

# **History of 1st Field Artillery Regiment, Battery E California National Guard 1917**

This history was completed in 1940 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in conjunction with the California National Guard and the California State Library.

Digitized by the History Office, Camp San Luis Obispo, 24 January 2015

Original document on file at the California State Library

BATTERY E

Battery E, First Field Artillery

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: Oakland, Alameda County

Organized July 26, 1917\*

Mustered into Federal Service August 28, 1917\*\*

Redesignated September 24, 1917\*\*\*

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Walter J. Peterson, Captain	Aug. 1, 1917	Aug. 1, 1917
Albert G. Waddell, First Lieut.	July 31, 1917	July 31, 1917
John H. Fahy, First Lieutenant	Aug. 4, 1917	Aug. 4, 1917

**Activities:**

Battery E, First Field Artillery was organized almost immediately following the proclamation of the President of the United States, dated July 3, 1917. The section of the proclamation which pertained to units of the National Guard reads as follows:

I "And under the authority conferred upon/ by clause  
second of section one of the Act of Congress 'to authorize  
the President to increase temporarily the military  
establishment of the United States', approved May 18, 1917,  
I do hereby draft into the military service of the United  
States as of and from the 5th day of August, nineteen hundred  
and seventeen, all members of the National Guard and all enlisted  
members of the National Guard Reserve of the following States,  
except members of staff and corps departments not included in  
the personnel of tactical organizations and except such other  
officers of the National Guard as have been or may be specially  
notified by my authority that they

.000.

\*Organized July 26, 1917.

Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 33.

\*\*Battery E, as part of the First Field Artillery mustered into Federal Service for duty during the World War, August 28, 1917. Muster Roll Battery E, First Field Artillery, August 1917. Adjutant General Files.

\*\*\*Battery E, First Field Artillery reorganized and redesignated Battery E, 143rd Field Artillery, September 24, 1917. Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 33.

Activities: (Continued)

will not be drafted, to wit: **\*\*\*California\*\*\*.**†

The troops enlisted in Battery E therefore knew they were to be drafted into Federal Service at a later date and would no doubt be sent to the front for active service. It was not a difficult task to get new recruits for Battery E, as the field artillery was to be in the World War what the Rough Riders were in the Spanish-American War.

On July 28, 1917, the unit reached its quota of men and passed inspection by Captain Burt of the Regular Army. A few days later Battery E was ordered to the Presidio in San Francisco for further training and preparation. The time spent by the troops at the Presidio was occupied with rigid drills and maneuvers of modern warfare.

On September 24, 1917, the unit was reorganized, redesignated and mustered into Federal Service as Battery E, 143rd Field Artillery.††

For further information concerning Battery E, refer to History of Battery E, 143rd Field Artillery, 40th Division.

On August 28, 1917, Battery E was mustered into Federal Service and on September 24, 1917 was redesignated Battery E, One Hundred and Forty-Third Field Artillery Regiment

†General and Special Orders 1917, page 40.

††Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 33.