

History of the Santa Clara Zouaves, California Militia 1863-1865

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MOKELUMNE LIGHT DRAGOONS

Mokelumne Light Dragoons, Third Brigade.

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 7, File 5

Location: Lokeford, Santa Clara County

Mustered in September 5, 1863

Mustered out August 31, 1865

Santa Clara Zouaves, Second Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 7, File 5

Location: Santa Clara, Santa Clara County

Mustered in September 5, 1863

Mustered out April 3, 1865

Commission
Oct. 23, 1863
Oct. 23, 1863

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
George T. Headen, Captain	Sept. 5, 1863	Sept. 29, 1863
Charles Silent, First Lieut.	Sept. 5, 1863	Sept. 29, 1863

Activities:

A petition was presented to County Judge Isaac Senter, signed by fifty-four citizens of Santa Clara, asking for an order to hold a meeting to form a volunteer military company. Judge Senter appointed Colonel Jackson to preside over the meeting after a ten day notice had been published. On September 5, 1863, the Santa Clara Zouaves was duly organized under the California State Law.

In December 1863, Captain Headen informed the Adjutant General that the company consisted of about forty-four members not including the commissioned officers. All of the men regularly took part in the drills, but only twenty-four out of that number had up to that date signed the Constitution and By-Laws. The company expected in a few weeks to have a membership of full strength and would then post the necessary Bonds.

This company was doomed, however, to a short existence. It was badly demoralized by the lack of co-operation on the part of the State to furnish the proper equipment, and many of the members resigned and the unit was unable to maintain its full strength. Captain Headen, therefore, respectfully asked that the company be mustered out of service, which was complied with April 3, 1865.