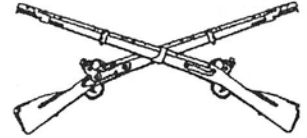




**77TH INFANTRY DIVISION RESERVE OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. BOX 604931  
Bay Terrace, New York 11360-4931**



June 15, 2001

Hon. Frank Padavan  
New York State Senate  
89-39 Gettysburg Street  
Bellerose, New York 11426

Dear Senator (Colonel) Padavan:

Re: Renaming of Clearview Expressway (Interstate 295)

As discussed, we should greatly appreciate your assistance and legislative leadership in having New York State honor the memories, deeds and service of the several hundred thousand New Yorkers whose service and sacrifices helped shape United States and world history from 1917 to the present as members of the United States Army's 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and its successor commands and units. No monument recognizes their many bold accomplishments and great sacrifices made during war and peace. Even today, 77<sup>th</sup> units and members continually deploy to many areas of the world on important military missions. We believe the State can provide appropriate recognition to these past and present (and future) soldiers by renaming the Clearview Expressway (Interstate 295) to be 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Expressway or 77<sup>th</sup> Division Expressway.

We believe this should be a total renaming, as was done with the Interboro Parkway to honor Jackie Robinson; not just additional signage for an additional name. To eliminate inconvenience and costs for residents along the Clearview's service roads, we suggest the service roads retain the Clearview name in the manner in which Horace Harding Boulevard was retained for Queens residents along the Long Island Expressway. Federal and State Departments of Transportation have informed us the renaming can be accomplished through an act passed by the New York State Legislature and signed by the Governor.

Our main reasons for proposing the Clearview Expressway for the renaming are:

The present name bears little significance, other than geographic location.

All through its colorful history, the 77<sup>th</sup> has continually been referred to as "The Metropolitan Division," "New York's Own" and "The Statue of Liberty

Division" (its shoulder patch), because its personnel have always come almost entirely from the New York area, including during both World Wars.

Since 1967, the headquarters of the 77th's successor commands (which officially carry the lineage and insignia of the 77th Division) have been located at Fort Totten, close to the Clearview. The colors, battle streamers and memorabilia of the 77th are also housed there.

The 77th has long been an example of diversity. For example, during both World Wars, it was composed of civilian recruits from all walks of life, almost entirely from the New York area, with many (some say a majority) of them being foreign-born, recent immigrants or sons of immigrants. Its even greater diversity is readily apparent in its current members and leaders. As Queens is such a richly diverse borough, it is appropriate a highway therein reflect this tradition. Our organization and others will conduct information campaigns and events to help make this renamed highway a significant living monument...one which all New Yorkers – men, women and children, veterans, current service members, recent immigrants, people of many ethnicities – can identify with, and one in which they can take justifiable pride.

Enclosed are some highlights and summaries of the 77th's proud history and copies of some recent county resolutions supporting this effort. Other officials and prominent persons have indicated their willingness to be of help. Your own guidance and leadership are invaluable to us. Please let me know what our next steps should be. Thank you, Senator, for your interest and courtesies.

Sincerely,

Colonel Louis H. Sudholz, Jr.  
Army of the United States (Retired)  
President, 77th Infantry Division  
Reserve Officers Association

Home telephone: (203) 968-1064  
encl

Graphic Section  
Part Five

# New York Tribune

Graphic Section  
May 4, 1919

## WELCOME 77<sup>TH</sup>



## NEW YORK'S OWN

## 77<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION WARTIME CASUALTIES

### WORLD WAR I

2,375 Killed or Missing In Action

4,394 Wounded

2,368 Gassed

### WORLD WAR II

2,140 Killed or Missing In Action

5,737 Wounded

## MEDAL OF HONOR AWARDS TO SOLDIERS OF THE 77<sup>th</sup> (often referred to as "THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR")

WORLD WAR I – 8 including 1 posthumously

WORLD WAR II – 7 including 3 posthumously

In each of these wars, this number was greater than that of any other division's members' awards of this highest honor.

During World War II, another casualty was Pulitzer Prize winner correspondent Ernie Pyle, killed by an enemy machine gun bullet on Ie Shima while with the 77<sup>th</sup> in what the official history of that campaign termed "the stiffest opposition in its experience."

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SERVICE OF THE

### 77<sup>th</sup>

## NEW YORK LIBERTY PATCH CITIZEN SOLDIERS

### WORLD WAR I

The 77<sup>th</sup> was the first "National Army of the United States" division of draftees to go "on the line" in Europe. It fought in four campaigns: Baccarat, Oise-Aisne, Aisne-Marne and Meuse-Argonne, with 68 days of actual combat, and proved to the Allied High Command that these "amateurs" could hold their own against the enemy's seasoned professionals. No other U.S. division was as near to the German frontier. The heroic stand of its famed, isolated "Lost Battalion" in the Argonne Forest and the 77<sup>th</sup>'s breakthrough rescue of its holdout survivors stirred the nation. In 1919, the division was placed in inactive status as a unit of the Organized Reserve Corps. For years, its volunteer reservists trained cadets in Citizens Military Training Camps and played a role in the Civilian Conservation Corps field program.

### WORLD WAR II

When the 77<sup>th</sup> was reactivated and assembled from the Organized Reserve Corps in 1942, the average age of its soldiers was 32, with some in their forties and fifties, making it the Army's oldest infantry division. The 77<sup>th</sup> fought in three Pacific campaigns: Marianas, the Philippines and Okinawa, with about 200 days of actual combat, including amphibious invasions. It fought intense battles – often hand-to-hand – in the liberation of Guam and Leyte (Philippines) and in the taking of Ie Shima and Okinawa. The 77<sup>th</sup> then went on to serve in the occupation of Japan until 1946.

## 77<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION, U.S. ARMY RESERVE

From 1947 to 1965 -- 18 years which saw East European countries, China and others come under communist control, the Berlin Airlift, the Korean War, the Cold War buildup, the Cuba Missile Crisis, the start of the Vietnam War, and other far-flung international crises -- the 77<sup>th</sup> was one of the six combat divisions of the Army Reserve held ready for worldwide contingencies, if needed.

## 77<sup>th</sup> U.S. ARMY RESERVE COMMAND

In 1967, as part of the reorganization of the national command structure of the U.S. Army Reserve, this new command was activated as the nation's largest Army Reserve Command, with approximately 20,000 reservists in over 200 units, mostly across New York State. The 77<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Reserve Command inherited the official lineage and Statue of Liberty shoulder patch of the deactivated 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and the division's last commanding general became the new command's first commanding general.

## VIETNAM WAR

In 1968, six units of the 77<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Reserve Command were called to active duty. Five of these served with distinction in Vietnam and were considered among the finest of their type, with many unit members receiving decorations for outstanding service. The sixth unit served in a stateside support role.

## POSTAL-STRIKE NATIONAL EMERGENCY

In 1970, when postal workers defied a federal court order, the President declared a national emergency and called to active duty almost all New York metropolitan area units of the 77<sup>th</sup>, along with its Headquarters. The 14,000 reservists mobilized included Navy and Marine Corps personnel placed under command of the 77<sup>th</sup>. This was the first time the reserve was called to active duty to deal with a domestic crisis. The call-up proved

that within only a few hours, reserve units could be mobilized and operational, and could function well in a multi-service environment.

## HURRICANE AGNES

In 1972, the 77<sup>th</sup> accomplished another historical first, when its Headquarters and thirteen of its units from all across New York State and one from New Jersey, provided assistance with rescue and relief work during devastating Hurricane Agnes and its aftermath. This was the first time the Army Reserve was deployed with the Active Army in prolonged natural disaster relief work.

## “REAL-WORLD” MISSIONS

Many of the 77<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Reserve Command's units and thousands of its soldiers accomplished real-world missions during their training assemblies, weeks of annual training and other active duty, in such actions as building roads in Latin America, treating patients in military and civilian hospitals, environmental projects, preparing disaster plans for communities, performing intelligence assignments and studies, assisting in disaster relief, processing refugees, rebuilding military equipment and weapons systems, helping to train Active-Army and other Armed Forces units and personnel, providing military police, administrative, logistical, counterintelligence, intelligence, communications and other support to military installations and activities and to various government agencies, and through many other significant projects and assignments.

## THE GULF WAR

In 1990, from many parts of New York State, 28 units of the 77<sup>th</sup> with about 3,500 soldiers (one of every four 77<sup>th</sup> reservists), were mobilized and deployed to Saudi Arabia, Germany and elsewhere as part of the ultimate test of the Reserve system. They performed admirably, and were welcomed home in 1991 with a gala parade down Broadway's "Canyon of Heroes." The parade drew the largest crowd since General MacArthur's return from Korea.

AND NOW...

## THE 77<sup>th</sup> REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

In 1995, the Army Reserve's units were realigned nationally to provide peacetime support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the event of natural or manmade catastrophes, and the 77<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Reserve Command became the 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command, with approximately 12,000 reservists from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, in 113 units, mostly in the New York metropolitan area.

That year, nine units of the new command were called to active duty to support NATO peacekeeping efforts in the former Yugoslavia (Bosnia-Herzegovina). Since then, 77<sup>th</sup> soldiers have been serving nine-month active-duty tours in that region and other parts of Europe.

77<sup>th</sup> soldiers continued the tradition of making Army Reserve history when they processed over 4,000 Kosovo refugees at Fort Dix and arranged for them to live with sponsor families in the U.S. This was the first U.S.-based joint service refugee mission assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve. 77<sup>th</sup> soldiers also went to Guatemala and built schools, wells and roads, and provided medical and dental assistance to people in remote mountain towns.

In 2001, thousands of 77<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command soldiers are continuing to perform important, meaningful missions in the U.S. and around the world.

## THE 77<sup>th</sup> NEVER FOUGHT IN A LOSING CAMPAIGN.

\* \* \*

Since 1967, the Headquarters of the 77<sup>th</sup> has been continually located at Fort Totten, Bayside, Queens, near the Clearview Expressway. In 1983, the Ernie Pyle U.S. Army Reserve Center was built at Fort Totten, as the largest Army Reserve Center in the nation and the only one named for a civilian – a Pulitzer Prize correspondent killed while covering the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in World War II combat.

HEADQUARTERS  
77TH INFANTRY (STATUE OF LIBERTY) DIVISION  
INFORMATION SECTION  
STAFF SERGEANT VINCENT Q. KELLY USAR CENTER  
529 West 42d Street  
New York, New York 10036  
212 Pennsylvania 6-2331

5 September 1963

SUMMARIZED HISTORY  
OF  
77TH INFANTRY (STATUE OF LIBERTY) DIVISION

Organized by U. S. Army Department of the East, the Division was activated 25 August 1917, at Camp Upton, Long Island, New York, and received its first draftees on 10 September 1917, under officer graduates from the First Officer Training Camps of Plattsburg, Madison Barracks, and Fort Niagara. This was the first National Army of the United States division of draftees (equivalent of today's Army of the United States organizations).

World War I gave the Statue of Liberty Division its baptism of fire. Embarkation to the European front started 27 March 1918. It fought in France from 19 June 1918 through the Armistice on 11 November 1918.

This period of active front line combat included the following campaigns:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ENEMY ENGAGED</u>
Baccarat Sector	2 Divisions
Vesle-Aisne Sector	4 Divisions
Argonne Forest Sector	5 Divisions
Aire-Meuse Sector	9 Divisions

The Division was in combat for 81 days and took 750 prisoners and captured over 8000 enemy weapons.

Between the Wars there was little activity. The Division was inactivated on 29 May 1919. However, it remained on the scene as a unit of the Organized Reserve Corps. This was an organization of reserve officers and reservists on three-year voluntary enlistments. One of its most notable activities was supplying officer staffs on two-week tours to command and train the cadets attending Citizens Military Training Camps. Records covering the "depression period" of the thirties show that the Division also engaged in summer training at Camp Dix, New Jersey (now Fort Dix) during the 1930's and many of its officers played a role in the Civilian Conservation Corps field program.

World War II marks the second commitment of the Statue of Liberty Division to combat. Reactivated on 25 March 1942, it trained at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina; sharpened its claws in the Louisiana maneuvers, the California Camp Young desert training, and the Virginia Camp Pickett amphibious training. It embarked for Hawaii on 24 March 1944, and fought through to the Japanese surrender

on 14 August 1945. This period of active combat included the following campaigns:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NATURE</u>
Guam Island	Amphibious and mountain
Leyte, Philippine Islands	Amphibious and towns
Kerama Retto Island	15 landings and assaults
Ie Shima Island	Total assault
Okinawa	Relieved 96th Division

The Statue of Liberty Division was in combat 215 days and killed 43,651 enemy soldiers. After reconstitution at Cebu, Philippines the Division took up occupation duty in Japan on 15 October 1945. It was returned to the United States and was inactivated on 15 March 1946.

After World War II the Statue of Liberty Division reverted to standby status. On 1 November 1946, it reorganized as a United States Army Reserve division with headquarters in New York City; underwent change-over to the pentomic concept 1 May 1959, and was again reorganized under ROAD (Reorganization of Army Divisions) on 26 March 1962.

#### CHRONOLOGY:

Active Division status - 25 August 1917 to 29 May 1919  
Inactive Division status - 30 May 1919 to 24 March 1942  
Active Division status - 25 March 1942 to 15 March 1946  
Inactive Division status - 16 March 1946 to 31 October 1946  
United States Army Reserve  
Division status - 1 November 1946 to present

#### DIVISION COMMANDERS

25 August 1917 - 30 November 1917  
Maj. Gen. Franklin J. Bell

1 December 1917 - 10 May 1918  
Brig. Gen. Evan M. Johnson

10 May 1918 - 28 August 1918  
Maj. Gen. George B. Duncan

29 August 1918 - 29 May 1919  
Maj. Gen. Robert Alexander

30 May 1919 - 24 March 1942  
Unknown at present - currently being researched

25 March 1942 - 24 June 1942  
Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger

25 June 1942 - 15 May 1943  
Maj. Gen. Roscoe B. Woodruff

16 May 1943 - 15 March 1946  
Maj. Gen. Andrew D. Bruce

16 March 1946 - 31 October 1946  
Unknown at present - currently being researched

1 November 1946 - 1 October 1955  
Maj. Gen. Julius Ochs Adler

2 October 1955 - 30 November 1957  
Maj. Gen. Alfred G. Tuckerman

1 December 1957 -  
Maj. Gen. John W. Kaine

Awards received by members of the Division while in its service total 350 in combat category as follows:

Congressional Medal of Honor	11
Distinguished Service Cross	85
Silver Star	230
Legion of Merit	16
Croix de Guerre	7
Legion of Honor	1

Highlights in the Division's record are numerous, the best-known being:

First American all-draft and reserve division (National Army Status) to be sent to Europe in WWI.

Contained the famous "Lost Battalion" (from 308th Infantry) which, though surrounded, fought off incessant attacks for more than 100 hours and refused demands for surrender. On 8 October 1918, the 252 survivors of the 679 member original force marched out with their sick and wounded when relieved.

The famous reporter and war correspondent Ernie Pyle was killed by a Japanese sniper while covering the Division's assault against strong Japanese positions on the Island of Ie Shima.

Miscellany, while open to perhaps hundreds of anecdotes of historic pertinence, must include these few items:

The Division never fought in snow.

The 77th Infantry Division never fought in a losing campaign.

The Division's insignia is a trapezoid in bright blue containing a gold Statue of Liberty.

The Division is traditionally designated as "The Statue of Liberty Division" since it was formed largely by New York City area men and has continued to function as a New York-based military organization.

Official battle credits for which campaign medals and ribbons were awarded are:

- WW I - Baccarat Sector
- WW I - Vesle-Aisne Battle
- WW I - Argonne Forest Battle
- WW I - Aire-Meuse Sector
- WW II - Western Pacific
- WW II - Southern Philippines
- WW II - Ryukus

Under ROAD (Reorganization of Army Divisions) Plan, the 77th Infantry Division United States Army Reserve was declared 1 of 6 Reserve Divisions in continental United States to be maintained at full-strength status.

NOTE: This brief history of the 46-year existence of the "Statue of Liberty Division" was prepared by Information Section, Headquarters, 77th Infantry (Statue of Liberty) Division through research among:

"History of the Seventy Seventh Division"

Published in 1919 - Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co.

Series of Historical Briefs (1955 - 1962)

Prepared by Previous Division Information Sections

News Clippings

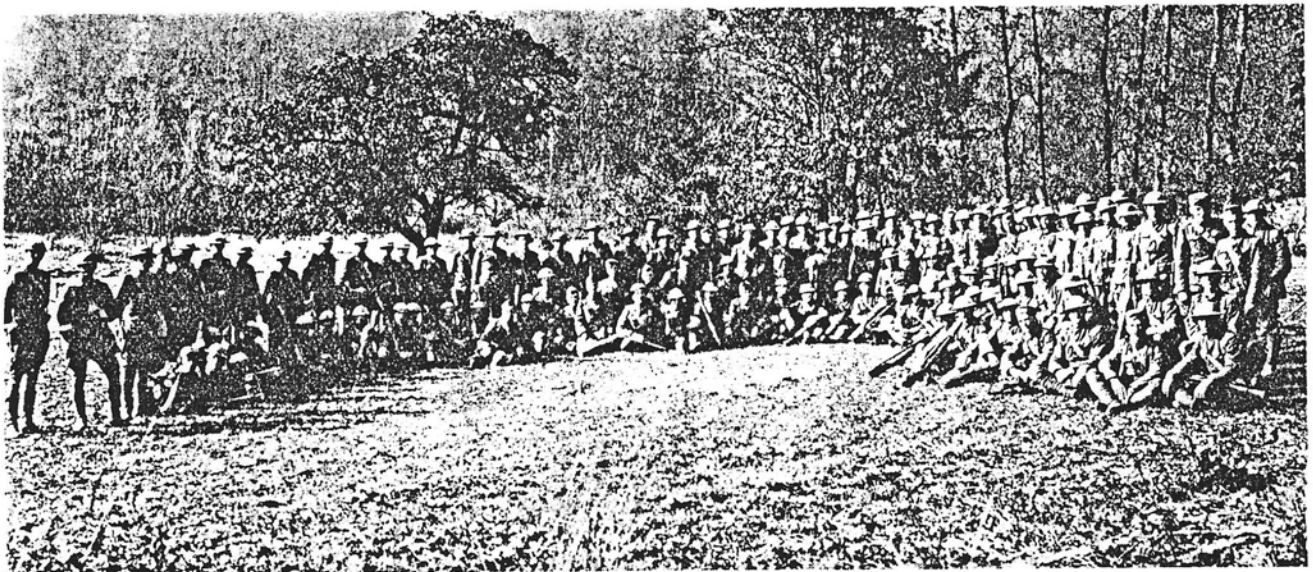
Interviews with some long-service members.

THE 77TH THROUGH THE YEARS      By PFC Robert Banov

The proud history of the 77th Division begins with its activation on 25 August 1917 at Camp Upton, Long Island. The first draftees arrived on 10 Sept under officer graduates from the First Officer Training Camps of Plattsburg, Madison Barracks and Fort Niagara. This was the first National Army of the U.S. division of draftees and was the equivalent of today's Army of the United States organizations.

The shoulder patch of royal blue triangle with the Statue of Liberty embroidered in gold and the title "Statue of Liberty Division" was soon picked for the 77th. Men from all walks of life were inducted into the service that Fall.

In June, 1918, the unit fought in France and remained there through many decisive battles until the armistice on 11 November, 1918. The fighting covered a long, tumultuous period and included the following: the Baccarat Sector, Vesle-Aisne Sector, Argonne Forest Sector and the Aires Meuse Sector.



The famous "Lost Battalion" (308th Infantry) came from this Division. Actually, the battalion was not lost, but it was cut off from the remainder of the Division and surrounded by a superior number of Germans near Charleaux, in the Argonne Forest, from the morning of 3 October 1918, to the night of 7 October 1918.

Without for more than 100 hours, harassed continuously by machine gun, rifle, trench mortar and grenade fire, the battalion successfully repulsed daily violent attacks. It held its position until contact was re-established with friendly troops. Of the original force of 550 men, 294 were able to walk out of the position when relieved.

Between the wars there was little activity. The Division was inactivated on 29 May 1919 but remained as a unit of the Organized Reserve Corps. One of its chief duties was to train cadets attending Citizens Military Training Camps. During the Depression years, the unit continued to train at Camp Dix, New Jersey. Many of the officers played a role in the Civilian Conservation Corps field program giving aid to the nation and employment to workers suffering from the depression.

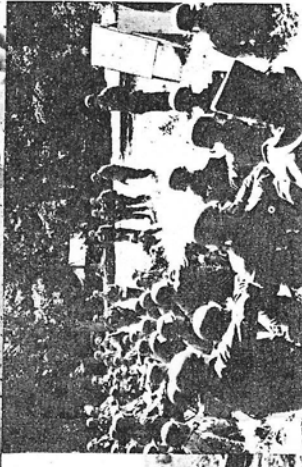
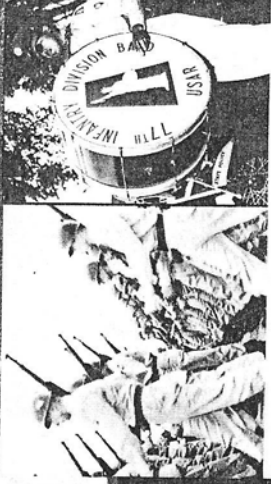
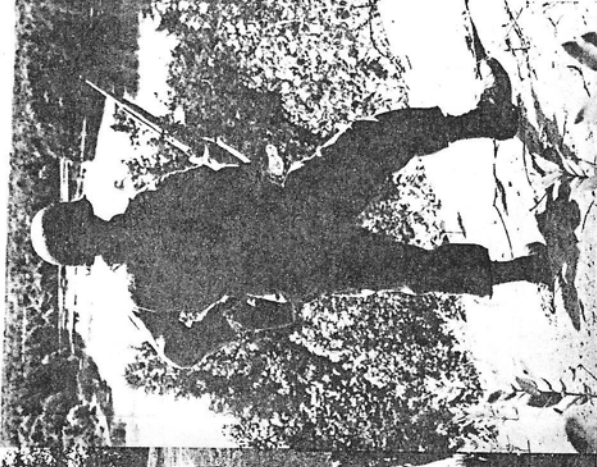
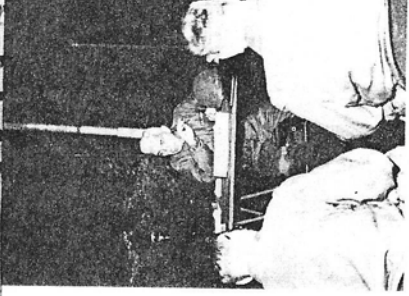
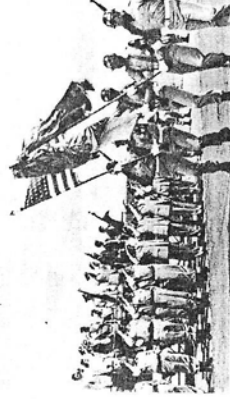
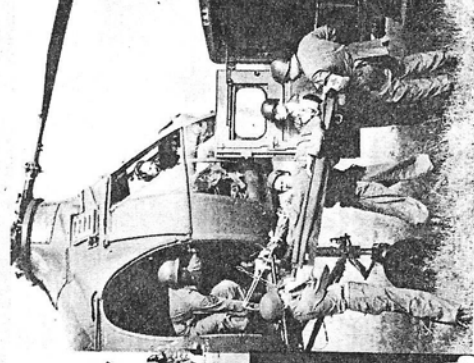
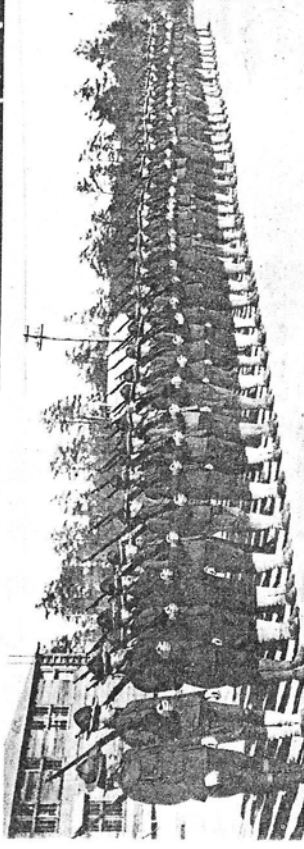
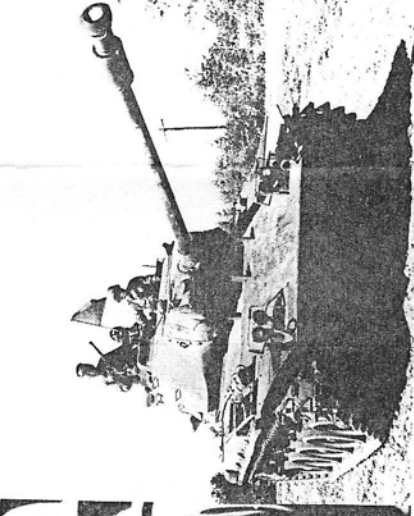
World War II marked the second commitment of the Statue of Liberty Division to combat. Reactivated on 25 March 1942, it trained at Fort Jackson, S.C., and sharpened its claws at Camp Young in Calif., Camp Pickett in Virginia. It left for Hawaii on 24 March 1944, and fought through to the Japanese surrender on 14 August 1945. This period of active combat included the following campaigns: Guam Island, Leyte, Philippine Islands, Kerma Retto Island, Ie Shima Island and Okinawa. The famed war correspondent, Ernie Pyle, was with the 77th at that time. He was killed by a sniper's bullet while covering the Division's assault against Japanese positions on the island of Ie Shima.

# The 77th Division Through the Years

Through war and peace,

the 77th has been at the ready;  
through the hells of the Argonne  
and Okinawa; through the anxieties  
of Berlin and Cuba.

Through change and innovation,  
through patience and perseverance,  
through the years, we've been there.



## NEW YORK'S OWN

A clerk removed his well worn hat  
From the rack on the office wall;  
An artist laid his brushes by,  
And a mason left his maul;  
The iceman quit his clanking tongs,  
And the mailman ceased his rounds;  
While a millionaire's son jacked up his car,  
And locked his country grounds.

So Paddy Ryan and Percival Nail  
Left side by side for their tough travail;  
In every alley-way and street,  
The terrible tread of marching feet  
Forewarned the Hun, with ominous ring,  
That "New York's Own" were marshalling  
Their rainbow hosts for battle-tasks.  
And when the wide world idly asks,  
"Where are the men who did not fail?"  
They're Paddy Ryan and Percival Nail.

## 77th DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

By P.F.C. Lawrence Cohen

The professional soldier stood on the steps of his administration building. Members of his staff, most of whom were newly graduated volunteer officers, waited attentively behind him. He was to meet the first contingent of draftees from the New York City area to be trained at Camp Upton, Long Island.

As they began rolling into the training area, General Franklin J. Bell, first commander of the division, shuddered, "They're a motley crew."

But that "motley crew," consisting of; students, laborers, musicians, butchers, clerks, lawyers.....men of muscle and men of brain went on to experience in two World Wars every kind of combat condition except two. They never fought in snow and they never fought in a losing campaign.

Turning an aggregation of civilians into a fighting unit has also been a reflection of the Liberty Division's fine administration.

Since World War II the "crews" participated in 17 summer tours at Camp Drum. Names like Nash Blvd. and Oswego Road are as familiar to Libertymen as the Grand Concourse and Pitkin Avenue.

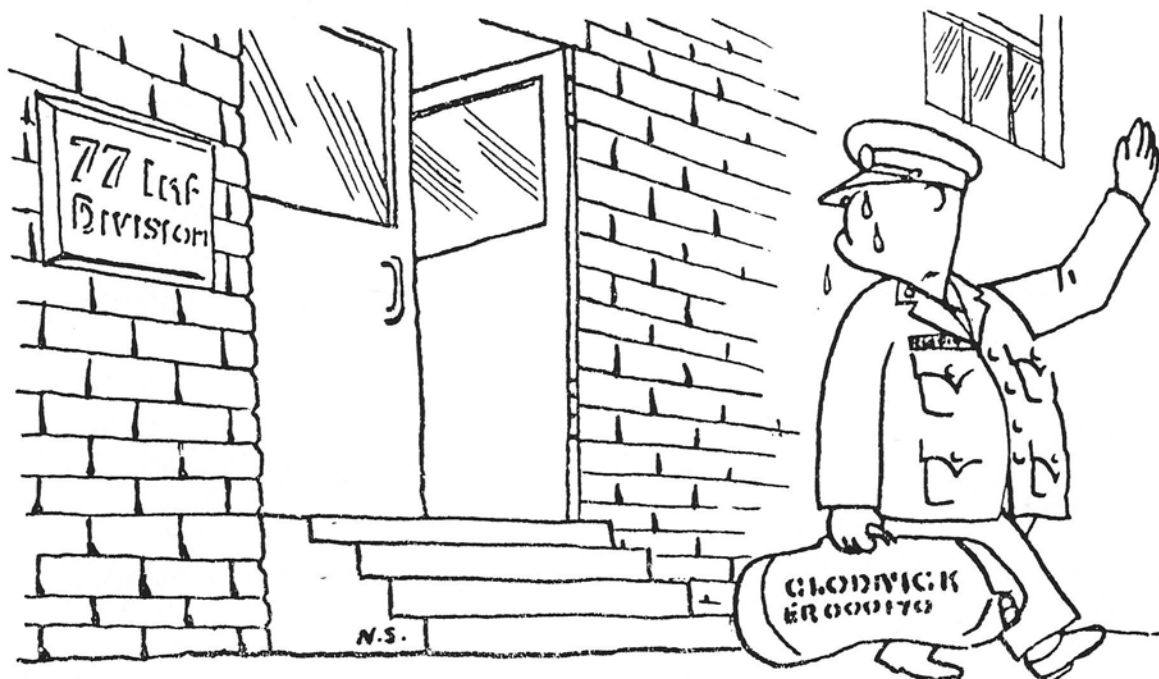
Individual acts of heroism marked every peacetime summer camp; from a sergeant risking his life to pull one of his men from a submerged tank, to an MP rushing a boy away from a smoldering car.

Training increased in its intensity during recent years.

In May of 1964, Exercise Oneida Bear at Camp Drum served to polish the Army's combat techniques and test the operational capability of the ROAD concept of military organizations.

Rigorous instruction in small unit tactics, counterinsurgency, guerilla warfare and defense against battlefield-type nuclear weapons has always been stressed in the training cycles.

Maybe the significance of the 77th can best be described by a WCBS Radio News broadcast at midnight on August 30, 1963, which said, "It's the last holiday week-end of the summer and thousands of tourists poured into New York City tonight. Many more left the bigtown tonight by car, train, bus and plane. Among those departing were some 8,000 soldiers of New York's Statue of Liberty Division. They were not leaving for fun."

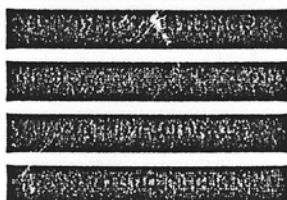




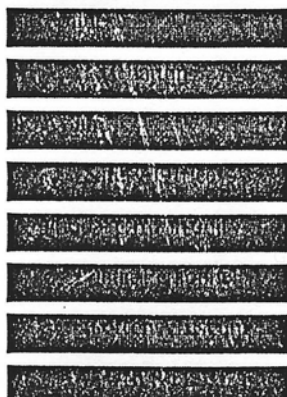
# United States Army Reserve 77th Regional Support Command

*Our Mission: To provide the nation with trained and ready units,  
and furnish superior services to our customers*

*Units &  
Leadership*



*Favorites*



The Lost Battalion of the 77th Division A.E.F. returns to New York from France in April of 1919. Photo taken April 24, 1919 by Int.Film Service

## HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

### 77<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND

Shortly after its activation in 1967, the 77th ARCOM inherited the lineage of the 77th Infantry Division. The fame of the 77th, the "Statue of Liberty" Division, began during World War I and continued in the Pacific during World War II.

The 77th Division, National Army, was organized at Camp Upton, Yaphank, N.Y. on August 25, 1917. It called itself the "Metropolitan Division" because its personnel came almost entirely from New York City. A unit of twenty three thousand men it included Manhattan taxi drivers, Bronx tailors, Brooklyn factory hands, Wall Street executives and first generation emigrants wearing the icon of freedom.

On April 30, 1918 the 77th went ashore in France -- they were

first Army division to reach France. The 77th attained its greatest fame in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. During this campaign soldiers of the "Lost Battalion", which consisted of elements of the 306<sup>th</sup> 307<sup>th</sup> and 308<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalions made their historic stand.

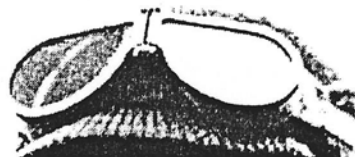
For three days, the unit repulsed repeated German attacks. The Germans sent a note urging surrender. Major Charles S. Whittlesey, commander of the unit, replied "Come and get us." An act for which he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Carrier pigeons were used by the Allies to communicate positions of units and to relay messages to headquarters. The Lost Battalion was down to one pigeon, "Cher Ami". The unit attached a note with its location to Cher Ami's leg and the pigeon flew into the smoke of the battle. Despite losing a wing and a leg, Cher Ami made it to headquarters resulting in allied troops rescuing the battalion. Of the 679 men in the battalion, only 252 survived. They are honored today by the Lost Battalion Building in Rego Park, Queens NY.

The pigeon was credited with saving the unit. Cher Ami is now on display in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. During its 68 days in combat, the division fought in four campaigns -- Baccarat, Oise Aisne, Aisne-Marne, and Meuse-Argonne. Official records show no other American Division advanced closer to the German frontier than the front line of the 77th. At the end of the campaign, the division counted 2,375 men killed or reported missing and 7,302 wounded.

The 77th was deactivated in May 1919 and reactivated for W.W.II in the spring of 1942. "The old bastards" as they were nicknamed, began training at Fort Jackson S.C. in March of 1942. Assembled from the Army Reserve in less than 40 days, the 77th was assigned to the Pacific theater to liberate the islands of the South Pacific. They were the oldest Infantry unit in the Army and made their initial landing on the island of Guam, the first populated island captured by the Japanese. The 77th spent May and June of 1945 on the front lines in Okinawa, often fighting hand-to-hand.

On the island of Ie Shima, three miles west of Okinawa, the 77th saw some of its worst fighting. The capture of Ie Shima was crucial to the Pacific war effort. Among the 239 soldiers who died was one civilian, famed war correspondent Ernie Pyle. Soldiers of the Liberty Division erected a crude wooden monument to the beloved Pulitzer Prize winner who was slain by a Japanese sniper.



**Ernie Pyle,  
U.S. War Correspondent**

After the Japanese surrender in August 1945, the division



was assigned to the occupation of Hakodate, Hokkaido. On March 15, 1946, the Liberty Division was deactivated in Japan. During its five operations in three campaigns, the 77th spent 200 days in actual combat and lost more than 2,000 soldiers. The 77th never fought in a losing campaign.

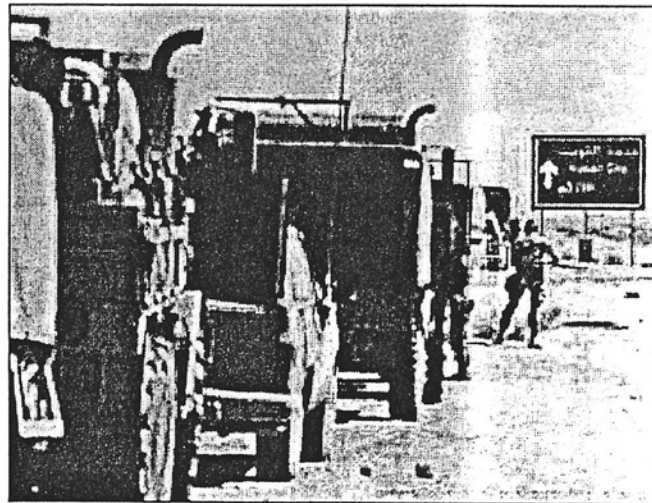
During the postwar period, from 1947 to 1965, the 77th

Infantry Division was one of the six combat divisions of the Army Reserve. The 77th Army Reserve Command (ARCOM) was formed in December 1967 as a part of the reorganization of the command structure of the Army Reserve.

Six units of the 77th ARCOM were called to active duty as a result of the Pueblo Crisis in 1968. Five of these served in Vietnam and many unit members received decorations and awards for outstanding service.

Liberty Patchers were center stage during America's Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebration on July 4, 1986. The 77th ARCOM's band entertained at Lincoln Center, Gracie Mansion and on Liberty Island. The ARCOM's artillery fired a thunderous salute to the 50 states during the International Naval Review.

The 77th ARCOM faced another challenge in August 1990 when the Iraqi Army invaded Kuwait. Some 3,500 soldiers from 28 ARCOM units -- about one-quarter of the ARCOM's strength -- were mobilized. Citizen-soldiers supplemented their active component counterparts not only in the Persian Gulf, but also in Germany and in the United States.



### 301st Area Support Group

During the South West Asia conflict, Liberty Patchers controlled the loading of thousands of tons of shipboard cargo. The 77th's

engineering units constructed buildings, roads, and water pipelines in support of the allied effort. They ran enemy prisoner

of war camps; air evacuated patients and provided expert medical care. Units of the 77<sup>th</sup> were essential command and control elements providing transportation and equipment to all areas of the battlefield. They also provided military intelligence units and direct logistics support to combat units and combat service support operations.

The 77th ARCOM was reorganized into the 77th Regional Support Command on October 1, 1995. The term "regional support" represents the command's mission in peacetime to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in case of natural or manmade catastrophes. It has its headquarters in Bayside, Queens, New York at historic Fort Totten, where the Reserve Command has been since 1968.

In December 1995, the 77<sup>th</sup> received orders to support Operation Joint Endeavor, the United Nations peace keeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Since then, members of the command have provided vital Combat Service support, Military Police, Medical and Public Affairs resources while serving 270-day tours in the region.

The 77th Regional Support Command stands ready to provide the nation with trained and ready soldiers.



**UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE**  
**77th Regional Support Command**  
**Ernie Pyle USAR Center**  
**Ft. Totten, NY 11359-1016**

**77th RSC PAO: (718) 352-5226**



**Webmaster: Mr. Chet Marcus, Public Affairs**  
**[[marcusc@usarc-emh2.army.mil](mailto:marcusc@usarc-emh2.army.mil)]**

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# OFFICE OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



Martin W. Haley  
County Legislator, 6th District

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(631) 854-1603 fax

E-Mail Address: mhaley@suffolk.lib.ny.us

Chairman  
Legislative & Personnel Committee

Member  
Finance & Financial Services Committee  
Economic Development & Energy Committee  
Health Committee

February 22, 2001

Colonel Richard L. Boyle, Ret.  
31 Timber Ridge Road  
Coram, NY 11727-2341

Dear Colonel Boyle:

I am pleased to advise that Sense Resolution #150-2000, requesting the State of New York to rename the Clearview Expressway to the 77th Infantry Division Expressway, which I sponsored on your behalf, was **APPROVED** unanimously at the 1/30/01, meeting of the Legislature. I have enclosed a copy of the "Sense" and the "Action Report" for your records.

I hope this approval will serve as a positive influence in reaching your ultimate goal. If I can be of any additional assistance to you please feel free to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

Martin W. Haley

MHW:lmf

Sense No. 150 -2000  
Introduced by Legislator Haley

LOT 12/5/00

VETS & JUNIORS  
A  
1-30-01  
310

**MEMORIALIZING RESOLUTION REQUESTING  
STATE OF NEW YORK TO RENAME  
CLEARVIEW EXPRESSWAY TO THE 77<sup>TH</sup>  
INFANTRY DIVISION EXPRESSWAY**

**WHEREAS**, retired Colonel Richard Boyle of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reserve officers Association, Inc. is sponsoring a petition requesting State legislation to rename the Clearview Expressway, located in New York, Queens County, New York, as the "77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Expressway"; and

**WHEREAS**, renaming this expressway would honor the memories and deeds of all who served this nation and sacrificed their time, and sometimes lives, as members of the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in World War II, in the reserves, in the Cold War, and to the present; now, therefore, be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that this Legislature hereby requests the State of New York to enact legislation renaming the Clearview Expressway, located in Queens County in the City of New York, as the "77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Expressway" in recognition of the sacrifices made by the individual members of that Division on behalf of freedom; and be it further

**2nd. RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor George E. Pataki; to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Joseph L. Bruno; to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly Sheldon Silver; to the Minority Leaders of the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly; and to each member of the Long Island delegation to the New York State Legislature.

**DATED:**

s:\nemres\mr-clearview.msw

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

SENSE OF LEGISLATURE  
AND  
HOME RULE MESSAGE

ACTION REPORT  
1/30/01 GENERAL MEETING

SENSE #

ACTION TAKEN

VOTE

✓148  
✓150

Approved  
Approved

17-0-0-0  
17-0-0-0