

History of the 40th Signal Company, California National Guard 1889-1936

Includes:

Signal Corps, 2nd Brigade (1889-1905)

2nd Company, Signal Corps (1905-1909)

Company B, Signal Corps (1909-1917)

Company A, 115th Field Signal Battalion (1917-1921)

Divisional Signal Company, 40th Division (1921-1922)

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(SIGNAL CORPS) (Continued)

(40th Signal Corps)

Signal Corps, Second Brigade; 40th Signal Corps, 40th Division

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: San Francisco, San Francisco County

Mustered in: April 30, 1889

Redesignated: May 10, 1905 *

Redesignated: April 14, 1909 **

Mustered into Federal Service June 28, 1916 ***

Mustered out of Federal Service November 6, 1916 ****

Resumption of Service in National Guard 1916'

Redesignated and Mustered into Federal Service Oct.13, 1917 ''

Demobilized: July 16, 1919 '''

Reorganized: March 4, 1921 ''''

Redesignated: March 22, 1922 '''''

Philip J. Perkins, Captain

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*General Order No. 7, paragraph 20, page 10, May 10, 1905, redesignates the Second Brigade Signal Corps as Second Company, Signal Corps, Second Brigade. General Orders and Special Orders and Circulars. 1905.

**Second Company Signal Corps redesignated Company B Signal Corps, April 14, 1909. General Orders and Special Orders and Circulars, 1909. General Order No. 7, par. 10.

***Company B Signal Corps mustered into Federal Service for duty on the Mexican Border on June 28, 1916, Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 14.

****Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 14.

'Company B Signal Corps resumed service in the National Guard in accordance with General Order No. 34, November 6, 1916, General and Special Orders and Bulletins 1916.

''Company B Signal Corps called into Federal Service during the World War, August 5, 1917, redesignated Company A, 115th Field Signal Battalion, October 13, 1917. Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 34.

'''Demobilized at Presidio in San Francisco, July 16, 1919, Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 34.

''''Reorganized as Divisional Signal Company, March 4, 1921. General Order No. 7. General and Special Orders 1921, page 15.

''''''Divisional Signal Corps redesignated as 40th Signal Corps March 1, 1922. General and Special Orders 1922. Special Order No. 25, par. 2, page 60.

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SIGNAL CORPS
(40th SIGNAL CORPS) (Continued)

Commanding Officers (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
W. E. Brown, First Lieut. (resigned June 23, 1891)	Dec. 12, 1889	Dec. 12, 1889
Charles J. Evans, Captain	Dec. 8, 1891	Dec. 31, 1891
Abbott A. Hanks, First Lieut.	Dec. 8, 1891	Dec. 31, 1891
Abbott, A. Hanks, Captain	Aug. 3, 1893	Sept. 11, 1893
George C. Boardman, First Lieut.	Aug. 3, 1893	Sept. 11, 1893
George C. Boardman, Captain	Aug. 15, 1895	Oct. 11, 1895
Philip J. Perkins, First Lieut.	Aug. 15, 1895	Oct. 11, 1895
Philip J. Perkins, Captain (redesignated June 8, 1898)	Feb. 15, 1897	Apr. 24, 1897
Charles L. Hewes, First Lieut.	Feb. 15, 1897	Mar. 29, 1897
Charles L. Hewes, Captain	July 12, 1898	Aug. 10, 1898
Charles W. (Haselton), First Lieut. (Haselton)	July 12, 1898	Aug. 10, 1898
E. A. Selfridge, Captain	May 31, 1900	June 18, 1900
E. P. Seymer, First Lieut. (resigned Oct. 8, 1901)	Dec. 28, 1899	Feb. 7, 1900
E. A. Selfridge, Captain (reelected Jan. 8, 1903) (resigned June 17, 1904)	_____	_____
Emmet R. Jones, First Lieut.	Oct. 31, 1901	Nov. 29, 1901
Emmet R. Jones, Captain	July 7, 1904	Aug. 4, 1904
George M. Scott, First Lieut.	July 7, 1904	Aug. 8, 1904
George M. Scott, Captain (resigned July 7, 1907)	Aug. 3, 1905	Aug. 30, 1905
Charles W. Jones, First Lieut. (resigned Jan. 17, 1908)	Aug. 3, 1905	Sept. 8, 1905
Frank J. Sullivan, Captain	Dec. 19, 1907	Jan. 11, 1908
Earl B. Terry, First Lieut.	May 14, 1908	June 17, 1908
Frank J. Sullivan, Captain (reelected May 13, 1909)	_____	_____
Earl B. Terry, First Lieut. (reelected May 13, 1909) (resigned Jan. 11, 1911)	_____	_____
Frank Vanderbilt Smith, First Lieut.	Feb. 2, 1911	Mar. 10, 1911

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th SIGNAL CORPS) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Commanding Officers (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Frank J. Sullivan, Captain (reelected Oct. 20, 1913) (resigned June 28, 1917)		
Frank V. Smith, First Lieut. (reelected Oct. 20, 1913)		
Frederick A. Cellarius, First Lieut.	May 25, 1916	May 27, 1916
Edward V. Orr, First Lieut.	June 22, 1916	June 22, 1916
Edward V. Orr, Captain	Aug. 4, 1917	Aug. 4, 1917
William E. Godsell, First Lieut.	June 12, 1917	June 12, 1917
Charles Duren matt, First Lieut.	Aug. 4, 1917	Aug. 4, 1917
Edward V. Orr, Captain	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 30, 1921*
Prentiss C. Deering, First Lieut.	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 30, 1921
Clarence E. White, First Lieut. (resigned July 19, 1922)	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 30, 1921
Wallace A. Stephen, First Lieut.	Aug. 12, 1922	Aug. 21, 1922
Thomas H. Larke, Jr., First Lieut. (resigned Jan. 8, 1925)	Aug. 12, 1922	Sept. 11, 1922
Clarence E. White, First Lieut.	Feb. 27, 1925	Mar. 11, 1925
Prentiss C. Deering, Captain	June 19, 1926	June 26, 1926
Kenneth C. May, First Lieut.	Dec. 29, 1926	Jan. 10, 1927
Gus B. Hoffman, First Lieut.	July 26, 1926	Sept. 3, 1926
John F. Helmes, First Lieut.	June 20, 1929	Aug. - 1929
John F. Helmes, Captain	Oct. 15, 1929	Oct. 20, 1929
Harry G. Bligh, First Lieut.	July 3, 1930	July 15, 1930
Gus B. Hoffman, Captain	Mar. 2, 1932	Mar. 23, 1932
Victor Everett Carrasco, First Lieut.	May 30, 1932	June 2, 1932
Melvin Grigsby Sues, First Lieut.	May 30, 1932	June 3, 1932
Lawrence W. Hacker, First Lieut.	Apr. 10, 1933	Apr. 28, 1933
George Joseph Filiberti, First Lieut.	June 3, 1935	June 5, 1935

Activities:

In 1888 the State Legislature passed a law that required the discontinuance of regimental signal corps units and substituted a signal corps company for each brigade. In accordance with the law,

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* Captain Orr continued as Captain of Signal Corps until promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Signal Corps, June 7, 1926.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

the Adjutant General issued General Order No. 8, 1889, providing for a signal corps of twenty members in the First Brigade, one of forty in the Second Brigade and one of twenty in the Third Brigade. The Signal Corps of the Second Brigade was organized on April 30, 1889, and was composed of the Signal Corps units of the First and Fifth Infantry Regiments. W. E. Brown was appointed and commissioned as First Lieutenant on December twelfth of the same year. On December 8, 1891, Charles J. Evans was elected Captain and Abbott A. Hanks, First Lieutenant.

The first encampment of the newly organized Signal Corps was held with the Second Regiment Artillery at Monterey from August 17 to 25, 1889. The Camp was designated Camp Cutling in honor of Brigadier-General Cutling of the Second Brigade. The site was located in a grove of Oaks. The ground on which the camp site was situated was very dusty which interfered with the proper performance of camp duties. *

In the years of 1891 and 1892 the Signal Corps performed some practical work in San Francisco when they began a system of communication between the several armories located there. The system developed being invaluable in cases of riots or emergency calls, as messages could readily be transmitted to the armories in the outlying districts, thereby greatly increasing the efficiency of the troops of the Second Brigade when called upon to act as a whole. **

At the annual inspection July 16, 1891, Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Cutler, Division Inspector of the National Guard, in his report to Brigadier-General C. C. Allen of the Second Brigade, stated that the Signal Corps was found to be in a very satisfactory condition as to drills, discipline and efficiency. Their mounts, however, were unsuitable, and deteriorated the value of that portion of the tour of duty. In the inspection of the camps, the Colonel noted that the floor of the Signal Corps quarters was very clean, but that the rear of the camp was dirty. The parade ground was also found to be unsuitable for mounted drills, as it was uneven and contained a large number of stumps and holes that were dangerous to mounted troops.***

The record book of Company Orders of the Signal Corps Headquarters on file in the Adjutant General's Office reveal the zeal and interest manifested by the members of the unit. One illustration was the Signal Corps Headquarters Order No. 3, issued May 25, 1904, which reads:

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- *Adjutant General Report 1890, page 11.
- **Adjutant General Report 1891-1892, pages 8, 9.
- ***Adjutant General Report 1891-1892, pages 156, 157.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

"This command will go into camp of Instruction at Lake Merced from May 28 to May 30, 1904, inclusive. Members will report at these Headquarters in heavy marching order, mounted ready to march at 3:00 P.M. May twenty-eighth. Quartermaster Sergeant will procure two-day rations for men and horses, and will arrange the necessary transportation for rations and camp equipment. All members not complying with these orders will be subject to a fine of \$2.50 each, physician's certificate of disability only being accepted."

Nearly all orders for practice expeditions similar to the foregoing, close with a warning of a fine for non-attendance. Most of the orders required that the men be mounted, stipulated that all horses must be either bay or black. With such splendid leadership and discipline combined with a keen interest in their work, it is easy to understand the inspection report of Major Victor D. Duoce, Inspector, made on April 10, 1894, when he stated that the Signal Corps, Second Brigade, was one hundred per cent attendance, discipline, instruction, appearance and condition of property. *

On November 16, 1904, a fire destroyed most of the armory and property of the Signal Corps, necessitating the discontinuance of active drilling and target practice. The Signal Corps encamped at the Presidio in San Francisco from July 4 to 20, inclusive, in conjunction with the United States Troops. The unit arranged for their own camp and field cooking equipment. The instruction and help received by the company was very beneficial, and undoubtedly greatly improved the efficiency of the unit.

The Signal Corps record at target practice was about average. No first class marksmen were developed and the yearly average was about two second class marksmen and seven or eight third class shots. While it is desirable that the Signal Corps members be able to shoot accurately, it apparently was more essential that they be able to accurately and promptly dispatch orders and information from Headquarters to cooperating units in all maneuvers.

One of the finest civic and military parades ever held in San Francisco was the one of January 27, 1894, in celebration of the opening of the Mid-Winter Fair held in that city. Brigadier General J. H. Dickinson of the Second Brigade, National Guard of California, was Grand Marshal of the parade, and promptly gave the word for the parade to start. The bugler of the First Troop

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* Adjutant General Report, 1893-1894, pages 180, 181.

(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)
SIGNAL CORPS

Activities: (Continued)

Cavalry sounded the notes that started the parade, and Captain Blumenberg's Troop of Cavalry headed the procession. Following the United States Army Troops came the National Guard. Colonel William MacDonald, commanding the Second Artillery Regiment was in command of the Second Brigade. Accompanied by the members of the Brigade Staff, he rode at the head of the column, his immediate escort being the men of the Signal Corps, marching in front with drawn sabres. Then came Colonel MacDonald's own regiment, the Second Artillery, although most of the companies paraded as infantry. The Fifth Infantry Regiment commanded by Colonel D. B. Fairbanks and composed of companies from Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Oakland, Alameda, and other surrounding cities, followed second in the line of march, presenting a uniformly handsome appearance; and following the Fifth, came the First and Third Infantry Regiment of San Francisco. The two batteries of the Second Regiment came next with their rumbling cannon, under command of Captain H. T. Sime. Next in line came the men of the new, but ever popular organization, the Battalion of the Naval Reserve, clad in their neat sailor suits, and led by commander F. H. Stahle. Following the Naval Reserve came the Veteran Guard to whom had been assigned the honorable duty of acting as escort to the officers and invited guests who followed in carriages immediately after. Next in the line came the French Zouaves, followed by the Boys Brigade and Fraternal Organizations. *

The efficiency of the National Guard stationed in San Francisco was put to a test on the afternoon of December 2, 1895. Brigadier General Richard H. Warfield, commanding the Second Brigade conceived a desire to learn how many men would respond to an unexpected call muster and take the field on a few hours notice. This type of muster was known in military circles as the "long roll", and the call had never been issued except in encampments. The results were highly satisfactory. **

Among the first funeral ceremonies participated in by the Signal Corps was that of King Kalakua, the deceased King of the Hawaiian Island on January 22, 1891. *** About four months later, on May

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* San Francisco Chronicle, January 24, 1894, page 1, column 7.

** For additional information concerning the Efficiency Test of the National Guard refer to History of Company C, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.

*** For additional information concerning the funeral ceremony of King Kalakaua refer to History of Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

under command of Lieutenant Colonel Duboce, the Signal Corps and the Troops of Cavalry fell into line; General Warfield and the Brigade Staff occupied carriages. The Pioneers, the Knights Templar and Veterans of the National Guard were in attendance. The military escort led the funeral out Market Street to Van Ness Avenue, and there the Infantry was dismissed, the Signal Corps and Cavalry acting as escort to the burial place. After the services at the grave were over the Signal Corps fired the customary salutes.*

On the evening of July 3, 1894, the Signal Corps was mustered for services during the strike of the employees of the railroads, who were participating in a sympathy strike with the employees of the Pullman Car Company, striking in the East. One half of the Corps was ordered to Sacramento on July Fourth, with Captain Abbott Hanks in command, and remained on duty until dismissed on July twenty-fifth. The other was stationed at Oakland under command of Lieutenant George Boardman, and continued there until July thirtieth, when the unit returned to San Francisco where it was dismissed.

When in April 1898 War was declared between the United States and Spain, the Signal Corps, Second Brigade was not called upon to enter the United States service as a unit. But one commissioned officer and seven non-commissioned officers and privates entered the ranks of the volunteers, and crossed the seas to fight in the Philippine Islands. The services of the trained men in the Signal Corps shows a splendid record over seas. The commissioned officer was Captain P. J. Perkins, who resigned when the Signal Corps at Washington failed to accept the Second Brigade Corps as a Volunteer unit. The Captain enlisted and was commissioned as First Lieutenant, United States Volunteer Signal Corps, in May 1898. He served in the Philippines during the war, was promoted to Captain and command of the 19th Company Signal Corps. His unit accompanied General W. H. Lawton's column in its "flying march" and upon the return of the United States Volunteers to San Francisco, Captain Perkins was mustered out of service on October 10, 1899. Sergeant P. C. Knapp enlisted in the Volunteer Signal Corps in May, 1898, served in the Philippines during the War with Spain and the Insurrection with the First Company Signal Corps. During the enlistment period he was promoted to First Class Sergeant and acting First Sergeant. He was mustered out of service June 1899.

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* San Francisco Examiner, June 22, 1896, page 8, column 1.

SIGNAL CORPS
 (40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Sergeant H. F. Jurs enlisted in May 1898 in United States Signal Corps Company No. 1, as a private. During the War he was promoted to Sergeant and First Class Sergeant. He was detailed as an Engineer on the "Laguna Del Bay", an armoured river boat. Sergeant Jurs was recommended for a commission by officers of the Regular Army for his splendid service. However, he did not receive a commission and was mustered out in San Francisco in June, 1899.

Sergeant E. R. Jones enlisted in the First United States Volunteer Signal Corps, served as Corporal and Sergeant. He was transferred to the 19th Signal Corps and promoted to First Class Sergeant and Acting First Sergeant. Sergeant Jones served through the Spanish American War and Philippine Insurrection and was honorably mustered out of service on October 10, 1899.

Thornhill Carmany enlisted in the United States Volunteer Signal Corps and was assigned to the 18th Unit. He served through the Spanish American War as private and Sergeant. He was honorably discharged in 1899. J. M. Stock enlisted in the First Company Signal Corps and served during the War as a private and corporal. He was invalided home and honorably discharged. Another member, J. W. White, enlisted in the First California Volunteers, was transferred to the 19th Company Signal Corps and served during the War as Private, Corporal, Sergeant and Acting Quartermaster Sergeant. Sergeant White was mustered out of the service at San Francisco in October, 1899. The last man to enlist was R. C. Delawater who qualified to enlist in the Signal Corps, but was not sworn in. He later enlisted in the United States Engineer Corps and was promoted to Corporal. He served through the Spanish American War and was honorably mustered out in San Francisco in 1899. * The record of patriotism and service of the enlisted men revealed the real character and efficiency of the members of the Signal Corps of the Second Brigade. Troops, sailors

from the Battleships Iowa and Wisconsin, which were anchored in the harbor, and the troops of the Second Brigade, National Guard, to which the Signal Corps was attached. The President who was destined to die from the wounds of an assassin's bullet approximately four months later, rode in a carriage drawn by four black

* Letter written by Lieutenant Colonel Charles J. Evans to Brigadier General W. H. Seamans, August 29, 1900. On file Adjutant General's Office.

*Adjutant-General Report, 1901-1902, page 118.
 ** Adjutant General Report, 1903-1904, page 8.

SIGNAL CORPS
 (40th Signal Corps) ((Continued))

Activities: ((Continued))

At the Annual Encampment of the entire National Guard of California, held in Santa Cruz June 18 to 25, 1901, the Signal Corps made a splendid showing. Colonel Thomas Wilhelm, United States Army, Inspector for the National Guard, reported that the Signal Corps could not receive too much praise; that in a short space of time after reaching the camp site, the department had put the commanding General in communication by wire with his entire command and the outer world. It was peculiarly efficient in keeping in touch with the extended field maneuvers; and that in his long experience he had not seen better work performed with more alacrity than was accomplished by that body of men. He offered criticism of the plan that created only one unit to each brigade and failure to create a Signal Chief and Staff that would coordinate the three units under one commanding officer. Each corps was efficient in cooperating with its own brigade, but when called upon to operate in unison as was necessary in that encampment, they failed to function smoothly. *

In 1903 the Signal Corps encampment consisted of a practice march to Willits and return. They left San Francisco on June twenty-third and returned July eighth. The distance was about 175 miles, covered by a first stop at Santa Rosa on the twenty-fourth, Healdsburg on the twenty-fifth, Hopland the twenty-seventh, Ukiah the twenty-eighth and Willits on the twenty-ninth. They remained in camp until July third and required five days returning. **

While the Signal Corps was frequently called upon for duty at funerals of distinguished personages, they were also in demand on occasions such as the reception tendered to William McKinley, President of the United States, on the occasion of his visit to San Francisco on May 14, 1901. In the parade which started at Third and Townsend Streets were United States Army Troops, sailors from the Battleships Iowa and Wisconsin, which were anchored in the harbor, and the troops of the Second Brigade, National Guard, to which the Signal Corps was attached. The President who was destined to die from the wounds of an assassin's bullet approximately four months later, rode in a carriage drawn by four black

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*San Francisco Examiner, May 15, 1901, pages 1, 2, 3.

*Adjutant General Report, 1901-1902, page 118.
 ** Adjutant General Report, 1903-1904, page 6.

SIGNAL CORPS
 (40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

horses. The carriage was preceded by a platoon of policemen, followed by Brigadier General R. H. Warfield, and his Staff. General Warfield was grand marshal of the parade. The President's carriage was followed by a long line of carriages occupied by members of the Presidential party and other high officials of the City and State. The popularity of the Chief Executive was manifested in the tremendous enthusiasm displayed by the citizens of San Francisco when a throng of nearly 75,000 people tried to crowd into the Ferry Building. In the resultant crowding together, nearly sixty women fainted and a few were trampled. The Hospital Corps of the First Regiment of the National Guard rendered splendid services to those injured. Their promptness in answering calls undoubtedly prevented any very serious accidents or illness. *

On May 12, 1903, approximately two years later, President Theodore Roosevelt was a guest of San Francisco. The Chief Executive was Vice President when President McKinley was assassinated, and automatically succeeded to the Presidency. No other visitor to the city ever received a more spontaneous and enthusiastic reception than the former Colonel of the "Rough Riders". It began with the firing of a salute by the Naval Reserve as soon as the Presidential train was sighted. The President was greeted by the Reception Committee, and then escorted to the waiting carriage. The Chief Executive's military escort was the Ninth Colored Cavalry, United States Army. The parade marched on Third Street to Market to Van Ness Avenue, where a reviewing stand had been erected. All along the line of march the President received an ovation that was not just noise, but was founded on a heart felt patriotism seldom if ever heard before. On reaching the reviewing stand, President Roosevelt proceeded to enjoy the splendid array of soldiers as they passed in review before him. Especially was the Chief Executive interested in the Artillery Corps which had been universally honored by the President's reference to them as "The men behind the guns". He also evinced great interest in the First Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California, which had campaigned in the Philippines at about the same time that Colonel Roosevelt was charging up the hill of San Juan in Cuba. **

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*San Francisco Examiner, May 15, 1901, pages 1, 2, 3, 3, column 1-7.
 **San Francisco Examiner, February 2, 1900, page 12, column 2, 3, 4.
 **San Francisco Examiner, January 27, 1900, page 6, column 3.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The sad news of the death of General Henry W. Lawton during the assault and capture of San Mateo, Philippine Islands, on December 19, 1899, reached the United States on December twentieth. The General was standing in the center of the battlefield viewing the conflict when a rebel bullet pierced one of his lungs, and he died on the battlefield three minutes later. * Accompanying the body of General Lawton were also the remains of Major Logan and Dr. Armstrong, two men who saw service with the United States Army in the Philippines. The bodies of the three war heroes reached San Francisco on the first of February and were removed to undertaking parlors at 946 Mission Street, San Francisco. On February second, the three caskets were placed upon three gun caissons of the Third Artillery, and covered with American flags; they were then escorted to the Ferry Building where they were placed aboard the Ferry for Oakland, going by train to the East. A detachment of the Signal Corps acted as escort in the funeral procession. **

Under an Act of Congress approved January 21, 1903, the National Guard of California was permitted to enter the Regular Army camps, and receive instruction from the Regular Army Officers. The Act was designed to draw the National Guard nearer to the standard of the United States Army. Under the Army regulations the militia encamped under strict discipline and regulations. One criticism of the Guard frequently heard was that the officers were lax in their discipline and rules. The San Francisco Chronicle in its issue of May 30, 1904, stated that "all National Guard camp experiences have been unproductive of good results. Militiamen have gone into the camps annually more for the enjoyment of a good time than for self improvement in the art of war. Discipline has always been lax." *** The above statement is a ridiculous accusation, although it is probably true that the Regular Army officers could accomplish more than the National Guard in an encampment. However, to state that all the past experiences were unproductive of good results was untrue, since it was apparent to any fair minded person that past encampments had greatly increased the efficiency of the National Guard, Six

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- * San Francisco Chronicle, July 17, 1904, page 30, column 6.
 ** San Francisco Examiner, February 2, 1900, page 12, column 2,3,4.
 *** San Francisco Chronicle, May 30, 1904, page 6, column 3.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

short years before, the California National Guardsmen went into the Spanish American War without additional training. They had received their military routine instruction by the very officers that The San Francisco Chronicle correspondent slurringly called the ornamental part of the organization. In accordance with the new law enacted by Congress and the request of Major Arthur MacArthur, United States Army, General J. H. Dickinson, Division Commander, National Guard of California, issued orders for the National Guard to enter into a joint encampment on August 13 to 25, 1904, at Camp Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County. *

On May 6, 1908, the Atlantic fleet sailed in through the Golden Gate and anchored in the spacious harbor of San Francisco Bay. A noisy reception greeted the fleet as it sailed into the Bay. On the following day San Francisco held one of the biggest parades in the history of the city for the Navy. Promptly at nine o'clock Brigadier General J. A. Koster, National Guard of California, Grand Marshall of the parade, gave the signal for the start of the naval and military parade, at Market and Sansome Streets; Chief of Police, William Biggy and a detachment of City police leading the way. Colonel J. A. Lundeen, commanding the Presidio, turned out each man in his command. There were twelve companies of the Regular Artillery, marching to the splendid music of the Third Artillery Band. Cheers greeted Secretary Metcalf of the Navy, and Governor J. N. Gillett, riding in a carriage drawn by four handsome horses. The center of attraction, however, was "Fighting Bob" Evans, Admiral and commanding the Atlantic Fleet. In the carriage with Admiral Evans was Mayor Taylor of San Francisco. Following the Admiral's carriage came the National Guard. The Provisional Brigade, commanded by Colonel D. A. Smith, was first in line, then came the Signal Corps, in command of Captain F. J. Sullivan, who were cheered heartily. The Fifth Infantry came next, followed by the Naval Reserves, looking like the regular bluejackets. Nearly all the different lodges and societies were represented in the parade, paying tribute to the great body of men in the Atlantic Fleet.**

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* San Francisco Chronicle, July 17, 1904, page 30, column 6.

** San Francisco Examiner, May 8, 1908, pages 1, 4.

* San Francisco Examiner, October 20, 1909, page 4, column 1.

** San Francisco Examiner, February 26, 1911, pages 73, 74, columns

(CONTINUED) (CONTINUED)
SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

On October 19, 1909, San Francisco held a celebration in commemoration of the landing of Don Gasper Portola on the shores of San Francisco Bay. Don Gasper Portola the Second, in honoring his sire, made a fine figure of a man when he stepped from the revenue cutter "Golden Gate" at the Mission Street Wharf to begin his triumphal march through the new San Francisco. Four generations and more had passed since the first Portola looked on the dancing water of the Bay. But Portola the First, made no more heroic figure than did Don Gasper Portola, the Second, as dressed in the garb of old Spain, he left the revenue cutter. From the pier along East Street to Market, Don Gasper, preceded by his Dragoons, their gleaming cuirasses and helmets reflecting the rays of the sun, made their way followed by a band and carriages with Portola committeemen. The formation of the parade was as follows:

Thirtieth Infantry Band; Thirtieth Infantry, Second Battalion, Companies E, F, G, and H; First Battalion, Companies A, B, C, and D; Third Coast Artillery Band; Coast Artillery Corps, First Battalion, Thirty-second, Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth companies; Second Battalion, Twenty-fifth, Sixty-fourth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirty-eighth companies; Third Battalion, Tenth, Twenty-seventh, Seventieth, and One Hundred and Forty-seventh companies; Company B, Hospital Corps; First Field Artillery, Batteries D, E, and F, Signal Corps, Company E, Fourteenth Cavalry troops, E, F, G and H; United States Bluejackets, British bluejackets and marines, German bluejackets and marines, Japanese bluejackets and marines, Dutch bluejackets and marines. Following the marines came the Second Brigade, National Guard of California, composed of Infantry, Coast Artillery, Signal Corps, and Naval Reserves; California Greys; Portola Dragoons; Don Gasper de Portola, and Portola Committeeman. *

Another triumphant parade was held when the committee of prominent citizens of San Francisco returned home after having successfully received the official endorsement of the United States Government to hold the Panama Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco in 1915. Regular United States Troops, Fraternal drill teams and Corps, the National Guard and Signal Corps, all participated in the joyous celebration by taking part in a gigantic parade held on February 25, 1911. **

* San Francisco Examiner, October 20, 1909, page 4, column 1.
** San Francisco Examiner, February 26, 1911, pages 73, 74, columns 1 - 7.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

On June 20, 1912, the Signal Corps of the Second Brigade was enlarged into a Type "A" Field Signal Company as provided by the War Department on June 30, 1911, to remain as Company B. * Company B was immediately equipped with the required number of wire and wireless sections, transportation wagons and other appliances. The unit was composed largely of commercial operators; skilled and professional men in wireless, telegraphic and electrical work; and also possessed many skilled horsemen.

The Signal Corps is essentially a very important part of the militia. To this unit belongs the important duty of safely and accurately transmitting messages and orders from Headquarters to the various officers in the field. The newly organized Signal Corps was equipped with the latest equipment that was in use in the United States Army Signal Corps units. Turn back the pages of time to 1861, when the commanding officers' orders and commands were delivered by messenger, sometimes on foot, sometimes on horseback, or with the use of flags by day and flares by night. Next was added the telegraphy, if the situation permitted the use of either an existing telegraph line or the temporary laying of a line for communication. Telegraphy was soon followed by the telephone and in 1912, when Company B became a type "A" Corps the wireless system was being rapidly put into use. The Field Inspection Report of Company B, Signal Corps, of August 11 to 21, 1912, was very interesting. The report was written by Lieutenant K. C. Magill, Signal Corps, United States Army, who had been appointed to command and instruct the Corps during the joint maneuvers of the National Guard and the United States Army, south of San Francisco. A detachment of the United States Army Signal Corps was attached to the new Company B. According to the field report the unit went into camp at the Presidio on August eleventh, P. M., patterning their camp after the Regular Army. The report is as follows: **

August 12 A.M. Messing, stable, and camp instruction.
Wire and wireless drill and instruction in the afternoon.

August 13 A repetition of the previous day.

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*Type "A" Signal Corps, National Guard of California, corresponds to United States Army Signal Corps in number of men, amount and type of equipment and regulations.

** Field and Inspection Report on file Adjutant General's Office, by Lieutenant K. C. Magill, United States Army Signal Corps.

(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

August 14 Broke camp at Presidio and marched to Colma, about nine miles. P.M. overhauling equipment. One officer and two men detached with regular wireless section that was ordered out for twenty-four hours of detached service.

August 15. Marched to camp near Millbrae, distance eight miles. Detail with regular radio section marched from Millbrae to Half Moon Bay and back to camp, about twenty-six miles. Radio communication was had between Millbrae and Half Moon Bay, the main body receiving reports from the Cavalry at that point and forwarding instructions.

August 16 Broke camp and marched to Redwood City, about twelve miles. Radio Section detached with cavalry for work to the front, and marched to Mountain View. P.M. Radio section with cavalry at Mountain View opened and maintained communications with the regular section at Redwood City until 10:30 P.M.

August 17 Broke camp at three A.M. and made a night march to San Jose, a distance of about twenty-four miles. The radio section detached with the cavalry marched from Mountain View to Coyote. P.M. Radio communication was established by regular sections between temporary camp of brigade six miles north of San Jose and camp in city of San Jose; and between camp at San Jose and National Guard of California radio section with the advanced cavalry at Coyote. The airline distance between the two cities was about ten miles.

August 18 Company remained in camp overhauling wire and visual equipment, the one radio set being at the front with the cavalry. The radio section with the cavalry marched from Coyote to Morgan Hill. P.M. Radio communication was opened and maintained between the regular section at San Jose and the National Guard section at Morgan Hill, 3:30 P.M. to 10:35 P.M. distance about twenty-one miles.

August 19 Company marched to Coyote, leaving camp at 4:00 A.M. P.M. wire sections laid about fourteen miles of field and buzzer wire connecting various points in Blue position, and communication maintained during the night between Brigade Headquarters and the Sixth Infantry, United States Army.

(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

August 20 Wire and radio communication maintained from daybreak until termination of hostilities at about 2:30 P.M. Wire recovered and returned to camp.

August 21 Broke camp, marched to train, entrained, and returned to San Francisco.

The Inspector closes his report with the words "morale is excellent; absence of 'kicking' is noticeable. "

Although Company B had recently been organized into a type "A" Signal Corps Company, they had received no new equipment. When ordered to go into training with the regular Signal Corps of the United States Army, the company had to borrow a radio set from the Army. Their efficiency in the field while not equal to the Regulars, was unusually good. Especially true when it is remembered that the Regulars were full time signal men, while Company B was only part time, and the men working under new rules and without much field practice. Lieutenant Magill of the United States Army Signal Corps urged that the unit be supplied with a radio set of their own, in view of the fact that the unit could handle one very efficiently. He also commended the policy of the company in always seeking men for enlistment whose training and occupation fitted them especially for the technical work of the company; radio operators for the radio section, railroad and commercial operators to handle wire stations, ex-regular cavalymen to set example of discipline and aid in the instruction in horsemanship, teamsters to drive teams, and so on.

At the annual social and dance in 1912 a souvenir contains an article that reveals an inside picture of Company B. Quote:

"Since we met you last April several important changes have taken place with us. To begin with, the Adjutant General of this State, E. A. Forbes, has ordered us to recruit to a full strength of ninety-eight men, and to add one more commissioned officer. This new organization will comply to Type "A" Field Signal Companies. Between \$10,000 and \$15,000 has been invested by our Uncle Sam in us, and it is our modest belief that we are worth it. You, who see only the social side of our outfit, probably would find some difficulty in picturing these young soldiers in their blue uniforms of the United States Army as they appear in the field

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SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)
Activities: (Continued)

under service conditions, pitching their 'pup' tents or the larger 'Sibleys', or 'conical' wall tents. Can you imagine that clean looking youngster grooming a rather dirty horse and inspecting the hoofs for nails, stones, etc.? Can you picture them (the men, not the horses) in a line with a tin cup and plate eagerly awaiting their turn, so that 'Ole Brown', the cook, can shovel out a doubtful mess of 'slum' to them? Can you see that rather nice looking young soldier rolled up in a drab army blanket, with his somewhat soiled toes wiggling out of the southerly end, prone on the hard, hard ground? Well, they do it-- and a whole lot more than that. And they do it with a will, just like they do everything else. Sometimes, particularly before meals, they may think their officers are conceited and have the best of it all. Inasmuch as their officers all served in the ranks before, and grumbled on an empty stomach, it is safe to presume this grand institution of 'jawboning' is still existent. But they only grumble when hungry, and grumbling is good for the soul. We know how it is when a horse rolls in the dirt, and it takes work to clean him, and some 'narrow-gauged' non-com. calls one done. Particularly we may add, on an empty stomach. But these same men went out and gathered in the State Trophy for pistol shooting. They go out on Tuesday evening and ride their heads off, and drill, and study and work, and nobody but their officers see them and understand. Like old Rudyard Kipling says:

"We ain't no thin red heroes,
'an we ain't no blackguards too,
But single men in barracks
Most remarkable like you.
And it's 'Tommie this' and 'Tommie that'
And anything you please;
But Tommie ain't no bloomin' fool--
You bet that Tommie sees.

We, the officers of Company B--and, while I am the Junior, I speak for all--know the worth of the men, and we know that they do these things that the old U.S .A. may look and say: 'These are my guardsmen--

**Inspectors Report by P. S. Bovey, on file Adjutant General's Office.
Office.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

these are mine on whom I can call--they see my need and they are ready', and we call that patriotism. In closing, it is meet that our basket-ball squad, who won the Grand Championship, be noted. And here is the best of luck to the baseball team--may it keep old Company B way up in front, where are used to standing." *

(Signed) Frank V. Smith
Frank Lieutenant

On May 29, 1913, Company B participated in a practice march and encampment held at San Rafael and vicinity. Captain F.S. Bowey, United States Army, acted as Inspector and Instructor during the seven days. The Captain stated that he considered Company B the best instructed, disciplined, and trained organization which he had observed in the National Guard of California, and that it compared very favorably with the average field company in the Regular Army. This state of proficiency is attributed to the high class of men in the company and the division of responsibility by means of which each officer and non-commissioned officer has his share of the training to carry on, instead of the company commander attempting to do it all himself, as is the case not only in the National Guard organization as a rule, but in many of our regular companies as well. The equipment of the company was kept in excellent condition, and the men appear to be very familiar with its use. **

When Civil war and strife in the Republic of Mexico created threats of violation of national boundary laws in the early part of June 1916, the President of the United States called on the Governor of California for troops. The entire National Guard was ordered into camp at the State Fair Grounds on June eighteenth and on June twenty-second the first troops pitched camp at the Fair Grounds. The Signal Corps was mustered into service on June 28, 1916. Following is a report of the activities of

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* Souvenir Program 1912, on file Adjutant General's Office.
**Inspectors Report by F. S. Bowey, on file Adjutant General's Office.

Company A, 115th Field Signal Battalion. The official credit for service in the World War of the Signal Corps was "Participation in France from September 2, 1918, to November 11, 1918." The company returned to the Presidio at San Francisco and was demobilized on July 16, 1919. *

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

this corps during its service on the Mexican Border. From the date of mustering in on June 28th, the company remained at mobilization camp at Sacramento until July 4th, when they entrained for Nogales, Arizona. Arrived at 10:30 P.M., July 6th, detrained seven A.M. July 7th, and proceeded to camp site. During the remainder of July and most of August the company's activities consisted of camp duties, holding daily instruction in the laying of field lines, in equitation, telegraph class and visual signaling. On August 29th and 30th the unit participated in maneuvers with the Second California Infantry and the Utah Cavalry, in territory adjacent to Nogales, during which time approximately ten miles of wire was laid and all messages were handled with celerity and accuracy. During September usual camp duties and instructions were held. On September 14th and 15th the unit took part in maneuvers with the Idaho Infantry and the First Battalion of California Field Artillery on the Patagonia Road, near the Santa Cruz River, during which time approximately fifteen miles of wire was laid and all messages handled accurately and quickly. On September 17th and 18th, the company again joined in maneuvers with the Connecticut Infantry near the pumping plant on the Santa Cruz River, and approximately eight miles of wire was laid, eight stations were established and eleven messages transmitted. The Signal Corps remained at the border during October, returning home and was dismissed from active service in San Francisco on November 6, 1916.

On April 6, 1917, the United States entered the World War. In response to the calling of the National Guard, as the first line of defense, by President Woodrow Wilson on July 3rd, the Signal Corps was mustered into the Federal Service on August 5th. Seventy-five non-commissioned officers and privates and three commissioned officers responded to the muster, and on August 14th the unit marched to Fort Mason, thus beginning active service. On October 13, 1917, the company was redesignated as Company A, 115th Field Signal Battalion. The official credit for service in the World War of the Signal Corps was "Participation in France from September 2, 1918, to November 11, 1918." The company returned to the Presidio at San Francisco and was demobilized on July 16, 1919. *

* Adjutant General Report, 1920-1926, page 34.

SIGNAL CORPS
 (40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

When the Signal Corps and other units that formerly belonged to the National Guard returned home from the World War and demobilized, California was without a National Guard. True, there were a few units designated as Home Guard companies that looked after the military needs of the States during the war, but the National Guard as such was not in evidence. Although the horrors of war was still vivid in the minds and hearts of the people of the United States, it would have been folly to have neglected "to set our house in order" for any emergency that might arise in the future. Therefore, Congress passed a law on June 4, 1920, providing for the re-establishment of the National Guard. * The Act provided for the supplying of equipment, clothing, arms, and many other provisions that would make for a capable National Guard.

The law resulted in a campaign of enlistment of new members for the reorganization of the National Guard of California. The drive was opened in San Francisco on May 2, 1920, with Colonel Henry G. Mathewson, Majors R. E. Mittelstaedt, Frank J. Sullivan, and Michael Robinson and Captain Milo F. Kent, actively aiding in the rehabilitation of the National Guard. Plans called for twelve companies of Coast Artillery, four infantry and Ambulance Corps, and field hospital unit and a Signal Company. **

The reorganization of the Signal Corps was begun on May 20, 1920, when Captain E. V. Orr, formerly of Company B, Signal Corps, and veterans met in the State Armory in San Francisco to plan a campaign of enlistment for new members to the Corps.*** The famous old Company B, Signal Corps, National Guard of California was not mustered in until March 7, 1921. Most of the fifty members sworn in were members of the former Company B and had served over seas. E. V. Orr was the newly elected Captain and P. C. Deering and C. E. White, the First Lieutenants. ****

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*United States Statutes at Large, Volume 41, 1919-1921, chapter 227, page 729.

** San Francisco Call, May 3, 1920, page 10, column 3.

*** San Francisco Call, May 20, 1920, page 13, column 2.

**** San Francisco Call, March 8, 1921, page 11, column 5.

** Inspection Report, 40th Signal Company by Lieutenant Colonel L. R. Cofer, April 15, 1926, on 21. Adjutant General's Office.

*** Inspection Report by Lieutenant Colonel Cofer, March 28, 1927 on file in Adjutant General's Office.

**** California Guardsman, April 1926, page 10.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The spirit of efficiency that was so prevalent in the Signal Corps of the Second Brigade was soon instilled into the ranks of the reorganized unit by Captain Orr, resulting in the new company making rapid progress. Since inspection reports are a true indicator of the condition and efficiency of a unit, a few glimpses at these reports prove very enlightening. On March 9, 1925, Major Laribie stated that "the condition and arrangement of the armory and equipment were thoroughly satisfactory, 100 per cent attendance, every man neatly uniformed and well trained." * On April 15, 1926, Lieutenant Colonel L. R. Cofer, National Guard of California is quoted as follows: "In reporting on this Inspection I desire to state that while previous inspections have shown evidence of care and attention, at the present time the condition of the office correspondence files, records, etc.; should be graded as excellent. Same is true regarding conditions of care of tents, leather equipment, clothing, and care of lockers." ** Again on March 28, 1927, Lieutenant Colonel Cofer reported in his semi-annual report that, "While the condition of the property and records of the Signal Company are always excellent, my last inspection found everything really beyond any criticism." ***

One of the outstanding social entertainments of the Signal Company was their Annual Horse Show and Circus. Hundreds of business and society people attended the exhibitions which were very popular and each year proved to be successful financially, socially and military. **** Another interesting custom of the Signal Company was their annual Christmas banquet, when the veterans of the Signal Company, joined with the active Signal Company men in a bountiful turkey feast. Frequently old buddies who had not been one another for many years would talk over the stirring times of the Spanish American War, the Mexican Border trouble, and the World War. Interesting indeed, to the young men of the company, must have been their stories of triumph in the early days over the obstacles of antiquated equipment and the insufficient appropriations of an indifferent Legislature. At their banquet, on December 22, 1927, one

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* California Guardsman, April 1925, page 19.
** Inspection Report, 40th Signal Company by Lieutenant Colonel L. R. Cofer, April 15, 1926, on file Adjutant General's Office.
*** Inspection Report by Lieutenant Colonel Cofer, March 28, 1927 on file in Adjutant General's Office.

**** California Guardsman, April 1926, page 10.

(40th SIGNAL CORPS) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

hundred and twenty-five men attended the annual gathering, among whom were Lieutenant Colonel Edward V. Orr, 40th Division Signal Officer; Captain Cherington, Chaplain 40th Division; Captain J. A. Stansell, Signal Corps Instructor; Lieutenant Paul C. Gripper, Signal Corps Instructor; and Captain Prentiss C. Deering. *

On March 16, 1928, Captain Deering was transferred to the National Guard Reserve at his own request. Under Captain Deering's command, the Signal Corps had enjoyed a very successful existence, both from a military and social view point. The company lost an experienced officer who had risen from the ranks, and who knew the Signal Corps from "A" to "Z". Upon returning from overseas the Captain was instrumental in reorganizing the unit in 1921; he was promoted to Captain in 1926 to fill the vacancy created by Colonel Orr's appointment to Signal Officer of the 40th Division. At a dinner held in Captain Deering's honor, he was presented with a desk fountain pen set, with the best wishes of his old unit. First Lieutenant Wallace A. Stephen assumed command of the unit and was acting Captain until Lieutenant Helms was elected to command the company. ** On March 3, 1932, Gus B. Hoffman assumed command of the Signal Corps as their Captain. Captain Hoffman was an active member of the R.O.T. C. during his high school and college days, having been a battalion commander with the rank of Major. He joined the Signal Company at the time of its reorganization in 1921 and had served all the grades as an enlisted man. On April 16, 1925, he was promoted from Staff Sergeant to Second Lieutenant, which rank he held until July 26, 1926, when he was appointed First Lieutenant. When Captain John F. Helms resigned in 1932, Gus B. Hoffman was promoted to Captain. ***

In 1927 from July 30th to August 6th, the 40th Signal Company attended an encampment at Del Monte. The main activity of the unit there was a two day bivouac near Castroville. The

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* California Guardsman, February, 1928, page 9.

**California Guardsman, April, 1928, page 6.

***California Guardsman, May, 1933, page 6.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Division Staff accompanied them and preliminary communication lines were put in and a thorough mapping of the region was accomplished. On the following Thursday morning, the unit set out with General David P. Barrows, Commander of the 40th Division Staff, to participate in a divisional problem in communication. This task was one of the most intricate problems undertaken by the Guard since the World War. The good work done was apparent when on August 12th, the Signal Company was presented with a silver loving cup for distinguished signal service in camp and in the field. * The 1929 encampment was held at San Luis Obispo from July 13th to 27th. Once again the unit was highly commended for their good work. At one time more than 26 miles of wire was used in the communication set up. At the encampment, Corporal John B. Burt was inspired to write a poem entitled "At Camp". The immediate cause of the Corporal's inspiration was "Reveille". The poem reads as follows:

The hardest part of every day is when I start
to rise
Real early in the morning to the tune "Roll out
youse guys".
As I move my weary bones about, put my feet up-
on the floor,
I feel I'd like to greet the rool call with a
loud and healthy snore.
I pull on my cold breeches and wind up my puttees,
And its cold enough some mornings to shake a
fellow's knees.
Cause I guess I shouldn't holler 'cause I am not
the only one
And whether I like it or not, it just has to be
done.
I don't think I'm different from all the rest of
the guys,
The hardest part of every day is when I start
to rise. **

* California Guardsman, June, 1927, page 11.

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**California Guardsman, April, 1929, page 9.

* California Guardsman, September, 1927, page 32.

** California Guardsman, September, 1929, page 30.

***California Guardsman, Oct. 24, 1936, page 12.

SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

In the last decade of the nineteenth century, the Signal Corps spent many week-ends and holidays on the hills adjacent to San Francisco, working with old and inadequate equipment, and in spite of their handicap soon developed into a very efficient Signal Company. Horses were the means of transportation in those days. With the dawn of the twentieth century, many changes occurred in methods of transportation and communication, all of which affected the signal unit. During the year 1927, the 40th Signal Company completed the construction of their radio station situated on the roof of the armory in San Francisco.* During the following two years the station successfully communicated with all continents except Africa. The furthest station worked was Singapore, Malay Straits, which is approximately 10,000 miles from San Francisco.** The young recruits entering the Signal Company in 1929 had the choice of studying telephone communication, radio map reading and making, or field artillery mathematics and instrument work. *** The year 1936 finds the Signal Company practically a motorized unit, equipped with modern radio mechanism. The telephone and telegraph are still used extensively, and probably will be the most dependable in actual warfare. Lieutenant Vic Carrasco, former Radio Officer, was assigned to take charge of the telephone and telegraph section in September of 1936. Lieutenant Filiberti, who recently graduated from the Signal School at Fort Monmouth, was assigned to take over the duties of Radio Officer and the Radio Section. ****

Just before the annual encampment held at San Luis Obispo in July 1936, the 40th Signal Company received a part of their new up-to-date equipment. Four new Chevrolet trucks were received; also new radio equipment. On August 21st, six new G. M. C. trucks were placed at the disposal of the unit. The new trucks were equipped with four wheel drive. The two front wheels can be disengaged when only ordinary power is required.

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* California Guardsman, June, 1927, page 11.

**California Guardsman, April, 1929, page 9.

***California Guardsman, September, 1929, page 30.

****California Guardsman, October 1936, page 12.

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SIGNAL CORPS
(40th Signal Corps) (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The new equipment called for a special two day maneuver and bivouac on September 26 to 27, 1936, which was held near Pescadero, San Mateo County. Three new trucks and four of the new station trucks comprised the train. The expedition was very successful and another was planned for the month of November. After the return to San Francisco from the Encampment at San Luis Obispo in July, Captain Hoffman was host at two banquets. The first was held on August 7th, honoring Lieutenant Colonel E. V. Orr and the invited guests were the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Corps. A good time was enjoyed by all, with recitations and experiences of the encampment related. On August 10th, the second dinner took place and was an "Italian feed" given for all the members of the unit in appreciation of the good work accomplished at the encampment. *

With new and modern equipment, technically trained officers and men, the 40th Signal Company's future undoubtedly will continue to be one that our State may well be proud of. Thus the closing days of 1936 leaves the 40th Signal Company a very important and efficient unit in the 40th Division of the National Guard.

COMPANY I.

COMPANY K.

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COMPANY L.

COMPANY M.

* California Guardsman, August 1936, page 22.