

PART THREE

CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY UNITS
OF THE
COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD

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DISTINCTIVE INSIGNIA, 117TH CAVALRY

CHAPTER I

HISTORY OF THE 117th SEPARATE SQUADRON CAVALRY

The reorganization of the cavalry arm of the territorial volunteer militia following the Civil War was instituted early in 1873, when, to quote from the report of Adjutant General W. R. Thomas, dated at Denver, December 31, 1873: "Two companies of militia have been organized, equipped as cavalry, and mustered into the territorial service during the past year. Company A,—"Denver Scouts"—was mustered at Denver on the 26th of February 1873. The company numbers 52 men, and they have 31 Spencer carbines, and 36 sabers, with all the belts, cartridge boxes and accoutrements for 36 officers and privates including bugler and surgeon. The officers of the company are: Captain D. J. Cook; First Lieutenant W. F. Smith; Second Lieutenant R. J. Force. An armory has been rented for their use, and properly fitted up for the preservation of their arms and equipment, the expense of the same being paid out of the territorial military fund. Company B—"Pike's Peak Rangers"—was mustered at Colorado Springs on the 29th day of November, 1873. The company numbers 45 officers and men; * * *. The company is officered as follows: Matt France, Captain; Irving Howbert, First Lieutenant; and James T. Wilson, Second Lieutenant. A room for the guns and equipments of the company is furnished free of charge at present, by the town organization of Colorado Springs."

These two organizations were made up for the greater part of veterans of Colorado regiments that had fought in the Civil War and the Indian campaigns of 1863-1865. Another cavalry unit, "The Sterling Scouts," was mustered in early in 1874, but its existence was brief, and it, together with the "Denver Scouts," was disbanded in 1876. On June 21, 1880, two cavalry companies were mustered in at Leadville, and General Orders No. 7, General Headquarters National Guard of Colorado, Adjutant General's Office, Denver, Colorado, November 8th, 1880, created the First Battalion Cavalry as follows:

Company A—(old Company B)—Colorado Springs.

Company B—(Pitkin Light Cavalry)—Leadville.

Company C—(Tabor Light Cavalry)—Leadville.¹

¹ This unit was completely uniformed and equipped by Lieutenant Governor H. A. W. Tabor.

Pending the organization of a fourth troop to complete the battalion Captain Thomas H. Burnham, Commanding Company "A", by virtue of seniority was to command the battalion.

On July 14, 1881, the First Battalion of Cavalry, Colorado National Guard, was fully organized as follows:

John H. Bedson, Major, Commanding, Denver, Colorado.
E. H. Watson, 1st Lieut., Adjutant, Denver, Colorado.
J. J. Vickroy, 1st Lieut., Quartermaster, Denver, Colorado.
John Elsner, 1st Assistant Surgeon, Denver, Colorado.
D. H. Moore, Chaplain, Denver, Colorado.
Company A, Colorado Springs (Pike's Peak Rangers). Capt. W. R. Roby.
Company B, Leadville (Pitkin Light Cavalry). Capt. D. G. Phimister.
Company C, Leadville (Tabor Light Cavalry). Capt. W. K. Burchinell.
Company D, Denver (Loveland Guard). Capt. E. B. Sleeth.

The above organization was maintained for a period of about four years, and in the report of Adjutant General F. A. Taylor, dated November 30, 1886, we find that the battalion had dwindled to two separate troops.

Troop A at Colorado Springs had become the 1st Separate Troop, and Troop B at Leadville the 2nd Separate Troop.

By June 1887, there were four separate troops of Cavalry in the state forces, and under the provisions of Special Order No. 52, A. G. O., Colorado, dated June 9, 1887, the four separate troops were consolidated into the First Battalion of Cavalry as follows:

Troop A, Colorado Springs—Captain William Saxton.
Troop B, Leadville—Captain W. G. Rowe.
Troop C, Denver—Captain C. O. Hatch.
Troop D, Monte Vista—Captain J. M. Cullumber.

Major Gavin Leslie of Leadville commanded the battalion and his staff was as follows: 1st Lieut. G. P. Brown, Adjutant; 1st Lieut. I. R. French, Quartermaster; and 1st Lieut. B. S. Galloway, First Asst. Surgeon.

In the summer of 1887, Colorow and his band of Utes left the reservation in Utah and commenced a series of depredations in Garfield County, Colorado. They terrorized the settlers and resisted the sheriff in the performance of his duty, and the situation becoming serious Governor Adams ordered out the following troops of the National Guard of Colorado to quell the outbreak:²

1st Battalion of Cavalry (Less Troop D)
Aspen Infantry Company (Later Co. C, 1st Infantry)
Company H, 2nd Infantry

The troops reached the scene of the outbreak on August 22, 1887, and remained in the field until September 10th, 1887. During this period they made several hard marches and scouting expeditions, and fought an engagement with the Indians at Rangely, Colo., in which one officer and one enlisted man were mortally wounded, and two other enlisted men less seriously wounded. The

² For a detailed account of this campaign see Chapter 5 of the history of the 157th Infantry in Part Two of this volume.

squadron acquitted itself with honor and credit during the campaign and Brigadier General Reardon, commander of the state forces in the field, in his report to the Governor refers to the conduct of the troops as follows: "With few exceptions the ready obedience and intelligent execution of orders by both officers and men was marked. * * * The men deserve praise for courage and uncomplaining endurance of hardship". Adjutant General Geo. West in his report on the campaign said in part: "I desire to commend, in the highest terms of praise, the officers and men * * * for the promptness and energy displayed".³

The squadron having become reduced to two troops, A of Colorado Springs and D of Monte Vista, Special Orders No. 72, A. G. O., Colorado, dated June 26, 1889, disbanded the squadron headquarters, and the organization was continued as separate troops under their old letter designations.

On June 4, 1894, the riots at Cripple Creek, Colorado, compelled the Governor to call practically the entire National Guard of the state into field service. Troops A and D were among the troops called, and served throughout the period the National Guard was in the field.

On October 10, 1895, Troop D of Monte Vista was transferred to the infantry arm of the state service and became Company D, 2nd Infantry, Colo. N. G. However, a new troop, B, of Denver, (The Denver City Troop),⁴ was mustered in on November 16, 1895, and through this troop the continuity of the history of the cavalry arm in the state service was eventually preserved. The new troop was composed of a very high type of personnel, many prominent business and professional men of Denver being among its members, and it soon attained a high state of efficiency. It saw its first period of active service in the Leadville strike of 1896-1897, and was in the field from September 21, 1896, to March 10, 1897. Meantime Troop A of Colorado Springs became ineffective through various causes, and on July 30, 1896, it was mustered out of the state service.

On December 31, 1896, the troop at Leadville was reorganized and lettered A. It was at once called into active service, and served during the remainder of the strike. On April 13, 1897, the State Legislature passed an act reorganizing the National Guard of Colorado, and among the provisions of the act was one reinstituting the First Squadron of Cavalry. The Act became effective July 12, 1897, and the squadron headquarters was at once reorganized. Troop C of Denver was mustered in on December 23, 1897, and at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War the organization of the squadron was as follows:

Major John Chase, Denver, Commanding.

Troop A, Leadville—Captain Charles H. MacNutt.

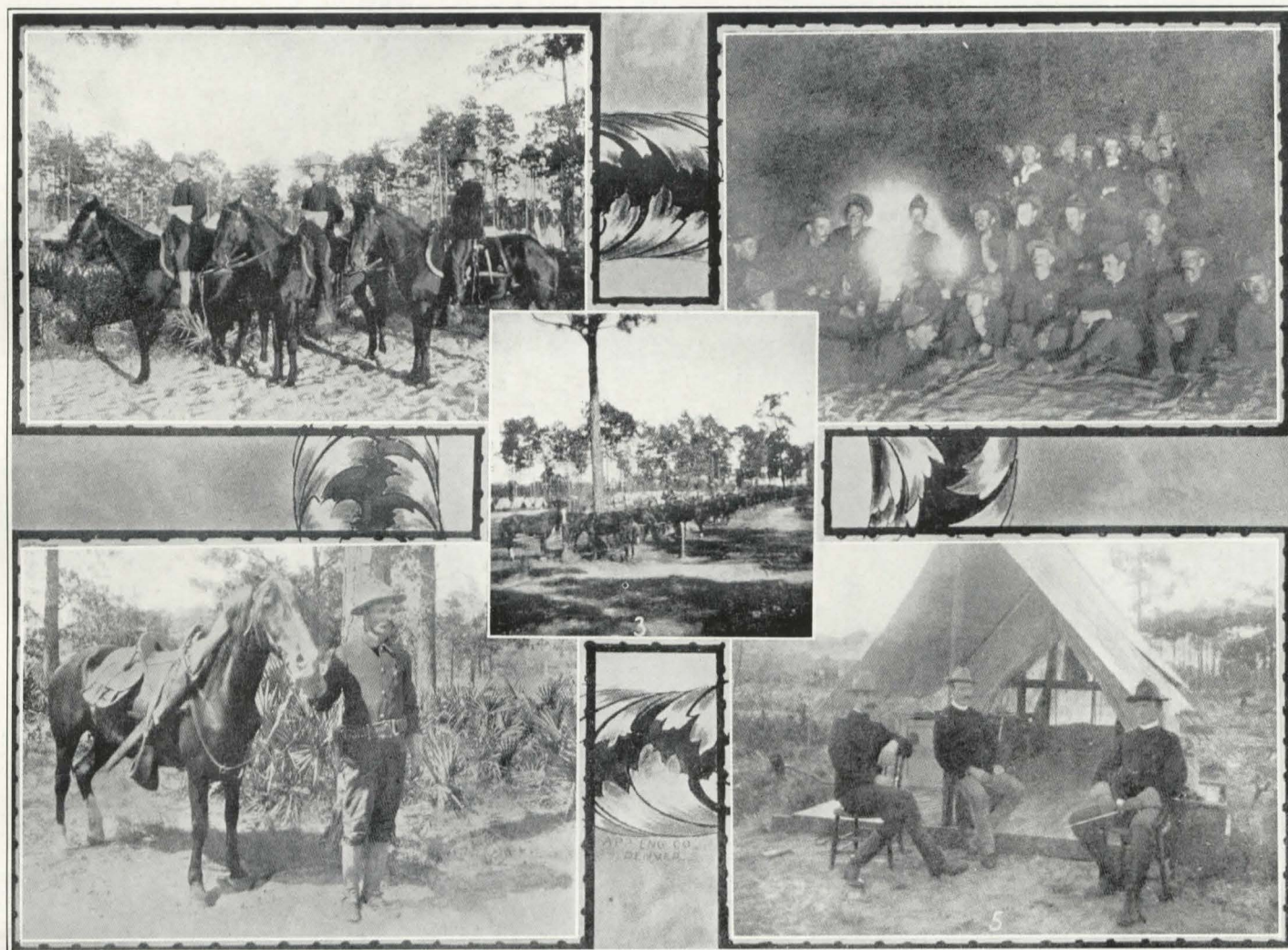
Troop B, Denver—Captain William G. Wheeler.

Troop C, Denver—Captain H. D. Smith.

On April 25, 1898, war was formally declared against Spain by the United States, and in the President's call for volunteers Colorado's quota was at first fixed at one regiment of infantry and one battery of light artillery. This was changed a few days later so as to substitute two troops of cavalry for the battery of artillery, and on April 29th, 1898, the squadron composed of Squad-

³ The phrase "Promptness and Energy" afterwards became the motto of the squadron.

⁴ This troop was originally designated "The Denver Light Cavalry (Signal Corps)". Designation changed to "Denver City Troop" under provisions of S. O. No. 49, A. G. O. Denver, Colo., July 13, 1897. (See Part Six, History of Signal Corps. C. N. G.)

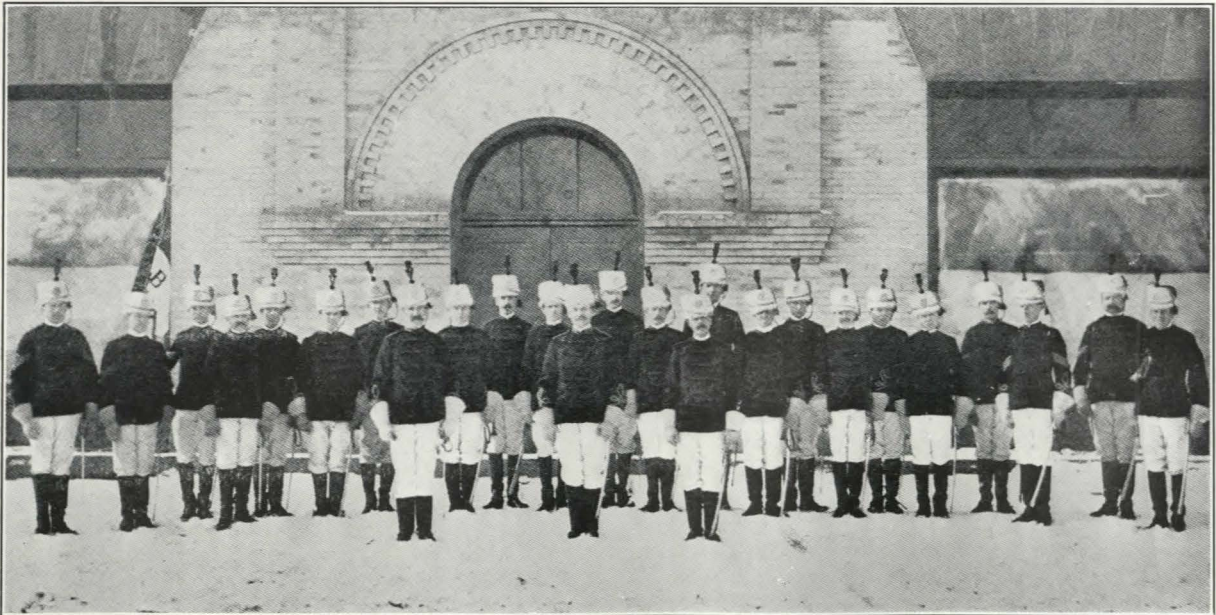


TROOP B, (DENVER CITY TROOP), 2d U. S. VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (TORREY'S ROUGH RIDERS) IN CAMP AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

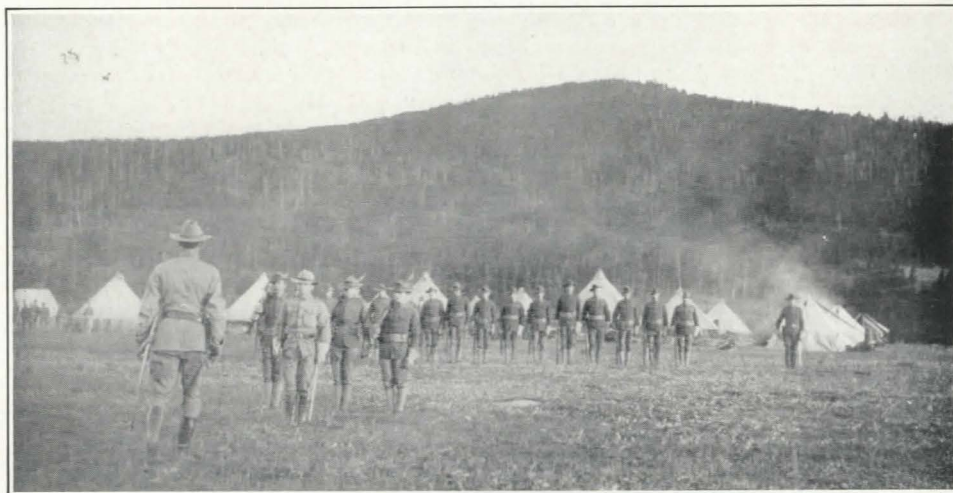
1. Troop officers—Capt. Davies, 1st Lieut. Perry, 2nd Lieut. Mead. 2. Night Scene. 3. The Picket Line. 4. Trooper. 5. Captain's Quarters.

ron Headquarters and Troops A, B, and C went into camp with the other Colorado troops at Camp Alva Adams, Denver, Colorado. The call being for two troops only, Troops A and B, with all who cared to volunteer from Troop C were mustered in to the United States service on May 1, 1898, as Troops A and B of the 2nd United States Volunteer Cavalry. The officers of the two troops on muster in were as follows: Troop A—Captain Charles H. MacNutt, 1st Lieutenant John Harvey, and 2nd Lieutenant F. A. Follett; Troop B—Captain Wm. G. Wheeler, 1st Lieutenant A. L. B. Davies, and 2nd Lieutenant F. A. Perry. Later, Captain Wheeler was promoted Major; 1st Lieutenant Davies, Captain; 2nd Lieutenant F. A. Perry, 1st Lieutenant, and Sergeant Cyrus E. Mead, 2nd Lieutenant. On May 31, 1898, the two troops were ordered to join their regiment at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo. (now Ft. Francis E. Warren), and arrived there the same day. The regiment as finally organized consisted of the two troops from Colorado, seven troops from Wyoming, and one troop each from Nevada, Utah, and Idaho. Many men from the northern counties of Colorado served in several of the Wyoming troops. The strength of the regiment on muster in was 1,028 officers and men. The regimental commander was Colonel Jay L. Torrey, and following the example set by the First Volunteer Cavalry, "Roosevelt's Rough Riders", the new regiment was generally known as "Torrey's Rough Riders".

The 2nd United States Volunteer Cavalry left Fort D. A. Russell on the afternoon of June 23, 1898, and arrived at Jacksonville, Florida, on the morning of June 30th. En route two sections of the train carrying the regiment collided at Tupelo, Mississippi, and six men were killed and many injured. Among the latter was Colonel Torrey whose feet were crushed. The regiment remained in Florida until mustered out on October 24, 1898, and although it did not see active service at the front nevertheless it was considered a very efficient organization and unquestionably would have given a good account of itself had it been given the opportunity.



TROOP B (DENVER CITY TROOP) 1ST SQUADRON CAVALRY, C. N. G., IN FULL DRESS UNIFORM, DENVER, 1902.



GUARD MOUNT IN THE ROCKIES
Troop B, Denver City Troop, Capt. D. W. Strickland, Commanding, 1908.

Immediately after Troops A and B had been mustered in to the Federal service those who remained of Troop B commenced the work of reorganizing in order to preserve the continuity and traditions of the unit.⁵ Troop C, not having been accepted for Federal service as a troop (several former members as individuals had volunteered for Federal service in Troops A and B, and had been accepted) was continued in the state service, thus, with the reorganized Troop B, preserving the continuity of the organization's history and carrying on the traditions and spirit of the pre-war and war-time units of the squadron.

Troop A was reorganized at Grand Junction, and was mustered in to the State service on May 17, 1899. Squadron headquarters was maintained at Denver, and the organization of the squadron remained essentially as above until October 13, 1902, when Troop D was mustered in to the service at Meeker, Colorado. This completed the organization of the squadron, and during the period January, 1903, to June, 1916, some few changes in the locations of the various troops took place. Troops B and C of Denver were retained without change during the entire period. Troops A and D were not so fortunate, and changed their locations as the necessities of the service demanded. Becoming ineffective through reduced strength they would be mustered out in one town and reorganized in another, and this process was repeated whenever the occasion demanded. The squadron saw much active service on strike duty during the period, and practically all troops were present at the Cripple Creek Strike of 1903-1904, the Telluride strike of 1904, and the Colorado Mine Insurrection of 1913-1914. Duty in these civil disturbances was arduous and exacting, and allowed but small opportunity for the acquisition of glory and renown such as a campaign against a foreign enemy would afford. Much of the work consisted of patrol duty in the deep snows of the mountain towns during winter, and to quote Brigadier General Chase, "I feel that I would be derelict in my obligations towards the officers and men of my command if I did not emphasize again the splendid conduct of the National Guard as a whole. These men are volunteer soldiers who receive a mere pittance for their services as compared

⁵ Minutes of the meetings of the Denver City Troop, 1898.

with their ordinary earning capacity in daily life. They have promptly and cheerfully responded to the state's call in the hour of danger, and their service has been attended in almost every instance with great personal sacrifice, and oftentimes downright suffering. The danger of destruction by assassination or otherwise has not been wanting. The errand was a patriotic one, and occasioned by a quarrel wholly impersonal and void of interest to any one of them. The men of the Guard have discharged their services well, faithfully and patiently. * * *

Affairs on the Mexican Border having reached an acute stage the President, on June 18, 1916, by proclamation called the entire National Guard of the United States into the Federal service, and Colorado's quota was specified as follows:

- 2 Battalions of Infantry.
- 1 Squadron of Cavalry.
- 2 Batteries of Field Artillery.
- 2 Companies of Engineers.
- 1 Field Hospital.
- 1 Signal Corps (Company).

The 1st Squadron Cavalry, National Guard of Colorado, at this time, consisted of the following:

Squadron Headquarters—Denver, Colorado—Major H. D. Smith, Commanding.

- Troop A—Denver, Colorado—Captain J. G. Dickinson.
- Troop B—Denver, Colorado—Captain G. S. Lawrence.
- Troop C—Denver, Colorado—Captain John Finch.
- Troop D—Boulder, Colorado—Captain H. C. Washburn.

The squadron mobilized at the Rifle Range, Golden, Colo., late in June, and was mustered into the Federal service during July, 1916. Troop D, being composed of more than 75% college students from the University of Colorado at Boulder, Colo., was, under War Department orders, mustered out of the Federal service on Sept. 28, 1916.

On October 13, 1916, the squadron left Denver by rail for Brownsville, Texas, where it was consolidated with one troop of New Hampshire cavalry, one squadron of the 11th U. S. Cavalry, and one squadron of Virginia cavalry to form the 1st Provisional Regiment of Cavalry. Border patrol duty was performed by the squadron until March 1917, when it was ordered to Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming, for muster out. Muster out was completed by the end of the same month, and the Squadron returned to Colorado and to its status of State service.

On April 6, 1917, War was declared against Germany by the United States. Anticipating the call for troops from Colorado, the State military department immediately began the task of raising additional organizations. The cavalry squadron was enlarged to a regiment, and the necessary additional troops were rapidly raised throughout the State, and mustered in to the service as follows:

- Troop E, Denver, Colorado—Captain Wm. H. Leonard—May 4, 1917.
- Troop F, Walsenburg, Colorado—Captain Ralph Levy—May 9, 1917.
- Troop G, Steamboat Springs, Colorado—Captain Willis G. Chase—May 17, 1917.

Troop H, Telluride, Colorado—Captain Wm. L. Hogg—May 11, 1917.
Troop I, Denver, Colorado—Captain Wm. E. Guthner—May 9, 1917.
Troop K, Denver, Colorado—Captain J. W. LeFever—May 12, 1917.
Troop L, Longmont, Colorado—Captain C. J. Bakeman—May 12, 1917.
Troop M, Rifle, Colorado—Captain John G. Cook—May 23, 1917.

Headquarters and Supply Troops were organized from the existing Headquarters and Supply Detachments of the First Squadron, and the Machine Gun Troop was mustered in at Westcliffe, Colo., on June 4, 1917, with Louis D. Miller as captain.

The organization of the 1st Colorado Cavalry was completed early in July, and on the 7th of the same month General Orders No. 57, A. G. O., Colorado, directed that all troops assemble at the home rendezvous equipped for field service. On July 10th orders were issued for the assembling of the 1st Cavalry at the mobilization camp at Overland Park, Denver, Colorado, where, during the month of August, 1917, the regiment was mustered in to the Federal service with 57 officers and 1183 enlisted men present for duty.

The field and staff officers of the regiment were as follows: Colonel H. D. Smith, commanding regiment; Lieutenant Colonel K. C. Linderfelt; Captain A. M. Chase, Adjutant; First Lieutenant Carl Wild, Chaplain; Majors G. S. Lawrence, James Force and H. C. Washburn.

Leaving Camp Baldwin (Overland Park), Denver, on September 29, 1917, the 1st Colorado Cavalry, reached Camp Kearny, California, on October 1, where it was later consolidated with the 157th (1st Colorado) Infantry, and became a part of the 40th Division.⁶

The first units of the 40th Division embarked for overseas duty on August 7, 1918, and the last units arrived in France on August 28, 1918. The 157th Infantry, as a part of the 40th Division, served in France until March 28, 1919, when it left Bordeaux for home. During its service in France the regiment was (in common with the other units of the 40th Division) a replacement unit, and although it did not serve as a combat unit, nevertheless the greater part of its original personnel saw actual service at the front as members of other units.

The 157th Infantry arrived in New York on April 11, 1919 and was mustered out of the Federal service at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming, on April 29, 1919.⁷

Following the war the inevitable reaction against matters military took place, and it was not until October 1920, that the reorganization of the cavalry arm of the State military service was commenced. On October 18, 1920, General Orders No. 32, Office of the Adjutant General of Colorado, quoted the authority of the War Department for the reorganization of the 1st squadron of Cavalry, and General Orders No. 33 from the same office, dated October 27, 1920, shows the organization of the squadron to have been as follows:

Troop A, Monte Vista—Organized July 7, 1920—Captain Geo. M. Corlett.

(Note: A cavalry troop designated Troop A, Colo. N. G., was mustered in at Steamboat Springs on November 4, 1918, received federal recognition as of the same date, and was eventually disbanded on July 6, 1920).

⁶ Troop E was not included in the consolidation with the 157th Infantry, but became Company E of the 115th Engineers, 40th Division. The band of the 1st Cavalry was transferred to Camp Lewis, Washington.

⁷ For details see Part Two, History of the 157th Infantry.

Troop B, Denver—Organized October 22, 1920—Captain R. H. Jancke.

Troop C, Pueblo—Organized October 19, 1920—Captain J. L. Fitz-Gibbon.

Squadron Headquarters was duly organized and recognized by the Federal government on June 14, 1921, Major C. F. Cusack, commanding, and the designation of the squadron changed to the 1st Separate Squadron Cavalry, National Guard of Colorado. This designation was again changed on November 1, 1921, to the 2nd Squadron 111th Cavalry, and the respective troops redesignated as below:

Troop D, 111th Cavalry (changed from Troop A), Monte Vista, Colorado.

Troop E, 111th Cavalry (changed from Troop B), Denver, Colorado.

Troop F, 111th Cavalry (changed from Troop C), Pueblo, Colorado.

These designations were retained until February 1, 1922, when again changed to designations as follows:

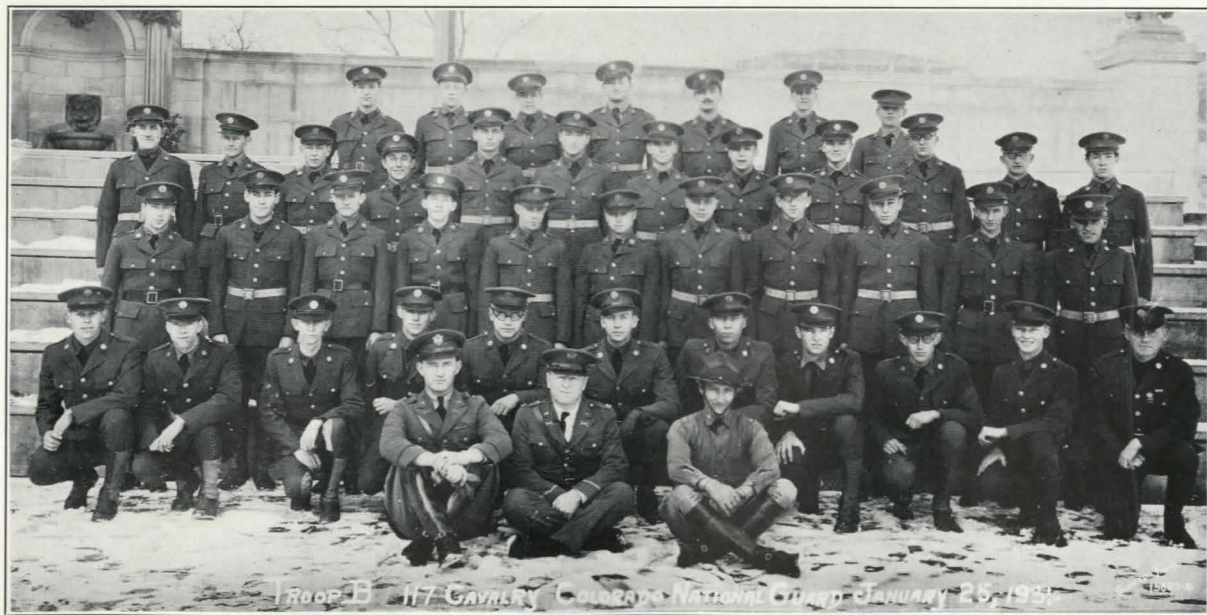
Headquarters 1st Squadron, 117th Cavalry, Denver, Colorado.

Troop A, 117th Cavalry, Monte Vista, Colorado.

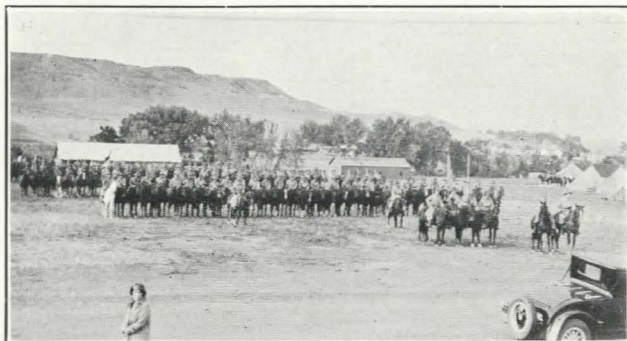
Troop B, 117th Cavalry, Denver, Colorado.

Troop C, 117th Cavalry, Pueblo, Colorado.

Troop C was disbanded at Pueblo on December 15, 1922, and reorganized at Loveland, Colorado, on April 25, 1923. Major C. F. Cusack resigned on December 1, 1922, and was succeeded in command of the squadron by Major Walter H. McComb on January 4, 1923. Major McComb resigned, in turn, on September 30, 1923, and the command of the squadron was assumed by



TROOP B (DENVER CITY TROOP) 1st SQUADRON 117TH CAVALRY, C. N. G., DENVER, 1931.



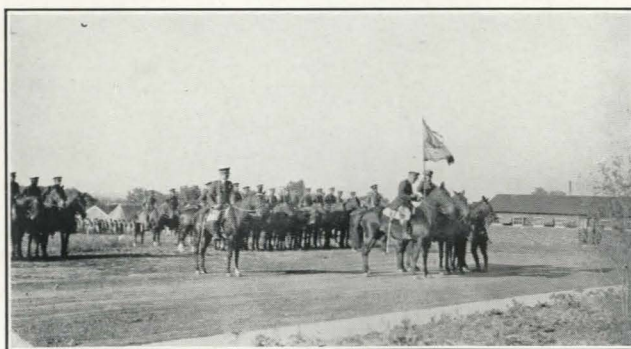
SQUADRON REVIEW

117th Separate Squadron Cavalry, C. N. G., June, 1932.

Major George M. Corlett, transferred from the 157th Infantry to the 117th Cavalry, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 12, Special Orders No. 84, Adjutant General's Office, Denver, Colo., October 1, 1923. Major Corlett was promoted Lieutenant Colonel, 45th Division Staff, on January 1, 1925, and Captain John Finch, Ordnance Department, Colo. N. G., was promoted Major of Cavalry and assigned to command of the 1st Squadron, 117th Cavalry, on the same date. Major Finch died on April 7, 1932, and Major R. W. Combs succeeded to the command of the squadron on May 24, 1932.

In the post-war reorganization of the squadron many of the war time members of the old 1st Cavalry rejoined the organization and by their presence, as in the reorganization following the Spanish War, helped to carry on the traditions of the past and preserve the continuity of the squadron's historical record. This continuity was further assured by the publication of General Orders No. 17, Adjutant General's Office, Denver, Colo., December 8, 1930, which directed that:

"b. Under the provisions of Section 3A of the National Defense Act, as amended, the 1st Cavalry, Colorado National Guard, which served during the World War as part of the 157th Infantry, and which was disbanded at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming, April 29, 1919, is hereby reconstituted and consolidated with the 117th Cavalry, Colorado National Guard."



ESCORT TO THE STANDARD

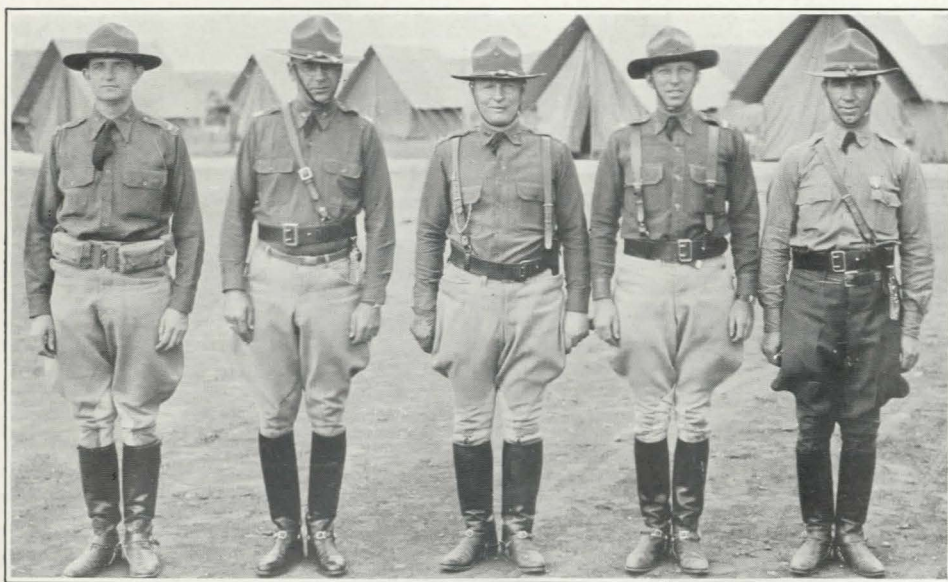
(Out West Photo Co.)

117th Separate Squadron Cavalry, C. N. G., carries out colorful ceremony on receipt of its new Standard at Camp, Rifle Range—June, 1932.

On November 21, 1927, Troops B and C, 117th Cavalry, with other units of the Colorado National Guard, were called out for duty in connection with the riots at the Columbine Mine and other points in Boulder and Weld counties. The troops were relieved by detachments as the situation cleared up, and the last detachment was relieved on April 6, 1928.

On September 12, 1931, under the provisions of General Orders No. 14, Adjutant General's Office, Denver, Colo., the designation of the squadron was changed to 117th Separate Squadron Cavalry, Colorado National Guard, its final designation as a cavalry unit, for on August 1, 1933, the following instructions were issued as part of Special Orders No. 53, Adjutant General's Office, Denver, Colorado:

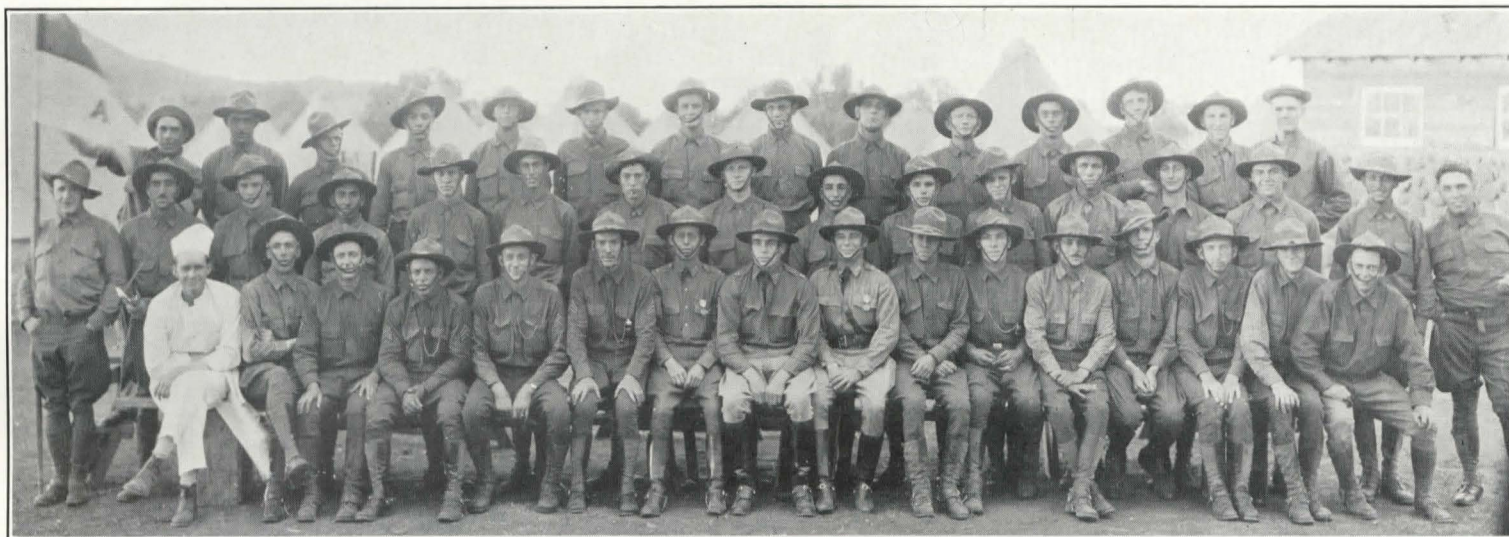
"2. Under authority contained in paragraphs 1 and 3, letter from the War Department, Office of the Chief, Militia Bureau, dated June 2, 1933, (File MB.451.2-358-Colo.-23), the conversion of the present 168th Field Artillery Battalion (Horse), to the First Battalion, 168th Field Artillery, (Truck-drawn), and the conversion of the present 117th Separate Squadron Cavalry, consisting of Troop A, which will become Battery D; Troop B, which will become Battery E; and Troop C, which will become Battery F, of the Second Battalion, 168th Field Artillery (Truck-drawn), will be made and become effective this date, August 1, 1933, and will constitute the 168th Field Artillery Regiment, (less Headquarters Battery, Service Battery, and Hdqrs. Battery and Combat Train), * * *."



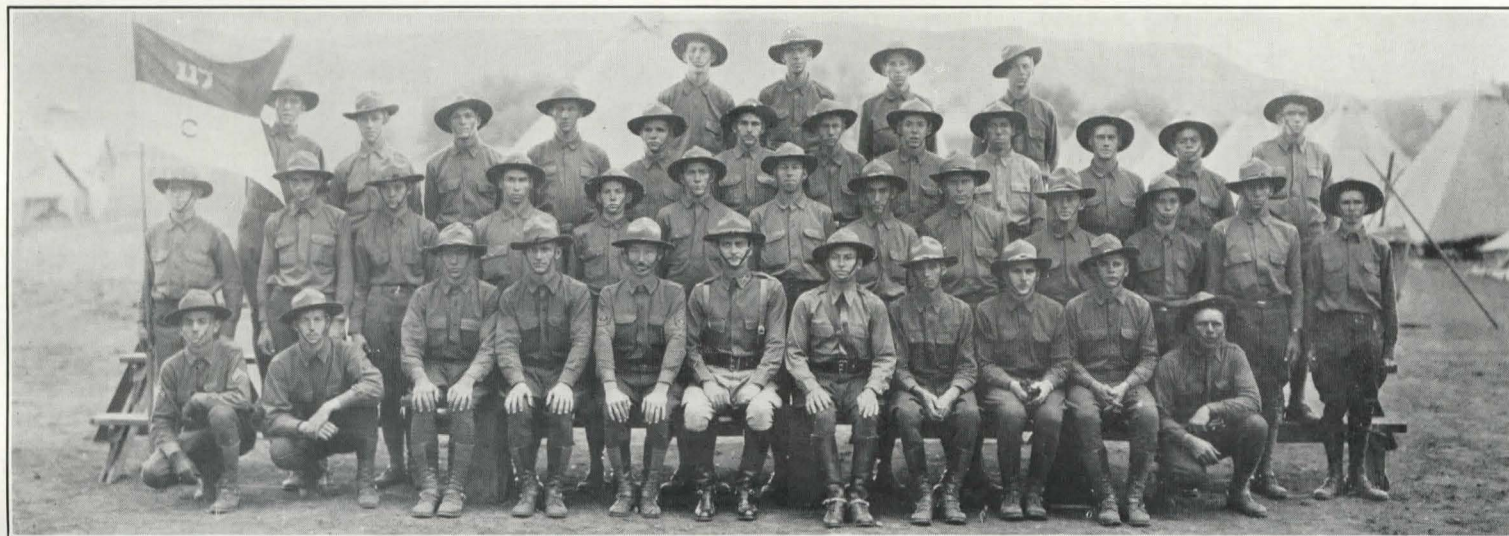
(Out West Photo Co.)

COMMANDING OFFICER AND STAFF

117th Separate Squadron Cavalry, C. N. G., Camp, Rifle Range, 1932. 1st Lieut. E. Durbin; Capt. J. H. Bouton; Major R. W. Combs; 1st Lieut. R. Charlton; 2nd Lieut. R. D. Caldwell.



TROOP A, 117TH SEPARATE SQUADRON CAVALRY, C. N. G., MONTE VISTA
Camp, Rifle Range, 1932—Capt. H. E. Kistler, Commanding.



TROOP C, 117TH SEPARATE SQUADRON CAVALRY, C. N. G., LOVELAND
Camp, Rifle Range, 1932—Capt. W. F. Hunn, Commanding.



(Photo Courtesy of Out West Photo Co.)

SGT. LOVE, TROOP A 117TH CAVALRY, RIDING "SANDY"
Rifle Range, Golden, Colo., June 17, 1933.

The organization and officer personnel of the squadron at date of transfer were as follows:

Squadron Headquarters, Denver, Colo.

Major R. W. Combs, Commanding.

1st Lieutenant Robert D. Charlton, Adjutant.

2nd Lieutenant Ralph D. Caldwell, Supply Officer, Monte Vista.

Medical Detachment, Denver, Colo.

Captain Edgar Durbin, Medical Corps.

Captain Jay H. Bouton, Veterinary Corps.

Troop A, Monte Vista, Colo.

Captain Harry E. Kistler.

1st Lieutenant Lloyd C. Haggard.

2nd Lieutenant George Nicoll, Jr.

Troop B, Denver, Colo.

Captain Elmer F. Arnbrecht.

1st Lieutenant Fred L. Plahte.

2nd Lieutenant Lawrence J. Ensor.

Troop C, Loveland, Colo.

Captain William F. Hunn.

1st Lieutenant Howard E. Reed.

2nd Lieutenant Edward M. Specht.

The squadron had become an efficient cavalry organization and one that well merited the motto of "Promptness and Energy". However, these troops, worthy successors of those magnificent Colorado squadrons of the Civil War, have passed from the service of the state and the horse gives way to the march of progress and to the machine.

COAT OF ARMS, 117th SEPARATE SQUADRON OF CAVALRY,
COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD

Crest: On a wreath of the colors (or and gules) a fasces paleways proper with a ribbon of red, white and blue.⁸

Shield: Per fess indented azure and or, in chief a fleur-de-lis argent, in base a sheathed Roman sword point to base and a snake coiled to strike vert.

Description: The shield symbolizes both the squadron's history and the state from whence it comes. The yellow lower portion of the shield is the cavalry color, and the Roman sword and coiled rattlesnake superimposed thereon symbolizes the squadron's service in the Spanish-American War of 1898 and the Mexican Border Patrol of 1916-1917, respectively. The blue upper portion, with the fleur-de-lis, symbolizes the squadron's service as part of the 157th Infantry in France during the World War. The yellow portion of the shield symbolizes also the great plains of eastern Colorado, and the indented parting line the mountains of Colorado against the blue of Colorado's skies.

Motto: Promptness and Energy.

Battle Honors: World War without inscription.

⁸ Crest same for all regiments Colorado National Guard—see frontispiece.