71ST CAVALRY REGIMENT

GALLANTLY FORWARD

The 71st Cavalry was originally constituted Dec. 3, 1941, in the U.S. Army as 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion. The unit was activated Dec. 15, 1941, at Fort Knox, KY. The unit saw action throughout World War II and earned campaign participation in Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines and the Po Valley. The 701st was inactivated Oct. 29, 1945, at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. The unit was converted and redesignated Aug. 27, 1947, as 327th Mechanized Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and allotted to the Organized Reserves. It was again converted and redesignated March 22, 1949, as 327th Heavy Tank Battalion. On Nov. 17, 1950, it was inactivated at Ottumwa, IA, only to be converted and redesignated Feb. 27, 1951, as 701st Armored Infantry Battalion (AIB); concurrently withdrawn from the Organized Reserve Corps; allotted to the Regular Army and assigned to 1st Armored Division. On March 7, 1951, 701st AIB moved to Fort Hood, TX, for six years until it was inactivated Feb. 15, 1957, at Fort Polk, LA, and relieved from assignment to 1st Armored Division. In March 2004, 71st Cavalry was activated from newly assigned Soldiers as well as existing units from within the division. Eleven months after activation, 1-71 Cav deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom IV. The squadron's distinctive unit insignia was originally approved for 701st AIB April 28, 1952. It was redesignated with the description and symbolism updated for 71st Cavalry Regiment Aug. 10, 2004.