

# **History of the 21<sup>st</sup> Company, Coast Artillery Corps, National Guard of California 1916-1917**

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TWENTY-FIRST COMPANY, COAST ARTILLERY CORPS

2760

Twenty-First Company, Coast Artillery Corps, Second Coast Defense Command

Reference: Adjutant General's Office

Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

Mustered in September 30, 1916\*

Mustered into Federal Service and redesignated August 17, 1917\*\*

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Frank J. Baum, Captain	Sept. 30, 1916	Oct. 11, 1916
Ben B. Blair, First Lieutenant	Sept. 30, 1916	Oct. 11, 1916

Activities:

On September 30, 1916, the Twenty-First Company, Coast Artillery Corps was organized in Los Angeles. Frank J. Baum was chosen Captain and Ben B. Blair First Lieutenant.

The new company instituted a very ambitious program of drills, schools of instruction of various kinds, and a couple of week-end trips to the forts of the coast defense.

The first trip planned was for February 3 and 4, 1917, when 12 non-commissioned officers, 2 mechanics, 1 bugler, all three commissioned officers of the Twenty-First Company and in addition, many officers and non-commissioned officers of the First Fire Command under Major McReynolds, visited Fort Rosecrans for instruction and drill. The trip to the Fort was made by auto on Saturday afternoon and the return trip was made Sunday evening.

The second week-end trip was made to Fort McArthur, June seventeenth, at 9:00 A. M. The Troops returned 6:00 P. M. the same day. Three officers and sixty-two men made the trip. Study was made of the nomenclature of the guns and carriages at emplacements, under direction of Captain Baum.

On May thirtieth the Twenty-First Company conducted the usual Memorial Day parade and on July fourth, the twentieth, Twenty-First, Twenty-Second, and Twenty-Fourth Companies paraded as a Battalion at Pasadena.

One month later, on the seventeenth of August, 1917, the Twenty-First Company was mustered into Federal Service and redesignated Ninth Company, Second Coast Defense Command, Los Angeles.

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\*Twenty-First, Coast Artillery Corps, mustered in September 30, 1916. Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 115.

\*\*Twenty-First Company, Coast Artillery Corps, mustered into Federal Service August 17, 1917, Muster Roll, Twenty First Company, C.A. C. August, 1917. Adjutant General Files.