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THE WEEK IN HISTORY

From Pancho Villa to World War I

The Onondaga Historical Association looks back at the week in local history: 98 Years Ago: On March 9, 1916, the Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa raided Columbus, N.M., killing more than a dozen Americans. President Woodrow Wilson called out the National Guard, including Troop D of the 1st NY Cavalry from Syracuse. Troop D was ordered to the Mexican border at McAllen, Texas, in support of Gen. John Pershing's expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Villa.

Troop D was recalled in 1917 to prepare for the United States entrance into World War I and arrived in Syracuse on March 12, where a parade was held to celebrate their return. Many servicemen believed that their experiences at the border helped ready them for the fighting in Europe.

- Daniel Connors of the OHA

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