

Patriot



65th Infantry Regiment

Puerto Rican Regiment

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Puerto Rican Regiment

“Honor and Fidelity”



The 65th Infantry Regiment was created in 1899 by the U.S. Congress. It was a segregated unit composed of Puerto Ricans.

Nicknamed “Borinqueneers”. The name is the combination of the words “Borinquen” - (the word given to Puerto Rico by its original inhabitant, the Taino Indians) and “Buccaneers”.

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The 65th Infantry Regiment served in three wars:

- World War I
- World War II
- Korean War

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In Korea the men of the 65th earned praise from General MacArthur. They helped contain the Chinese advance and supported the U.S. Marines in the aftermath of the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. For three years the men of the 65th fought their way up and down the Korean peninsula.

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Fighting in some of the toughest battles of the Korean War, the 65th earned:

- 2 U.S. Presidential Unit Citations
- 2 Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations
- 2 U.S. Meritorious Unit Commendations
- The Greek Gold Medal of Bravery

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The soldiers of the 65th earned:

- 10 earned the Distinguished Service Cross, (the second highest award for valor)
- 256 earned the Silver Star Medals
- 606 earned the Bronze Star Medals
- 1014 earned Purple Hearts

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After the Korean War, the 65th Infantry Regiment was inactivated. The Army no longer needed an infantry garrison in Puerto Rico, nor did they want a unit composed of a single ethnic group. It seemed as if the 65th would be gone forever.

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The Adjutant General of Puerto Rico persuaded the Department of the Army to transfer the 65th Infantry from Regular Army to the Puerto Rico Army National Guard.

This is the only infantry unit ever transferred from the active component Army to the Army Guard.

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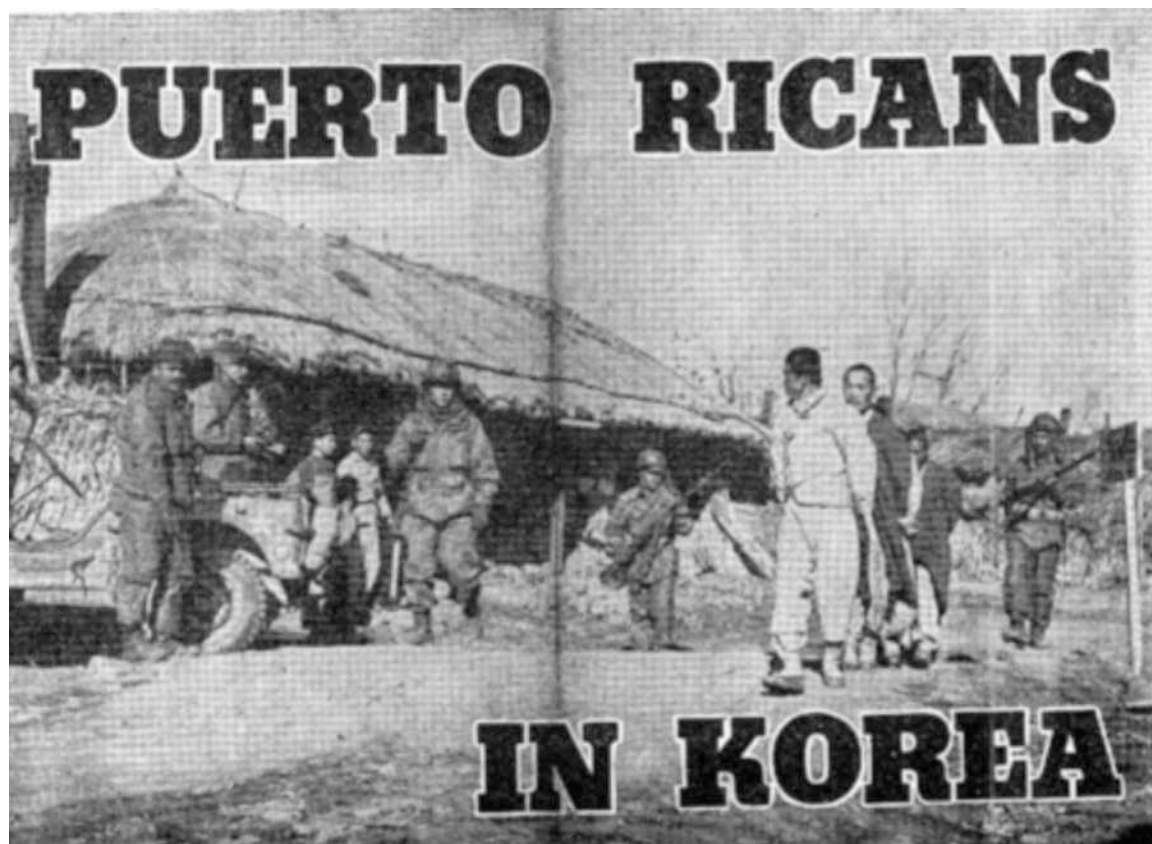
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KOREA
MEMBERS OF CO. M, 65TH REGT. 3RD INF. DIV., GUARD A HILL.

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Puerto Rico's 65th U.S. Infantry Regiment. The battle portrayed in the painting was the last recorded battalion-sized bayonet attack by the U.S. Army.