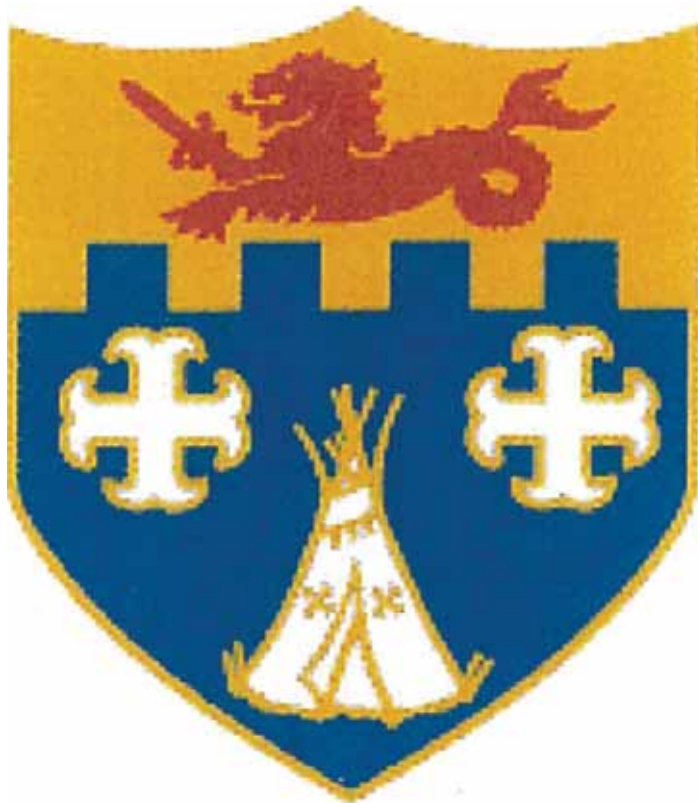


# 12TH INFANTRY REGIMENT



Motto: Ducti Amore Patriae (Having Been Led by Love of Country).

Symbolism: The field is blue for infantry. This regiment took part in the Civil War; its great achievement was its first engagement at Gaines' Mill, Virginia, on 27 and 28 June 1862, where its losses were almost 50 percent. This is shown by the moline crosses which represent the iron fastening of a millstone and recall the crushing losses sustained. The wigwam stands for the Indian campaigns in which the regiment took part. The chief is for the War with Spain and the Philippine Insurrection, yellow and red being the Spanish colors, red and blue the Katipunan colors; the embattled partition line is for the capture of the blockhouse at El Caney, Cuba, and the sea lion is from the arms of the Philippine Islands. The crest in the Spanish colors commemorates the capture of the Spanish flag at El Caney.

## DEDICATION CEREMONY

Welcome..... Ed Northrop  
Posting of the National Colors ..... 199th Inf Bde  
Posting of the Battalion Colors ..... 199th Inf Bde  
National Anthem ..... Debbie Beckman  
Recognize Honored Guests  
Monument Committee Recognition  
Herb Taylor ..... President 12th Inf Regt Chapter  
Sgt Major Steve McClafin ..... Executive Director of the NIM  
Bob Babcock ..... President 4th Inf Div Association  
  
Command Sgt Major Vincent Simonetti  
1st Bn 12th Inf Regt - Ft Carson, Colorado  
  
Battalion Enlisted Representatives (Introduced by)  
  
1/12 INF - Cliff Shaver (Ed Scherer)  
2/12 INF - Jim Bisson (Burnie Quick)  
3/12 INF - John (Doc) Sommer (Mike Hamer)  
  
Guest Speaker Hon. 12th Regt Sgt Major (R) Larry Walter (Ed Smith)  
Monument Unveiling.....Michael B. Pearson  
  
Monument Prayer ..... Larry Kohler  
  
TAPS  
  
Retire the National Colors ..... 199th Inf Bde

## **12th INFANTRY REGIMENTAL HISTORY**

Four regiments have held the designation 12th Infantry since 1798. The first 12th Infantry was constituted 16 July 1798. The second 12th Infantry was constituted 11 January 1812. They served in combat during The War of 1812 along the Niagara Frontier before being ordered south to Baltimore where they manned the Breastworks at Fort McHenry during that famous battle. The third 12th Infantry was constituted 11 February 1847 for The Mexican War and became part of The Invading Force that conquered Mexico City.

The presented day 12th Infantry Regiment was constituted 3 May 1861, after the outbreak of the Civil War. The Regiment became part of the Army of the Potomac and participated in 12 major campaigns: Peninsula / Virginia 1862/ Manassas / Antietam / Fredericksburg / Chancellorsville / Gettysburg / Virginia 1863 / Wilderness / Spotsylvania / Cold Harbor / and Petersburg.

From 1869 to 1890 the Regiment served in the West during The Indian Wars participating in five campaigns against The Modocs and The Bannocks.

During The Spanish-American War of 1898 the 12th campaigned at Santiago, Cuba, El Caney and San Juan.

During The Philippine-American War of 1899 - 1902, the Regiment participated in campaigns at Malalos, Tarlac, Luzon, and Zapote.

The 12th was called into action as part of the Mexican Punitive expedition of 1915-1917 versus Pancho Villa Forces, successfully fighting off the Mexican Bandit's Army. In 1917 the regiment was assigned to the 8th Division and was due to serve in Europe during World War I; however, the war ended just as the unit was about to board a Troop ship to take them to Europe. In 1919

## **12th INFANTRY REGIMENT MONUMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DEDICATED - 31 MAY, 2017**

Michael B. Pearson  
Designer/Artist

Herb Taylor  
President

Bill Comeau  
Historian

Bob Pearson  
Monument Concepts

Tim Swan  
Treasurer

Dennis Witt  
Medal of Honor Research

Rusty Armstrong  
Publicity

Jim Daniels & Wilfred Pla  
Contacts 1/12<sup>th</sup> INF

Bill Comeau & Arnold Krause  
Contacts 2/12<sup>th</sup> INF

Mike Hamer & John Sommer  
Contacts 3/12<sup>th</sup> INF

Ed Northrop  
Project Coordinator

# 12th INFANTRY REGIMENT

## MEMORIAL DEDICATION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You see the family of the 12th Infantry Regiment gathered to dedicate a reminder to future generations of the cost of freedom paid by our forefathers, by us, and what is required of those yet to come.

Patriots, volunteers and draftees of all races, responded to the call of our nation for warriors. They came, willing to face all enemies, foreign and domestic, to join this Regiment from the birth of this nation until now. They offered their very lives that generations yet to come would be able to live in freedom.

We honor and recall those who have offered such sacrifice on the battlefield, both to those who died of wounds as well as old age. Especially do we recall our comrades - those forever young - whose sacrifice we watched and shared, whose memory we carry.

Heavenly Father, grant all our predecessors eternal rest in Your gracious Arms.

Keep this 12th Infantry Regiment ever firm in its resolve to serve our nation.

“Having Been Led by Love of Country - I am the Infantry - Follow Me!” is our cry.

I pray in the Name of my Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Max W. Wilk  
Chaplain USA Ret.  
1<sup>st</sup> Bn 12<sup>th</sup> Inf Reg.

thirteen hundred men from the 12th were sent to Siberia with the 31st Infantry Regiment. Eventually the 12th was rebuilt with new recruits, In August of 1927, the 12th Infantry was reassigned to the 4th Infantry Division serving in the nation's capital district as an Honor Guard Unit for Inaugurals and other functions of state.

During World War II, the 12th served with distinction at Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe, Hurtgen Forest, The Battle of the Bulge, and the Germany Invasion as part of the 4th ID. As a result of their action in World War II the regiment was awarded The Presidential Unit Citation for The Battle of Luxembourg.

The regiment deployed five battalions to South Vietnam during The Vietnam War, more than any other combat regiment.

In Vietnam, their units earned three Presidential Unit Citations for their actions at the Battle of Suoi Tre, Pleiku and Dak To in addition to five Valorous Unit Awards.

The regiment served in Kuwait during The War on Terrorism as part of Operation Intrinsic Action II, two months after the 9/11 Attack of 2001. In quick succession, it served in Iraq for two tours during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2009, three years later, the regiment deployed to Kunar Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and earned a Valorous Unit Award. To date the regiment has served in Afghanistan for a total of four deployments.

**12th INFANTRY  
REGIMENT CAMPAIGNS**

**WAR OF 1812**

**MEXICAN WAR**

**INDIAN WAR**

**CIVIL WAR**

**WAR WITH SPAIN**

**PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION**

**WORLD WAR II**

**VIETNAM WAR**

**WAR ON TERRORISM**

**AFGHANISTAN**

**IRAQ**

**12th INFANTRY  
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**

Yonker, John L. PVT      9 Aug 1862  
A/12 Inf - Cedar Mt, VA.

Evans, Donald W. Jr. SP4      27 Jan 1967 (KIA)  
A/2/12 Inf - 4th Inf Div Vietnam

Willett, Louis E. PFC      15 Feb 1967 (KIA)  
C/1/12 Inf - 4th Inf Div Vietnam

Liteky, Angelo J. Chaplain, CPT      6 Dec 1967  
HHC/4/12th Inf - 199th Inf Bde Vietnam

Olson, Kenneth L. SP4      13 May 1968 (KIA)  
A/5/12 Inf - 199th Inf Bde Vietnam

Roark, Anund C. SGT      16 May 1968 (KIA)  
C/1/12 Inf - 4th Inf Div Vietnam

Penry, Richard A. SGT      31 Jan 1970 (KIA)  
C/4/12 Inf - 199th Inf Bde Vietnam