

1ST SQUADRON 102ND CAVALRY REGIMENT

First New Jersey



On 1 September 2008, the 102nd Armor Regiment was consolidated with the 117th Cavalry Regiment and the new unit was designated as the 102nd Cavalry Regiment (First New Jersey), to consist of the 1st Squadron an element of the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team with its Headquarters at Westfield. This simple statement reaches back into 120 years of military history and brings together the collective heritage of Cavalry and Armor in New Jersey Army National Guard.

The Lineage and Honors Certificate issued by the Department of the Army is the unit's official history. It is a birth certificate and family tree rolled into one document. Like tracing a thoroughbred horse's bloodline, this Lineage and Heritage Certificate has units' locations, dates of service, campaigns and decorations. When you visualize the words on this certificate, it covers the entire state.

Born as the Essex Troop of Cavalry, this unbroken Cavalry and Armor heritage lineage has existed since 1890 in our state's military forces. Units with that legacy are rich in tradition and history. They have gone by a variety of names, numbers and descriptions: the 1st New Jersey Cavalry; the 102nd Cavalry Regiment; the 102nd Cavalry Group (102nd and 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons); the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron; the 102nd Armored Cavalry; the 250th Tank Battalion; the 2nd Tank Battalion of the 53rd Armor; the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th Battalions; the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron of the 50th Armored; the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th of the Battalions of the 102nd Armor; the 3rd Squadron 104th Cavalry; the 215th, the 113th, 114th and the 644th Tank Battalion; the 50th Reconnaissance Battalion; and the 5th Squadron of the 117th Cavalry.

Their heritage lives on today in the 1st Squadron of the 102nd (First New Jersey). These units carried on the proud traditions of Cavalry and Armor across the length and breadth of New Jersey. They were stationed in familiar locations like Newark, Westfield, West Orange, Vineland, Dover and Hackettstown, but also where today's Cavalry Troopers have never served; places like, Philipsburg, Orange, Red Bank and Dumont.

Today the Headquarters of the 1st Squadron 102nd Cavalry (First New Jersey) along with its Headquarters Troop and Company D of the 250th Brigade Support Battalion is now located in Westfield; Troop A in Dover, Troop B in West Orange, and Troop C in Hackettstown.

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

WORLD WAR I
Meuse-Argonne • Alsace 1918

WORLD WAR II
Rome-Arno • Normandy (with arrowhead) • Northern France •
Southern France (with arrowhead) • Rhineland • Ardennes Alsace •
Central Europe

WAR ON TERRORISM
Iraq: Iraqi Surge

Troop C, 1st Squadron (Hackettstown), additionally entitled to:
WAR ON TERRORISM
Iraq: National Resolution

DECORATIONS

FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM, WORLD WAR II
Streamer embroidered: BEACHES OF NORMANDY

FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM, WORLD WAR II
Streamer embroidered: PROVENCE TO LORRAINE

Troop B (West Orange), 1st Squadron, additionally entitled to:
ASIATIC-PACIFIC THEATER, WORLD WAR II
Streamer without inscription

Troop A (Dover), 1st Squadron, additionally entitled to:
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION (ARMY)
Streamer embroidered: IRAQ SEP 2008 – MAY 2009

