

A LOOK IN THE ATTIC

THIS WEEK IN OHIO NATIONAL GUARD HISTORY



THROUGH THE LENS:

July 4, 1943: Pfc. John D'Amico (from left), Staff Sgt. Stephan J. Protsik, Sgt. Don Steman, and Sgt. Herbert Corbin, all from the 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry, pose for the cameraman before departing from Guadalcanal to the fighting front. The Soldiers are wearing the "Suit, Jungle, Camouflage," a one piece uniform issued to the 37th Infantry Division prior to the Battle of New Georgia.

WEEK IN REVIEW:

June 30, 1884: **Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2d Squadron, 107th Cavalry Regiment** is organized in Xenia as Company C, 9th Infantry Battalion (Martin Light Guard).

July 1-3, 1863: The Battle of Gettysburg takes place, blunting the Army of Northern Virginia's movement into the North. Ohio was represented by 13 infantry regiments, a cavalry regiment and six batteries of artillery.

July 1, 1962: The Military Intelligence Branch was established as the Intelligence and Security Branch.

July 4, 1863: Twenty-one Ohio regiments and eight batteries — 18 percent of his infantry and 30 percent of his artillery — help Maj. Gen. Grant take Vicksburg.

July 5, 1943: The 3d Battalions of the 145th and 148th Infantry land under Marine command for the attack on Bairoko Harbor, New Georgia, Solomon Islands.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

NEW GEORGIA NORTHERN LANDING GROUP, JULY 4-5, 1943

"The big guns of the cruisers and destroyers supporting the landing put on a memorable 4th of July show. The flash of the big guns lighted the night with every salvo. The 8-inch and 5-inch guns were thunderous. The multi-colored tracer elements of the big shells left tracks across the sky and star shells turned the dark daytime bright.

The nighttime landing, due to the sandbars, a narrow river and postage stamp sized landing areas, was chaotic. Chaos prevailed until the cox'suns, not the beach masters ashore, took action to manage boat traffic in and out of the narrow Wharton River which formed Rice Inlet at its mouth.

Misadventure caused 12 boats loaded with men and supplies to be stranded afloat in Kula Gulf. Chased into Kobukobu Inlet by gunfire, the force of nearly 300 men, counting sailors, beached and abandoned the boats. Organized along company lines, the group, later identified as the Henne Group, made its way to Rice Anchorage and beyond. After nearly three days of very rough going, the group caught up with the 3/148th on 7 July."

Col. Charles Henne, Buckeye Star: Newsletter of the Lone Star Chapter, 37th Division Veterans Association, Vol. 2, Issue 2, July 1997