

Victory parade of the 369th Regiment, 1919

Donna Mussenden Van Der Zee

The 369th Infantry Regiment, also known as the Harlem Hellfighters, was under attack in France for 191 days during World War I and never retreated. For their heroism, 150 of the regiment's men received the Croix de Guerre from the French government. On February 17, 1919, cheered by a crowd of one million onlookers, the returning soldiers marched up Fifth Avenue from Union Square, proceeding through Harlem along Lenox Avenue to 145th Street.