

# **History of the 4<sup>th</sup> Separate Company (Los Angeles), Infantry, California National Guard 1920-1921**

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FOURTH SEPARATE COMPANY

(LOS ANGELES)

Fourth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard

Reference: Adjutant General Files

Location: Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

Mustered in November 30, 1920\*

Redesignated August 23, 1921\*\*

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Walter P. Story, Capt. (promoted to Major Jan. 12, 1921)	Nov. 30, 1920	Dec. 4, 1920
Erdwin H. Polemann, First Lieut.	Nov. 27, 1920	Dec. 4, 1920
Erdwin H. Polemann, Capt.	May 11, 1921	May 20, 1921
Finley B. Smith, First Lieut.	May 11, 1921	May 20, 1921

Activities:

The Fourth Separate Company was organized and mustered into the service of the State on November 30, 1920. Walter P. Story was appointed Captain and Erdwin H. Polemann, First Lieutenant. The new company was composed almost entirely of employes of the Barker Brother's Store, Los Angeles.\*\*\* About six weeks after the Fourth Separate Company was organized, Captain Walter P. Story was promoted to Major. The Captain's advancement took place on January 12, 1921, and the first part of February, the funds and command of the Fourth Separate Company was turned over to First Lieutenant Erdwin H. Polemann. The Lieutenant was promoted to Captain of the unit on May 11, 1921.

The Fourth Separate Company took part in the Memorial Day exercises in Los Angeles on May 30, 1921.

From July 9 to 25, 1921, the Fourth Separate Company attended the annual encampment at Yosemite National Park. The camp was under command of Colonel Harold D. Coburn, United States Army, who was assisted by instructors from the Regular Army. The instructions and maneuvers proved to be very helpful to the Fourth Separate Company.

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\*Fourth Separate Company, Los Angeles, Mustered into National Guard, November 30, 1920.

Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 26.

\*\*Fourth Separate Company, redesignated Company H, 160th Infantry, California National Guard, August 23, 1921.

Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 26.

\*\*\*Los Angeles Times December 1, 1920, page 12, column 5.

FOURTH SEPARATE COMPANY (Continued)

(LOS ANGELES)

Fifth Separate Company, Infantry, California National Guard  
Adjutant General's Files  
Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

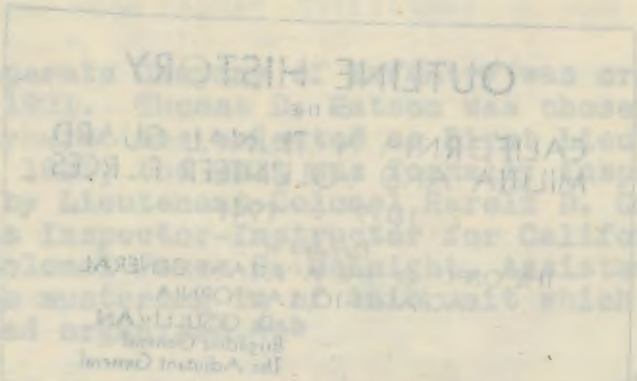
Activities: (continued)

When the 159th Infantry Regiment was organized, the Third Battalion to which the Fourth Separate Company was attached, was selected as one of the three battalions to complete the Regiment. On August 23, 1921, the Fourth Separate Company was redesignated Company H, 159th Infantry Regiment.

James D. Watson, Captain	January 27, 1921	February 8, 1921
Joseph G. Hayward, First Lieut.	January 27, 1921	February 8, 1921

Activities:

The Fifth Separate Company was organized at Glendale, California, February 8, 1921. James D. Watson was chosen as Captain and Joseph G. Hayward as First Lieutenant. On February 18, 1921, the company was inspected for Federal recognition by Lieutenant Colonel Harold H. Osburn, United States Army, who was Inspector-Inspector for California. Lieutenant Colonel Osburn was Assistant Adjutant General, Adjutant General's Office, Los Angeles. The company was the only company in the Los Angeles County National Guard.



The history of this Company, prior to its redesignation, is somewhat limited as there are no company papers on file in the Adjutant General's Office. The change was made on August 23, 1921, when the Fifth Separate Company was redesignated Company H, 159th Infantry.

\*Fifth Separate Company, Infantry, mustered in as a unit of the California National Guard, February 8, 1921.  
General and Special Orders 1921, General Order No. 1, par. 2, page 2.

\*\*Fifth Separate Company, Infantry, redesignated Company H, 159th Infantry, August 23, 1921.  
General and Special Orders 1921, General Order No. 15, page 28.

\*\*\*The Los Angeles Herald, February 18, 1921, page 12, column 2.

\*\*\*\*General and Special Orders 1921, General Order No. 15, page 28.