

Hispanic-American students reflect on diversity and heritage in the military

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Members from the 65th Infantry from Puerto crest a hill during the Korean War.



Lt. Col. Xavier Colon



Lt. Col. Aixa Dones

The U.S. Army values the contributions of American Soldiers with ancestry from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America. Hispanic Americans have not hesitated to defend and show their allegiance to this nation in many ways, but especially through military service.

Two of those service members sat down for a [video](#) to talk about some contributions Hispanic Americans have made to America's national security and the importance of diversity within the military service.

One of the greatest examples comes from the heroics of the 65th Infantry Regiment "Borinqueneers", a Puerto Rican National Guard unit that fought in nine of ten campaigns during the Korean War. Members of the 65th Inf. Reg. have been awarded one Medal of Honor, ten Distinguished Service Crosses, and 256 Silver Stars for the service in the Korean War.

To this day the Borinqueneers still hold the distinction of being the only all-Hispanic unit in U.S. Army history.

When war was declared on December 8, 1941, thousands of Latinos were among those that rushed to enlist. They fought in every major battle in the European Theatre in which the U.S. Armed Forces were involved, from North Africa to the Battle of the Bulge, and in the Pacific Theater of Operations, from Bataan to Okinawa.

U.S. Army War College News Archives