

History of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California 1909-1917

Includes history of
1st Coast Defense Command (1906-1917)
2nd Coast Defense Command (1916-1917)

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COAST ARTILLERY CORPS

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FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND (April 19, 1909)

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND (June 11, 1916)

Coast Artillery Corps, First Brigade

Reference: Adjutant General Files

Location: San Francisco, San Francisco County

Organized April 19, 1909

Mustered into Federal Service August 5, 1917*

Commanding Officers

First Coast Defense Command

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Charles L. Hewes, Col. (retired Aug. 3, 1910)	Apr. 2, 1909	Apr. 2, 1909
George A. Schastey, Lieut. Col.	Mar. 4, 1910	Mar. 4, 1910
Henry G. Mathewson, Major	Oct. 1, 1908	Apr. 21, 1909
Georgs A. Schastey, Capt. Adj.	July 27, 1909	Aug. 14, 1909
Frank S. Emmal, Capt. Surgeon	Jan. 11, 1909	Apr. 1, 1909
George A. Schastey, Col. (reelected Oct. 15, 1913) (resigned Jan. 17, 1916)	Aug. 4, 1910	Aug. 4, 1910
Henry G. Mathewson, Lieut. Col. (reelected Oct. 15, 1913)	Aug. 4, 1910	Aug. 4, 1910
Herbert R. Fay, Major (reelected Oct. 15, 1913)	May 14, 1910	May 14, 1910
Charles J. Mund, Major (reelected May 14, 1915)	May 14, 1911	June 23, 1911
William G. Hyde, Major (retired July 9, 1915)	May 14, 1911	June 23, 1911
Herbert Choynski, Capt. Adj.	June 1, 1903	June 10, 1910
Frank S. Emmal, Major-Surgeon	Feb. 28, 1910	Mar. 25, 1910
Henry G. Mathewson, Col.	Feb. 5, 1916	Feb. 10, 1916
Herbert R. Fay, Lieut. Col. (promoted Ass't Adj. General March 6, 1917)	Feb. 5, 1916	Mar. 1, 1916
Charles J. Mund, Lieut. Col.	Aug. 3, 1917	Aug. 3, 1917
William H. Walleth, Major.	Feb. 5, 1916	Mar. 7, 1916
Richard E. Mittelstaedt, Major	May 13, 1915	June 25, 1915
Sidney E. Cline, Major	Aug. 4, 1917	Aug. 4, 1917
Allen G. Wright, Capt. Adj.	Oct. 16, 1912	Nov. 26, 1912

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*First and Second Coast Defense Command mustered into Federal Service, August 5, 1917.

Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, pages 21, 22.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Commanding Officers

Second Coast Defense Command

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Harry B. Light, Col.	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916
Paul L. Kruger, Lieut. Col.	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916
Frank R. McReynolds, Major	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916
Edwin G. Mettler, Major	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916
John H. Cunningham, Major	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916
Harry L. Powell, Capt. Adj.	Oct. 11, 1916	Oct. 14, 1916

Activities:

The Coast Artillery Corps was organized on April 19, 1909. in accordance with the provisions of section 1932, Political Code of California, as amended by the act of the Legislature approved March 22, 1909. The Amended Section reads as follows:

"The Coast Artillery shall be organized as a Corps, and shall consist of such number of companies as may be authorized. These shall be one Chief of Artillery, with the rank of Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel and such numbers of Majors, Captains, First and Second Lieutenants, and such non-commissioned officers and privates as are provided in similar Corps of the Regular Army, as may be authorized. There shall be for each company of Coast Artillery, one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Second Lieutenant and such of non-commissioned officers and privates of Coast Artillery as obtain in the Coast Artillery Corps of the Regular Army. For each company of Coast Artillery there shall be one electrician sergeant (first or second class), one engineer and one fireman; and for each four companies of Coast Artillery there shall be one master gunner."

The law which was amended had provided for coast artillery companies in battalion or regimental formation and the First Battalion of Coast Artillery was organized under that law in 1901. The First Battalion Coast Artillery was discontinued in 1907, and the four companies transferred to the Fifth Infantry Regiment.

The former companies of the First Battalion Coast Artillery furnished three of the four companies of the newly organized Artillery Corps. Companies H, K, L, and M were detached from the Fifth Infantry Regiment and designated First, Second, Third and Fourth Companies, Coast Artillery Corps on April 21, 1909. Colonel Charles L. Hewes, was assigned as Colonel of the new Corps, and Henry G. Mathewson was appointed Major.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMANDSECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

On June 1, 1909, Company B, Seventh Infantry, located at San Diego, was transferred to the Coast Artillery Corps and designated Fifth Company. The Sixth Company was mustered in at San Francisco on July 27, 1909, and one day later on July 28, 1909, the Seventh Company was mustered in. The Eighth Company was organized in San Diego and mustered in May 16, 1910. Three days later on May 19, 1910, the Ninth Company was mustered in at San Francisco. The Tenth Company was mustered in at San Francisco on February 27, 1911. The Eleventh Company was organized in San Mateo and mustered in on March 11, 1911, and on January 6, 1913, the Twelfth Company was organized and mustered in at San Francisco, thus completing the full organization of a Coast Artillery Corps. Ten units were located in San Francisco, and two were in San Diego. The following table indicates the organization dates and locations of the First Coast Defense Command, Coast Artillery Corps:

COMPANIES COMPOSING THE COAST ARTILLERY CORPS

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First Coast Defense Command

1909-1917

<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>	<u>Fifth</u>
First Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Second Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Third Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Fourth Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Fifth Company San Diego <u>1909</u>
<u>Sixth</u>	<u>Seventh</u>	<u>Eighth</u>	<u>Ninth</u>	<u>Tenth</u>
Sixth Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Seventh Company San Francisco <u>1909</u>	Eighth Company San Diego <u>1910</u>	Ninth Company San Francisco <u>1910</u>	Tenth Company San Francisco <u>1911</u>
<u>Eleventh</u>	<u>Twelfth</u>			
Eleventh Company San Mateo <u>1911</u>	Twelfth Company San Francisco <u>1913</u>			

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

The history of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, is one of steady progress. The improved relations between the National Guard and the Militia Bureau of the War Department, brought about by the "Dick Militia" law, combined with the desire of the War Department to develop a strong efficient reserve, accounts for the progress. This fact was made clear in the annual report of Brigadier-General E. M. Weaver, Chief of Artillery, dated October 27, 1911. General Weaver stated as follows:

"The strength of the Coast Artillery Corps, United States Army on July 1, 1911, was 637 officers (including 14 Chaplains), and 17,072 men. This was over 2,000 short of the authorized number on that date. The number required to furnish one manning detail for the seacoast fortifications now constructed and for the additional defense recommended by the National Coast Defense Board in its report of February 1909, is 2,278 officers and 55,000 men. It appears, therefore, that there is a deficiency of 37,352 officers and men necessary to provide one manning detail for the seacoast fortifications constructed and contemplated. It is hoped that a large measure of this deficiency will be made up from the State Coast Artillery Militia organizations, but as yet only 7,398 officers and men have been provided from that source. California at that time had ten companies, totaling 742 officers and men.

While the fortifications of the United States as well as our insular possessions are now well advanced toward completion, nevertheless it should always be kept in mind that when completed they will furnish only one part, the material part, of our coast defense; the deficiency of officers and men indicated above must thereafter be provided to serve the guns and mortars and the necessary range-finders, searchlights, power plants, and communications not manned by the Regular and State Coast Artillery troops. It should be understood that the defense alone, without trained bodies, would be useless, and all the expenditures heretofore made for them would be wasted or worse than wasted, since our people would have been lulled into false sense of security by the mere existence of an armament without trained troops to serve it efficiently.*

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*War Department annual Reports 1911, vol 1, pages 745, 746. State Library Bld'g.

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COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

The General also declared that the plans of the Regular Artillery authorities were for the State Militia of the coast states to supply half the required officers and men for the United States Coast Defense fortifications, while the Regular Army would man the insular sixteen companies for this purpose.

There were many difficulties to be overcome, but the cooperation of the Regular Army officers and men gradually eliminated the obstacles. The amendments to the "Dick Militia" law gradually and surely changed the militia rules and regulations so that they conformed to the War Department rules and regulations. Especially was that true of the Coast Artillery Corps. The Regulars were the sole instructors for the militia, in all the phases of Coast Artillery and while it could hardly be expected that the militia would ever reach the high standard of the Regulars, they nevertheless developed into a strong reserve force for the coast defense of the country.

The development of the Coast Artillery Corps became apparent a few months after its organizations when the first joint maneuvers were held at the Presidio, San Francisco, September 4 to 18, 1909. Only four of the six San Francisco units attended the camp, as the First and Third Companies were technically in revolt against their Regimental Commander.

The following extracts from the report of Colonel C. L. Hewes will reveal some of the inside workings of the two branches of Coast Artillery. After the establishment of camp at the Presidio and rations were drawn for seven days the Colonel continues his report thus:

"The following assignments to batteries were made. Second and Seventh Companies to Battery Cranston, two ten inch Breech Loading Rifles D. C., Captain H. R. Casey, United States Army, Commanding. Fourth and Sixth Companies to Battery Lancaster, the twelve inch B. L. Rifles D. C., Lieutenant W. P. Currier, United States Army, Commanding.

September 5: Was spent by the officers under the immediate supervision of Captain Casey in studying the nomenclature of the guns and the use of the various instruments in the B. Prime, B. C. Stations and Plotting rooms. A part of the afternoon was spent by non-commissioned officers in the same work under the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Twenty-Seventh and Seventieth Companies, Coast Artillery United States Army.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

- September 6: Having been a National holiday, no drills were ordered for the Regular troops, but many of the men volunteered to show the visiting Guardsmen around the batteries and instruct them in the nomenclature of the guns.
- September 7: Beginning on this date, the first hour of drill, 8:00 to 9:00 A.M., was devoted to drill by the Regulars and was closely watched by the organized militia. The method adopted by Captain Casey was for his non-commissioned officers and men to each take one of the Guardsmen and after showing him his post, describe carefully the duties in connection therewith. In the second drill period 9:00 to 11:00 A.M., the militia men were permitted to take all the posts at the guns, position finding station and plotting rooms and under the tutelage of men from the regular establishment they made rapid progress. The drill period in the afternoon, between 2:00 and 4:00 P.M., was spent daily by the Regulars and militia in extended order drills, hasty entrenching and pitching shelter tents. Guard mount and parades took place at 5:00 P.M. This general schedule was followed until September eleventh the forenoon of which was given over to company inspection and in the afternoon there were athletic sports with the Regulars and National Guardsmen as contestants.
- September 12: The company records were inspected by Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Marsh, United States Army.
- September 13: At 8:00 A.M. the companies were marched to the parade grounds in light marching order and were carefully inspected by Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Marsh. This ceremony was followed by guard mounting and dress parade with the United States Artillery band.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

- September 14: Subcaliber target practice by the Regulars at Battery Cranston very closely watched by the National Guard. The afternoon was devoted to trench building by the militia. The officers were then shown over the Presidio by Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh who pointed out the probable defensive in case of invasion by land.
- September 15: The organized militia having displayed sufficient skill in handling the guns and plotting room they were permitted to hold subcaliber target practice under their own officers at Battery Cranston and all four companies were therefore placed at that battery. The result of that practice at a moving target, 10x24, at a range of from 1500 to 4000 yards was very satisfactory; so much so in fact, that the Artillery District Commander decided to permit the firing of full service charges on Friday.
- September 16: Preparatory drills and clinometer testing of guns No. one and two of Battery Cranston and gun No. one of Battery Lancaster, in the forenoon. Both officers and men were much interested. The afternoon was spent in blending powder. Officers of Headquarters accompanied Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh and Captain Casey to Fort Barry on tug "Captain Barrett".
- September 17: The weather having been hazy in the forenoon, it was decided to postpone the firing of service charges until afternoon. At about 2:00 P.M. the weather having cleared to some extent and every precaution having been taken to avoid accident, two shots were fired from gun No. one Battery Cranston. The target, twelve feet square and in form of a pyramid was anchored at about 6000 yards from the battery and about 1000 yards from Point Bonita. Both shots were recorded as hits. The men of Second and Seventh Companies occupied all the positions at gun and in the plotting room. The Regulars with the exception of a gun commander had retired in order to give our men every opportunity to display the knowledge they had acquired.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

Before more shots could be fired from the gun the haze and smoke again closed in and further firing was suspended. This naturally prevented the firing at Battery Lancaster, much to the disappointment of the members of the Fourth and Sixth Companies.

September 18: Command was mustered by Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh at 10:00 A.M. and was paid by Major E. V. Smith, assistant to the Chief Paymaster, at 12:30 P.M. Broke camp at 1:00 P.M. and reported, leaving for home station, arriving there at 2:30 P.M. Night drills and calls to arms were engaged in on September ninth, thirteenth, fourteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth and were responded to with vim by our officers and men.

The above report indicates that unusual progress was made by the militia, and further excerpts from Colonel Hewes report explain why this was so. He continued:

"To Colonel J. A. Lundeen we owe a debt of gratitude for the success of the exercises and for his willingness to accord us every comfort and convenience. The officer detailed by the War Department to inspect the National Guard troops was Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Marsh and for his friendly advise and interest, every officer and man feel deeply indebted. He not only was just and impartial but took us directly into his confidence and it was with sincere regret that we learned of his change of station. Our immediate instructor was Captain H. R. Casey and words fail to express our regard for him. From the moment we reached camp (and even before) he became one of us, messed with our officers and outlined such a gradual progressive plan for instruction of officers and men that we were able to advance to the state of efficiency of firing service charges. Captain Casey was at all times available, and by his example which was emulated by the men of the Twenty-Seventh Company, United States Army, we became like one family and no friction of any kind manifested itself. The hours between 11:00 and 12:00 A.M. and 1:00 and 2:00 P.M. were given over to officers schools and yet in addition to this there was hardly an evening that he did not take the officers as a body, or in small groups

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

and give them the desired instruction. We will never forget Captain Casey's kindness and untiring energy. I wish also to extend our thanks to Captain J. M. Wheeler, Adjutant; Lieutenant Davis, Quartermaster; Lieutenants H. A. Schwabe and W. P. Currier, also officers of Headquarters, Department of California; as well as the officers and men who made our stay both profitable and pleasant."

Colonel Hewes recommended that the joint exercises be held in June or early July, that they be of ten days duration, and the date announced three months prior to the encampment, that at least one hundred rounds of subcaliber ammunition be furnished each company, that the State issue at least one pair of army shoes each year to each man and closed with this suggestion:

"Now that the first step has been taken toward a permanent Coast Artillery Corps, it is suggested that officers and men not only be assigned permanently to the batteries where they receive their instruction throughout the year; but that they shall be so assigned during maneuvers and that all officers including headquarters officers have their regular stations."

The closing paragraphs of the report of Major H. G. Mathewson, Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California is worthy of mention. He stated:

"My conclusions are that the work of the National Guard as Coast Artillery is a step in the right direction. This has been proven by the persistent application of the men at this time, the enthusiasm displayed, the intelligent instructions given by the Regular non-commissioned officers, and the feeling that each man had something definite to do and do well, could not help but accomplish definite results. With the armory instruction that will precede another encampment, our work next year will be a great success, and fully repay the National Government for the confidence it has reposed in us."

The Major also highly praised the officers and men of the Regular Army and of Captain Casey he speaks thus:

"To our immediate instructor, Captain H. R. Casey, a loyal enthusiast for a National Guard Coast Artillery, words are unable to convey my appreciation. His painstaking manner, untiring effort, enthusiastic lectures, his ability to impart

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

knowledge and last but not least his idea that an opportunity be given us to make good and his willingness to aid at any and all times were more than we deserved. Thanks to him."

There is no doubt that Captain Casey was entitled to most of the credit for the successful foundation upon which the Coast Artillery Corps was built. Before ending the history of the first year and the encampment, the absence of Companies one and three of the Coast Artillery Corps should be explained.

These two units were known throughout the National Guard as the "Nationals". The name originated when on August 31, 1855, a company of Infantry was organized, and adopted the name "National Guard". When the First Infantry Regiment, was organized in 1861, the "National Guard" became Company C in the Regiment. It had always been a strong and efficient organization. In 1882 Company B, Third Infantry Battalion was ordered transferred to the First Infantry Regiment, and to be designated Company G; but most of the men and officers refused to transfer and asked for discharges. Company C, former "National Guard" came to the rescue of Company G by furnishing a Lieutenant who became Captain of the new Company with enough men to make Company G a strong unit in the National Guard. From that time on Company C and Company G were known as the "Nationals". They had an elegantly furnished club room in connection with their armory on Eddy Street, San Francisco.

In 1901 Companies C and G were transferred to the First Battalion Coast Artillery as Company B and Company C. In 1907 the First Battalion Coast Artillery was discontinued and Companies B and C were transferred to the Fifth Infantry Regiment, as Companies H and L of that Regiment. When the Coast Artillery Corps was organized in 1909 the two Companies H and L, Fifth Infantry Regiment, were transferred to the Coast Artillery Corps as First and Third Companies respectively.

All went well until Colonel Hewes leased an armory on Van Ness Avenue, of sufficient size to accommodate all the artillery units. Then First and Third Companies also still known as the "National" on account of their club, rebelled at the idea of giving up their club rooms when ordered by Colonel Hewes to move. The two units drew up a petition to Governor James N. Gillett protesting the order. It was technically rebellion and insubordination to petition the Governor to over rule Colonel Hewes order. There were eighty names on the petition sent to the Governor. On July 4 and 5, 1909, the State property in possession of First and Third Companies was moved to the Armory on Van Ness Avenue, and a remnant of the two units would meet there on drill nights, then adjourn to their old club room on Eddy Street. The Governor and Adjutant - General J. B. Lauck stood with Colonel Hewes and the "Nationals" went out of

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

existence as far as the National Guard was concerned. Adjutant-General Lauck made the following statement in San Francisco on August 8, 1909:

"The First and Third Companies of the Coast Artillery Corps were all but mustered out at the time of last inspection. They were way behind in everything, so far behind, in fact, that they had practically lost their identity as military organizations. Both Companies dropped miserably below the standard, but we exercised some leniency. Those are your so called "Crack" Companies. They call themselves the "Nationals" to try to distinguish themselves from other companies of the National Guard. But they are no different, except that they are not good soldiers. There is no such organization as "The Nationals", and there is no reason why the State should pay rent for a social club house. If that is done for two companies for the National Guard it should be done for all of them, if they made demands. Those companies had a small drill room about twenty feet square in the quarters. The chief article of furniture in the room was a bar. I want the Coast Artillery to be competent to step in and work with the Regulars in case of emergency, and work so well that nobody will be able to distinguish them from the service men. We have the finest protected harbor in the world, and not enough men to properly man the guns a third of the time. The Government must depend upon the militia and this is no child's play. The Government has been very liberal in supplying equipment, but we still lack the men. Even so, would prefer to have no men at all than undisciplined and untrained men. I believe in giving the boys all the laxity possible. I want them to have club rooms, but they should be for all and not a few. The new armory will supply this need. I believe in their having a gymnasium, a reading room and library, and the other comforts of a club. I do not believe that militia men should be treated as rigorously as enlisted men. I will be guided in my actions in this particular matter largely by the recommendations of the Chief of Artillery, Colonel Hewes."*

The final result was that the eighty-one men who signed the petition left the National Guard, and continued as an independent organization. The First and Third Companies were not mustered out however, as new recruits took the places of the old members who left, and the two companies soon became strong dependable units in the Coast Artillery Corps.

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*San Francisco Chronicle August 9, 1909, page 7, column 3.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

At the encampment of June 11 to 18, 1910, the First and Third Companies were present with the Second, Fourth, Sixth and seventh. The routine followed at the ensuing encampments was similar to that of 1909. Each year the companies became more efficient in their duties. The only variation was when new units were added to the Artillery Corps, but the new companies working in conjunction with the older units soon became proficient in handling the big coast defense guns.

While the majority of the Coast Artillery units of the National Guard were in San Francisco, there was one Company, the Fifth, located in San Diego which went into camp at Fort Rosecrans on September 4 to 18, 1909. The report of Captain Herbert R. Fay, Fifth Company Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, gives an idea of what was accomplished in the southern city. The Captain's report was as follows:

"The Fifth Company, Coast Artillery Corps assembled early on the morning of September fourth, reached Fort Rosecrans shortly after eight o'clock, found camp established by our advance detachment as per Paragraph 50, General Orders 44, Current Series, War Department. My company was assigned by the commanding officers of the District to gun No. one, Battery Wilkeson, and throughout the encampment we were instructed in our several duties by the officers and men of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, United States Army. As commanding officer of the National Guard Company, I was selected Battery Commander, assistant to Captain Koch of the Regular Service, First Lieutenant Schlegel, having been selected Battery officer and Second Lieutenant Clyne, as Range officer of our Company. As Battery Commander all details pertaining to my duties, as well as those of the officers and men with the guns, At the B¹ Station, and in the Plotting room, were carefully explained to me by Captain Koch, Lieutenant Doig, and the non-commissioned officers of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Company. All drills, lectures and schools were very instructive. In the practice and service firing, both subcaliber and with the ten projectiles, I feel that my men made an excellent showing. The details for the B¹ Station and Plotting Room also developed considerable efficiency. The associations between the Regulars and the National Guard, both officers and men, were all that could be asked for, and I wish to extend the appreciation of my entire command for same. The Commissary Department was exemplary. Under the cheerful guidance of Lieutenant Lehr, my quartermaster was able to maintain the highest order of efficiency in his work. To Lieutenant Lecocq, District Adjutant, I desire to give credit for valuable aid in the preparation of

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

our various papers. Because of their earnest in making clear the duties relative to our new service, I desire to call attention to First Sergeant Peckman, Sergeants Gilispie, Bannon and Muirhead, and Corporal Falk of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Company. We broke camp on the morning of September eighteenth and reached our armory about noon, every man well pleased with his tour of duty in the Coast Defense Service."

A few paragraphs from the report of Second Lieutenant Sidney E. Clyne are given. He stated:

"I was selected by my Commanding Officers as range officer, taking for my active duty the position of observer in B' Station having a non-commissioned officer of my Company with me as reader. With a Sergeant of my company as Plotter, the Plotting Room was entirely manned by members of the Fifth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California. I note with pleasure the manner in which the officers and men of the Regular Service fraternized with members of the National Guard. Owing to the uncertainty of reading correctly from datum poles and tidescales, especially in foggy weather or at nights, I would recommend that automatic tide registering instruments be installed. I found the lectures very instructive and would recommend that a course of these discussions upon coast artillery subjects be given at the armory at different periods. As Commander of the Advance Department I was shown every courtesy by the officers and men of Fort Rosecrans in establishing camp, drawing rations, providing mess until camp was established and furnishing cots for the entire command."

In 1910 the Fifth Company was divided and about sixty non-commissioned officers and men, with First Lieutenant Sidney E. Clyne were transferred to the newly organized Eighth Company. The two units went into camp at Fort Rosecrans on July 11 to 18, 1910. Captain Herbert R. Fay, Fifth Company was promoted to Major on May 14, 1910, and was in command of the encampment. In 1911, July first to eighth inclusive the two companies, with Major Fay in command again camped at Fort Rosecrans. That year no Regular Artillerymen were camped with the militia and they manned the big guns without the aid of the Regulars. True, the Regular Officers of Fort Rosecrans were there as well as Captain H. R. Casey, Artillery Instructor to the National Guard of California. Major Fay reported the camp of more benefit to his men than either of the two previous. His reasons were:

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

First: There having been more men present for duty, this allowed each company to have its own manning table, thus creating a fast yet friendly rivalry between the two companies as to their efficiency as individuals, sections and companies.

Second: As there were no Regular companies encamped with us every officer and man was placed upon his own resources. They had to show their worth and efficiency and had to prove to the Regulars that the reserve was worthy of the confidence placed in them.

Further on in his report the Captain stated:

"All cooking for the reserves was done by their own enlisted cooks, who showed experience and judgment throughout the period. Captains Clyne and Bush, and their respective officers and men were deserving of great credit for the untiring interest they showed in the performance of their duties.

In addition to the artillery drills, subcaliber practice, powder blending, service trial and record shots, there were calisthenics, company drills, battalion parades, guard mount, guard duty, musters, inspection and night drills all in eight days with one Sunday and a holiday excepted."

The encampments each year were similar in character and each year showed marked improvement and increased efficiency in the Coast Artillery Corps. In closing the chapter on encampments the report of Captain W. P. Platt, Coast Artillery Corps, United States Army Inspector for the War department will be quoted in part. After the inspection held May 15 to 29, 1915, the Captain's summary of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, stated as follows:

"If these organizations were called into service tomorrow they would be able to take up the work where it was left off today, and immediately render efficient service at the batteries without any material assistance except from a few Regular Officers and enlisted men. This condition would exist immediately after each encampment such as the one just completed. All the foregoing must be understood to apply to the militia when re-inforcing the Regular troops. It would be impossible for these troops

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

to take over Fort Winfield Scott from the Regulars without assistance from the latter on account of their lack of enlisted specialists and other men thoroughly familiar with local conditions."

The Captain goes on to say that the weakest feature of the Corps was the non-attendance of the enlisted men at drills. This lack of attendance prevented the development of team work. The most they received was instruction which was not wasted, but soon became dull and tiresome, resulting in a run down condition of some units. The most encouraging feature, in the Captain's opinion, was the fact that officers were being prepared so as to be of considerable value in time of war. This was also true of the non-commissioned officers though to a less extent. Captain Platt closed his report with these words:

"The men are all physically qualified for their duties. The general excellence of the organizations in drill, subcaliber and service practice was marked. Of six gun companies conducting service practice, five made one hundred percent hits at mean range, a few of the hits, however, were only half hits. To explain this more in detail, out of 18 shots fired from 10 inch and 12 inch guns, 14 full hits were obtained. The analysis of these practices showed that the errors, except in one company were of minor importance. The mortar companies did not do as well at service practice for the reason that there was some interference by the Regular organizations, and further that the greater number of men in the mortar range section requires possibly more time in training. The men should be able however, to continue their progress with the dummy armory equipment. Now that the gun companies have proven their worth it would be wise to keep them up to the standard by installing the ten inch dummy gun as early as practicable, thereby giving them the opportunity of continuing the good work."

At the encampment of 1916, which was the last one held before they were mustered into Federal Service, the Coast Artillery Corps were in complete charge of Fort Winfield Scott, but conducted their camp under instructors from Regular Army Officers.

The more colorful and pleasant subject of parades will be the next to be discussed. However, all parades participated in by the Coast Artillery Corps were not pleasant. The death of Adjutant General Edwin A. Forbes, National Guard of California, on June 18, 1915, and his funeral in San Francisco on June 20, 1915, was by no means pleasant. The General was accorded full military honors, and his funeral cortege was one of the largest witnessed in many years. The services were conducted in Native Son's Hall by Rev. Father Charles Ramm of St. Mary's Cathedral. Father Ramm and General Forbes were

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

boyhood friends, and only a short time before the General's illness, Father Ramm had induced him to join the Catholic Church. Father Ramm opened the service with an eulogy on the deceased soldier, followed by a short discourse on the mystery of death and then read the funeral prayers of the Catholic Church. The remains were blessed, and then began the procession to the cemetery. Governor and Mrs Hiram W. Johnson, Troop B, First Squadron of Cavalry, one Battalion Fifth Infantry, one Battalion Second Infantry, one Battalion Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, Company B, Signal Corps, Naval Militia from the United States cruiser Marblehead, mounted and foot police were in the parade, which proceeded out Market Street to Valencia, along Valencia to Fourteenth Street, and thence to the armory, where the military was dismissed. The remains of the General were taken to Holy Cross Cemetery by automobile, accompanied by the family, mother and brothers of the deceased, Governor and Mrs Johnson, Miss Harriet Odgers of the Governor's Office, Miss Alice M. Coughlin of the Adjutant General's Office and State Controller Chambers.*

Another day not given over to mirth was May thirtieth each year. Only one such parade will be recorded, that of May 30, 1911. Fifty years had passed since the members of the Grand Army of the Republic had marched away to the beat of drums to suppress the rebellion in the south. Now, after fifty years, to the booming of minute guns and the roll of muffled drums, old and grizzled veterans marched with feeble steps but proud mien to observe the fiftieth anniversary at the Presidio National cemetery in San Francisco. Each year their ranks grew thinner and many who were in line the year before had answered the final roll call. While throngs bearing flowers to lay on the graves of their soldier dead were making their way to the Presidio, the parade of the military with measured tread was wending its way from Van Ness Avenue and California Street, where the troops had assembled at 8:30 A.M. Promptly at 9:00 A.M. the bugles sounded "attention". A few sharp commands were uttered, the troopers of the artillery swung into their saddles and the procession was on its way. After a platoon of mounted police, Grand Marshal, Captain F. J. Sullivan of Company B, Signal Corps, National Guard of California, led the way with the chief of staff, Captain R. E. Mittelstaedt, followed by a detachment of United States Field Artillery. Then came a squad of Signal Corps, six companies of Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, the Naval Battalion, the Nationals, (once units in the Coast Artillery Corps) and bravely bringing up the rear the Boy Scouts. In this order they marched through the

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*Sacramento Bee June 21, 1915, page 2, column 5.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

gates to the Presidio, where the police halted and withdraw. Here the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Sons of Veterans of the United States Army, and the United Spanish War Veterans joined. Of the former, three Grand Army Posts were represented; The George H. Thomas Post, The James A. Garfield Post and The Lincoln Post. When the procession arrived at the road leading to the cemetery the Veterans marched up the hill, escorted by a Coast Artillery Band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Armand Putz. The band played a funeral dirge and as the marchers passed, all heads were bared and many eyes were dimmed. While they were taking their places, Blaney battery, down on the shore, was booming out a national salute.*

Fortunately, most of the parades of the Artillery Corps were of a more care-free character, where patriotism and enthusiasm were given the right of way. Perhaps the first big parade in which the Coast Artillery took part was the one held in San Francisco, October 19, 1909, in commemoration of the landing of Don Gaspardi Portola.

The parade started at Market and East Streets and proceeded up Market to Van Ness Avenue. The formation of the parade was as follows; Thirtieth Infantry Band, Thirtieth Infantry, First and Second Battalions, Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H; Third Coast Artillery Band; Coast Artillery Corps, consisting of twelve 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, Italian Bluejackets and Marines, National Guard Coast Artillery Corps, Signal Corps and Naval reserve. The impersonation of Don Gaspardi Portola was almost perfect. Yellow booted, brown cloaked, he raised his gauntleted hand first to the right, then to the left. First to one side, then to the other he bowed, and the cheers of thousands of spectators would have stirred a mummy. The Crowds along the whole line of march were so great that only the restraining wires and the vigilance of the police held them back.**

On February 25, 1911, another important event was celebrated in San Francisco. A delegation of prominent citizens of that city had been to Washington D. C., where they finally won approval of and also secured Government aid financially

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*San Francisco Call May 31, 1911, page 3, column 1.

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

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

in producing the Panama Pacific International Exposition, to be held in San Francisco in 1915. The return to the city of the delegates was the occasion for a parade and celebration that was full of enthusiasm. The parade was civic as well as military. The various city Departments were placed in the first division and they made a splendid showing. In the last division was the military, led by the Thirtieth Infantry Band and Drum Corps. Colonel Charles St. John Chubb and staff were in front of the troops, with Major Leon Roudiez commanding the First Battalion of Infantry. Artillery officers came next, then the Coast Artillery Band and Battery B, Fifth Field Artillery rattled over the street in an orderly manner. Next came two battalions of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, under command of Colonel George A. Schastey, and received merited applause along the line of march. These were followed by the Signal Corps, National Guard of California, with their band. Next came the Naval Reserve, marching to the music of their band and drawing the usual applause accorded the sailors. Following the National Guard was the "Nationals", once a part of the Militia, but then independent. They had a large band dressed in their own picturesque garb of the zouave type, with red fez caps, blue jackets and flaming crimson bloomers, reaching down to the spotless white leggings, which formed the last feature of their spectacular uniforms. Following the Nationals came the League of the Cross Cadets, headed by their fine band. The parade countermarched on Market Street to Geary, thence out Geary to Union Square where a formal reception and exercises took place.*

The fourth of July is usually a parade day for the units in the National Guard. One Independence day parade and celebration described here, will give a fair idea of what nearly every person has been sometime. A four day carnival and celebration at Alameda was climaxed by a Fourth of July parade. The military division of the parade was composed of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, Lieutenant-Colonel Mathewson commanding; The First Battalion, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Major George Wethern commanding, and the Hospital Corps, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Lieutenant James Hanley commanding. The men of the militia were provided with basket lunches by the carnival committee, and the officers were guests of the committee at luncheon in the Crescent Hotel. Exhibition drills were given in Lincoln Park by the First Coast Artillery Corps and the First Battalion, Fifth Infantry. Hundreds of visitors to the city brought their lunches with them and enjoyed an outing, watching the drills, and listening to the band concert.**

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*San Francisco Chronicle February 26, 1911, page 29, column 6.

**San Francisco Call July 5, 1911, page 9, column 1.

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

The Panama Pacific International Exposition seemed to come nearer when on October 14, 1911, President of the United States, William Howard Taft officially opened the work of preparing for the exposition by turning the first shovel full of earth at the stadium in Golden Gate Park. The parade on that occasion was one of the most spectacular ever conducted in San Francisco. The line of march was along Golden Gate Avenue from Van Ness Avenue to Steiner Street, on Steiner to Fulton, up Fulton to Baker, over Baker to Fell and thence to Stanyan, where the procession entered the park. The National Guard division was headed by Brigadier-General Robert Wankowski, First Brigade and his staff, followed by Colonel George A. Schastey and staff, with eleven companies of the Coast Artillery. Colonel D. A. Smith and staff and the Fifth Infantry Regiment were next, followed by Company B, Signal Corps with Captain J. F. Sullivan in command.*

On May 2, 1914, the Exposition "Palace of Machinery" building was completed, and furnished the occasion for the Ball of All Nations. The floor space in this building covered more square feet than did Market Street, San Francisco from the Ferry building to the City Hall. An estimated 20,000 people, most of them in costume, took part in the celebration.

At 8:45 P.M. Colonel George A. Schastey, commanding the Coast Artillery led several picked companies of the Corps out on the floor in full dress parade. The Thirteenth Infantry, United States Army, in command of Captain Henry H. Sheen, followed with complicated drill evolutions. This was followed by the Dance of All Nations, a bewilderingly beautiful spectacle which hardly any city save vari-colored San Francisco could have given. After the queens had been enthroned, various dancing clubs and societies, and virtually every foreign colony of the city was represented in the dance, which ranged from the folk dance of the peasantry to the dances which in the past were given before royalty.**

The Panama Pacific International Exposition committee held a three day celebration July 3, 4, and 5, 1915. On July fifth a peace parade and pageant was held in a military setting. The tramp of marching soldiers rang out to the martial music of the fife and drum corps and the appealing piccolos. The cheers of the thousands who thronged the sidewalks were the same old ringing cheers to which the heroes of Lexington and Concord and of Bunker Hill marched 140 years before. A. E. Cohn, a white haired veteran of the Civil War, who

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*San Francisco Call October 14, 1911, page 47, column 1.

**San Francisco Examiner May 2, 1914, page 59, column 8.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

had passed his seventieth milestone, rode at the head of the parade. He was from Garfield Post Grand Army of the Republic, and with him was George M. White of Lincoln Post and Henry D. Fields of the Nationals, who represented the "Spirit of 76". Then came a platoon of mounted police led by Chief D. A. White; and then came the municipal band, followed by the automobiles of the honorary guests of the day, General Arthur Murry, Governor Hiram Johnson, Mayor James A. Rolph Jr., Senator James D. Phelan, C. C. Moore, Admiral Pond with his staff of officers, the city supervisors and the members of the Citizens Committee. Then came Colonel S. M. Foote of the Coast Artillery Corps, United States Army, Grand Marshal of the Day, and then the Regulars and National Guardsmen. The Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, participated in the parade. From the martial spirit of the parade there was a transition to respectful attention to a peace oration by William Jennings Bryan, America's peace apostle, and when the review of the marching troops was completed before the Tower of Jewels shortly before 11:30 o'clock, the cheering of the multitude for the boys in blue changed to thundering applause for the man who quit President Wilson's cabinet rather than do anything which might lead to war.*

Twelve days later, July 17, 1915, the Coast Artillery again paraded as part of the military that escorted the Liberty Bell through the city of San Francisco to the Exposition grounds. Upon arrival at the fair grounds the famous and priceless relic was halted in front of the reviewing stand at the Fountain of Energy, where short exercises took place immediately after the review of the parade. At the conclusion of the speech making, the Bell was escorted to the Pennsylvania Building at the Exposition, where thousands availed themselves of the opportunity to see the Bell so closely connected with the independence of our country.**

On October 4, 1916, another great event in the history of San Francisco took place. On that evening a new type of electroliers were to be used for the first time. Market Street, from the Ferry building to Civic Center was to be illuminated with a new type of light that was to make that thoroughfare as light as day. The celebration was named the "Path of Gold" and at 8:30 P.M. Mayor James Rolph Jr. pressed a button that turned on the electricity. At the same instant a pageant of exceeding splendor started to move up Market Street. The first division of the pageant was military and was composed of the United States Artillery; Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California; Naval apprentices from Yerba Buena Island and League of the Cross Cadets. A division of the San Francisco Fire Department, with its exempt organizations, made a decided sensation with their samples of fire fighting apparatus from the days of 49, with the rope-drawn hose carts and their red shirted manipulators, to the heavy, motor-driven engines of 1916. The section

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*San Francisco Call July 5, 1915, page 1, column 5.

**San Francisco Call July 17, 1915, page 1, column 4.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

was ended with a marching squad of firemen of the modern fire department, the department band and a vivid red run-about bearing Chief Murphy and an aide. After all this came the climax of the pageant, a great depiction of the powerful light of that day. Upon a high throne sat the "Great God-Mazda", with his devotees before him doing homage.*

From parades and pageants this narrative moves on to the social activities of the Corps. One important occasion was the completion and equipment of the gymnasium and club rooms in the armory on Van Ness Avenue, in March, 1912. The new equipment was complete in every detail, and consisted of traveling rings, climbing rope, rowing machine, punching bags, wrestling mats, boxing ring, Indian clubs, dumb-bells, vaulting horse, parallel bars, chest weight machine, high jump and pole vault racks and a basket ball field. Large showers had also been installed. The Corps held membership in the Pacific Amateur Athletic Association, and planned to develop great activity along that line. Volley ball, basket ball and in-door baseball games were started soon after the opening. Captain R. E. Mittelstaedt was placed in charge of the gymnasium and Robert Lundle was appointed athletic instructor.**

A pleasant event was that of June 30, 1911, when before a crowd of 3000 persons a beautiful perpetual challenge trophy was presented to the regiment. The donor of the trophy was the Merchants Association of San Francisco. The presentation was preceded by a splendid regimental parade and drill, which was enthusiastically applauded by the large audience present. In presenting the trophy, Chairman George C. Boardman complimented the men for their efficient drilling, and informed them that the association appreciated the good work done by them. Colonel Schastey who received the Cup on behalf of the National Guard, thanked the members of the Merchants Association for the challenge trophy. Dancing followed the presentation of the Cup.***

Another gala occasion was the military ball and entertainment given by the Coast Artillery Corps on December 2, 1910, in the auditorium in San Francisco. All seats were taken and in places the crowd overflowed on the polished floor. Adjutant-General J. B. Lauck, acting for himself and Governor Gillett, who was unable to attend, was in the reviewing stand, seated near Brigadier-General Tasker H. Bliss. The General, accompanied by his aide, and many member of the

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*San Francisco Call October 5, 1916, page 13, column 8.

**San Francisco Chronicle March 31, 1912, (clippings)

***San Francisco Call July 1, 1911. page 16, column 2.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

Governor's staff were present in full military dress uniform. All the officers of the Artillery Corps were in full military dress, and under the brilliant lights presented a martial and handsome appearance. Preceded by a concert by the Artillery Corps Band, which is now one of the best on the coast, a number of military exercises were rendered. The parade and review, immediately following the concert, was commanded by Colonel George A Schastey, with Generals Bliss and Lauck, as reviewing officers. After the parade General Bliss stated that he was especially pleased with the appearance of the men, their soldierly bearing and their excellence in drill. Following the parade came a full-equipment race, and succeeding that, a conical tent-pitching contest. The latter was won by a squad from the Sixth Company. The tents of the squad were up and ready for occupancy before competitors had fastened their guy ropes. It was a marvelous exhibition of tent-pitching skill. The exhibition closed with a wall-scaling contest and a gatling gun and extended drill, the latter having been under the command of Captain C. J. Mund. Captain Mund's Company, the Sixth, was assisted by a detachment from the Hospital Corps under command of Major Emmal. Prizes were distributed to the successful contestants, and the remainder of the evening was given over to dancing in which the large crowd participated. The entertainment raised a considerable sum of money, which was used to pay off part of the amount owing for equipment and furnishings in the Van Ness Armory.

On September 14, 1916, the Coast Artillery Corps gave a benefit Military Ball and entertainment at the Exposition Auditorium in aid of the mess fund and dependent families of the San Francisco troops at the border. Several thousand people combined patriotism with pleasure on the occasion. A Battalion drill by four Companies of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, under command of Major R. E. Mittelstaedt, moving pictures and a band concert occupied an hour and one-half before dancing began. A telegram from Captain Frank J. Sullivan of Company B, Signal Corps, at camp Bankers Ranch, on the Santa Cruz River, seven miles from Nogales, was read. In the message the San Franciscans who remembered the boys at the border were cordially thanked.*

The companies of the Coast Artillery Corps, located in San Francisco were not the only ones to participate in parades. The two units which formed a provisional battalion at San Diego enjoyed a share of that pastime also. Besides the usual annual holiday parades, the Fifth and Eighth Companies participated in several parades on special occasions, one of which was the parade and dedication of the Cabrillo and Balboa Monument on September 26, 1913. There were also

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*San Francisco Chronicle September 15, 1916, page 10, column 7.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

many social activities of the two units. Smokers, banquets and military balls.*

The first call for active duty by the Coast Artillery Corps was upon the Fifth and Eighth Companies at San Diego, on April 23, 1914, when disturbances along the Mexican border, caused the civil authorities of San Diego to request troops to guard the city's water system. The Third Division, Naval Militia, National Guard of California, was also ordered into service and all three units and a Hospital Detachment were placed under command of Major H. R. Fay. The Major divided his troops into platoons and stationed one at Coronada "Y"; one at Otay Lakes; one at Morena Dam; one at Sweetwater Dam; and one at the junction of the San Diego and Coronada pipe line lying between the town of Otay and the dam site at Otay Lake. One week later, April 30, 1914, the troops reported everything quiet. Their duties consisted of guard duty at the several points mentioned above. The militia men remained on duty until May 10, 1914, when they were ordered to their armories and dismissed. The nearest approach to trouble was the capture of three chinamen who were found hiding in bushes in Otay Valley. The chinese were badly frightened and it is presumed they were being smuggled across the border into the United States. The Chinamen were turned over to the police authorities by the militia.**

Two years later the Fifth and Eighth Companies were again called upon to guard the outlying reservoir and dams of the San Diego water works. The call came during the time of trouble on the Mexican Border in 1916, and nearly the entire National Guard of California with the Regular Army had been sent to the border to prevent marauding bands of outlaws from crossing the border into United States territory. The Fifth and Eighth Companies were called into service on June 27, 1916, and were dismissed on July 27, 1916.*** The Companies were not mustered into Federal Service as were the other units of the National Guard.

The enactment of the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, increased Federal authority over the National Guard to such an extent that the militia really became the first reserve line of defense of the nation. The increased authority brought an order from the War Department requesting the State of California to muster in twelve new Coast Artillery units.

Although the California Political Code only provided for sixteen companies of Coast Artillery, Adjutant General J. J. Borree, National Guard of California, decided to obey the wishes of the Federal Authorities and order the mustering in

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*For further information concerning parades and social activities of the Fifth and Eighth Companies refer to History of Fifth Company and Eighth Company, Coast Artillery Corps National Guard of California. Adjutant General's Office.

**San Diego Union April 27, 1914, page 1, column 2.

***San Diego Union July 7, 1916, page 9, column 2.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

of twelve new units of Coast Artillery. Failure of any state to meet the requirements of the War Department permitted the Federal authorities to withdraw all financial support, and it was that provision of the National Defense Act which caused obedience to their wishes. Accordingly, on September 15, 1916, General Order No. 25, was issued, and provided for twelve new companies. Nine were to be located in Los Angeles and one each in San Pedro, Hollywood and Glendale. However, the companies were not located according to this order, as only eight were stationed in Los Angeles, and one each in Long Beach, Hollywood, San Pedro and Monrovia. On September 21, 1916, the Thirteenth Company was mustered into the National Guard, in Los Angeles. The next evening, September twenty-second the Fourteenth Company was mustered in; on the twenty-third the Fifteenth Company was mustered, all in Los Angeles. The Sixteenth Company, located in San Pedro was mustered in on September twenty-fourth, and the Seventeenth Company was mustered in at Hollywood on the same date. Two Days later, September twenty-sixth the Eighteenth Company was mustered in. On the twenty-seventh the Nineteenth Company, and on the twenty-ninth the Twentieth Company was mustered in, all located in Los Angeles. The Twenty-First Company was mustered in on September thirtieth and the Twenty-Second Company on October fourth, both of these were Los Angeles units. On October sixth the remaining two units of the new Corps were mustered in. One, the Twenty-Third, in Long Beach, and the other, the Twenty-Fourth in Monrovia.* The following table indicates the organization dates and locations of the Second Coast Defense Command, Coast Artillery Corps.

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*Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 115.

COMPANIES COMPOSING THE COAST ARTILLERY CORPS

Second Coast Defense Command

1916

<u>Thirteenth</u>	<u>Fourteenth</u>	<u>Fifteenth</u>	<u>Sixteenth</u>	<u>Seventeenth</u>
Thirteenth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Fourteenth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Fifteenth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Sixteenth Company San Pedro <u>1916</u>	Seventeenth Company Hollywood <u>1916</u>
<u>Eighteenth</u>	<u>Nineteenth</u>	<u>Twentieth</u>	<u>Twenty-First</u>	<u>Twenty-Second</u>
Eighteenth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Nineteenth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Twentieth Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Twenty-First Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>	Twenty-Second Company Los Angeles <u>1916</u>
<u>Twenty-Third</u>	<u>Twenty-Fourth</u>			
Twenty-Third Company Long Beach <u>1916</u>	Twenty-Fourth Company Monrovia <u>1916</u>			

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

Five days later the commissioned officers of the twelve new companies met to choose their commanding officers. The election resulted in the selection of Harry B. Light, Colonel; Paul E. Kruger, Lieutenant-Colonel; and Frank R. McReynolds, Edwin G. Mettler and John J. Cunningham as the three Majors of the new regiment.

The Regiment was to help man Fort McArthur, a part of the Coast Defense system of Los Angeles and the new units immediately began an intensive program of drills, and schools of instruction for non-commissioned officers and men desiring to become first class electricians, gunners and etc. The Coast Artillery demanded technically trained men to handle the large guns of the Coast Defense. The twelve new units were in the National Guard only about ten months when the entire twenty-four units of the Coast Artillery Corps were mustered into the Federal Service for duty during the World War.

On February 15, 1917, the Headquarters, California Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, issued the following General Order:

"The Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California, is, in accordance with paragraph 1, Circular 29, Militia Bureau, War Department, December 6, 1916, organized into Coast Defense as follows:

First Coast Defense Command; First Band, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Companies at San Francisco. Fifth and Eight Companies at San Diego. Headquarters, State armory, 14th and Mission Streets, San Francisco, California.

Second Coast Defense Command; Second Band, and the Thirteenth to Twenty-Fourth Companies inclusive, Los Angeles. Headquarters, American Bank Building, 2nd and Spring Streets, Los Angeles, California.

The Fifth and Eighth Companies at San Diego were organized into the "San Diego Coast Defense Command", but remained as units of the First Coast Defense Command.

Now comes the closing chapter of the history of the Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California. The entrance of the United States into the World War in April 1917, resulted in the calling of the National Guard into Federal Service. The Fifth and Eighth Companies of San Diego of the First Coast Defense

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS (Continued)

FIRST COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

SECOND COAST DEFENSE COMMAND

Activities: (continued)

Command, and the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Eighteenth Companies of the Second Coast Defense Command were the first units of the Coast Artillery Corps to be called. On April 12, 1917, these companies were called into service for duty similar to that assigned to the infantry, such as guarding factories, railroad and supply depots of the Western States.* The two units from San Diego were later combined with the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Companies, and designated Battery B, Sixty-Fifth Coast Artillery Corps.** They saw 72 days of active service at the battle front in France, firing during that time over 2000 rounds of high explosives and suffered 28 casualties. The other ten companies of the First Coast Defense Command, as the Corps was known then, were mustered into the Federal Service on August 5, 1917, and redesignated as follows:

First Company	Twenty-First Company
Second Company	Twenty-Second Company
Third Company	Twenty-Third Company
Fourth Company	Twenty-Fourth Company
Sixth Company	Twenty-Sixth Company
Seventh Company	Twenty-Seventh Company
Ninth Company	Twenty-Ninth Company
Tenth Company	Thirtieth Company
Eleventh Company	Twenty-Fifth Company
Twelfth Company	Twenty-Eighth Company***

These ten companies were assigned to various organizations after entering the Federal Service. Three officers and fifty men, motorcycle experts, were assigned to the First Battalion, Anti-Aircraft Artillery, and left for France, November 30, 1917. One third of the Sixty-Second Artillery, Coast Artillery Corps, a Regiment of Heavy Artillery, was composed of men drawn from the First Coast Defense Command. This Regiment left San Francisco for France on June 13, 1918, arriving in France July 28, 1918. A large number of officers and men were assigned to the Sixty-Seventh Regiment of Heavy Artillery and left for France August 9, 1918, arriving there September 5, 1918. The First, Second, Third, Fourth and Eleventh Companies were assigned as units of the Army Artillery Park, First Army, and as such served in France and participated in the following engagements: Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne, St Mihiel, and in the First Army Defense Sector. The Fortieth Regiment, Coast Artillery Corps (Twelfth Railroad Motors), was also composed of officers and men from the First Coast Defense Command, and at the time of the signing of the Armistice was at Camp Upton, New York, awaiting transportation overseas.**** Thus the training received by the Coast Artillery Corps at the big guns at the Forts, proved valuable to their country in her hour of need.

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*Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 21.

**Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 24.

***Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 22.

****Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 25.