March 1, 1803: Ohio becomes the 17th state to join the Union. Partitioned from the Northwest Territory, it is the first state formed under the Northwest Ordinance.

March 2, 1960: The Heraldic Branch of the Quartermaster General approves the coat of arms for the 216th Engineer Battalion.

WEEK IN REVIEW:

March 3, 1918: At a cemetery in Domjevin, France, taps are played at the grave of Pvt. D.J. Bird, Company D, 166th Infantry, 42d Division commanding general Maj. Gen. Charles T. Monoher, chief of staff Col. Douglas MacArthur and French Col. Armouly de Pirey are seen paying their respect to the fallen Soldier.

March 3, 1945: After 27 consecutive days of difficult city fighting, the 37th Infantry Division completes the final mop up of enemy resistance in Manila.

March 5, 1990: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 137th Aviation Regiment is organized in Worthington.

COAT OF ARMS: 216th Engineer Battalion

BLAZONRY (the art of describing or painting heraldic devices or armorial bearings)

SHIELD: Gules, on a fess argent, a section of a girder sable, issuant from base a masoned tower embattled of the second, in chief five lightning flashes radiant of the last.

CREST: That for the regiments and separate battalions of the Ohio National Guard: On a wreath of the colors (argent and gules) a sheaf of seventeen arrows argent bound by a sprig of buckeye fructed proper (two leaves with bursting burr).

MOTTO: Fight and Build.

DESCRIPTION: Red and white are the colors used for Engineers. The three divisions of the field refer to the battalion’s mission of construction, maintenance and demolition. The lightning flashes represent the five battle honors awarded the unit for service in World War II, and also allude to the impact of the Engineers’ destructive forces in hindering enemy movement. The girder symbolizes the unit’s strength and stability in maintaining their work. The wall denotes the sturdy construction and fortification provided by the Engineer Battalion.