

A

LOOK
IN THE
ATTIC

THIS WEEK IN OHIO NATIONAL GUARD HISTORY



THROUGH THE LENS

January 27, 1919

The colors of the 372d Infantry Regiment are decorated by French officials with the Croix de Guerre with palm at Brest, France. The regiment received this award for its heroic actions during the Meuse-Argonne campaign.

 237th Support Battalion

WEEK IN REVIEW:

January 26, 1968: The 166th Tactical Fighter Squadron is ordered into federal service in response to the seizure of the USS Pueblo by North Korea in the Sea of Japan.

 166th Air Refueling Squadron

January 27-31, 1945: During its drive south to Manila, the 37th Infantry Division, with the 145th Infantry on the left and 129th Infantry on the right, swing west to attack and seize Fort Stotsenberg, Clark Field and the heights west of the field known as the "Top of the World."

CONNECTING TO THE COLLECTIONS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS AWARDED TO MAJ. GEN. ROBERT S. BEIGHTLER



The Distinguished Service Cross was established by President Woodrow Wilson on January 2, 1918. General John Pershing, Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Forces in France, had recommended that recognition other than the Medal of Honor be authorized for the Armed Forces of the United States for service rendered, in like manner, to that awarded by the European Armies.

The medal is described as a cross of bronze, 2 inches in height and 1 13/16 inches in width with an eagle on the center and a scroll below the eagle bearing the inscription "FOR VALOR". On the reverse side, the center of the cross is circled by a wreath with a space for engraving the name of the recipient.

Beightler's citation for the award, which was presented to him in October 1945, reads: *for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving as Commanding General of the 37th Infantry Division, in action against enemy forces from 28 January 1945 to 17 February 1945 at Luzon, Philippine Islands. On 28 January, General Beightler, commanding an infantry division, was charged with taking a series of hills held by the enemy. To obtain effective observation for directing his attack, he took a position with his forward elements on top of a hill exposed to enemy machine-gun and small arms fire from other hills nearby. Though artillery shells twice burst within fifty yards of him, he remained on the hilltop, directing the employment of his troops and weapons with maximum effect, until enemy resistance was reduced and the objectives were taken. On 7 February, during the first crossing of the Pasig River in Manila, he again placed himself with his forward units and, under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, calmly directed the attack of his infantry elements. Inspired by his presence, his forces pressed the attack and accomplished their mission with noteworthy success. General Beightler's gallant leadership and constant visits to his front line troops under enemy fire to direct their employment have been a source of inspiration to his division.*