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*******FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*******

**ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY DEDICATE SERVICE
MEMORIAL IN ROMANIA**



Captain Commanding John E. Bradley (center) along with US Ambassador to Romania Nicholas F. Taubman (left) and Florin Necula (right) dedicated monument to fallen US Servicemen on October 1, 2007

More than eighty members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts (AHAC) dedicated a monument on Monday, October 1, 2007 to US Servicemen from War World II who died in Romania. The US Ambassador to Romania Nicholas F. Taubman, along with multiple representatives of the Romanian government and military leadership, participated in the ceremony.

AHAC Captain Commanding John E Bradley spoke about the importance of remembering the US Forces, and specifically the US Air Force personnel who were lost in bombing heavily defended strategic Nazi oil refineries in Romania. In one air strike near Bucharest, involving over 179 B-24 liberator bombers, only two thirds returned to base.

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts is the oldest Chartered Military Company in the Western Hemisphere, chartered in 1638, and predated in the world only by the Honorable Artillery Company of London (1537) and the Vatican Swiss Guard (1506).

First organized as militia for the protection of settlers following the landing at Plymouth, the Ancients have been a continuous presence in Massachusetts since 1638. The Company, whose headquarters and public museum are at Faneuil Hall, has seen its members deployed in every conflict in the nation's history, from the Bunker Hill to Yorktown, the War of 1812, the Civil War, both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and today, Iraq.

John F. Kennedy, in addition to James Monroe, Chester Alan Arthur, and Calvin Coolidge, were all Ancients and Presidents of the United States. Seven members of the Company are recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration.

Still vibrant today, the Ancients membership represents a diverse group of individuals, committed to camaraderie and honoring both present and past sacrifices made to protect our freedom. The Ancients participate in numerous memorial and charitable activities throughout the year. You can find more information about the Ancients at www.ahacsite.org or by calling Brigadier General Emery Maddocks, Executive Secretary at 617 227-1638.