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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Army Engineer Regiment dedicates plaque to 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – Alumni of the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, along with the Army Engineer Association and the U.S. Army Engineer School, conducted a plaque dedication ceremony April 18 for engineer Soldiers who served the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion with dedication and honor.

The ceremony took place in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room, John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex, which is where the plaque will remain on display.

Col. Robert Tipton, the unit's commander from 2001 to 2003, said it was heartwarming to see those in attendance for the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion plaque dedication, which was long overdue.

Tipton thanked retired 1st Sgt. Brian Black, for being the catalyst who made the plaque dedication happen. He also expressed gratitude to the unit's alumni for their contributions.

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Tipton spoke about the history of the unit, whose members fought on the battlefields of World Wars I and II, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Tipton said he hopes to see the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion's colors uncased once again.

The unit was officially deactivated in 2004.

The 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion was constituted on Oct. 24, 1917, and organized at Camp Sherman, Ohio, as the 317th Engineer Regiment, 92nd Division.

The Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room is used to display plaques and colors of deactivated engineer units and serves as a place for graduations, retirements, military training and unit activations and inactivations.

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Photo cutlines:

DSC06344.JPG: Veterans of the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion gather for a plaque dedication ceremony for engineer Soldiers who served the battalion with dedication and honor in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room, John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex April 18. The unit plaque will be added to the museum display of units who have been recognized for their service. (Army photo by Marti Yoshida/Released)

DSC06318.JPG: Pictured from left: Col. Robert Tipton, Col. Courtney Paul, Brig. Gen. Peter DeLuca, and retired 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Brian Black, present the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion plaque to the Engineer Museum for display in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room April 18. Not pictured: Col. Charles Samaris. (Army photo by Marti Yoshida/Released)

DSC06320.JPG: Retired U.S. Army 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Hector Mitchell participates in the plaque dedication for the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room in the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex, April 18. Mitchell served with A-Company, 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, from 1977 to 1979. (Army photo by Marti Yoshida/Released)

DSC06325.JPG: Retired 1st Sgt. Brian Black presents a plaque April 18 for engineer Soldiers who served the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion with dedication and honor. The unit plaque will be displayed in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room, John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex. (Army photo by Marti Yoshida/Released)

DSC06348.JPG: Col. Robert Tipton, 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion unit commander from 2001 to 2003, presents a unit plaque for engineer Soldiers who served the 317<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion April 18 in the Lt. Gen. Daniel Schroder Engineer Regimental Room in the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex. The unit plaque will be added to the museum display of units who have been recognized for their service. (Army photo by Marti Yoshida/Released)

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