

HISTORY OF THE 127th FIELD ARTILLERY

REGIMENTAL HISTORIES SERIES

Compiled by Workers of the Writers'
Project of the Work Projects
Administration in the State of Kansas

Sponsored by the
Adjutant General of Kansas

Topeka, Kansas
1942

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HISTORY OF THE 127th FIELD ARTILLERY

The Kansas Regiment designated as the 127th Field Artillery is a perpetuation of the 114th Cavalry and earlier cavalry units of the Kansas National Guard, but it is necessary to turn to Nebraska military annals for the genealogy of the World War 127th Field Artillery. This Nebraska regiment was a part of the 34th Division and it inherited the traditions of a pioneer regiment that fought with distinction in the Civil War when Nebraska was a sparsely populated territory.

The 1st Nebraska Regiment was organized on July 22, 1861, and almost immediately embarked by river steamer for St. Joseph, Missouri. There it was attached to General Fremont's army and campaigned in Missouri during the early struggles to save that State for the Union. In February, 1862 the Nebraskans were ordered to Fort Donelson, Tennessee, where they fought their first major engagement and assisted in the capture of the Confederate stronghold by the Union forces under General U.S. Grant.

On the morning of April 7, 1862, the 1st Nebraska arrived on the field at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee, where a great battle had been in progress for 24 hours. There it formed a part of the right wing of General Grant's army and held the line against Confederate attacks throughout the second and decisive day of the bloody engagement commonly known as the Battle of Shiloh.

Throughout the following winter the regiment campaigned in eastern Missouri. The winter was unusually severe, lines of communication were difficult to maintain and the troops underwent severe hardships. Throughout the month of February, 1863 they were on half rations and were so poorly clothed that many soldiers were forced to march barefooted through the snow. On April 23 they aided in the defense of Cape Girardeau against Confederate forces commanded by General Marmaduke. The summer of 1863 was passed in picket duty near St. Louis.

On October 11, 1863, an order to mount the 1st Nebraska was received. Horses were issued to the men a few days later and the regiment was officially redesignated as the 1st Nebraska Cavalry. Late in the fall it was ordered to Arkansas where it performed scouting duty for more than six months. A number of skirmishes were fought with the Confederate horsemen during this campaign. The veterans of the regiment were sent back to Nebraska during the winter of 1864 and the 1st Nebraska did not fight as a unit again during the war.

After a furlough, the veterans were assembled on August 13, 1864, and sent to Fort Kearney to protect emigrants and settlers from the Indians. Meanwhile, the recruits in Arkansas met with disaster. On August 24 one officer and 64 enlisted men of Company C were captured by the enemy. As the Confederates were subsisting on scanty rations and could not afford to feed prisoners, the men were paroled, but not until they had been stripped of most of their clothing. Many of them walked barefoot over stony roads to St. Louis, a distance of 300 miles.

Because of the unsettled state of affairs on the frontier, the 1st Nebraska's veteran troopers were held in service long after the end of the war. At Governor Saunders' request the legislature passed a resolution on January 20, 1866, asking the War Department to muster out the regiment but it was not until July 1 that the men finally received their discharges. They had been in service almost five years, had marched more than 9,000 miles and had travelled 5,250 miles by steamer and railway train.

The 1st Nebraska was reorganized as an infantry regiment in 1887. After the declaration of War with Spain on April 25, 1898, the State was asked to furnish two regiments of infantry for immediate service and the 1st Nebraska was mustered in on May 10 as the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry. The regiment trained for several weeks at Camp Merritt, California, and embarked for Manila early in July. On August 2, 1898, the Nebraskans were engaged with the Spaniards near Manila. On August 13 they took part in the general attack and were the first troops to enter the city on the heels of the retreating enemy. There they remained for several months as part of the American garrison.

A sentry of the 1st Nebraska fired the opening shot in the Filipino War on February 4, 1899. Trouble had been anticipated for some time, but hostilities did not actually begin until the Nebraska soldier, who was guarding a bridge, fired on native troops who disregarded his order to halt. A sharp engagement followed. In the ensuing campaign the 1st Nebraska took part in the attack on Malolos and fought at Calumpit with Col. Frederick Funston and his 20th Kansas Regiment. The regiment was ordered back to the United States on June 21 and mustered out at San Francisco on August 23. Its losses were 33 killed in action, 165 wounded and 28 dead of disease.

In 1913 the regiment was reorganized as the 4th Nebraska and as such it served on the Mexican Border and was drafted into Federal service for the World War on August 5, 1917. The Nebraska National Guards were sent to Camp Cody, New Mexico, to form a part of the 34th Division. There the 4th Nebraska was redesignated as the 127th Field Artillery. In July 1918 it was detached from the division, attached to the 59th Field Artillery Brigade, and sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for six weeks of intensive training. The 127th embarked for France on September 23, 1918. It had been planned to use the 59th Brigade as corps artillery but the armistice ended hostilities before the Nebraskans reached the firing line. As a matter of fact, the 127th was never equipped, for the French guns intended for its use had been captured by the Germans.

The 127th was mustered out in the spring of 1919. When the Nebraska National Guard was reorganized in 1920 the State was asked to recruit a regiment of artillery to be equipped with 155 mm. howitzers. Housing facilities for the equipment were inadequate, however, and the plan was abandoned. Consequently, the 127th Field Artillery was not revived in Nebraska and no national guard regiment was so designated until the 114th Cavalry Regiment was transformed into an artillery regiment on October 1, 1940.

After a review of the State's early military history, it seems a curious fact that the Kansas National Guard had no cavalry until 1918. The mounted service was favored by Kansans who volunteered for the Civil War and even the so-called infantry regiments consisted of six rifle companies and two cavalry companies as originally organized. Half of the 18 volunteer regiments recruited in the State between 1861 and 1865 were cavalry and the 19th Regiment, organized in 1868 to fight the Indians, also was mounted.

Between 1865 and 1879 the State Militia was loosely organized, but a number of cavalry companies were recruited during this period to patrol the Indian frontier. Company A, 1st Cavalry, Kansas State Militia, was organized at Arkansas City in the summer of 1874. At that time Arkansas City was a frontier village on the northern edge of the Cherokee Strip and Indians constantly menaced the citizens and settlers. Border patrols, usually mounted, also were organized for short terms of service in several of the other southwestern border counties.

As organized in 1885, the Kansas National Guard consisted of four infantry regiments and a battery. Four volunteer regiments were recruited for the Spanish War in 1898, all infantry. When President Woodrow Wilson ordered mobilization of the national guard for Mexican border service in 1916 the Kansas National Guard consisted of two infantry regiments, a battery of field artillery, a signal detachment, and two separate infantry companies. The 1st Separate Company of Oskaloosa was merged with the Holton infantry company after orders were received to recruit the regiments to war strength. The 2nd Separate Company was organized April 12, 1916, at Eureka with 65 enlisted men and 3 officers. Walter B. Oliverson, Eureka utility company executive, was the captain; Eugene R. Martin, the 1st lieutenant; Ralph E. Baker, the 2nd lieutenant; and Arthur C. Hunt, the 1st sergeant.

When the mobilization order came the Eureka men set up a temporary camp at the fair grounds. On June 22 the company was sent to Fort Riley to be mustered into Federal service. The Eureka Herald had this to say of the "maverick company's" departure:

"A public meeting was held in front of the armory....to bid the local boys Godspeed. The Eureka band played the national airs, and there were rousing, patriotic speeches....The whole town was at the station this morning to bid the boys goodbye and there were few dry eyes in the crowd as the train pulled out...."

At Fort Riley there were rumors that the 2nd Separate Company was to be merged with Company A, 2nd Regiment. The Eurekans were very anxious to preserve their company organization and appealed to Col. Perry M. Hoisington of the 2nd Regiment not to use this method of bringing the Wichita company up to war strength. Certainly, they argued, a large city like Wichita could provide enough men from recruiting and it should not be necessary to call on little Eureka for help. Colonel Hoisington commented on the fact that the Oskaloosa separate company had provided more men for the Holton company than had Holton itself but he told Captain Oliverson that he hoped "some way can be found to send the (Eureka) men to the front as a distinct organization." With this feeble assurance,

the men of the 2nd Separate felt very much like a bunch of mavericks from their native Flint Hills as they despondently watched the two infantry regiments and the battery entrain for Texas.

On July 5 the company turned out for inspection before Maj. S.A. Cheney, mustering officer. The major brought good news. He said that the adjutant general was recommending that the 2nd Separate Company be transformed into a cavalry troop, trained for several weeks at Fort Riley, and sent to a border station. Cavalry was badly needed along the border and the War Department quickly signified approval of the plan.

The men were jubilant at the prospect of becoming cavalry troopers. Pvt. Albert Miller wrote in his weekly letter to the Herald that the company was no longer the 2nd Separate "but is Troop A, Kansas Cavalry." There were no horses for the ex-doughboys but they soon affected the cavalry manner and anticipated the day when they would spur their mounts across the Texas sands while the despised infantry plodded along in the dust. This attitude was well expressed by General Custer who wrote to his wife from Abilene in 1867:

"Wasn't I glad I was not a doughboy, as I saw the poor fellows trudging along under their heavy burdens, while the gay, frolicking cavalryman rode by, carelessly smoking his pipe, and casting a look of pity on his more unfortunate comrades of the infantry."

Eureka was an old cow town in the heart of the Flint Hills pastures and many of the men in Troop A already were expert horsemen. However, they knew nothing of cavalry formations and it wasn't so easy to learn on foot, but the officers did their best. In his letter to the Herald Private Miller said that instead of giving verbal orders on the parade ground they were blown on the bugle. "This form is used extensively in cavalry formations," he explained.

Troop A left Fort Riley on September 28, to arrive at Donna, Texas two days later. The Herald correspondent wrote:

"There are troops here from Iowa, Nebraska and Louisiana, about 1,000 men in all. There is no infantry here, the troops consist of artillery, hospital and cavalry. The town is just a few blocks from camp. There are 700 Mexicans and 500 white people. Our troop was issued saddles, pistols, bridles and other cavalry equipment today and will take the horses left by the Louisiana troop we relieved.

"The guard here is arranged much different from that we have been accustomed to. A whole troop goes on guard at a time here, different men are stationed around different parts of the camp and as the whole town is under martial law, guards are stationed in town and mounted patrols patrol the edge of town. Our camp is about 8 miles from the Rio Grande..."

Troop A stayed on the border long after the other Kansas troops were ordered home. The infantry came back early in October and the battery was home in time for Christmas dinner, but the cavalrymen maintained the watch on the Rio Grande throughout the winter months. After 8 months in Federal service, five of which were on the Mexican border, the troop was mustered out at Fort Riley on March 5, 1917. Eureka and most of Greenwood

County turned out to welcome Troop A on its return. The men brought their horses back with them and staged an exhibition drill at the fair grounds a few days after their return which the Herald described as "novel entertainment, something many Eureka people never saw."

War with Germany was declared on April 6, just a month after Troop A's homecoming, and Captain Oliverson received orders to recruit to war strength. Six men were discharged because of new regulations requiring the release of national guardsmen with dependent relatives. On April 26 the Herald announced the resignation of Capt. Walter B. Oliverson. It was said that his duties as a utility company executive would prevent him from devoting any more time to military affairs. Meanwhile, 33 recruits were accepted during April and the troop reached its minimum war strength of 85 enlisted men. Lt. Ralph E. Baker succeeded the retiring captain as commanding officer.

While Troop A was on the border tentative plans were made for the organization of three new troops of cavalry in order to expend the State's mounted force into a squadron. The movement gained impetus in Wichita, where it was originally planned to organize two troops. Adjutant General Martin opposed this plan, as he wanted to recruit a battery at Wichita. The adjutant general realized that war with the Central Powers was inevitable and he was expanding the Kansas National Guard in preparation for active service. Cavalry had proved to be of little value in the World War.

Wichita talked of transforming its two infantry units into cavalry but this idea was soon quashed by Colonel Hoisington of the 2nd Regiment. Officers of the infantry companies were allowed to assist in recruiting the 66 men for Troop B and they were mustered into service on April 9. The troop was officially recognized on April 23 by Adjutant General Martin and Col. L.M. Kuehler of the Regular Army. Officers were Capt. J.H. Sherman, secretary of the Wichita Board of Trade; 1st Lt. Elisha J. Stroud, a local physician; and 2nd Lt. Merle Hollicke. Lieutenant Stroud was an ex-cavalryman of the Regular Army.

On March 17 the Dodge City Journal reported that the former "Cowboy Capital" was to have a cavalry troop. State Representative L.L. Taylor had returned from Topeka, said the newspaper, with the information that Adjutant General Martin was very anxious to see a troop organized in the Southwest Kansas town. "It would be very appropriate for Dodge City to have a company," said Taylor, "for we have good horsemen and the horses could be purchased here at reasonable prices." The plan met with a ready response and 75 recruits had been accepted by mid-April.

On April 17, Lt. Ralph Baker of Troop A arrived in Dodge City to assist in the preliminary details of organization. The oath of enlistment was administered on May 4 by the adjutant general and Lieutenant Baker was placed in temporary command. The first officers confirmed were Dr. J.R. Gary as captain and Will T. Hale as 2nd lieutenant. Appointment of a 1st lieutenant was to be announced later, said General Martin, as he wished to find a man of experience for this post. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Baker remained on duty with the new unit, which was designated as Troop C.

Troop D recruited at Coffeyville, was recognized on June 26 and the 1st Cavalry Squadron, K.N.G. was completely organized. Maj. Lute P. Stover of Iola, a man of long service in the Kansas National Guard, was placed in command of the squadron. The official roster as of August 5, 1917, when the Kansas National Guard was drafted into Federal service was as follows:

Troop A, Eureka - Capt. Ralph E. Baker, 1st Lt. Eugene R. Martin, 2nd Lt. E.E. Clark. Troop B, Wichita - Capt. J. H. Sherman, 1st Lt. E. J. Stroud, 2nd Lt. M.E. Hollicks. Troop C, Dodge City - Capt. J.R. Gary, 1st Lt. Winfield Jones, 2nd Lt. W. T. Hale. Troop D, Coffeyville - Capt. Ralph D. Fulton, 1st Lt. C. L. Fuller, 2nd Lt. A.R. Logan. Sanitary Troops - 1st Lt. Samuel E. Simpson. Lieutenant Jones of Troop C had been recently discharged from the 13th U.S. Cavalry with the rank of 1st sergeant.

After their mobilization the four units went into camp at their respective stations. Tents or other sleeping quarters were provided for the out-of-town men, those who lived in the city were permitted to sleep at their homes. Troop A was encamped at the Eureka fair grounds, Troop B in the Wichita High School building, Troop C at Wright Park, and Troop D at Forest Park. A private of the Coffeyville troop became the first gas casualty while the troop was still quartered at Forest Park. Having over-stayed his pass, the recruit decided to spend the night in the bathhouse rather than take a chance at running the guard line. The night was cool and he lighted the gas heater. When found by a park employee the next morning the trooper was lying unconscious on the floor, overcome by gas fumes and it required the services of a pulmotor to revive him. After a few days in the hospital he was ready for duty again, however.

Troop A was the first to leave for Camp Doniphan, where the Kansas and Missouri troops were to be merged into the 35th Division. The Eureka horsemen arrived at the dust-tormented camp on the Fort Sill Reservation on August 27. Troops B, C and D arrived during the latter part of September. The Kansas troopers soon faced the realization that there was no place for cavalry in a World War combat division. On October 2 Troop A was redesignated as Headquarters Troop, 35th Division. The Wichita Beacon said that the Eureka troop had been accorded the highest honor that could be bestowed upon a State unit. "The honor was awarded because of excellent work on the border," said the newspaper. The Eureka Herald correspondent wrote:

"Our designation has been changed from Troop A, Kansas Cavalry, to Headquarters Troop, 35th Division and letters should be addressed accordingly as it is rumored that Troop B will receive our letters. We have 12 motorcycles in our troop and received 15 more horses the other day. We have had 23 men transferred from other organizations to our troop and this brings the troop to 108 enlisted men and 3 officers. The motorcycle riders are messengers,....they carry messages and orders to the different parts of the camp."

Troops B, C and D were the last Kansas units to lose their identity as State troops. On November 1, 1917, they became the 110th Military Police and the Kansas City Times correspondent described the ceremony that attended this reorganization. Fort Sill had been established by the 19th Kansas Cavalry Regiment in 1869 and it was regarded as historically significant that the last of Kansas Cavalry should be transformed

into military police at the old post that had figured in the State's military history 48 years before. Wrote the Times reporter:

"Maj. Lute P. Stover led his three troops over to the old post and the change was made near the old forts where Kansas cavalymen had made history. Troop B from Wichita, headed by Capt. James Sherman, was grouped on the south side of the road; Troop C from Dodge City, in command of Capt. Joseph R. Gary, formed on the north side, and Troop D from Coffeyville, led by Capt. Ralph D. Fulton, faced them from the east. A few words were spoken by Major Stover, and at the word of command Troop D divided into two columns, one joining B on the south, the other joining C on the north, and Kansas cavalry became a thing of the past. Three cheers were given for the cavalry followed by three cheers for the military police."

The 19th Kansas Cavalry Regiment was organized in 1868 when Gen. Philip H. Sheridan was planning an offensive against the Cheyenne Indians. Gov. Samuel J. Crawford, a veteran of the Civil War, resigned from office to assume command. The cavalymen were mustered into Federal service at Topeka and began a long march into the Indian Territory, arriving at Fort Cobb, near the site of Fort Sill, after an arduous winter campaign. Here they were joined by Gen. George A. Custer and the 7th U.S. Cavalry.

General Sheridan inspected Fort Cobb and decided that it was not well located, so he ordered the 19th Kansas and the 7th U.S. Cavalry regiments to proceed across the Wichita mountains in search of a more desirable site for a permanent post. A detachment of the 19th selected a spot at the foot of the range, near the Medicine River, which was called Fort Sill. It was a base of subsequent operations against the Indians and agencies were established there at a later date. Geronimo, notorious Apache chief, was imprisoned at the post after his capture by United States troops.

Troop B, joined by half of Troop D, became Company A, 110th Military Police, while the other half of the Coffeyville troop joined the Dodge City men of Troop C to form Company B of the 110th. The 110th Military Police became a part of the 110th Train, which was commanded by Col. Willie McD. Rowan. Colonel Rowan was the commander of the 3rd Kansas Infantry, which had been merged with the 4th Missouri Infantry to form the 139th Infantry and had lost his command in the consolidation. He was a veteran national guard officer and a brother of Col. Andrew S. Rowan, who as a lieutenant in the Spanish-American War, carried the message to Garcia.

Major Stover was in command of the Military Police while Colonel Rowan was attending officers' school. One of the first tasks confronting the major and his men was the suppression of vice in the nearby city of Lawton, which was enjoying a typical war boom. A provost guard was established in the city, working in cooperation with local authorities, and Major Stover maintained headquarters in the city hall. Most of the work in Camp Doniphan was directed by Capt. James F. Going from his office near division headquarters.

Just across the road from headquarters was the stockade, where some of the toughest men in the 35th Division were imprisoned. Prisoners convicted by general court martial were confined in the stockade, which was a rectangular enclosure with a row of pyramidal tents in the center. A high barbed-wire fence surrounded the enclosure and armed guards were posted at intervals outside the wire.

Captain Going told a Topeka newspaper correspondent that the Kansas boys were performing their unpleasant tasks efficiently. "When they were organized they expected to be cavalymen," he said, "but their dream vanished when they were taken into federal service. They are not in love with the work because it is not the sort of work to inspire love, but they are conscientious in doing their duty and they have received praise for the way in which they have handled the job."

In France the Military Police companies were redesignated as the 110th Train Headquarters Company and the 35th Military Police Company. They went across the vanguard of the division in the spring of 1918, serving in the Vosges, Meuse-Argonne and Sommedieue sectors. In the front line the "M.P.'s" had the important duty of looking after lines of communication. Often a man was stationed at a road intersection that was submitted to intense shell fire, but he stuck to his post and kept traffic moving. In the rest areas the "M.P." returned to his unpopular role as the official "killjoy" of military existence.

The transport De Kalb, with the Headquarters Troop, 35th Military Police, and 110th Train Headquarters on board, arrived at Newport News, Virginia on April 21, 1919. After several days in the debarkation camp near the city, the Kansas men entrained for Camp Funston where they were mustered out on May 5. Maj. James F. Going commanded the Military Police during the trip back to Kansas, Colonel Rowan having been given the honor of bringing the all-Kansas 137th Infantry Regiment home.

History repeated itself in 1919 when Kansas cavalry was revived in the redesignation of a separate infantry company. This infantry unit, recruited at Coffeyville in the fall of 1918 as a company of the 4th Kansas Regiment, was later designated as Company B, 5th Regiment. When it was learned that only one regiment was authorized for the State at this time, the Coffeyville Company became a separate company without equipment and without official recognition. Nobody seemed to have the time or inclination to remedy this situation until the late summer of 1919, when Capt. Harry Lang was informed that the adjutant general planned to transform his company into a cavalry troop.

The company was mustered in on September 27, 1919 as Troop B, 1st Separate Squadron by Maj. Milton R. McLean, assistant to the adjutant general. Officers were: Harry Lang, captain; William Upham, 1st lieutenant; William Noel, 2nd lieutenant. An inventory of equipment promised to the three officers and 75 enlisted men of the troop included everything in the way of a cavalryman's needs from horses to yellow hat cords.

Troop A, 1st Kansas Cavalry, was organized by Capt. Earle T.

Patterson, 1st Lt. Arthur Waymire, and 2nd Lt. Elmer R. Wilson.

Infantry companies organized at Clay Center and Iola in the spring of 1919 were also redesignated as cavalry units. On September 18 the Clay Center Times reported the transformation of the local unit:

"Last week (September 10) the Clay Center company of national guards received the final papers making this company a troop of cavalry. It is now designated as Troop C of the K.N.G. There is now a squadron of cavalry in Kansas, that being all the cavalry so far authorized by the national government for the Kansas National Guard... C.P. Portrum is captain of this troop, Will Keener is 1st lieutenant and George Wylie is 2nd lieutenant... This troop will bring approximately \$12,000 a year into Clay Center and is a proposition which the city should push..

Originally organized by Burt Carter of Iola as Company D, 5th Infantry Regiment, the Iola unit was transformed into a cavalry troop and officially recognized on September 26. The Iola troop was originally designated as Troop D, 1st Squadron Cavalry, K.N.G., and was redesignated as the 1st Separate Troop, 114th Cavalry, in 1921. Burt Carter was commissioned as captain, A. E. Gibson as 1st lieutenant and William P. Harris as 2nd lieutenant.

The 1st Squadron was redesignated as the 1st Squadron, 114th Cavalry on November 4, 1921. Following is the official roster for 1922:

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Topeka

Maj. James F. Going, Commanding
1st Lt. Charles W. Gordon, Adjutant
1st Lt. Arthur H. Waymire, Intelligence, Plans and Training Officers
2nd Lt. Erie J. Monroe, Supply Officer

Troop A, Yates Center

Capt. Earle T. Patterson
1st Lt. Paul A. Cannady
2nd Lt. Elmer R. Wilson

Troop B, Coffeyville

Capt. Harry Lang
1st Lt. George W. Noel
2nd Lt. B.L. Bentley

Troop C, Clay Center

Capt. Charles P. Portrum
1st Lt. Lyle D. Walker
2nd Lt. Raymond S. Robbins

1st Separate Troop, Iola

Capt. Winfield D. Jones
1st Lt. (vacancy)
2nd Lt. Lloyd L. Teeters

Major Going, the squadron commander, will be remembered as the former adjutant of the 110th Military Police. Capt. Winfield Jones of the 1st Separate Troop was the 1st lieutenant of Dodge City's Troop C of the 1st Squadron, organized for World War service in 1917, and served with the 35th Division unit in the A.E.F. Capt. Earle Patterson and 1st Lt. Paul Cannady of Troop A were former infantry officers, having served in France with the all-Kansas 137th Infantry.

Major Going was transferred to the National Guard Reserve on July 2, 1923 and was succeeded as squadron commander by Maj. William R. Baker, a World War veteran. Major Baker had served as a captain in the 117th Ammunition Train, the Kansas unit of the 42nd or "Rainbow" Division. Troop C of Clay Center was mustered out and replaced by Troop C of Lawrence, recruited among the students of Haskell Institute and Federally recognized on May 15, 1924. Capt. Paul A. Cannady, formerly 1st lieutenant of Troop A, was commander of the Haskell troop. Other commissioned officers were 1st Lt. Julius Holmes and 2nd Lt. Samuel P. Moyer. All of the 70 enlisted men were Indian students of the institute, which was already represented in the Kansas National Guard by Company D of the 137th Infantry, which was largely made up of Haskell men. Troop C is said to have been the only all-Indian military unit in the United States. It soon became the "show troop" of the regiment.

Troop E of Wichita was recognized on May 1, 1924 with the following officers: Burton E. Fox, captain; Donald F. Peppers, 1st lieutenant; Frank C. Jones, 2nd lieutenant. Next rifle troop to join the regiment was Troop F, which was recognized at Pleasanton on June 16, 1924. Capt. Horace H. Armsby was commanding officer of the Linn County troop, Archie M. Euwer was 1st lieutenant and Robert G. Palling was 2nd lieutenant. A 2nd Squadron Headquarters unit, Service Troop and Band were organized before the 114th went to the annual encampment which was held at Fort Riley from August 21 until September 5, 1924. Just before the encampment Troop A of Yates Center was redesignated as Troop G and the 1st Separate Troop of Iola became Troop A. Col. Milton R. McLean, assistant adjutant general, assumed temporary command of the regiment. Pvt. Norman Orcutt of Troop G was instantly killed at Camp Whiteside, by a bolt of lightning that struck the tent in which he was sleeping on the night of August 24. The camp was inspected by Gen. John J. Pershing on August 25.

Captain Cannady and his Indians of Troop C were the guests of the Loyal Order of Moose at the national convention at the lodge held in Chicago, July 1-7, 1926. A crowd estimated at 200,000 saw the Haskell cavalymen perform their drill routine. Motion pictures of the "all-American troop" were taken by Pathe and International news reel photographers, the Indians posing in regulation uniform and in tribal costume. Troop E of Wichita also performed before the motion picture camera when Pathe News photographers took pictures of the troop on the march near Wichita on June 11.

The regiment was completed as a unit with the Federal recognition of the Medical Detachment, organized at Coffeyville, on February 25, 1927. In 1928 the regimental shield was approved by the War Department and the 114th Cavalry was officially recognized as a perpetuation of the 1st Squadron, Kansas Cavalry, which was organized in 1916 and 1917. The

shield is yellow for cavalry with a green bordure indicating service on the Mexican border. The indented chief charged with the fleurs-de-lis represents the World War service of the 1st Squadron as Headquarters Troops and Military Police. It is indented to represent the defensive sector and the two fleurs-de-lis represent the two major engagements. The blue of the chief is taken from the flag of the State of Kansas.

These streamers are authorized:

WORLD WAR

Alsace

Lorraine

Meuse-Argonne

The following record of service was also approved:

Organized as 2nd Separate Company Infantry, April 12, 1916. Federal Service - Mexican border, June 23, 1916; redesignated Troop A, Cavalry, August 16; stationed at Donna, Texas; mustered out March 6, 1917. Expanded to squadron, 1917. Federal Service - World War, August 5, 1917; Troop A redesignated Headquarters Troop, 35th Division; remainder of squadron redesignated 110th Headquarters Train and 35th Military Police Company; all served with 35th Division in France; mustered out May 3-5, 1919. Reorganized as 1st Squadron Cavalry, 1919; redesignated 1st Squadron, 114th Cavalry, November 4, 1921; expanded to regiment, 1924.

The official roster of 1930 follows:

Headquarters - Rosedale

Col. William K. Herndon

Lt. Col. Paul A. Cannady

Capt. Clarence A. Nudson

Capt. Monte V. Kistler

Capt. Jewell K. Watt

1st Lt. Ward W. Conquest

Chaplain Roy W. Hillyer

Medical Detachment - Coffeyville

Maj. Harold J. Bagby

Capt. Herbert M. Webb

Capt. Edward H. Lenheim

Capt. Charles E. Kitzelman

Capt. Harry E. Lowry

Band - Kansas City

Warrant Officer, Wendell M. Ryder

Headquarters Troop - Topeka

Capt. Chester L. Thomas

1st Lt. John H. Amis

2nd Lt. Eymon S. Cohn

2nd Lt. Herbert L. Crapson

Machine Gun Troop - Kansas City

Capt. Leo A. Swoboda

1st Lt. Harry L. Lyon

Machine Gun Troop - Kansas City (continued)

1st Lt. James H. Hetherington
2nd Lt. Harry O. Willhite

Headquarters 1st Squadron - Topeka

Maj. Erie J. Monroe
1st Lt. (vacancy)

Troop A - Iola

Capt. Robert L. Thompson, Jr.
1st Lt. Wendell W. Perham
2nd Lt. Emerson E. Lynn

Troop B - Coffeyville

Capt. Francis W. Walden
1st Lt. Braum L. Bentley
2nd Lt. Frank W. Sutton

Headquarters 2nd Squadron - Wichita

Maj. Ralph A. Poe
1st Lt. Claude N. Shaver

Troop E - Wichita

Capt. Joseph K. McVicar
1st Lt. Charles O. Wiand
2nd Lt. Richard F. Marshall

Troop F - Pleasanton

Capt. Pete A. Pellegrino
1st Lt. Harlan I. Abbey
2nd Lt. Wilfred R. Wild

Headquarters 3rd Squadron - Topeka

Maj. Charles W. Gordon
1st Lt. Paul W. Mills

Troop I - Lawrence

Capt. Samuel P. Moyer
1st Lt. Francis E. Morawetz
2nd Lt. George O. Reed

Troop K - Paola

Capt. William W. Ringer
1st Lt. William R. Carpenter
2nd Lt. Elvin L. Keith

In 1936 the War Department authorized the organization of the 24th Cavalry Division composed of National Guard units from Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Wyoming and Washington. Maj. Gen. William K. Herndon, former colonel of the 114th Cavalry, was appointed division commander on January 28, 1936. Lt. Col. Paul A. Cannady had succeeded to the command of the regiment on July 30, 1935 with the rank of colonel. Kansas was assigned the Aide, General Staff and Inspection sections of the Division Headquarters and the Kansas regiment was brigaded with

the 113th Cavalry of Iowa to form the 57th Cavalry Brigade.

Kansas National Guard officers assigned to the 24th Cavalry Division Headquarters Staff were: Capt. Harwood O. Benton and 1st Lt. George B. Kelly to the Aide Section; Lt. Col. John B. Smith to the General Staff Section; Maj. Leo W. Mills to the Inspection Section. The commanding general was a veteran of the World War, retiring in 1919 with the rank of major of field artillery. He served as a major in the office of the Adjutant General from June 30, 1923 until November 7, 1924 and became colonel of the 114th Cavalry on January 10, 1925. He was promoted to brigadier general on July 30, 1935. Captain Benton served with the all-Kansas 137th Infantry during the World War and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for bravery in the Argonne. Lieutenant Colonel Smith was a World War artillery sergeant.

The 114th Cavalry took part in the Army maneuvers at Camp Ripley, Minnesota, August 4-24, 1940. It was the regiment's last muster as a cavalry unit. A rude shock awaited the men on their return to Kansas in the form of an official order abolishing the 114th Cavalry and redesignating the Kansas troopers as the 127th Field Artillery of the 35th Division. The order became effective on October 1, 1940. On that day the Topeka Capital reported the demise of the Kansas cavalry regiment in the following article:

"Kansas National Guardsmen of the 114th Cavalry are abandoning their spurs and saddles. Today they will be converted officially into the 127th Field Artillery of the 35th Division.

"The State will have the largest army cavalry school in the world at Fort Riley, but it will be without a National Guard mounted unit. Six-inch guns, 155-millimeter howitzers, will take the place of horses and scout cars that allowed the 114th considerable mobility in reconnaissance. The howitzers probably will not be received before the Kansans are called to active duty at Fort Robinson, Ark..

"When it receives the transfer orders the fifteen-year old cavalry regiment comprised 583 men and 46 officers. The regiment is commanded by Col. Paul A. Cannady of Coffeyville.

"Commenting on the conversion, Capt. Clarence A. Hudson of Headquarters troop here sympathized: 'Yes sir, some of the boys sure hated to give up their spurs.'"

Cavalrymen are notoriously sentimental. An enlisted man of the old 13th U.S. Cavalry once told 35th Division men at Camp Doniphan how his officers wept when the regiment was transformed into field artillery during the World War. If the officers of the 114th shed tears they shed them privately but Lt. Col. Wint Smith was moved to poetic expression:

September 30, 1940

Comrades gather 'round and listen
On the last September day,
A new order comes tomorrow,
So the papers say.

Saddle bags with saddles,
Shiny spurs to rest,
Curry combs and surgingles,
All collecting dust.

Saddle soap and pitchforks,
The picket lines are down,
Leather-boated Springfields
To be all crated 'round.

Hats without the yellow,
Breeches tight are thru,
The horses in the pastures
All wet with morning dew.

Encephelomelitis --- shipping,
Fever in the rain,
Crossed sabres in the attic,
But all is not in vain.

Twenty years we've been in service
To come what would or might.
Thank God -- we still can soldier --
Artillerymen tonight.

The 127th Field Artillery was called into Federal service on December 23, 1940. The official roster on that date was as follows:

Regimental Field and Staff

Col. Paul A. Cannady
Lt. Col. Wint. Smith
Maj. Roy W. Hillyer, Chaplain
Capt. Harwood O. Benton
Capt. Jewell K. Watt
Capt. Wendell W. Perham
1st Lt. John B. Lea
1st Lt. Carl D. Belt

Headquarters Battery - Topeka

Capt. Herbert L. Crapson
1st Lt. Saint Elmo Elise
1st Lt. Raymond O. Trapp
2nd Lt. Jay S. Rollman

Band - Kansas City

Band Officer Charles M. Nixon

Headquarters 1st Battalion - Topeka

Lt. Col. Charles W. Gordon

Headquarters 1st Battalion - Topeka (continued)

Maj. Clarence A. Madsen
Capt. William R. Carpenter
1st Lt. George B. Kelley, Jr.

Battery A - Iola

Capt. Robert L. Thompson
1st Lt. Myron A. Funk
2nd Lt. Charles F. Atwell
2nd Lt. Frank D. Boyd

Battery B - Coffeyville

Capt. Braun L. Bentley
1st Lt. Everett A. Romig
2nd Lt. Francis C. Clark
2nd Lt. Morris D. Hildreth

Headquarters, 2nd Battalion - Kansas City

Lt. Col. John B. Smith
Maj. Ralph A. Poe
Capt. Claude N. Shaver
1st Lt. Ralph Boring

Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion - Kansas City

Capt. Harry L. Lyon
1st Lt. Burt A. Scott
2nd Lt. Leland H. Williams

Battery C - Wichita

Capt. Joseph L. McVicar
1st Lt. Leland C. Shannon
2nd Lt. Eugene W. Cavitt
2nd Lt. Howard K. Garber

Battery D - Pleasanton

Capt. Harlan I. Abbey
1st Lt. Robert W. Park
2nd Lt. Clarence J. Moore
2nd Lt. James E. Miller

Headquarters 3rd Battalion - Topeka

Lt. Col. Leo W. Mills
Maj. Samuel F. Moyer
Capt. Albert F. Tustison
1st Lt. George B. Saunders

Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion - Kansas City

Capt. Leo A. Swoboda
1st Lt. Harry O. Wilhite
2nd Lt. Allen M. Bigelow

Battery E - Lawrence

Capt. Francis E. Morawetz
1st Lt. Donald E. Dowers
2nd Lt. William E. Boatright
2nd Lt. Aubrey S. Anglen

Battery F - Paola

Capt. William W. Ringer
1st Lt. Milton L. Price
2nd Lt. Claude W. Strong
2nd Lt. Eugene M. Miller

Medical Detachment - Lawrence

Maj. Arthur S. Anderson
Capt. Kenneth J. Gleason
Capt. James M. Mott
Capt. Melcheir W. Marks
Capt. Charles H. Kitzelman
Capt. Thomas J. Leasure
1st Lt. Byron W. Walters

The regiment arrived at Camp Robinson, Arkansas, on January 5, 1941, where it was attached to the 60th Field Artillery Brigade. The final step in the transformation from cavalry to mechanized field artillery was accomplished on a spring day in 1941 when Colonel Cannady pulled the lanyard of a 155-mm howitzer and the big gun roared a requiem for the 114th Cavalry regiment that echoed from the Arkansas hills.

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