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77TH INFANTRY DIVISION



"New York's Own"

HOSTED BY THE 307TH INFANTRY VETERANS SOCIETY



JUNE 9, 2018 11:00 A.M.

307[™] INFANTRY REGIMENT MEMORIAL GROVE CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK, N.Y.

Program

PRELUDE 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

(SSG Joseph M. Young, USAR, Director)

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS COL LOUIS H. SUDHOLZ, JR. (RET)

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POSTING OF COLORS COLOR GUARD

389th Combat Sustainment Support

Battalion

NATIONAL ANTHEM 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

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WORLD WAR I MUSIC 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

REMARKS MG TROY D. KOK, USAR

Commanding General, 99th Readiness

Division

GOD BLESS THE U.S.A. 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

(SSG Joseph M. Young, USAR, Vocalist)

PRAYER CH (1LT) JEREMY PFEISTER, USAR

PLACING OF WREATH

(Amazing Grace)

TAPS 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

(SGT Joseph P. Naples, USAR, Trumpeter)

COL EDWIN G. LOGAN (RET)

RETIREMENT OF COLORS COLOR GUARD

BENEDICTION CH (1LT) JEREMY PFEISTER, USAR

CLOSING REMARKS COL LOUIS H. SUDHOLZ, JR. (RET)

POSTLUDE 319TH U.S. ARMY BAND

HISTORY OF THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION AND SUCCESSOR 77TH COMMANDS

The 77th Division, N.A., was organized at Camp Upton, Yaphank, NY, on August 25, 1917. It was called the "Metropolitan Division" because its personnel came almost entirely from New York City.

The 77th went ashore on April 30, 1918 as the first National Army division to reach France. It attained its greatest fame in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, during which soldiers of the "Lost Battalion", consisting of elements of the 306th, 307th and 308th 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. It was deactivated in May 1919.

After being reactivated for WWII in March 1942, the Division underwent rigorous training prior to being deployed to conduct combat operations on islands in the South Pacific. The 77th fought campaigns on Guam, Leyte, Kerama Retto, Ie Shima and Okinawa. By the end of the war, 2,140 soldiers had made the supreme sacrifice and 5,737 had been reported wounded. After the Japanese surrender in August 1945, the 77th was assigned to occupation duties at Hokkaido, Japan until March 25, 1946, when the Division was deactivated. In 1947, the Division was reconstituted in New York with numerous WWII veterans. During the postwar period until deactivation in December 1965, the 77th was one of six combat divisions in the Army Reserve.

In December 1967, the 77th Army Reserve Command (ARCOM) was formed. It was redesignated in 1996 as the 77th Regional Support Command (RSC), and again in 2003 as the 77th Regional Readiness Command (RRC). In September 2008, the RRC was deactivated and the 77th Sustainment Brigade was activated at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ (JB MDL) with the colors and lineage of the 77th Infantry ("Statue of Liberty") Division entrusted to their care. In 2011, the Brigade assisted with the demobilization in Iraq. Since 1967, thousands of 77th soldiers have been deployed with their units to posts throughout the world.

Separately, the 307th Infantry Regiment was reorganized with its successors serving today as Regular Army units. In October 1999, the Regiment was redesignated as the 307th Regiment with the lineage and honors of the 307th Infantry Regiment. The 1st Battalion (Training), 307th Regiment is stationed at JB MDL.