



William G. Thiele
United States Army
1916 - 1919

William G. Thiele was born on October 15, 1892. He was inducted into the United States Army in North Carolina and served in the 47th Infantry Division during World War I. He fought at Aisne-Marne as was wounded.

The 47th Infantry Regiment was activated on June 1st, 1917 at Camp Syracuse in New York. On May 25th, 1918 the 47th Infantry Regiment landed at Brest in France. Two months were spent training with British and French units before July 27th, when the “Raiders” (their nickname) was marching knee deep in mud to their first action. Cracking the German line by fighting Indian style, the 47th Regiment soon took possession of the town of Sergy. The 47th Regiment then joined with other units of the American Expeditionary Force to deal decisive defeats to the Germans at St. Mihiel and the immortal Meuse-Argonne, thus breaking the German war machine and ending the hostilities.