

WW I Army Service
of John L. BEGLAN, Sr

Private - 77th Div, 304th Field Art.
PFC 2/7/2992
Joined Army:
10 Oct 1917 @ Camp Upton, LI.

Sailed from US 4/24/18
- arv @ Brest 5/2/18

Campaigns:

Vosges Front	7/12 to 8/1/18
Vesle-Aisne	8/15-9/14/18
Argonne	9/25-10/15/18
Argonne Meuse	11/1-11/11/18

Sailed from Brest 4/21/19
- arv US 4/29/19



I nominate my father, JOHN L. BEGLAN for a commorative star because he represents for me the ideal of an American soldier.

He was a peaceful, productive citizen who, when he found he could not avoid a fight, committed himself wholeheartedly to the effort without complaint, and interacts with everyone for the good of all, and left a record of the experience for those to come after.

CASUALTYS

77th/Statue of Liberty Div.

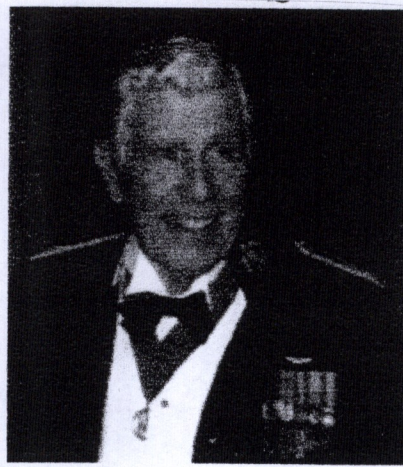
OFFICERS: _____ 168
ENLISTED: _____ 4,832

Earliest memory of my father's World War-I military past was at the young age of 5 years. At that time during the great Depression he decided to take me for a visit to Ft. Totten, which was not far from our home in Flushing, N.Y., and introduce me to his former commanding officer during his war service, whom he had been corresponding with over the years since. His name was Captain Robert V. Mahon and he seemed delighted to have visitors I was fascinated by all that the two men showed me about the old Fort, originally built by Captain Robert E. Lee. By the time we left for home with me carrying a few shiny rounds in my fist I was certain that the military would be a part of my future.

My father and Captain Mahon had long corresponded about the men and their experiences as members of the 77th Division (New Yorks own) whose emblem was the Statue of Liberty. Most of the men called for this Division came from the N.Y. metropolitan area which meant that the average man had skills and talents above the norm, such as writers. Because of the population density it would be possible to raise a large number of men and train them and get them into the european war as quickly as possible. These were the first American troops to fight on foreign soil without volunteering to do so. They were drafted. Their entire service, for the most part, was less that two years - for those that survived the experience, but the impact of their arrival to the front made an insuperable differance. An Armistice soon followed in the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. That date was called Armistice Day until recent years, and now is called Armed Forces Day.

The 77th Division furled it's flag for the last time at the same place that it was born 92 years ago , at Yaphank, Long Island, N.Y. It was my pleasure and honor to present to the President of the 77th Regiment Association, a copy of my fathers letters written from the front in 1918, for their permanent archives.

John L. Beglan, Jr.
Brigadier General
Veteran Corps of Artillery, State of N.Y.



John Lawrence Beglan, Jr.

Served as Captain in the US Marine Corps Reserve 1950-1967. Active duty 1951-1957. Enlisted as Private 11 Nov 1950 in the US Marine Air Detachment, Floyd Bennet Field, NY; Activated to the Korean Conflict in 1951; Corporal, 1 Jun 1952; Naval Aviation Cadet, 23 Apr 1953; commissioned Second Lieutenant and Naval Aviator, 29 Sep 1954; First Lieutenant, 16 Oct 1955; served on active duty until Mar 1957; Captain in the US Marine Corps Reserve, 1 Sep 1958. Served in the Reserve until 1967. Brigadier General (retired) of the Veteran Corps of Artillery in the State of New York. Decorations: Marine Corps Reserve Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; NY State Meritorious Service Medal; and NY State Military Commendation Medal. Born in Yonkers, NY on 26 Jul 1931. Attended the American Institute of Banking, NY from 1949-1951. Retired Captain of Eastern Airlines, Inc., having joined the company in 1957. Retired in 1990 as Pilot in Command, L-1011. Member Emeritus of the Explorers Club. Member: Society of the Cincinnati, NJ; Member, Society of Colonial Wars, NJ; Life member, Sons of the Revolution, SNY and the Company of Military Historians; and MOLLUS.

AMERICAN LEGION, NJ Post 0076, MEMBER #204393749

**VFW of the United States, Life Member #763005,
Post 605, PARIS, FRANCE**