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December 10, 2014 -- The Army War College celebrated the 378<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Guard, with the traditional military cake-cutting ceremony at Bliss Hall here.

The 24 National Guard students attending the Army War College. Newly appointed Brig. Gen. George M. Schwartz, who is dual-hatted as the Pa. National Guard Assistant Adjutant General and USAWC Deputy Commandant for Reserve Affairs, participated in event also.

*The 24 National Guard students of the USAWC that arranged the celebrations of the 378<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Guard are grouped together at Bliss Hall, Carlisle Barracks, 9 Dec., with USAWC Commandant Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp (far left) and Brig. Gen. George M. Schwartz (far right) who is the Pennsylvania National Guard Assistant Adjutant General and USAWC Deputy Commandant of Reserve Affairs.*

The National Guard traces its roots as an institution to Dec. 13, 1636. The National Guard's oldest regiments met for their first drill on the village green in Salem, Massachusetts, to provide defense against the Pequot Indians.

Today the National Guard is part of the Total Army, participating in Joint Force in operations around the world. Guard units provide trained personnel to the United States, its territories and the District of Columbia to protect life and property, and to conduct homeland security missions and disaster relief operations at home.



***USAWC students, Faculty and staff gather to celebrate the 377<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Guard, in Bliss Hall, Dec 9.***

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