

1933 Long Beach Earthquake: Batteries E and F, 251st Coast Artillery Regiment California National Guard

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STATIONS AND LOCATIONS OF BATTERIES E AND F, 251ST COAST ARTILLERY (A.A.)

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

DURING THE LONGBEACH EARTHQUAKE, MARCH 1933

Brigadier-General, Walter P. Story, commanding March 11 to March 13

Brigadier-General, Seth E. Howard, Adjutant General, commanding March 13 to March 23

Ronald M. Harris, Major, 251st Coast Artillery, commanding Brigade

Battery	Called for active duty	Stations and Locations	Commanding Officers	Relieved from active duty
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E

March 10,
1933

This battery was on duty at San Pedro immediately after the Earthquake, March 10, 1933 until relieved by United States Navy personnel about 7:00 P.M. March 11. The duties performed by Battery E at San Pedro consisted of guard and patrol duty in the afflicted area. The battery moved from San Pedro about 8:15 P.M. March 11 and arrived at the Armory in Long Beach at 9:00 P.M. Orders received to furnish all possible aid to Battery F in first aid and relief work. At 9:00 A.M. Battery E was assigned to guard duty and special details in Long Beach. They established quarters in tents in a church yard in the rear of the armory. At 11:00 A.M. March 16, the Battery was assigned to permanent

Carl R. Bauer
Captain

March 23,
1933

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Stations and Locations
(Continued)

guard duty, guarding supplies at food administration headquarters. At 12:00 P.M. March 18, battery quarters were moved from Catholic church yard to front lawn of Armory. About 6:15 P.M. March 20, Captain Bauer and twenty-three men of the Battalion were returned to civilian status. Remainder of Battery (36 men), assigned to guard duty and to assist Battery F in handling food supplies at warehouse in Long Beach. These duties were continued until 7:00 P.M. March 23, when Battery E was ordered to return to their home station at San Pedro for dismissal.

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Battery	Called for active duty	Stations and Locations	Commanding Officers	Relieved from active duty
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F	March 10, 1933	Battery F remained at their home station, Long Beach, throughout the emergency. Immediately after the disaster, Battery F undertook first aid relief work. Armory at Long Beach fitted up for use as a receiving hospital. Armory was also used for the time being as a center for food collecting and distributing throughout the city of Long Beach and surrounding territory. The personnel of Battery F was used principally in the collection and distribution of food although details were used as guards at fires and at public buildings. During the first few days some of the men were assigned to emergency kitchens. All motor equipment of Batteries E and F was used in the distribution of food and relief supplies. On March 20, commanders were directed to carefully check the personnel of their	George W. Gertly Captain	March 23, 1933
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Stations and Locations
(Continued)

commands and to relieve all men whose civilian occupations might be jeopardized. As a result eleven enlisted men of Battery F returned to civilian status. Battery continued in the performance of relief work and distribution of supplies until 8:50 P.M. March 23, when the work was turned over to the Red Cross Society. Relief supplies were removed from Armory and warehouse. This work was concluded by midnight March 23, and the troops were relieved from further duty.

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