





**The 70th Anniversary of The Old
Guard Reactivation Ceremony**

1 May 2018

3D UNITED STATES INFANTRY REGIMENT (THE OLD GUARD)



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On April 6, 1948, the 3d United States Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) was reactivated on the Capitol Plaza in Washington, DC. What came to be known as the "Cold War" created a need for greater protection of the capital, national leaders, and public property. It was decided that The Old Guard, as the oldest active Infantry regiment, would be the ideal choice.

The flag used in the ceremony, which flew over the US Capitol at the time of Pearl Harbor, was later raised over the three defeated Axis capitals of Rome, Berlin, and Tokyo and then returned to the United States for use in appropriate ceremonies.

The mission to protect the capital had been performed by Military Policemen of the 703d and 712th Military Police Battalions since the end of the World War II. The men of the 703d were transferred to the 1st Battalion, 3d United States Infantry, with a large number of recruit trainees from Fort Dix, New Jersey added to both battalions. The 1st Battalion was garrisoned at Fort Myer, VA and the 2d Battalion was garrisoned at newly renamed Fort Lesley J. McNair.

The Military District of Washington's ceremonial mission had been performed since 1943 by the MDW Ceremonial Detachment. The Ceremonial Detachment first became Ceremonial Company, 1st Battalion, 3d Infantry Regiment. About a year later, Ceremonial Company became Company A of The Old Guard.

In over two centuries of service to our country and pre-dating the Constitution, The Old Guard has been a bedrock in the formation of numerous leaders, both renowned and unsung. Two Presidents had their formative years in military service in the Regiment: William Henry Harrison and Zachary Taylor, both of whom attained the rank of Major General. Other early Americans in The Old Guard included Zebulon Pike, of Pike's Peak fame, and Lewis and Clark's Meriwether Lewis. This tradition of leadership carried itself into the Civil War as the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment caught the attention of President Lincoln in the first major battle of the war, the First Battle of Bull Run, of which General MacDowell said, "Sir, these are the men that saved your army." The Regiment is proud to claim four recipients of the Medal of Honor, two from the Indian Wars and two from Vietnam, signaling the highest devotion to country and the finest examples of leadership. The Old Guard continues to impart the highest values and qualities in its Soldiers creating leaders throughout our national life ranging from the military to public service to the private sector.



Tom Cotton currently represents Arkansas in the United States Senate. He is a 6th generation Arkansan who was born and raised on his family's cattle farm in Yell County. He graduated from Dardanelle High School before going to Harvard and Harvard Law School. Tom joined the United States Army as an Infantry Officer where he spent nearly 5 years on active duty. Tom completed combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan, where he served with the 101st Airborne and a Provincial Reconstruction Team. Between his two combat tours he served as a platoon leader with the Old Guard at Arlington National Cemetery. Tom's military decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantry Badge and Ranger Tab.



Rep. Warren Davidson is a 12 year Army veteran and represents Ohio's 8th Congressional District. Warren Davidson was born and raised in Ohio. After high school, he enlisted in the Army where he proudly served for 12 years. He excelled as a soldier compelling his commanders to recognize his work ethic and leadership abilities. This earned Warren an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point where he excelled in the classroom by finishing in the top ten percent of his class. His stellar reputation as an Army officer earned him positions in distinguished units: The Old Guard, The 75th Ranger Regiment, and the 101st Airborne Division.

Sequence of Events

Pre-Ceremonial Concert

(The United States Army Band)

March On

Advancing of the Colors

Fix Bayonets

Arrival of the Official Party

Sound Off

Inspection

Presentation of the Colors

National Anthem

Awards

Remarks

COL Jason T. Garkey

Senator Tom Cotton

Congressman Warren Davidson

Pass in Review

Army Song

Conclusion of Ceremony

Army Song

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the Free.
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory.

We're the Army and proud of our name!

We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right,
And to build the Nation's might,
And the Army goes rolling along.

Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And the Army goes rolling along.

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count of the cadence loud and strong;

For where e'er we go,
You will always know
That the Army goes rolling along.