In the Footsteps of My Father: A History of the 77th Division

Syllabus

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Week 1: Introductions, Overview of the 77th Division in both World War I and World War II – The Metropolitan Division and The Stature of Liberty Division

World War I: Seven Phases of the Division History:
Phase 1 - August 17, 1917 to March 27, 1918 – Formation and training in New York, organization. The story of Pfc Peter Pizzalongo.
Phase 2 – May 6, 1918 – Training with the British in France

Week 2:
Phase 3 – Jun 19, 1918 to August 3, 1918 – In the Baccarat Sector
Phase 4 – August 11, 1918 to September 4, 1918 – Along the Vesle
Phase 5 – September 4, 1918 to September 16, 1918 – The 77th gains her soul. Advance on the Ainse.
Phase 6 – September 16, 1918 to October 15, 1918 – Argonne Forest
Phase 7 – November 1, 1918 to November 11, 1918 – Advance to the Meuse

Week 3: “The Lost Battalion” movie and World War I wrap up. Medal of Honor winner “Galloping Charlie”.

Week 4: The 77th in World War II – Introduction, activation, training, equipment


Week 6: On to Leyte. The amphibious assault on the Ormoc Valley and the story of Medal of Honor winner Robert Nett

Week 7: Kerama Retto, Ie Shima, and Okinawa. The 77th experiences a new kind of fighting. Video: “Okinawa: The Last Battle”. And “No” the Marines did not single-handedly win the battle of Okinawa.

Week 8: Okinawa in depth. The tale of Company E the other “Lost Battalion”. Clips from the movie “Hacksaw Ridge”. Wrap up.