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Annual Unit History

*Due NLT 01 February each year for the previous calendar year.
Refer to 28ID Military History Program SOP, dtd. 15 August 2008, for specific guidance.*

For Calendar Year: 2008

Unit: HQ/1-109 IN (HVY)

Unit Address: 900 Adams Avenue, Scranton, PA 18510

Unit POC: LTC Stephen E. Zarnowski, BN CDR/OIC

Unit POC Phone Number: (570) 963-4642

I. Introduction or Forward *(A brief account on the unit's origin and its accomplishments over the years and a statement about the current period covered)*

The unit traces its origins to 14 August 1877 when the Scranton City Guards Battalion, Pennsylvania National Guard was constituted and organized with its Headquarters in Scranton, PA. The Scranton City Guards Battalion was redesignated on 23 September 1878 as the 13th Infantry Regiment, Pennsylvania National Guard. The Regiment was mustered into Federal Service on 12-13 May 1898 at Mount Gretna, Pennsylvania as the 13th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. The 13th Regiment was mustered out of Federal Service 11 March 1899 at Augusta, GA after its service in the continental United States. The 13th Regiment was again mustered into Federal service on 26 September 1916 at Mt. Gretna, and drafted into Federal Service on 05 August 1917. On 11 October 1917, the 13th Regiment was consolidated with the 1st Infantry Regiment and was concurrently reorganized and redesignated as the 109th Infantry and assigned to the 28th Division. The 109th Infantry Regiment was demobilized at Camp Dix, NJ in May, 1919. The Regiment was reorganized back to the former 13th Infantry Regiment in 1919-1920, a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard. On 1 April 1921 it was again redesignated as the 109th Infantry Regiment and assigned to the 28th Infantry Division with its Headquarters federally recognized on 20 December 1921 at Scranton, PA. On 17 February 1941, the 109th was inducted into Federal service at Home Station for WWII and was deactivated at Camp Shelby, MS on 22 October 1945. During the Korean War it was ordered into active federal service on 5 September 1950 at Home Station and served in Germany until it was released from active federal service on 15 June 1954 and reverted to State control. On 1 June 1959 it was reorganized as a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System, to consist of the 1st Battle Group, an element of the 28th Infantry Division. On 1 April 1963 it was reorganized to consist of the 1st and 2nd Battalions; elements of the 28th Infantry Division. On 17 February 1968 it was reorganized to consist of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, all elements of the 28th Infantry Division. On 5 April 1988 it was withdrawn from the Combat Arms Regimental System, and reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System with its Headquarters in Scranton, Pennsylvania. On March 1, 1992 it was reorganized to consist of the 1st and 3rd Battalions, elements of the 28th Infantry Division. It was reorganized again on 1 October 1995 to consist of the 1st Battalion, an element of the 28th Infantry Division (Mechanized). The unit saw its first major transition in equipment in the last 40 years when it was reorganized on 1 October 2000 as a Bradley Fighting Vehicle equipped Infantry Battalion. The Battalion mobilized into federal

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service on 28 MAY 2002 at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA and served in Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of Stabilization Force -12 and was demobilized at Fort Dix, NJ in April 2003. The Battalion was again mobilized into federal service on 22 January 2005 at Scranton, PA for service in Iraq and demobilized at Camp Shelby, MS in June 2007. The Battalion was again reorganized on 2 September 2007 as a Heavy Combined-Arms Battalion consisting of two Infantry Companies, two Armor Companies, an Engineer Company and a Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

II. Organization and Administration

A. Organization *(Select the type of organization from the pull-down menu)*

Infantry

B. Mission *(A brief mission statement and the Mission Essential Task List)*

Federal Mission: 1st Battalion (Heavy), 109th Infantry conducts individual, crew, and collective training to improve training readiness and reduce post-mobilization time. On order, the battalion alerts, mobilizes and deploys to conduct full spectrum operations in support of national military objectives.

State Mission: On order of the Governor of Pennsylvania, the 1st Battalion (Heavy), 109th Infantry alerts, assembles, and deploys to provide humanitarian relief, disaster relief and military support to civilian authorities during times of natural disaster or civil strife.

METL:

Conduct a Defense, Task # 07-1-1027
 Conduct a Movement to Contact, Task # 07-1-1072
 Conduct an Attack Against a Stationary Force, Task # 07-1-1171
 Conduct an Attack of a Built-up Area, Task # 07-1-1180
 Conduct Area Security Operations, Task # 07-1-1270
 Conduct Deployment Activities, Task # 07-1-5045

C. Personnel

1. Commander and Staff *(Brief biographical sketches)*

Commander: LTC Stephen E. Zarnowski
 Command Sergeant Major: CSM Michael A. Urban
 Executive Officer: MAJ Thomas Hallowell
 Chaplain: CPT Louis Kaminski
 S1: CPT Peter G. West II
 S2: 1LT Thomas Payne
 S3: MAJ Pershing Markle
 S4: CPT William Maule
 S6: 2LT James Kash

2. Medal of Honor Winners *(Brief biographical sketches, if available, and a brief account of the action or a copy of the citation) (If none, enter "NONE")*

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None during the calendar year.

3. Others *(Winners of Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and other) (If none, enter "NONE")*

See individual unit histories.

III. Major Accomplishments during the Year

A. Operations

The 1-109 IN (HVY) provided support to five GWOT missions during CY 2008. More than 180 soldiers served in Afghanistan with 3-103 AR as part of a Security Force mission. More than 20 soldiers served in the Sinai Peninsula in support of the MFO Peacekeeping mission under the command of 1-104 CAV. Three soldiers deployed in the spring of 2008 as part of multiple Ground Liaison Teams (GLO) in Iraq, Qatar, and Afghanistan. More than 120 soldiers deployed under the command of the 56 SBCT in the fall of 2008 for their deployment to OIF. Lastly, the Battalion provided 2 personnel to mobilize with the 28th Combat Aviation Brigade in support of their mission in Iraq.

B. Training and Exercises

The Battalion conducted two Annual Trainign periods during 2008. the primary Annual Training was conducted at Fort Pickett, VA from 16-29 June 2008. the primary training focus was Tank and Bradley gunnery through Table VI. Despite a significant shortage of personnel due to multiple mobilization mission, the Battalion successfully qualified 4 M1A1 tank crews and 12 M2A2 BFV crews up through and including Table VI. This was the first time the Battalion conducted simultaneous live-fire gunnery for the M1 and M2 platforms.

C. Special Events

1. Unit Day Ceremonies

None

2. Civil Actions *(State active duty)*

No state active duty periods conducted during the training year.

3. Permanent Changes of Station

No unit stationing changes during the calendar year.

4. Recruiting Initiatives

Unit conducted multiple recruiting events throughout the calendar year. Most notably were several Guard Experience nights designed to bring in high school juniors and seniors as referred from their soldier/friend.

5. Other *(Include community activities, morale support activities, Christmas party, etc.)*

Unit participated in the Scranton/Lackawanna County Armed Forces Parade, Annual Boalsburg Memorial, and multiple local fireman's parades.

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IV. Special Equipment Fielding

No major new equipment fieldings during the calendar year.

V. Appendices

A. Lineage and Honors Certificate

HONORS / CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

World War I
Champagne - Marne
Aisne - Marne
Oise - Aisne
Meuse - Argonne
Champagne 1918
Lorraine 1918

World War II
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes - Alsace
Central Europe
Global War On Terror
Operation Iraqi Freedom

DECORATIONS

French Croix de Guerre with Palm, streamer embroidered COLMAR

Luxemburg Croix de Guerre, streamer embroidered LUXEMBORG

B. Unit Citations

Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 109th Infantry additionally entitled to Meritorious Unit Commendation, streamer embroidered EUROPEAN THEATER

C. Selected Orders (Include alert orders, mobilization orders, etc)

NONE

D. Other.

Award of streamer for service in OIF scheduled for Spring 2009.

VI. Glossary (A list of words not commonly used, acronyms and their explanations)

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