

History of the 8th Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard 1918-1918

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1119

EIGHTH SEPARATE COMPANY

(STOCKTON)

Eighth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard

Reference: Adjutant General Files

Location: Stockton, San Joaquin County

Mustered in February 9, 1918*

Mustered out April 28, 1918**

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Lawrence Edwards, Capt.	Feb. 9, 1918	Feb. 13, 1918
Paul S. Smith, First Lieut.	Feb. 9, 1918	Feb. 13, 1918

Activities:

The Eighth Separate Company, California National Guard, was mustered into the State service February 9, 1918. Lawrence Edwards was appointed Captain and Paul S. Smith, First Lieutenant. The new organization had an enrollment of one hundred and five members. The Company was drilling and conducting non-commissioned officer's school before it was mustered into the National Guard. The zeal and general qualifications of the members of the new Company were such that in a little over two months after it's organization the following order was issued by Adjutant General J. J. Borree:

"The Eighth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard, Stockton, California, having been so reduced in numerical strength by reason of its officers and a great many of its enlisted men being called into Federal Service through the operation of the Selective Service Law, and by voluntary induction and enlistment, as to make it impracticable to attempt to recruit the Company to the required minimum strength, it is hereby ordered disbanded, and its officers and enlisted men honorably discharged from the service of the State."

The order clearly explains the reason for the mustering out, and both officers and men of the Eighth Company were worthy of the highest praise for the efforts they had made. The order resulted in the mustering out of the Eighth Separate Company on April 28, 1918, just seventy-eight days after it was mustered into State Service.

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*Eighth Separate Company, designated Company H, and mustered into the service of the State, February 9, 1918.
Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 116.

**Eighth Separate Company, mustered out, April 28, 1918.
General and Special Orders and Bulletins 1918, page 11. General Order No. 3.