



F Co 2nd Bn 175th Infantry 29th ID

Dave Smith

Unit History

175TH INFANTRY REGIMENT



DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA



COAT OF ARMS

Distinctive Unit Insignia. Description: A Gold color metal and enamel device 1 5/16 inches (3.33 cm) in height consisting of a cross bottony quarterly Gules and Argent surmounted by a Gray roundel bearing the number "5" in Gold within a Red belt garnished Gold with the inscription "DECUS ET PRAESIDIUM" in Gold letters.

Symbolism: The red color of the annulet is symbolic of the red uniforms of the Baltimore Independent Cadets, the military forebears of the Regiment, which during the War of the Revolution were incorporated in Smallwood's Regiment of the Maryland Line. Superimposed on the annulet is a belt of military design and origin containing the inscription "Decus Et Praesidium," the regimental motto which is translated "An Honour and a Guard." The belt is the heraldic symbol of knighthood and identifies the insignia as being of the military order, while the gray field represents the Confederate Service in the War Between the States. The numeral "5," the historic designation of the regiment, was assigned following the Revolutionary War by act of the General Assembly of Maryland in 1794. The insignia is the design of the Crossland Arms, Alicia Crossland having been the mother of George Calvert, first Baron of Baltimore and planner of the colony of Maryland. The insignia symbolizes the historic record of the regiment from 1774 to 1931. The cross bottony forms the escutcheon, and the annulet represents the five most significant periods in the regiment's history until the time of adoption: 1774--the organization of the Baltimore Independent Cadets; 1776--the Revolutionary War; 1814--War of 1812; 1861--The war Between the States, Confederate Service; and 1918--World War I.

Background: The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 9 July 1958.

Coat of Arms.

Blazon:

Shield: Azure, two pallets Argent, a torteau charged with a swan's head erased of the second, on a chief paly of six Or and Sable a bend counterchanged, a bayonet (circa 1776) fesswise Silver.

Crest: That for the regiments and separate battalions of the Maryland Army National Guard: On a wreath of the colors Argent and Azure, a cross bottony per cross quarterly Gules and Argent.

Motto: DECUS ET PRAESIDIUM (An Honour and a Guard).

Symbolism:

Shield: The colors blue and white are for Infantry, white the original color of Infantry facings has been superseded by blue; the combination of the old and new colors signifies the regiment has been Infantry since organization. The five stripes have a dual significance. They represent the regiment's participation in five major wars, i.e., The Revolution, War of 1812, War Between the Sates (C.S.A.), World Wars I and II. The Whiskey Rebellion 1794, Harpers Ferry 1859, War with Spain 1898 and The Mexican Border Incident 1916, are not referenced, though Federal Service, since combat was not involved. They also indicate the former regimental designation, 5th Regiment, 1794-1941, and the popular sobriquet, "The Dandy Fifth of Maryland." The torteau alludes to the red of the uniform of the Baltimore Independent Cadets, the initial uniformed militia company of the Colony of Maryland; this uniform was later adopted during the Revolutionary War by Smallwood's Regiment of the Maryland Line. The swan is from the coat of arms of the Gist family and commemorates Mordecai Gist who on 3 December 1774 organized and commanded the Baltimore Independent Cadets, the parent unit of the regiment. The gold and black pattern in chief is from the reverse of the Great Seal of the proprietary Colony of Maryland, the family coat of arms of the Calverts, under whose authority the Mordecai Gist company was organized. The bayonet is representative of its introduction to American arms at the Battle of Long Island 1776, by the Maryland Line and in the use of which it became famed throughout the War. It is also symbolic of the "Maryland 400" which by repeated charges and sustaining heavy losses delayed General Howe's army, which enabled General Washington to successfully withdraw his defeated army across the Hudson River.

Crest: The crest is that of the Maryland Army National Guard.

Background: The coat of arms was approved on 9 July 1958.

175th US Infantry Regiment

Commanding Officer (CO) Lt. Col. William C. Purnell
Executive Officer (XO) Lt.-Col. Alexander George

1st Battalion	2nd Battalion
CO: Lt.-Col. Roger S. Whiteford	CO: Lt.-Col. Millard G. Bowen
XO: Maj. Anthony J. Miller (Jr.)	XO: Capt. Harold E. Simmons
A Company CO: Capt. Joseph E. Mueller	E Company CO: Capt. Lawrence E. Maddox
B Company CO: Capt. Jack Brashears	F Company CO: Capt. Robert M. Miller
C Company CO: Capt. Alexander Pouska (Jr.)	G Company CO: Capt. Kearney Slingluff
D Company CO: Capt. Miles C. Shorey (Jr.)	H Company CO: Capt. Edward Wolff
Headquarters Company: Capt. Guy G. Griffin	Headquarters Company: Capt. Louis J. Curl (Jr.)

(Jr.)	
Battalion Surgeon: Capt. Bernard H. Sager	Battalion Surgeon: Capt. Philip G. Creese

3rd Battalion	Headquarters Company
CO: Lt.-Col. Edward A. Gill	CO: Capt. Henry J. Reed
XO: Maj. Ernest M. Richter	Antitank Company
I Company CO: Capt. Frank J. McKenna	CO: Capt. Marion W. Stevenson
K Company CO: Capt. John T. King III	Cannon Company
L Company CO: Capt. Alwin W. Hobbs	CO: Capt. Clarence E. Major
M Company CO: 1st Lt. Thomas C. Emlo	Service Company
Headquarters Company: Capt. Paul T. Freund	CO: Capt. Robert D. Smith
Battalion Surgeon: Capt. Brooks E. Brown	Medical Detachment
	CO: Maj. Edmund G. Beacham

DIVISIONAL ATTACHMENTS

110th FA Battalion (105mm Howitzer)
CO: Lt.-Col. John P. Cooper
XO: Maj. David G. McIntosh III
A Battery CO: Capt. William H. Beehler
B Battery CO: Capt. Charles C. Cole
C Battery CO: Capt. Arthur L. Flinger
Service Battery CO: Capt. Charles H. Kinsey
Headquarters Company CO: Capt. James R. McCarthy
Battalion Surgeon: Capt. J.T.B. Ambler

INDEPENDENT ATTACHMENTS

747th Tank Battalion

823rd TD Battalion (SP)

On June 6, 1944 the 29th and 1st Divisions landed on **Omaha Beach**. The 29th's 116th Infantry Regiment (temporarily attached to the 1st Division) was given the task of opening and holding two inland passages (**Dog One** and Dog Three) in the 3,000 yard stretch of Omaha they were assigned to. At approximately 6:30 in the morning on June 6th, landing craft containing Companies A, G, E and F of the 116th landed at Omaha Beach, **Dog Green Sector**, along with units of the 1st Division's 16th Infantry Regiment to the left, and **Company C** of the **2nd Ranger Battalion** to the right. Follow up waves included Companies B, C, D and H, and Companies I, K, L and M. Other units that landed on Dog Green included the 743rd Tank Battalion, the 146th Engineer Battalion, the 115th Infantry Regiment and the 175th Infantry Regiment. Five weeks after the D-Day landings the 29th reached the French city of **Saint-Lô**, and then later moved on to Vire. The 29th advanced south to Brest, where it assisted in the attacks against the German-held city of Brest, which fell on September 18, 1944. After moving into Holland, the 29th advanced into western Germany and captured the German city of Munchen-Gladbach on March 1, 1945. Following the German surrender the 29th traveled Bremen, where the division boarded ships in December for the return voyage to the United States. The 29th Division was deactivated on January 17, 1946 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey

29TH DIVISION HISTORY

Chronology

Activated [<i>i.e.</i> , <i>Inducted</i>]	3 February 1941
Arrived ETO	11 October 1942
Arrived Continent (D Day)	6 June 1944
Entered Combat: First Elements	6 June 1944
Entered Combat: Entire Division	7 June 1944
Days in Combat	242

Casualties (Tentative)

Killed	3,720
Wounded	15,403
Missing	462
Captured	526
Battle Casualties	20,111
Non-Battle Casualties	8,665
Total Casualties	28,776
Percent of T/O Strength	204.2

Campaigns

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Central Europe

Individual Awards

Distinguished Service Cross	40
Legion of Merit	11
Silver Star	856

Soldiers Medal	25
Bronze Star	5,954
Air Medal	176

Prisoners of War Taken 38,912

COMPOSITION

115th Infantry
116th Infantry
175th Infantry
29th Reconnaissance Troop (Mechanized)
121st Engineer Combat Battalion
104th Medical Battalion
29th Division Artillery
110th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm Howitzer)
111th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm Howitzer)
224th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm Howitzer)
227th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm Howitzer)
Special Troops
729th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company
29th Quartermaster Company
29th Signal Company
Military Police Platoon
Headquarters Company
Band