

A BIT OF REGIMENTAL HISTORY



HE 35TH INFANTRY was organized at Douglas, Arizona, July 8, 1916, and was then known as the "Baby Regiment of the Service", being the youngest regiment in the regular army. Its enlisted personnel was composed of men from the 11th, 18th, and 22nd Infantry of the Regular Army.

Its first Regimental Commander was Colonel James H. Frier, a type of officer who commands the respect of every individual in his regiment and who has the ability to cause his men to put forth every endeavor to develop and maintain the highest mark of possible efficiency. With a commanding officer of this type the history of the 35th Infantry was sure and certain. We look not back to a record of past events made possible by the adventures and gallantries of others, but with pride do we count the successes achieved, and with constant assurance look forward into the future when the fortunes of war will allow the 35th to show to the world their intrinsic worth. And yet every man herein mentioned, together with many more who are now with other organizations can look back with pride upon the history of his regiment and feel assured that no other organization now within the territorial boundaries of the United States has attributed more to the successful termination of the present struggle than this regiment.

About eight months after the organization of this regiment orders were received to proceed from Douglas, Arizona, to Nogales, Arizona, a city situated on the international boundary between the United States and Mexico and known as the Key City because of its geographical position to the fertile and resourceful west coast of Mexico. The march from Douglas was begun March 17, 1917, and the Regiment arrived and pitched camp in Nogales on the 26th day of that month. A finer regiment of fighting men is hard to anticipate. Orders were quite generally expected that would make this regiment a part of the first American Expeditionary Forces to Europe, and to a certain extent this expectation was confirmed for on the 29th day of May 1917 six hundred and seventy six men and seven officers left Nogales to join other regiments that soon proceeded on their way over there. The Regiment was recruited to war strength again and this new material soon caught the vision and were striving to do things perfectly—The Thirty Fifth Way.

The regiment was not long together at Nogales for on May 18, 1917 Companies "L" and "K" were called to Yuma, Arizona, to guard that territory along the Colorado River. On Aug. 13, 1917 part of Company "L" left for Lowell, Arizona, to guard the large copper mines at that place whose output was vitally necessary for war material. The remainder of the Company was sent to Roosevelt Dam and Granite Reef Dam to guard these great irrigation projects. On October 11, 1917, a detachment of Company "H" was ordered to Ajo, Arizona, to protect the new Consuelo Mine from any malicious intent the enemy might plan and on March 6th of the following year Company "M" was called to Globe, Ray, and Miami, Arizona to protect the interests there. That they did their duty well is told by the following:

Extract from "Arizona Record", Globe Arizona.

AN APPRECIATION

"The people of Globe view with regret the departure of the detachment of the 35th Infantry, that has rendered such valuable service to this community by guarding the mines and aiding the local authorities in upholding law and order in the district. They have conducted themselves in a manner that has won the respect and praise of all good citizens, and the Record feels justified in expressing, as the sentiment of this community, appreciation of their faithful services and sincerely good wishes for their continued welfare wherever duty calls them to uphold the glorious traditions of the American army and the honor of our country. Farewell and Godspeed."

In the meantime new material was received, drilled, and organized while men already trained in the arts of modern warfare were sent to various organizations about ready for over-

seas service. From the time of our entry into the World War to August 1918, a total of nearly 5,000 trained men were either "over there" or in various parts of this country awaiting orders.

The ideal climate of Arizona all the year through greatly aided in this work and what men from the 35th will ever forget, "Arizona the Wonderland", with its superb sunsets, its 365 days of sunshine, and that mystical fascination that clings to it. About the middle of August 1918 the first and third Battalion proceeded to Camp Travis, Texas, where the 18th Division was being formed. This Division, trained mostly in the desert sands of Texas and Arizona, has rightly been called the Cactus Division.

The Second Battalion remained at Nogales to guard that city until the regiment that was to relieve the 35th had arrived. On August 25th they were engaged with the Mexican Garrison of Nogales, Sonora, and from the Nogales press the following is an extract.

"Peace again reigns in both the Nogales.

"As a result of an agreement reached at a conference held at 4 o'clock this afternoon at the International bridge at the foot of Sonoma street, between General De Rosey Cabell, representing the Americans, and General P. Elias Calles, representing President Carranza, hostilities will be permanently halted.

"Following the conference between the military representatives of the two countries in the afternoon, the people were beginning to feel convinced the end of the disturbance was certain, and a sentiment of security and satisfaction was growing stronger every hour.

"Then through the evening air came the staccato bark of a rifle in the section named, and bullets hummed over the heads of the American sentries, and several of them are reported to have struck the residence of J. E. Wise on Crawford street, in which a machine gun is located that did effective duty in Tuesday's battle.

"Quickly there followed several rattling volleys from the American line patrols, and the crash of a machine gun as it cut loose in the direction from which the shots had appeared to originate.

"Nogales, Arizona, began to hum like a beehive. Troops were quickly moved on toward the border, people began to leave their homes near the international boundary, carrying babies and household goods in their arms.

"But suddenly the bugles of the Americans rang out an order to cease firing, and silence quickly followed the crackling of guns.

"Firing was resumed about 9:35 o'clock tonight. Between 15 and 20 shots were fired from the Mexican side of the border. A general alarm was sounded on the Arizona side of the line and the mobilization of troops and civilians followed immediately.

"American forces here were increased this afternoon by the arrival of new units.

"Notification that he would cross the line if another shot was fired by the Mexicans was sent tonight by General DeRosey Cabell, commander of the American forces, to Gen. P. Elias Calles, governor of Sonora.

"The notification was sent General Calles by General Cabell through the Mexican consul and the American consul at Nogales, Sonora, when firing was resumed on the Mexican side of the border after regrets had been offered by the Mexican officials and an armistice affected.

"In the firing from the Mexican side of the border tonight one American enlisted man, whose name was not immediately obtained, was wounded."

Lt. Loftus of Laredo, Texas, was killed in action. Likewise Corporals Edgar Lutz and Frank L. Withworth, both of Company "G" died of wounds, while twelve men have become the proud possessors of wound chevrons.

While at Nogales the 35th won a warm place in the hearts of populace and the following page has photographic reproduction of an extract of the resolution passed by the officials of Santa Cruz County.

And so we say our history is well made and the honor that has come to this Regiment is not a borrowed honor neither is it an inherited one but has been merited by those of the present time. And as we look into the future we anticipate still greater success and are justly confident that when the history of this great war is written the 35th Infantry will be given a well-earned and much to be envied position on the Hall of Honor.