

History of Company A, Engineers, National Guard of California 1916-1917

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COMPANY A. ENGINEERS

Company A, Engineers, California National Guard

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: Sacramento, Sacramento County

Organized: July 21, 1916

Mustered into Federal Service July 27, 1916*

Mustered out of Federal Service March 6, 1917**

Mustered into Federal Service July 9, 1917***

Demobilized May 17, 1919****

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Jay A. Given, Captain (Promoted to Major)	Mar. 24, 1916*****	July 21, 1916
A. M. Barton, First Lieut. (Promoted to Captain)	July 21, 1916	July 21, 1916
A. M. Barton, Captain	July 26, 1917	July 27, 1917
W. A. Mason, First Lieut.	July 30, 1917	July 31, 1917

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*Company A, Mustered into Federal Service for duty on the Mexican Border, July 27, 1916. Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 15

**Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 15.

***Company A, Mustered into Federal Service for duty during the World War, July 9, 1917. Papers on file Adjutant General Office

****Company A, demobilized, May 17, 1919. Adjutant General Report, 1914-1920, page 28.

*****Captain Given retained his rank of March 24, 1916, when he was Captain, Quartermaster Corps.

Activities:

Under the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, the State of California was authorized to organize and maintain one Battalion of Engineers. To meet this requirement, a Company known and designated as Company A, Corps of Engineers, was organized in Sacramento, placed under command of Captain J. A. Given, and mustered into State service, July 21, 1916.

On July 27, 1916, six days after the Company was organized a telegram was received from Major General A. L. Mills, Chief of the Militia Bureau, accepting the Company for Federal service on the Mexican Border and including it in the call of the President, dated June 18, 1916.

Company A, assembled at the State Mobilization Camp, State Fair Grounds, Sacramento, and went into rigid training. Each man in the Company was instructed and exercised in the rudiments of hasty bridge construction and topographic sketching, as well as field geometry, range finding and the elements of railroad track construction.

On September 3, 1916, at about 9: P. M., a fire broke out in the Administration Building of the California State Fair. Company A, was immediately assembled under arms and patrolled the fire district and the gates to the Fair Grounds until 7: A. M., September 4th.

On September 7th, Company A, constructed an exhibition single deck bridge, and participated in maneuvers on the Fair Grounds with the Fifth Infantry and a detachment from the Naval Training Station at Yerba Buena Island.

On September 20th, the Company marched for practice to the American River, making road sketch maps and inspecting a highway bridge.

On September 30th, they began to break camp preparatory to moving to the Mexican Border.

On October 1, 1916, Company A, concluded breaking camp and entrained for Nogales, Arizona, where they arrived at 8:15 A. M., October 3rd.

Company A, did not participate in any actual engagements, doing only guard and patrol duty until the unit returned to Sacramento, where the Company was mustered out of Federal service, March 6, 1917.

On June 20, 1917, Company A, was again called in United States service for duty during the World War. The Company was officially mustered into the Federal service at Sacramento, July 9, 1917.

For further information concerning the activities of Company A, refer to the History of Company B, 117th Engineer Regiment, 42nd Division, American Expeditionary Forces.