

On this day in Ohio National Guard history, Feb. 9, 1945:

During the drive through the Paco District of Manila, Philippines, three members of the 148th Infantry earned the Medal of Honor.

Pfc. Joseph J. Cicchetti, of Company A, led a litter team for more than four hours and rescued 14 wounded men under constant enemy fire. After being wounded in the head, he lifted a comrade on his shoulders and carried him 50 yards to safety. He then collapsed and died from his wound.

Then Pfc. Cleto Rodriguez and Pfc. John Reese Jr., both Browning Automatic Riflemen with Company B, placed themselves forward of their platoon and killed over 80 enemy Soldiers with automatic rifle fire and grenades. With their ammunition low, the two Soldiers made their way back to their platoon while each took turns providing cover fire for the other to move. While reloading, Reese was killed.