



BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL

Office of Mayor Jose Rosado

PROCLAMATION

In recognition of the
65th Infantry Regiment: The Borinqueneers

WHEREAS, The Army Appropriation Bill created by Congress on March 2, 1899 authorized the first body of native troops in Puerto Rico. The "Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry" was organized in 1901. During WWI, the infantry defended the Panama Canal and upon their return to Puerto Rico in 1919, was renamed "The 65th Infantry Regiment"; and

WHEREAS, Hailing from Puerto Rico, the Borinqueneers overwhelmingly distinguished themselves in service, sacrifice and heroism. They fought very bravely in WWI, WWII, and Korea, all the while enduring the additional hardships of segregation and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, during WWII, the 65yh Infantry gallantly served in North Africa and Europe, winning the Naples-Foggian, Rome-Arne, Central Europe, and Rhineland battle campaigns, and after the war, were assigned dangerous security, anti-sabotage, and other occupation missions around Kaiserslautern and Mannheim, Germany, making the 65th Infantry among the last units to return home; and

WHEREAS, The Borinqueneers are credited with the final battalion-sized bayonet assault in U.S. Army history. In early 1951 while fighting in Korea, two battalions of the 65th fixed bayonets and charged straight up hill toward the enemy, over running them and overtaking the enemy's strategic position, prompting General Douglas MacArthur to give high praise for the unit; and

WHEREAS, During the Korean War, the 65yh Infantry Regiment Borinqueneers earned 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, 256 Silver Stars, 606 Bronze Stars, and 2,771 Purple Hearts. A total of 756 of the 65th Infantry were killed in action, and more than 100 are still missing in action; and

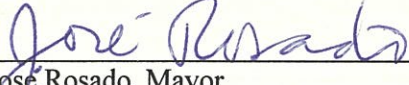
WHEREAS, The Congressional Gold Medal is an auspicious honor and considered the most distinguished civilian award. It is bestowed by the United States Congress to persons who have performed an achievement that has made a long lasting impact on American history and culture and is likely to be recognized as a major achievement for years to come; by every measure, the Borinqueneers are such individuals;

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that I, Jose Rosado, Mayor of Fountain Hill Borough, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim July 3, 2013 as

"The 65th Infantry Regiment Day"

In honor of the Borinqueneers, I urge all residents to join me in honoring the 65th Infantry Regiment for their bravery and dedicated service in the United States Armed Forces and in my support to award them the Congressional Gold Medal.

In Witness, Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Fountain Hill Borough to be affixed this 2nd Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.



Jose Rosado, Mayor