

News Release

The U.S. Army Military District of Washington

Guardians of the Nation's Capital



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 17-25

DATE: May 18, 2017

The Old Guard Honors America's Fallen
Flags-In at Arlington National Cemetery

WASHINGTON – Flags-In is a time honored tradition that is reserved for Soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). Since The Old Guard's designation as the Army's official ceremonial unit in 1948, they have conducted this mission annually at Arlington National Cemetery prior to Memorial Day to honor our nation's fallen military heroes.

This year's Flags-In is scheduled for Thursday, May 25 beginning at 1 p.m.

Within four hours, more than a thousand Old Guard Soldiers will place a small American flag one foot in front of and centered at more than 284,540 grave markers, to honor every individual buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Old Guard Soldiers will also place an American flag at the foot of each Columbarium to account for the more than 400,000 interred.

A Tomb Sentinel will conduct a ceremony to place American flags at each of the four crypts to honor all our nation's fallen heroes at noon.

Interested media, contact the U.S. Army Military District of Washington at 202-685-4645 or email usarmy.mcnair.mdw.mbx.mediadesk-omb@mail.mil.

EDITOR'S NOTES: The 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment, traditionally known as "The Old Guard," is the oldest active-duty infantry unit in the Army, serving our nation since 1784. The Old Guard is charged with the unique mission of providing security for the nation's capital, serving as the U.S. Army's official ceremonial unit, and performing tactical infantry missions.

As the U.S. Army's official ceremonial unit and escort to the President, The Old Guard represents the U.S. Army and the nation in official arrival ceremonies at the White House and the Pentagon for visiting heads of state and other foreign dignitaries.

Soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment also maintain a faithful 24-hour vigil at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They provide casket teams, firing parties and marching platoons for funerals in Arlington National Cemetery, and participate in parades, festivals and ceremonies throughout the United States showcasing the U.S. Army.

For more information about 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment, visit the Old Guard's website at www.army.mil/oldguard.

For more information about Arlington National Cemetery, visit the cemetery's website at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil.

For more information about the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, visit MDW's website at <http://mdwhome.mdw.army.mil/military-district-of-washington/about-mdw>.

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