

History of the 8th Infantry Regiment, Company E, National Guard of California 1891-1895

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COMPANY E

Company E, Eighth Infantry Regiment, Fifth Brigade (formerly Company E, Eighth Infantry Battalion)

Reference: Adjutant General's Files
Location: Redding, Shasta County
Organized December 19, 1889
Reconstituted October 31, 1891*
Redesignated December 7, 1895**

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John Reynolds, Captain	Dec. 19, 1889	Jan. 7, 1890***
Thomas B. Dozier, First Lieut.	Dec. 19, 1889	Jan. 7, 1890***
Thomas B. Dozier, Captain (Re-elected Dec. 19, 1893)	Dec. 18, 1891	Jan. 9, 1892
Albert M. Irwin, First Lieut. (Re-elected Dec. 19, 1893)	Dec. 18, 1891	Jan. 9, 1892

Activities:

Company E was organized at Redding, December 19, 1889, and became attached to the Eighth Infantry Regiment, October 31, 1891, when the battalion was increased to a regiment. The officers elected at the organization remained in command of the company until December 18, 1891. At this election, First Lieutenant Thomas B. Dozier was promoted to the Captaincy of the unit. The company's ranks comprised fifty-two recruits at the organization.

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*Adjutant General Report 1891-1892, page 40.
(The rank date of Colonel Park Henshaw, October 31, 1891, is to be used as the date Company E became attached to the Eighth Infantry Regiment.)

**Company E, Eighth Infantry Regiment, Fifth Brigade redesignated Company H, Twelfth Infantry Battalion, December 7, 1895. Two days later, December 9, Company H, Twelfth Infantry Battalion redesignated Company H, Second Infantry Regiment, Third Brigade. Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, pages 87, 88.

***Captain Reynolds and Lieutenant Dozier retained their former commissions as of January 7, 1890, when they commanded Company E, Eighth Infantry Battalion, Fifth Brigade.

COMPANY E (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

In 1890 an armory had been erected for Company E. The unit paid \$70.00 per month rental for the use of these quarters. It was a frame building with a large drill hall, armory and storerooms conveniently arranged. The company maintained an armorer to care for the State and company property. Drill meetings were held each Friday evening of the month; officers' meetings, twice a month and non-commissioned officers' meetings, once a week. Company E made an average attendance record of 57.32 per cent at the drills for November. The numerical strength of the unit increased to sixty-nine by March 1892, and the percentage of attendance to 95.65 per cent. The company maintained a 100 per cent attendance rating at the three annual Muster and Inspections during its existence in the regiment. The average merit rating for 1893 was better than "very good," being 5.25 per cent.

At the final annual inspection of 1894, there were seventy-four enlisted men and three officers present. At the latter inspection, twenty-four of the seventy-four men were in citizen's clothes and were without arms. As a number of men handled their arms very awkwardly, it is assumed they belonged to the many new recruits who had joined the company since the previous January. The men wore campaign hats, leggings, cartridge boxes and black belts. The members presented a good appearance and their uniforms were in splendid condition. Great credit was due the Quarter-Master Sergeant, who as armorer, had the guns clean and in good condition. While the guns were well kept, they were worn-out by long service and Inspector, G. W. McIver recommended new ones. After the inspection, a number of movements in the company drill were executed, including movements by platoons. The drill was only fair. Distances between fours were not well maintained, due to the fault of the guides, who did not preserve the proper length of step, especially during the changes of direction. Contrary to drill regulations, the First Sergeant had the place as right guide. The file closers were also at fault, changing from one flank to the other without command, several times in the "about by fours." The manual of arms was ragged.

Company E made a poor record at target practices, having only one member make the Second Class in the series of shoots, extending over the three year period. Eleven men was the greatest number that the company had, rating Third Class place over the same period.

COMPANY E (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The Railroad Strike was the last activity participated in by Company E before the unit was redesignated in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Location and Organization in 1895. The company, under command of Captain T. B. Dozier, was ordered to Sacramento, July 23, 1894, and remained on duty until July twenty-ninth. Their activities consisted chiefly of guard duty.

During the Strike it was apparent in military circles that a complete reorganization of the National Guard was necessary. The change went into effect December 7, 1895, when the regiments were organized into battalions. Company E was redesignated Company H of the Twelfth Infantry Battalion. Two days later, December ninth, Company H, Twelfth Infantry Battalion was redesignated Company H, Second Infantry Regiment, Third Brigade.

AMERICAN ARMY
REGIMENTAL RECORDS
COMPANY E
1894-1895
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

Company E was organized at Greenville, October 15, 1891, in response to a petition signed by a group of citizens, who desired a local organization in their county. The company, although organized for service was not admitted into the National Guard until it was accepted by the Guard, during October of 1891. Two companies of the National Guard were consolidated which made an original

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Adjutant General Report 1891-1896, page 82.
(The first days of Colonel Park's tenure, October 21, 1891, is in regard to the date Company E became attached to the 12th Infantry Regiment.)
Company E was a, 12th Infantry Regiment, Third Brigade consolidated and designated Company H, Twelfth Infantry Battalion, December 7, 1895. Two days later, December 9, Company H, Twelfth Infantry Battalion redesignated Company H, Second Infantry Regiment, Third Brigade.
Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, page 87, 88.

*Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, pages 87, 88.