

History of the 16th Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard 1918-1919

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(RIVERSIDE)

1136

Sixteenth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard

Reference: Adjutant General's Office

Location: Riverside, Riverside County

Mustered in August 5, 1918*

Mustered out February 14, 1919**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Commanding Officers</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Carleton A. Kelley, Captain		Aug. 5, 1918	Sept. 10, 1918
Frank C. Russell, First Lieut. (resigned Nov. 6, 1918)		Aug. 5, 1918	Sept. 10, 1918

Activities:

The Sixteenth Separate Company was organized and mustered in as a unit of the California National Guard on August 5, 1918.

Carleton A. Kelley was commissioned Captain and Frank C. Russell as First Lieutenant.

The history of the Sixteenth Company was brief, the organization having lasted only about seven months. About three months after their organization First Lieutenant Russell resigned. The General Order of the Adjutant General issued February 5, 1919, just six months after the unit was organized, states the reason for muster out. It read as follows:

"The commanding officer, Sixteenth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard, Riverside, California, having officially advised this office that, after careful investigation, he is convinced that there is not sufficient interest in Riverside to properly maintain a company of the California National Guard, and that not only is the interest lacking in men who must necessarily form the organization itself, but also the business men and community in general have not sufficient desire in the matter to give the company the necessary support, and the company commander having officially requested that the organization be mustered out of the service of the State, the said Sixteenth Company, Infantry, California National Guard, is hereby ordered disbanded, and its commissioned officers and enlisted men, honorably discharged from the service of the State, to take effect February 14, 1919".

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*Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 116.

**Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 119.