

History of the State Guard, California Militia/National Guard of California 1863-1869

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Reference: Dead Office File, Row 5, File 2
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STATE GUARD

State Guard, Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 5, File 2

Location: San Francisco, San Francisco County

Mustered in November 24, 1863

Mustered out April 16, 1869

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John G. Dawes, Captain	Nov. 24, 1863	Dec. 3, 1863
C. C. Batterman, First Lieut. (Resigned June 29, 1864)	Nov. 24, 1863	Dec. 3, 1863
John H. Carmany, First Lieut.	June 29, 1864	July 18, 1864
John G. Dawes, Captain (Re-elected Dec. 2, 1864)		
John H. Carmany, First Lieut. (Re-elected Dec. 2, 1864)		
John G. Dawes, Captain (Re-elected Dec. 6, 1865)		
John H. Carmany, First Lieut. (Re-elected Dec. 6, 1865)		
Josiah Hand, First Lieut.	May 9, 1866	Nov. 7, 1866
John G. Dawes, Captain (Re-elected Dec. 5, 1866)		
Josiah Hand, First Lieut. (Re-elected Dec. 5, 1866)		
Josiah Hand, Captain (Resigned Feb. 3, 1869)	Jan. 30, 1868	April 1, 1868
Albert R. Church, First Lieut. (Resigned Dec. 17, 1868)	Mar. 4, 1868	April 1, 1868

Activities:

The State Guard, Company A, of San Francisco was organized and mustered into the service of the State as a unit of the First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, California Militia, on the twenty-fourth of November, 1863. On the date it was mustered in the company numbered sixty-three rank and file and was regarded as a company of much promise. Arms and uniforms were provided by the State in February 1864, but the uniforms when received were not acceptable to the company and about three months more expired before suitable uniforms were procured.

Drill and target practice and a public parade when opportunity afforded, were the only activities of the organization during the years 1864 and 1865. In 1866 the State Guard, then number-

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Reference: Desq Office Brg, Box 2, BITE 5
State Guard, Company V, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade

STATE GUARD (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

ing eighty-three rank and file, reorganized in conformity with the new Military Laws and regulations enacted at the previous session of the State Legislature, and under the same command as before was mustered in on the twenty-first of April, 1866 as Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, National Guard of California. During the years 1867 and 1868 no activities of importance are recorded except those of a routine nature. The muster rolls show a steady decline in enrollment during these years and by the end of 1868 shows a membership of only about sixty rank and file.

On January 30, 1868, Captain Dawes who had been in command of the company from the time of its organization, resigned his commission and Josiah Hand who had served as First Lieutenant since 1866 was elected Captain. For some reason, which the records on file fail to explain, the organization continued to lose members and those who remained evinced no interest in the welfare of the company. On the twenty-eighth of January, 1869 Captain Hand wrote to Colonel T. B. Ludlum commanding the First Infantry Regiment requesting the latter to have Company A, State Guard mustered out of the services of the State for the reason that he (Captain Hand) had been obliged to issue forty honorable and nine dishonorable discharges "for good and sufficient reasons", leaving the company's membership with less than required by law.*

This request was approved by the Commander-in-Chief, March 3, 1869, and on March eighth of that year Special Order No. 7 was issued, ordering the members of the company to assemble at their armory on the thirteenth of March for the purpose of being mustered out of the State service.** The company apparently failed to do this and on the sixteenth of March, 1869 Special Order No. 9 was issued, stating that the State Guard had vacated their armory in San Francisco in violation of the Military Law and were thereby declared mustered out of the State service.*** It is lamentable that the files do not furnish further details concerning the dissolution of this company which at one time gave promise of a brilliant future.

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*Letter from Captain Josiah Hand to Colonel T. B. Ludlum, Commanding the First Infantry Regiment, dated January 28, 1869, on file Adjutant General's Office.

**Adjutant General Report 1867-1869, page 160.

***Adjutant General Report 1867-1869, page 161.