# History of the 115<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Regiment, California National Guard 1937-1939

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#### 11STH QUARTERMASTER REGIMENT, LOTH DIVISION

Headquarters, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California Hational Guard (formerly Quartermaster Section, Headquarters, 40th Division, California Mational Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: Berkeley, Alameda County

Organised June 18, 1926\*

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Redesignated April 1, 1936\*\*

Colonels Commanding	Officers	·
Kano	Rank	Commission
William F. Dougherty, Colonel	July 20, 1937	July 20, 1937
Lieutenant Colonels		
William F. Dougherty, Lieut. Col. (Promoted Col. July 20, 1937)	June 12, 1933	June 15, 1933
loyd W. Stewart, Lieut. Col.	June 7, 1926	May 6, 1930
(Transferred to Finance Sec. 40th Div.		
Floyd W. Stewart, Lieut. Col.	June 7, 1926	Sept. 2, 1937
(Trans. from H 40th Div. Sept. 2, 19		and a state
former and the second of the second of the		
Majors		
Francis B. Shearer, Major	Jan. 10, 1935	Feb. 4, 1937
(Trans. from C.A.C. Feb. 4, 1937)		
(Trans. to Ha. 1st Btn. 115th Gm. Reg.	Ame. 5. 1937)	
framme an unte man nome water due wate	- mpr = Jg =7J11	
Captains		
Joseph H. Travers, Capt.	June 5, 1933	June 8, 1933
(Trans. to Plans and Training Off. Jun		are 0, 1))
John F. Condon, Capt.		Nov 2/ 1097
oun r. concon, capes	Nov. 24, 1937	Nov. 24, 1937
Winet I i automate		
First Lieutenants	Nam 23 1022	Turne E 1099
lexander B. Petray, First Licut.	May 31, 1933	June 5, 1933
(Trens. from 143d F.A. May 31, 1933)	10061	
(Trans. to Inactive Nat. Guard Mar. 12		Man 0 100/
Neil F. Hopping, Second Lieut.	Hay 8, 1936	Hay 8, 1936
(In lieu of First Lieut. May 8, to Aug		
(Promoted to First Lieut. A ug. 28, 19		
Meil F. Hopping, First Lieut,		Aug. 28, 1936
(Trans. to Hq. Co.Hq. 115th Gm. Reg. S		
	Feb. 5, 1937	Feb. 5, 1937
(Promoted Capt. Nov. 24, 1937)		

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"Quartermaster Section, Headquarters, 40th Division, California National Guard organised June 18, 1926. General Order No. 19, dated June 18, 1926. Adjutant General's Office.

\*\*Redesignated Headquarters, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard April 1,1936. General Order No. 8, dated March 31, 1936. Adjutant General's Office.

## 115TH QUARTERMASTER REGIMENT, LOTH DIVISION (Continued)

Second Lieutenants	Commanding Officers	
Hane Farl W Chathan Coast	Rank	Commission
Earl W. Shriber, Secon (Trans. from Eq. Co (Trans. to Inactive	nd Lieut. June 14, 1937 o. 115th (m. Reg. Aug. 17, 1937) e Mat. Guard Sept. 20, 1938)	June 14, 1937

party and the destruction beginnes, tobb Stateton, Colling

#### HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Headquarters Company, 115th Quarternaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Berkeley, Alameda County Organized June 18, 1927\*

Redesignated April 1, 1936\*\* Redesignated June 1, 1937\*\*\*

Captains Commanding Office	rs		
Have Rank		Couni	asion
Meil F. Hopping, First Lieut. (In command Sept. 9, 1936, to June 1, 1937) (Assigned in lieu of Capt. June 1, 1937)			28, 1936
Heil F. Hopping, First Lieut. Aug. (In lieu of Capt. June 1, 1937, to June 21, (Promoted Captain June 21, 1938)		Ang.	28, 1936
Neil F. Hopping, Captain June	21, 1938	June	21, 1938
First Lieutenants Neil F. Hopping, First Lieut. Aug. (Assigned to Command Co. Sept. 9, 1936)	28, 1936	Ang.	28, 1936
Second Lieutenants Earl W. Shriber, Second Lieut. June (Transferred to Hq. 115th Qm. Reg. Aug. 16,	14, 1937 1937)	Júne	14, 1937

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"Quartermaster Section, Headquarters Detachment, 40th Division, California National Guard organized June 15, 1927. Adjutant General Report 1926-1928, page 10. "Redesignated Division Quartermaster Platoon Headquarters Company, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, California National Guard April 1, 1936. General Order No. 8, dated March 31, 1936. Adjutant General's Office.

1937. General Order No. 12, dated June 1, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

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#### HEADQUARTERS.FIRST BATTALION

Headquarters, First Battalion, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California Mational Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Berkeley, Alameda County, Organized: April 18, 1939.

Nane Majors.

Commanding Officers Rank

Commission

Francis B. Shearer, Major rancis B. Shearer, Major Jan. 10, 1935 (Transferred from State Staff April 5, 1937)

st Lietenants

Edmond B. Morgan, First Lieut. April 19, 1987

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\*Headquarters, First Battalion, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division organized, April 6, 1987. General Order No. 10, dated Apr. 7, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

Feb. 4,1937

Apr. 19,1937

### COMPANY A

Company A, 115th Quarternaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Berkeley, Alameda County Organized May 12, 1936\*

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Captains Commanding	Office	-8			
· Nane	Rank			Comsis	sion
Burr Elliott Marsh, Captain	Hay	11,	1936		12, 1936
(Trans. to Inactive Hat. Guard Apr. 1	, 1937				
Harold E. Bartlett, First Lieut. (In lieu of Capt. Apr. 19, 1937)	Apr.	19,	1937	Apr.	19, 1937
(Promoted Captain Dec. 1, 1938)					
Harold E. Bartlett, Captain	Dec.	1,	1938	Dec.	1, 1938
Set id Lieutenants					
Harold E. Bartlett, Second Lieut. (Promoted First Lieut. Apr. 19, 1937)	Apr.	1,	1936	Hay	12, 1936
Robert H. Hicks, Second Lieut.	Apr.	19,	1937	Apr.	19, 1937

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\*Company A, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard organized May 12, 1936.

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General Order No. 17, dated May 29, 1936. Adjutant General's Office.

## COMPANY B

Company B, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Martines, Contra Costa County Organized April 6, 1937\*

Company A, 119th Quartermander Regiment, ADah Division, California Hational Guard

Captains Commanding	Office					
Orvin N. Nichols, Captain	Apr.	1,	1937	Apr.	1,	1937
Second Ligutenants	125-					
Richard W. Gaunt, Second Lieut. (Assigned Apr. 3, 1937)	Apr.	3,	1937	Apr.	4.	1937
(Honorably discharged July 19, 1937)						
Robert A. Wallace, Second Lieut. (Assigned Mar. 14, 1938)	Har.	15,	1938	Har.	15,	1938

\*Company B, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard organized April 6, 1937.

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General Order No. 10, dated April 7, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

#### HEADQUARTERS, SECOND BATTALION

Headquarters Second Battalion, 115th Quarternaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard

Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Organised April 1, 1937\*

Majors Commanding	Officers Rank		Commission
Harold E. Hopping Major		1937	Apr. 1, 1937
First Lieutenants George L. Darley, First Lieut.	June 10,	1937	July 10, 1937
(Attached to Co. C for purpose of co that unit during absence of regular Sept. 3, to Nov. 22, 1937) (Relieved from attachment to Co. C M	commander	(7)	

\*Headquarters, Second Battalion, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard organised April 1, 1937. General Order No. 10, dated April 10, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

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# COMPANY C

Company C, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Organized April 1, 1937\*

Captains Commanding Officers Name Rank	Commission
Hugh F. Evans, Captain Apr. 1, 1937	Apr. 1, 1937
(Absent on Detail Sept. 3, to Nov. 22, 1937) George L. Darley, First Lieut. June 10, 1937 (Attached to Co. C and placed in command during absence of Capt. Evans Sept. 3, to Nov. 22, 1937) (Relieved of command Nov. 22, 1937)	June 19, 1937
Second Lieutenants Charles W. Wallace, Second Lieut. July 14, 1937 (Transferred to Co. D, 115th Qm. Reg. Oct. 24, 1938)	July 14, 1937

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\*Company C, 115th Quarternaster Regiment, 40th Division organized April 1, 1937. General Order No. 10, dated April 1, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

# COMPANY D

Company D, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Organised April 1, 1937\*

Captains Commanding	Officer	2			
Nano	Rank			Commin	
Charles S. Cobb, Jr., Capt.	Apr.	1,	1937	Apr.	1, 1937
Second Lieutenants					
Pierson B. Miller, Second Lieut.	May	5.	1937	May	5, 1937
(a) (Annulated Companies July 29, 1097					

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\*Company D, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division organised April 1, 1937. General Order No. 10, dated April 7, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

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## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Medical Bepartment, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California National Guard Reference: Adjutant General's Files Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Organised June 28, 1937

Hajors Commandia	ng Officers		
Name	Rank		Commission
James R. Dean, Capt.	Feb. 19	, 1931	Feb. 21, 1931
(In lieu of Major June 28, to July	14, 1937)		
(Promoted Major July 14, 1937)	THE LTO LC		,
James R. Dean, Major	July 14		July 14, 1937
William D. Radeliffe, Capt.	July 19	, 1937	July 23, 1937
(Appointed Commander July 29, 1937)		CAU	
(Transferred to Inactive Nat. Guard	1 Nov. 3, 19	38)	

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"Medical Department, 115th Quarternaster Regiment, 40th Division organized June 28, 1937. General Order No. 15, dated June 29, 1937. Adjutant General's Office.

#### ACTIVITIES OF THE 115th QUARTERMASTER REGIMENT

Quartermaster Section, Headquarters, 40th Division, was on April 1, 1936, redesignated 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, with Headquarters in Berkeley, California. The organisation was placed under command of Lieutenant-Colonel William F. Dougherty, an officer of long service in the California National Guard, and a graduate of the United States Military Academy.#

The units of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment were more widely scattered than those of any other organisation in the California National Guard. Due to the special functions of the Regiment it is essential that the units be located in various parts of the State for transportation of all troops of the 40th Division.\*\* The duties of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment are varied and numerous. The organisation furnishes all Quartermaster supplies, subsistance, clothing, equippage, Quartermaster motor vehicle fuel and oils. Transportation for all troops by rail, water, and mater is furnished to the entire 40th Division by the various units of the Quartermaster Regiment, located throughout the State. The entire 40th Division troops are dependent on the proper functioning of the Quartermaster Regiment for their subsistance at training Encampments, regardless of where the units of the Division may be located.

Company A, '115th Quartermaster Regiment, located in Sacramento, California, was one of the first units of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment to be organized. Company A was organized and mustered into the Service of the State on May 15th, 1936. The Company was very successful in recruiting the organization to full strength in a short time. Under command of Captain Burr Marsh, Company A participated in the exercises held during the State Fair at Sacramento, on September 12, and 13, 1936. The Company mobilized and transported many outlying units of the 184th Infantry to the State Fair Grounds for the exercises. The principal function of Company A is to study Notor Mechanics and Motor transport driving, and in particular, driving and care of the trucks. Maintenance and operation of motor vehicles so as to meet the requirements of the Mational Guard is under the immediate supervision of Major Francis B. Shearer, Division Notor transport Officer, and Division Motor maintenance Officer.\*\*\* Company A also participated in the transportation of troops to and from the annual training camp at San Louis Obispo, California, July 9, to August 7, 1936.

The Division Quartermaster Platoon, Headquarters Company, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, under command of Captain J. H. Travers, Regimental Adjutant, in October, 1936, secured the loan of some rifles and the unit proceeded to review the activities of the school of the Soldiers and learn just how much of the maneuvers they had forgotten since they had been performing their duties in the Quartermaster Department.

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\*California Guardsman March 1937, page 15. \*\*California Guardsman March 1937, page 15. \*\*\*California Guardsman September 1936, page 18. On March 6, 1937, General Harry E. Morehead, the Adjutant General of California was notified by Radiogram from the Chief of the Militia Bureau at Mashington D.C. that two motor truck battalions for the 115th Quartermaster Regiment would be authorized for complete organization on April 1, 1937.\* At that time the Regiment was only partially organized, and consisted of Headquarters, 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division, California Mational Guard, located at Berkeley; the Division Quartermaster Platoon, (Headquarters Company) also located at Berkeley, and Company A, located at Sacramento.\*\* As a result of the advices from the Chief of the Militia Bureau, Companies C and D, 115th Quartermaster Regiment were organized April 1st, 1937. Company C, located in Los Angeles, was placed under command of Captain Hugh F. Evans, and Company D, also located at Los Angeles, was placed under command of Captain Charles S. Cobb. Company B, located at Martines, was organized April 6, 1937, and placed under command of Captain Orvin N. Michols.

Headquarters, First Battalion was organized April 6, 1937, and placed under the command of Major Francis B. Shearer. Headquarters, Second Battalion was organized April 1st, 1937, and placed under command of Major Harold E. Hopping. The First Battalion was composed of Companies A and B, and the Second Battalion, consisted 9f Companies C and D. The Medical Department Detachment was organized June 28, 1937, and was located in Los Angeles. This Detachment was the last unit added to the Regiment in 1937.

A school of instruction was participtated in by members of various Hational Guard organisations of Sacramento during the first week of Hay, 1937. Approximately twenty-two and one-half tons of tentage, tent stakes, and other wquipment had to be moved from the State Arsenal to the National Guard training camp at San Louis Obispo, and the 115th quartermaster Regiment was called upon to provide the necessary transportation. Hajor Shearer, who commanded the First Battalion, called upon the other units of the Regiment for volunteers to assist in the transfer and in the movements of the convoy. The mission was one of instruction for commissioned and non commissioned officers, and those who participated ad to function as drivers of the trucks.\*\*\* The absence of passengers and the necessity for adhering to schedule made it possible to cover many points, to correct mistakes and obtain information on convoy movements.\*\*\*\*

Many obstacles were encountered on the trip to the San Louis Obispo camp as several different types of roads were traversed. Might driving was necessary and servicing of trucks was carried on. Many points were definitely proved on the mission, one important one being that thirty-five to thirty-seven miles per hour was a satisfactory speed for a convoy of 15 trucks to travel, and that 40 miles per hour was too high a speed for safety. On one occasion, the convoy during the try, when traveling at the rate of forty miles per hour, the head of the column was compelled to stop for ten minutes until the trucks in the rear of the column caught up.\*\*\*\*\*

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\*California Guardsman, March 1937, pge 15. \*\*California Guardsman, March 1937, page 15. \*\*\*California Guardsman, June 1937, page 19. \*\*\*\*California Guardsman, June 1937, page 19. \*\*\*\*\*California Guardsman, June 1937, page 19. When trucks traveling at forty miles per hour move at one hundred yard intervals, it would take approximately seven and one-half miles for a vehicle traveling at the rate of fifty miles per hour, to move from the rear to the head of the column. With greater intervals than that, it was found that a passing vehicle must travel about ten miles to pass the fifteen trucks in the convoy." This was considered one of the best motor convoy movements made by the personnel of the California National Guard, consisting as it did of more than 9000 truck miles made in the record total elapsed time of forty-two hours without a single accident.""

On another important occasion the 115th Quartermaster Regiment furnished transportation of tentage and equipment to Camp San Louis Obispo, the Second Battalion of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment of Los Angeles and the transportation Platcon of the Service Company, 160th Infantry participating. The movement was under command of Major Harold E. Hopping, commanding Headquarters, Second Battalion of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment.

Company A of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment, Sacramento, in compliance with a request from the Third Battalion, 184th Infantry, furnished fourteen trucks for transportation of the Third Battalion from Mapa, Santa Rosa, Petaluma, and St. Helena to an overnight bivouac held a few miles above Sonoma, California, June 12, and 13, 1937. Privates Delevan, Otwell, and Wells showed in the performance of their duties in the convoy that the training they had received had proved of value in carrying out the problems that they encountered on the road. Through the efforts of Sergeant Mechanic, Ed Thompson, all equipment performed without a fault.\*\*\*

From the middle of April, 1937, Company A, without having been called for active duty, has completed some 15000 truck miles of convoy work. This record can best be credited to the men of the organization who, without compensation other than meals have secured time off from their civilian work and in so doing made each convoy a success. Beside the help rendered to the company by the men in establishing this record it should be remembered and mentioned that equipment has stood up wonderfully well, and that no accident has occurred during the performance.\*\*\*\*

In addition to the task of transporting the troops of the 40th Division to and from the field training Encampment at San Louis Obispo for the year 1937, the 115th Quartermaster Regiment, on next to the last day of the maneuvers, were ordered to assemble their transportation equipment at the main gate, prepared to execute troop movements. Cavalry scout cars had broken through and were about to attack the camp. The 115th Quartermaster Regiment, which was apparently supposed to function as Infantry in addition to its other duties, was ordered to throw out an outpost for the protection of the camp.\*\*\*\*\* Shortly thereafter came another message to the effect that a scout car was in the ditch up San San Luisito Creek, and requesting that the 115th, please send its wrecker to the spot. This was done; but it rather amused

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\*California Guardsman, June 1937, page 19. \*\*California Guardsman, June 1937, page 19. \*\*\*California Guardsman, July 1937, pages 29, and 30. \*\*\*\*California Guardsman, July 1937, page 30. \*\*\*\*California Guardsman, October 1937, page 24.

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the men that they sould have to rescue one of the emimies cars in order that the car could attack the camp. The scout car was found lying on its side in rather a bad position. To add to the general confusion, the front end reposed peacefully in a wasp's mest, and the wasps were not peaceful. Due to the efficient handling of the situation by Sergeant Thompson of Company A, however, the car was righted and went merrily on its way.

The same job with a new "title" is what a commission as Second Lieutenant, Headquarters Company, 115th Quarternaster Regiment meant to Earl W. Shriber. Lieutenant Schriber had served at camps since 1929 as Master Sergeant in the Quartermaster department, caring for subsistence supplies."

The Medical Department Detachment of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment was Federally recognized June 28, 1937 and although the unit was organized late in the year, the members proceeded to Camp Merriam in full strength. Although the equipment was scenty, the Medical Department made a creditable showing.\*\* The various units included in the 115th Quartermaster Regiment attending the annual Encampment at Camp. Merriam reported having enjoyed their stay at Camp, and were looking forward to the following year's Encampment with pleasurable anticipation.\*\*\*

During the 1937 Encampment the Second Battalion of the 115th Guartermaster Regiment transported the 251st Coast Artillery Corps from Camp Merriam to Seaside, Ventura County August 11, 1937. The men of the Guartermaster Regiment left their area at 6:00 a.m., loaded the artillerymen at the Artillery Area, traveled to Seaside, and returned to Camp Merriam in time for mess that night.\*\*\*\*

Company B of Martines, California, a unit of the 115th Quartermaster Regiment , on September 21, 1937, learned the value of discipline and training in handling an emergency situation. While on a night maneuver in convoy training, the men of Company B witnessed a serious accident at Port Chicago which snuffed out the lives of three persons. The unit was motoring along the highway which parallels the Southern Pacific Rail Read tracks, and members of the convoy watched helplessly as an automobile carrying three men, a young boy and a woman moved slowly across the Rail Road tracks in front of a rapidly approaching train. The tracks were in a straight line for miles and there were no obstructions to bar the view. The train hit the docmed automobile with such force that one of the men and the boy, his son, were hurled through the air for more than 100 feet, the father was killed outright, and the son died in the Hospital a short time afterward. Company B's convoy halted immediately and rendered all possible aid. The Company gave first aid to those needing it and rushed the injured to a Hospital. The sen of Company B were immediately detailed to handle the flow of traffic in the vicinity of the accident, and took complete charge of the situation. The motorists in the car had been on their way to secure a quart of milk. They did not get the milk, instead three lives were lost. The

.000. \*California Guardsman, October 1937, page 24. \*\*California Guardsman, October 1937, page 24. \*\*\*California Guardsman, October 1937, page 24. Engineer of the train was on his last run before retiring, after having completed forty-one years of Engineering without an accident.\*

The 115th Quartermaster Regiment, 40th Division has served the California National Guard efficiently and well since its organization in 1926, and at the close of the year 1937, the organization is maintaining its established record of achievements and accomplishments in the California National Guard.

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OUTLINE HISTORY

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

\*California Guardsman, November 1937, page 32.

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