



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

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Commemorating the centennial of the U.S. entering World War I; many connections to state of Ohio, Ohio National Guard

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COLUMBUS, Ohio — On April 6, 1917, Congress declared war on Germany, ending the 2 1/2-year effort by President Woodrow Wilson to keep the U.S. neutral. Today, 100 years later, the Ohio National Guard commemorates the contributions and sacrifices our predecessors made to help make the world safe for democracy during World War I.

Most of the Ohio National Guard had just returned from a successful nine-month deployment to Texas for Mexican Border service when war was declared. However, some regiments remained in federal service guarding key infrastructure across the state. On July 15, the remaining units of the Ohio National Guard were called into federal service and began recruiting to wartime strength. Ohio also began organizing the necessary units to complete the formation of an all Ohio division, which eventually became the 37th Division.

On Aug. 5, the entire National Guard was drafted into the Army. This permitted the federal government to deploy Guard members outside of the U.S., an act that was meant to circumvent the militia clause of the Constitution. The clause stated that Guard members could only be used to “execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrection and repel invasions” and not be deployed overseas. To sidestep this restriction, the Army’s Judge Advocate General determined that it would be necessary to draft each Guard member into federal service, thus severing his ties to the state militia and freeing him for service overseas. Ohio would send 25,187 officers and men into the Army with a stroke of a pen.

The majority of the Ohio National Guard was sent to Camp Sheridan, Alabama in September for training and was reorganized shortly after as the 37th Division. Known as the “Buckeye Division”, they reached France in June 1918 and received credit for participation in the Lorraine, Meuse-Argonne and Ypres-Lys campaigns. The 37th would be

rated one of the top five American divisions by the German general staff and had the honor of escorting the King of Belgium back into his country after years of German control.

Additionally, 2nd Lt. Albert Baesel, a native of Berea and a member of Company B, 148th Infantry, would earn the Medal of Honor for sacrificing his life trying to carry a wounded Soldier back to friendly lines near Ivory, France in September 1918.

The 4th Infantry Regiment, made up of units from central and south-central Ohio, was picked to join the 42nd Division and was soon renamed the 166th Infantry. The 42nd was made up of National Guard units from 26 states and earned the nickname "Rainbow Division" based on a comment attributed to Douglas MacArthur, who said that such an organization would "stretch over the whole country like a rainbow." The 166th Infantry reached France in November 1917 and participated in the Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine and Champagne campaigns.

Finally, the 9th Infantry Battalion, which was organized across Ohio as a segregated unit, was consolidated with other black organizations from the National Guard to form the 372nd Infantry, an element of the 93rd Division. Serving with the French 157th Division, the regiment earned the French Croix de Guerre with Palm during the Meuse-Argonne campaign for attacking an enemy position under a "violent machine-gun and artillery fire" and "capturing numerous prisoners, cannons, machine guns and important materiel."

Today, there are 44 Ohio Army National Guard units that perpetuate the lineage of World War I ancestors. Units proudly display credits with streamers, in the colors of the World War I victory medal and inscribed with the name of the campaign, on their flags, organizational colors or guidons, depending on the size of the organization. Their service is attested on lineage and honors certificates, issued by the U.S. Army Center of Military History.

This summer also marks the centennial anniversary of three major subordinate commands of the Ohio Army National Guard: the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), 16th Engineer Brigade and 371st Sustainment Brigade. In addition to their World War I service, all three organizations fought in the Pacific during World War II and have deployed multiple times during the War on Terrorism. Over the past 100 years, these organizations have also mobilized countless times in response to the needs of Ohioans for state active duty. The 37th IBCT continues the nickname "Buckeye" and proudly wears the shoulder sleeve insignia of its parent unit that was adopted at the end of World War I — a red and white circle, taken from the flag of Ohio.

Adding to their units' historic lineage, the 37th IBCT is currently deployed in support of Operation Joint Guard-Kosovo Force (KFOR), tasked with maintaining a safe and secure environment for people living along Kosovo's southeastern border, and will return home later this year; the Soldiers of the 371st Sustainment Brigade are currently preparing for a mission to the Middle East later this spring.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Editors who would like more information about an individual unit or location, or to request historical stock photos, may contact Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Mann, Ohio Army National Guard historian, at 614-336-7311 or joshua.d.mann.mil@mail.mil.

A complete list of current Ohio Army National Guard units that perpetuate lineage of World War I units is included on the following pages. The list comprises the current unit designation, current station of the unit, the cited unit it perpetuates as well as the 1917 station of that unit if different from today, and the campaigns and unit awards credited to that organization.

<http://ong.ohio.gov>

<http://www.facebook.com/TheOhioNationalGuard>

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<http://www.youtube.com/OhioNationalGuard>

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CURRENT UNIT	STATION	CITED UNIT(S)	CAMPAIGNS
Ohio Army National Guard Medical Detachment	Columbus	112th Sanitary Train	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team	Columbus	Headquarters, 37th Division	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
148th Infantry Regiment	Northwest Ohio	147th Infantry 166th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Champagne-Marne Aisne-Marne St. Mihiel Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Champaigne 1918
Company B, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry Regiment	Bowling Green	Company F, 147th Infantry (Napoleon) Company F, 146th Infantry (Bowling Green) Company M, 146th Infantry (Ottawa) Company G, 147th Infantry (Defiance)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
134th Field Artillery Regiment	Central Ohio	134th Field Artillery 135th Field Artillery 136th Field Artillery	Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery Regiment	Delaware	Battery C, 134th Field Artillery (Columbus)	Lorraine 1918
Battery A, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery Regiment	Delaware	Company A, 146th Infantry (Bucyrus) Company L, 146th Infantry (Galion)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Battery B, 1st Battalion, 134th Field Artillery Regiment	Piqua	Company C, 148th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
237th Support Battalion	Statewide	2nd Battalion, 372nd Infantry	Meuse-Argonne Alsace 1918 Lorraine 1918

			French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War I, Streamer embroidered MEUSE – ARGONNE
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 237th Support Battalion	Cleveland	Battery A, 135th Field Artillery	Lorraine 1918
Company E, 237th Support Battalion	Lima	Company G, 145th Infantry (Findlay) Company M, 145th Infantry (Lima)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team	St. Marys	Company L, 146th Infantry (Spencerville) Company B, 146th Infantry (St. Marys)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Company A, 837th Engineer Battalion	Wooster	Company D, 146th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
107th Cavalry Regiment	Southwest Ohio	145th Infantry 146th Infantry 135th Field Artillery 136th Field Artillery	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2d Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment	Hamilton	Company G, 372d Infantry (Xenia)	Alsace Lorraine 1918 Meuse-Argonne French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War I, Streamer embroidered MEUSE-ARGONNE
Troop C, 2d Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment	Xenia	Company D, 147th Infantry (Hillsboro) Company L, 147th Infantry (Blanchester) Company M, 166th Infantry (Washington Court House)	Champagne-Marne Aisne-Marne St. Mihiel Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Champagne 1918 Ypres-Lys

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Engineer Brigade	Columbus	Headquarters, 62nd Field Artillery Brigade	Lorraine 1918
112th Engineer Battalion	Brook Park	112th Engineer Regiment	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 112th Engineer Battalion	Brook Park	Company A, 145th Infantry (Berea) 112th Engineer Train (Cleveland) Headquarters Company, 145th Infantry (Cleveland) Machine Gun Company, 145th Infantry (Cleveland) Company H, 372d Infantry (Cleveland)	Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Ypres-Lys Alsace 1918 French Croix de Guerre with palm, World War I, Streamer embroidered MEUSE-ARGONNE
1192d Engineer Company	Newton Falls	Company B, 135th Machine Gun Battalion (Youngstown)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
945th Engineer Company	Norwalk	Company G, 145th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
5694th Engineer Detachment	Mansfield	Company H, 146th Infantry (Shreve)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion	Cincinnati	Company L, 148th Infantry (Manchester)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Support Company, 216th Engineer Battalion	Cincinnati	Battery D, 136th Field Artillery	Lorraine 1918
1194th Engineer Company	Chillicothe	Company H, 166th Infantry (Chillicothe) Company G, 166th Infantry (Greenfield)	Champagne-Marne Aisne-Marne St. Mihiel Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Champagne 1918
811th Engineer Company	Amanda	Company L, 166th infantry (Lancaster)	Champagne-Marne Aisne-Marne St. Mihiel

			Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Champagne 1918
174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	Southern Ohio	147th Infantry 148th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	Cincinnati	Supply Company, 147th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Battery A, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	Cincinnati	Company F, 147th Infantry	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Battery B, 1st Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	Cincinnati	Company E, 148th Infantry (Hamilton)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	McConnelsville	Company D, 148th Infantry (McConnelsville) Battery A, 136th Field Artillery (Athens)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	McConnelsville	Company H, 148th Infantry (New Lexington)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment	McConnelsville	Company F, 112th Ammunition Train (Marietta)	Lorraine 1918
145th Armored Regiment	Northeast Ohio	145th Infantry 146th Infantry 135th Field Artillery 136th Field Artillery	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment	Stow	Battery A, 135th Field Artillery (Cleveland) Company C, 146th Infantry (Canton) Company F, 372d Infantry (Columbus) Supply Company, 145th Infantry (Cleveland)	Ypres-Lys Lorraine 1918 Meuse-Argonne Alsace 1918 French Croix de Guerre with Palm, World War I, Streamer

			embroidered MEUSE- ARGONNE
Company B, 1st Battalion, 145th Armored Regiment	North Canton	Company B, 146th Infantry (Akron)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Special Troops Battalion, 371st Sustainment Brigade	Springfield	Headquarters, 62nd Field Artillery Brigade	Lorraine 1918
Detachment 1, 1485th Transportation Company	Dover	Machine Gun Company, 146th Infantry (Akron)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
1486th Transportation Company	Mansfield	Company E, 146th Infantry (Ashland)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
1487th Transportation Company	Piqua	Company A, 148th Infantry (Covington)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918
Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 437th Military Police Battalion	Columbus	Battery E, 135th Field Artillery (Toledo)	Lorraine 1918
323nd Military Police Company	Toledo	Battery E, 135th Field Artillery	Lorraine 1918
585th Military Police Company	Marysville	Company E, 166th Infantry (Marysville) Company K, 166th Infantry (Delaware) Company I, 146th Infantry (Kenton) Company C, 166th Infantry (London)	Champagne- Marne Aisne-Marne St. Mihiel Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918 Champagne 1918 Ypres-Lys
838th Military Police Company	Youngstown	Company D, 145th Infantry (Warren)	Ypres-Lys Meuse-Argonne Lorraine 1918