central Park, New York, N.Y.*



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