

1-1-1941

## Pictorial history, Two Hundred Forty-Sixth Coast Artillery (HD), 1940-1941

Wesley Clare Royer

Corbell Jones

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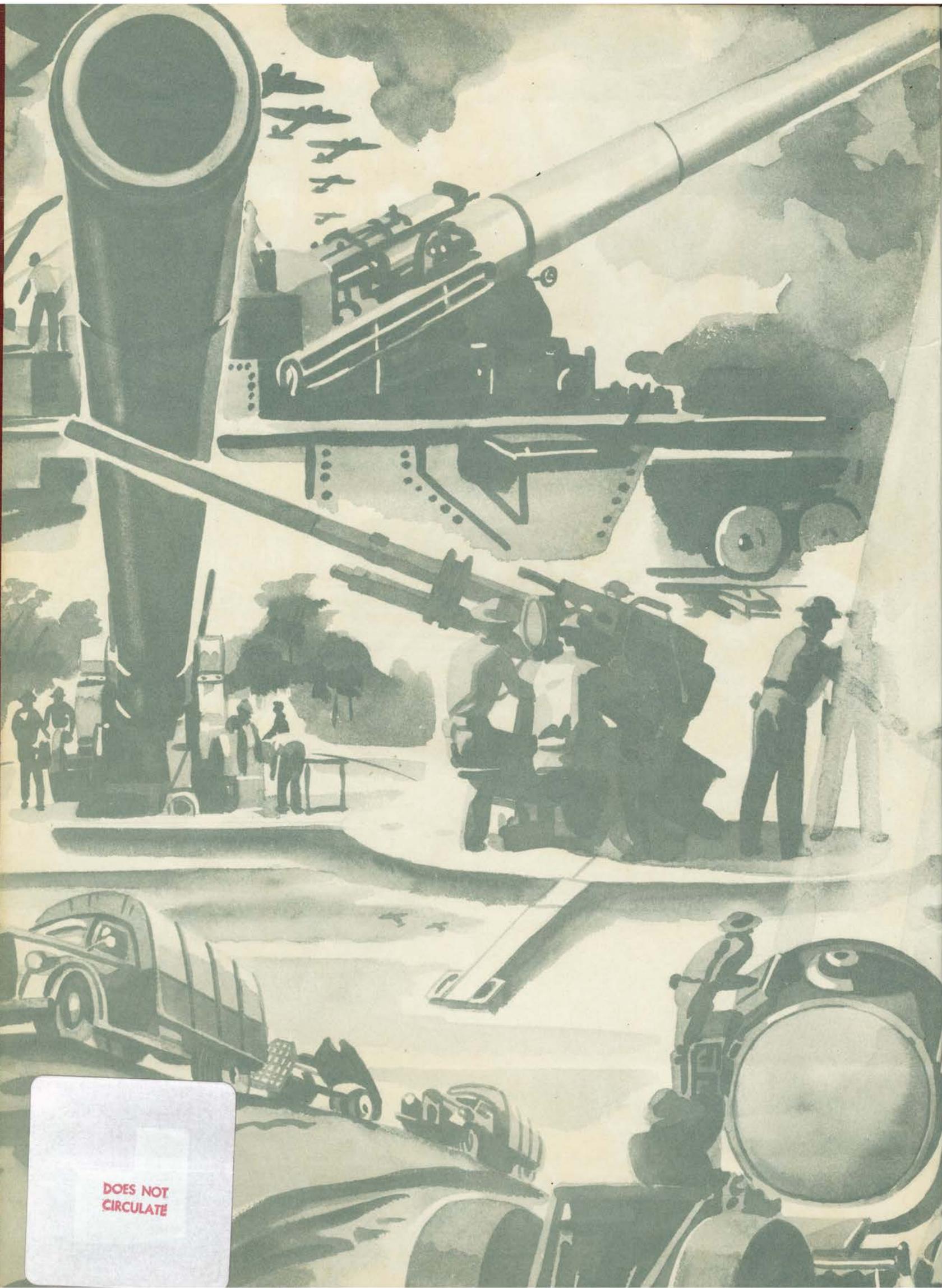
PICTORIAL HISTORY

246<sup>TH</sup> COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

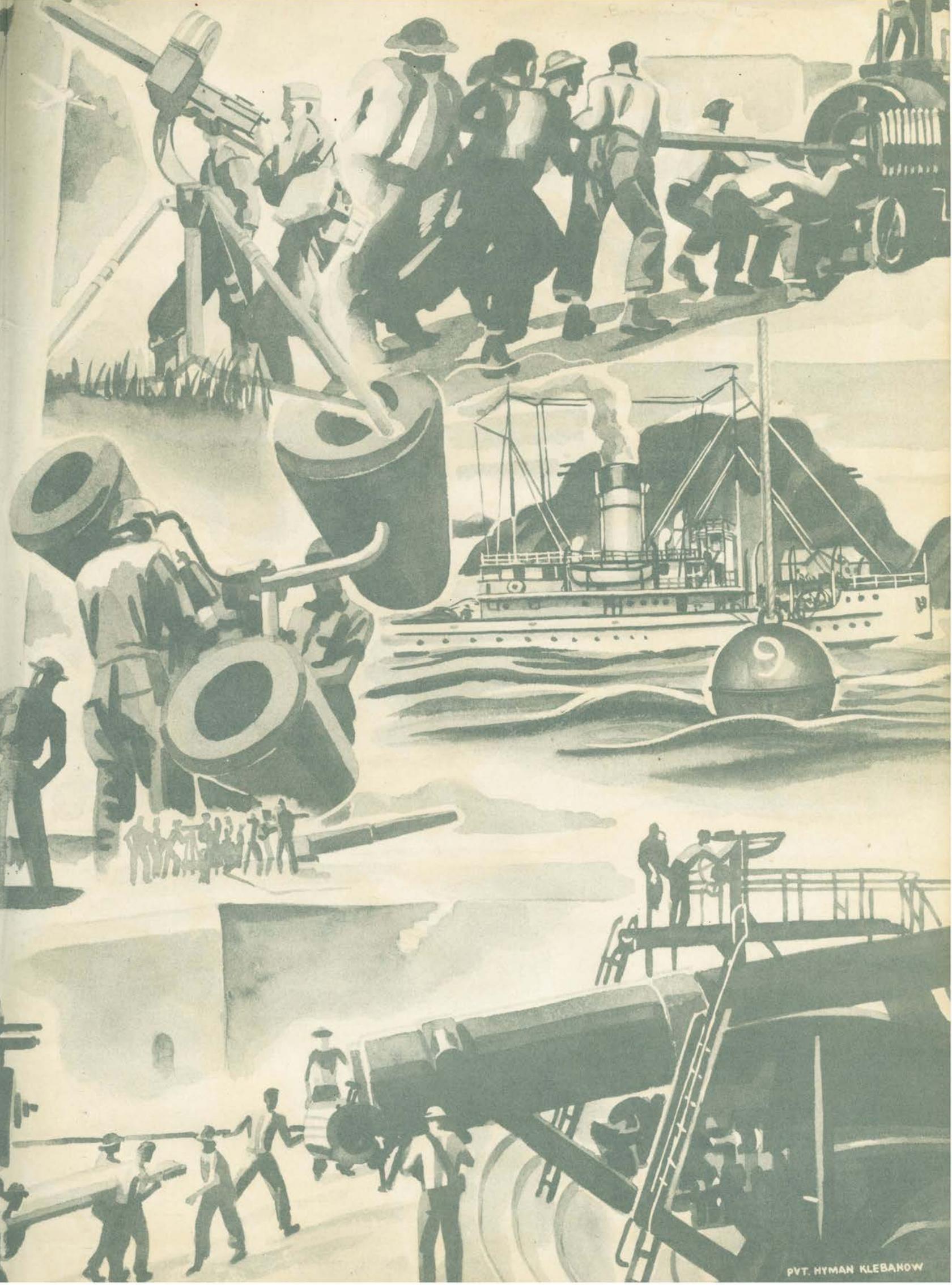


*Army of the United States*

1941



DOES NOT  
CIRCULATE



# EX LIBRIS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_



*To recall*

*my service*

*with the*

*Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth*

*Coast Artillery (HD)*

*1940-1941*

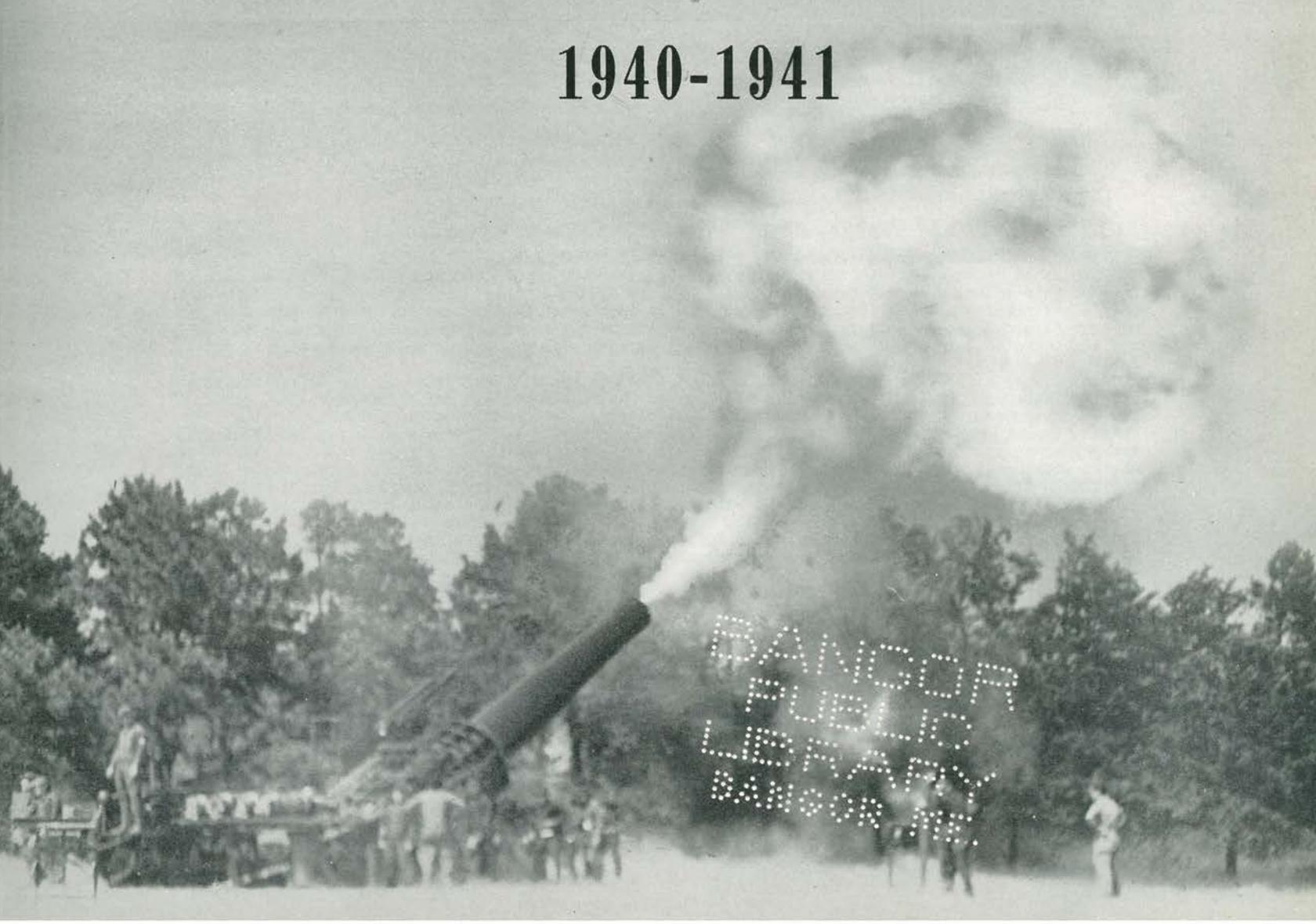
Edited by  
WESLEY CLARE ROYER  
1st Lieutenant, 246th C. A. (HD)  
Public Relations Officer  
and  
CORP. CORBELL JONES  
3rd Battalion, Headquarters Battery  
Assistant to Public Relations Officer

C

**PICTORIAL HISTORY**  
**TWO HUNDRED**  
**FORTY-SIXTH**  
**COAST ARTILLERY (HD)**



**1940-1941**



1--Executive order--Units of the National Guard of the United States ordered into the active military service.--The following Executive order (No. 8530) is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

#### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### ORDERING CERTAIN UNITS AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES INTO THE ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES

By virtue of the authority conferred upon me by Public Resolution No. 96, 76th Congress, approved August 27, 1940, and the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, as amended (39 Stat. 166), and as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, I hereby order into the active military service of the United States, effective September 16, 1940, the following units and members of the National Guard of the United States to serve in the active military service of the United States for a period of twelve consecutive months, unless sooner relieved:

#### UNITS

All active elements of:

44th Division, less 44th Tank Company.  
30th Division, less 30th Tank Company.  
45th Division, less 45th Tank Company.  
41st Division, less 41st Tank Company.

197th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
198th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
202nd Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
203rd Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
211th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
213th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).  
251st Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft).

244th Coast Artillery (155 mm Gun).  
250th Coast Artillery (155 mm Gun).  
252nd Coast Artillery (155 mm Gun).

240th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
241st Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
242nd Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
243rd Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
245th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
248th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).  
249th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).

105th Observation Squadron.  
119th Observation Squadron.  
154th Observation Squadron.  
116th Observation Squadron.

#### MEMBERS

All members, both active and inactive, of the units listed above.

All persons so ordered into the active military service of the United States are, from the effective date of this order, relieved from duty in the National Guard of their respective States so long as they shall remain in the active military service of the United States, and during such time shall be subject to such laws and regulations for the government of the Army of the United States as may be applicable to members of the Army whose permanent retention in the active military service is not contemplated by law.

Commissioned officers and warrant officers appointed in the National Guard of the United States and commissioned or holding warrants in the Army of the United States, and affected by this order, are hereby ordered to active duty under such appointments and commissions or warrants.

All officers and warrant officers of the National Guard appointed in the National Guard, federally recognized or examined and found qualified for Federal recognition, and assigned to units ordered to active duty under this order prior to the effective date hereof, who do not hold appointments in the National Guard of the United States and commissions or warrants in the Army of the United States, are hereby tendered such appointments in the same grade and arm or service which they respectively hold in the National Guard.

Warrant officers and enlisted men of the National Guard who hold appointments as officers in the National Guard of the United States and commissions in the Army of the United States, and are assigned to units ordered to active duty under this order prior to the effective date hereof, are hereby ordered to active military service as commissioned officers of the Army of the United States under those appointments and commissions.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
August 31, 1940

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
RICHMOND

September 4, 1940.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 16 )

1. The Honorable Secretary of War, by telegram September 3, 1940, directs that under authority of Public Resolution Number ninety-six, seventy-sixth Congress, approved August 27, 1940, and Executive Order of the President of the United States Number 8530, August 31, 1940, all units of the 246th Coast Artillery (HD), Virginia National Guard and all personnel both active and inactive are ordered into the active military service of the United States effective September 16, 1940.

2. All personnel of the 246th Coast Artillery (HD) both active and inactive will report to their respective armories at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, September 16, 1940 preparatory to being inducted into the Federal Service by order of the President. This induction will be in strict compliance with provisions of A.R. 130-10.

3. To effectively and promptly accomplish the orders of the Governor of Virginia and the Secretary of War, careful adherence to A.R. 130-10 dated March 27, 1940, is ordered.

By Order of The Governor:

  
S. GARDNER WALLER  
Brigadier General  
The Adjutant General

## *The Colonel's Message*

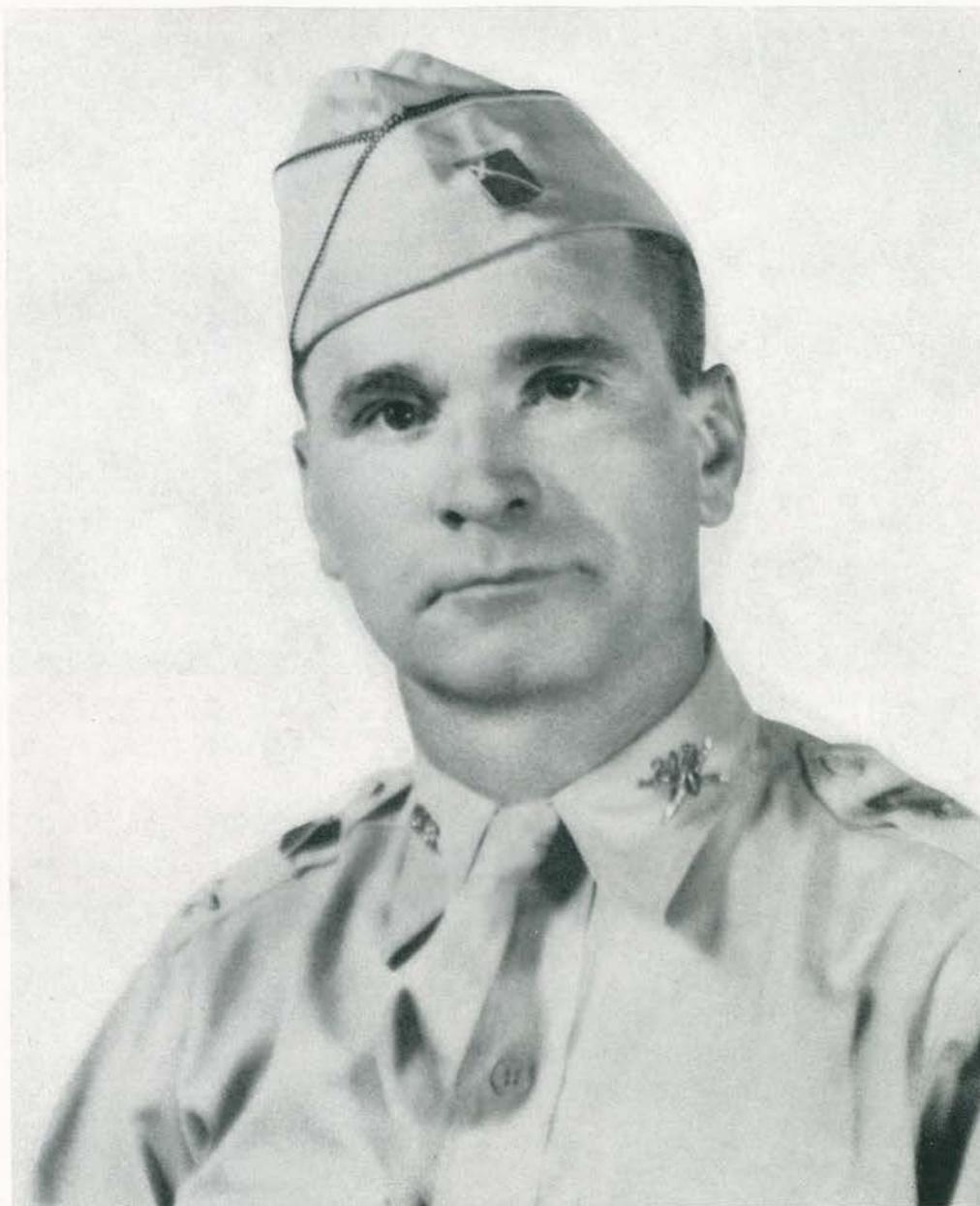
On September 16, 1940, when the bugles blew assembly at the various armories of the Regiment throughout the State, we embarked upon a period of service to the nation, privileged as members of the Virginia National Guard to be among the first to answer the call to duty.

During the first year of training we have had many hardships and many pleasures, but the task has been well worthwhile as evidenced by the satisfactory manner of our performance, such that we can all feel that we have well begun our mission in the large scheme of national defense.

We can look back to September 23rd, when we arrived at our stations and went into tent camps, later known as Tepee Town; to the hard storm that first week from which we learned how to live better in tents; to the biting winter winds that swept the high ridge west of the tent area, "Blueberry Hill," at Fort Story; to the first furloughs and three-day passes; to moving into barracks that we had seen in the building; to adjusting the furnaces that we found were as temperamental as opera singers; to Christmas furloughs; to General Drum's visit; to the arrival of the first selective service trainees; and to the later arrival of these members of the Regiment until now they number about 700; to the opening of the Service Club at Fort Story; to the opening of the beach season with plenty of girls and 15-cent hot-dogs and 10-cent Coca-Colas; to the first target practice; to satisfactorily fulfilling the many troop requirements at Fort Monroe with the resulting gray hairs; to the Service Extension Act and the opportunity it gave us to extend our service to our country; and to the rumors of release of the enlisted men within a few months after the first year.

It has been a grand year and one that will forever stand out in our memories and of which stories will grow larger and larger as time goes on. May our further service strengthen our associations and redound to the credit of the Regiment and of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

*Alongo E. Wood*



## ALONZO E. WOOD

### COLONEL

#### COMMANDING THE 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

Colonel Alonzo E. Wood, native and prominent citizen in his home town of Lynchburg, Virginia, at the time of his last promotion experienced the distinction of becoming the youngest full Colonel in the history of the National Guard of Virginia.

Colonel Wood rose to his present rank in slightly more than 13 years from the time he enlisted with Battery E, First Virginia Infantry (Lynchburg Home Guard), on June 20, 1916, and few Virginians of his generation can boast of such a brilliant military career as has been his since the time he left high school to become a soldier, later a hero, and finally commander of one of the Commonwealth's proudest regiments.

He was called to active service shortly after his enlistment, at Lynchburg, and served on the Mexican border until January 10, 1917, and was called for service overseas in the World War on July 25, 1917. He was discharged with the grade of Sergeant on May 28, 1919, and with an honorable war record, which included his participation in eight major battles in France.

Colonel Wood emerged from the World War uninjured, although he was in the midst of some of the heaviest fighting

during the turning point of the war. He led his platoon in an attack just before the declaration of peace, and saw many of his comrades fall in the way of the enemy.

Upon returning to civilian life, Colonel Wood assisted in the organization of the Shawnees, which later became Battery E of the 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in May, 1921, and was mustered into service with that Battery as First Lieutenant on May 9, 1921.

His National Guard service during the succeeding years brought him recognition from superior officers, as evidenced by promotion through the grades of Captain, Major, and Lieutenant Colonel, and in September, 1929, he was promoted to Colonel. He was assigned to command the 246th Coast Artillery, which was inducted into the Army of the United States on September 16, 1940, and ordered to stations at Fort Story and Fort Monroe, Virginia.

One year after induction, troops of the regiment received praise from Brig. Gen. Rollin L. Tilton, Commander of the Third Coast Artillery District, for their training accomplishments under a "highly adequate leadership."

# POST COMMANDERS, FORT MONROE AND FORT STORY



FREDRIC H. SMITH  
*Major General*  
Commanding General HDCB, Fort Monroe  
Until Nov. 7, 1940



ROLLIN L. TILTON  
*Brigadier General*  
Commanding General HDCB, Fort Monroe  
From Nov. 8, 1940



DALE D. HINMAN  
*Lieutenant Colonel*  
Commanding Officer,  
Fort Story  
Until May 8, 1941



R. B. COCROFT  
*Colonel*  
Commanding Officer,  
Fort Story  
From May 9, 1941

# HISTORY OF THE 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

As uncertainty marks the course of world events and Democracy stands on a threshold of unrest and threats of aggressor nations, citizen soldiers of the 246th Coast Artillery again have calmly adjusted themselves to another unlimited national emergency.

While many of the great nations of the world are in a state of undeclared war and their peoples enslaved to a dictatorial tyranny, guardians of the Mother State—many of them reminiscent of their 1917-18 struggle to save the freedom handed down to them from courageous ancestors—are preparing for any eventuality that may threaten the American way of life. Just as the first European government crumbled under the heel of a monstrous conqueror in this World War II—the Army of the United States signaled for strength. We, of the 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense), are proud to be a part of this vast bulwark between a free, peace-loving nation and a force so destructive that the entire world fears for its safety.

A regiment of the Commonwealth of Virginia—whose military knowledge has been gained over a period of more than three centuries—the 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense), has wholeheartedly answered the call of the President of the United States and is in training at Fort Story and Fort Monroe, on historic Cape Henry and Old Point Comfort, respectively, carefully studying modern coast defense warfare.

This Regiment will be prepared to meet any crisis if and when it is called to defend the nation and Virginia.

Through its Battery B, the 246th Coast Artillery traces its history back to 1856 and its coat of arms reflects the highlights of its past. The shield has artillery red for its background, indicative of its branch of service. The saltire, upper left hand corner, is in honor of the service of one of its units in the Confederate Army in the War Between the States. The rainbow calls attention to the service several of its units saw in the Rainbow (42nd) Division of the First World War.

The Regiment's crest is the seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the regimental motto—*Prepared to Defend*—is in keeping with its mission. The regimental colors carry two streamers in recognition of combat service in France in two major offensives: St. Mihiel, September 12-16, 1918; Meuse-Argonne, September 26 to November 11, 1918.

The 246th C. A. was originally organized in 1921 by Colonel Marshall M. Milton, its first commanding officer. Formed when Jo Lane Stern was Adjutant General, its letterhead for a time carried the appellation: "The Jo Lane Stern Artillery." Federally recognized December 15, 1921 as the First Provisional Regiment, Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, it was composed of the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Companies, C. A. C., Virginia National Guard, stationed at Richmond, Lynchburg, Gordonsville, Clifton Forge, Christiansburg, Buchanan and Chimcooteague, respectively. The service section of Headquarters Battery was organized in Richmond and the Band Section of that Battery in Danville.

The line units at Richmond, Lynchburg, Clifton Forge and Roanoke, and the Medical Detachment and Service Section of Headquarters Battery never changed their home stations, but the unit organized at Gordonsville transferred to Danville, that at Christiansburg to Blacksburg, that at Buchanan to Covington, and the Chimcooteague company to Christiansburg, then to Vinton. The Band Section has kept its home station at Lynchburg, after transferring from Danville.

The Regiment's first redesignation was on April 1, 1922, when it became the First Coast Defense Command, Virginia National Guard, and its companies were redesignated in numerical sequence from 409th to 416th, inclusive. On November 5, 1923, it became the 246th Artillery (60th Virginia Artillery), Virginia National Guard. The parenthetical part of the designation was in recognition of the descent of some of its units from those of the 60th Regiment, C. A. C., a Virginia organized unit of the First World War, in which Colonel Milton had served as a Major. In this redesignation, the line units were given their current alphabetical designations, Batteries A to F, inclusive.

On August 19, 1924, the organization was designated 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense), its present designation. On March 15, 1926, Colonel Milton was succeeded by Colonel Frank B. Varney, former regimental executive, who in turn was succeeded by Colonel Alonzo E. Wood, who had served successively as First Lieutenant, Captain, Major, and Lieutenant Colonel. In the Spring of 1929 Regimental Headquarters was moved from Richmond to Lynchburg, its location at the time the Regiment was inducted into Federal Service, on September 16, 1940.

Annual regimental two-week field training periods have been held at Fort Monroe, 1922 to 1936, inclusive, and in 1937-39, at Fort Story, where it manned and fired service target practice on 12-inch railway mortars, 8-inch railway guns and 155 mm G. P. F. guns. It served an additional seven-day period of field training at Fort Story in November, 1939. The Medical Detachment, Headquarters Battery (Service Section), and Batteries A, E, F and H, organized as a provisional regiment commanded by Colonel Wood, served on "strike duty" at Schoolfield, Va., from January 23 to February 9, 1931.

In May, 1940, the 246th C. A. was again reorganized in accordance with War Department plans. The Third Battalion (A.A.) was organized by Lieutenant Colonel Randolph McG. Cabell, its present commanding officer, and consisted of Headquarters Battery and Battery I, both of Roanoke, and Batteries G and H, both of Salem. The War Department, in July, 1940, ordered that the Regiment

remain in training at Fort Story for three weeks, instead of the two-week training periods which the organization had undergone in previous years, and on September 16, the Regiment was among the first contingent of Guard units to be inducted into the Army of the United States. Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, and Batteries D, F, and 2nd Battalion Headquarters Battery were ordered to Fort Monroe, while the remaining units came to Fort Story. On December 19, 1940, Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Battery were transferred to Story, and Battery H was ordered to Fort Monroe, to join the units there.

Members of the 246th arriving at Fort Story after their induction found much work to be done, and in addition, had to remain under canvas until December 1, while barracks and other facilities were under construction. Fatigue details occupied a great deal of the troops' time, but looking back on those days, we realize that more progress was made in training the men than was expected.

The Fort Monroe units were, soon after their arrival on September 23, 1940, busy in fulfilling troop requirements for the Coast Artillery Board, and the Coast Artillery School; these requirements being their primary duties. Tents formed their homes until December 23, at which time they moved into new quarters that had just been completed.

The Regiment was fortunate in having with it until late in the fall of 1940 its unit instructors, Colonel Samuel F. Hawkins and Lieutenant Colonel Herbert H. Blackwell. Both served in advisory capacities, and training of the men settled down in all seriousness by the time they left the Regiment. We also had the services of Technical Sergeant William G. Berry, former sergeant-instructor in the National Guard, who later, on March 31, 1941, retired from active service upon completion of a long number of years in the Army. A Regimental Review was held in his honor a few days before he left for his home in Tennessee.

With headquarters at Fort Monroe, Major General Frederic H. Smith and Brigadier General Rollin T. Tilton have served in their respective order as commanders of the Harbor Defenses of the Chesapeake Bay since the 246th Coast Artillery has become an affiliate. Lieutenant Colonel Dale D. Hinman and Colonel R. B. Cocroft have been the commanding officers at Fort Story.

The 246th Coast Artillery has steadily grown both in strength and efficiency since the early days of its induction into the Federal Service. Training programs have been greatly broadened to take in each phase of Coast Artillery; alertness and the morale and physical fitness are on the upgrade throughout the ranks. On January 14th the first group of selectees—133 young Virginians—arrived at Fort Story and were assigned to the various batteries of this Regiment, with the exception of the Monroe units, which already had been brought up to war strength, due to the transfer of guardsmen from the Story units. In July, 94 Selective Service men arrived from the Coast Artillery Replacement Center, Fort Eustis, and practically all of the men were from New York and New Jersey. All of the earlier arrivals had been Virginians.

The enlisted men at Fort Story have found a good deal of pleasure in the recreation facilities afforded them in the spacious new Service Men's Club, now open on the Post, and at the new War Department Theatre, which has adopted a policy of providing the men with first-run pictures. The attractions at the nearby beaches also have helped materially to build a higher morale, of which we are proud. That is not to mention the services rendered the enlisted men by the United Service Organizations, which have provided entertainment and everything possible to help the soldier spend his enlistment in as much happiness as possible.

The first year in the Federal service has just ended for the 246th C. A., and a gala celebration marking the end of 12 months of hard training was held. A spectacular regimental review marked the year's end, on September 16, when the troops were reviewed by Brig. Gen. S. Gardner Waller, Adjutant General, Commonwealth of Virginia; Brig. Gen. Rollin L. Tilton, Commanding General, Harbor Defenses of Chesapeake Bay; Col. R. B. Cocroft, Post Commander, Fort Story; Lieut. Col. Mills F. Neal, Director of Selective Service, Commonwealth of Virginia; and other dignitaries of the military and private life. And at the close of the year, the War Department's policy of releasing a percentage of the men, for various reasons, is taking shape, and it is expected, barring any unseen complications, that approximately 60 per cent of the Regiment will be able to return to their homes by January 1, if they so desire.

This will mean bringing in an additional large number of trainees. It is hoped, by the personnel now here, that our successors will assume the same spirit of responsibility and maintain the high morale that have been shown by the National Guardsmen and Selective Service men during the past 12 months.

Among the 246th Coast Artillery's prized possessions is the sword of its first commanding officer, the late Marshall M. Milton. This sword was presented to the Regiment with appropriate ceremony by the Rev. W. B. Lee Milton, eldest son of the late Colonel Milton.

The Regiment takes this opportunity to pay homage to the following Regular Army instructors who, in addition to Colonels Hawkins and Blackwell and Sergeant Berry, have been detailed to it since its organization: Capt. Phillip B. Taliaferro, Major Glenn P. Anderson, Major James deB. Wallbach, Lieut. Col. M. M. Kimmel, Lieut. Col. Jesse L. Sinclair, Jr., Major Robert C. Snidow, Technical Sergeant Benjamin F. Hinson, and Staff Sergeant James H. Tays.

# REGIMENTAL

## 246th COAST



**RICHARD T. ARRINGTON**  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Executive Officer



Born October 6, 1901, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1921, with B.S. degree. Private and Master Sergeant from February 8, 1922 to July 3, 1923; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Infantry, Officers' Reserve Corps, October 18, 1922; Second Lieutenant in First Coast Defense Command, Virginia National Guard, July 7, 1923; First Lieutenant in 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, November 14, 1923; Captain in 246th C. A., Va. N. G., August 8, 1926; Major in 246th C. A., Va. N. G., June 7, 1929; Lieutenant Colonel in 246th C. A., Va. N. G., April 3, 1931, to date. Assistant Regimental Adjutant and Adjutant, July 7, 1923 to June 6, 1929; Battalion Commander, June 7, 1929 to April 2, 1931; Executive Officer, April 3, 1931 to date. Inducted into Federal service, September 16, 1940.



**GORHAM B. WALKER, JR.**  
Captain  
Adjutant

Born November 12, 1906, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.A. degree at Virginia Military Institute, in 1928. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers' Reserve Corps (Cavalry), in June, 1928; promoted to First Lieutenant on July 22, 1931; transferred to 104th Quartermaster Regiment, Virginia National Guard, with rank of First Lieutenant, on March 25, 1933; transferred to 246th Coast Artillery (H. D.), as First Lieutenant, and assistant adjutant, on June 5, 1940; promoted to Captain on August 26, 1940. Inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940, as Captain, and assigned to duty as Regimental Adjutant.



**WILLARD H. WHITE**  
Captain  
Plans and Training Officer

Born March 6, 1910 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University of Illinois. Degrees: B.S., M.S., and M.A. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in May, 1932 and assigned to 917th Coast Artillery Reserve; promoted to First Lieutenant in August, 1936; transferred to National Guard of United States on June 3, 1937 and assigned to 246th Coast Artillery, as Battery Officer; inducted September 16, 1940, with Battery F, promoted to Captain on December 20, 1941, and assigned to duty as Regimental Plans and Training Officer.



**JAMES S. JONES, JR.**  
Captain  
Supply Officer

Born September 8, 1899, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended John Marshall High School, Richmond, Virginia. Served as First Sergeant in 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, from December, 1921 to October, 1923; commissioned Second Lieutenant in 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, in 1923, and assigned as Gun Commander of Mortar Battery; promoted to First Lieutenant on July 16, 1925, and assigned as Range Officer in Mortar Battery; promoted to Captain in 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, on January 21, 1941, and was assistant to Regimental Supply Officer until January, 1941; other assignments since induction into Federal Service, on September 16, 1940, include Adjutant of Third Battalion, 246th C. A.; Post Police and Prison Officer; Post Provost Marshal; Regimental Supply Officer, 246th C. A., June, 1941, to date.

# STAFF

## ARTILLERY (HD)



WESLEY C. ROYER  
1st Lieutenant  
Intelligence Officer

Born November 21, 1903, State of Indiana. Received B.S.M.E. degree at Purdue University in 1931. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Field Artillery Reserve on June 5, 1931; assigned to 492nd Field Artillery Reserve to February, 1933; reassigned 27th F. A. Reserve February, 1933; reassigned to Third Field Artillery, April, 1935; assigned to 314th F. A. Reserve from September, 1937 to June 6, 1940; appointed First Lieutenant, Field Artillery (Reserve) on January 10, 1935; appointed Second Lieutenant, Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on June 6, 1940, and assigned to Battery F; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; Emplacement Officer from September 16, 1940 to December, 1940; Range Officer and Battery Executive, December, 1940 to April 5, 1941; promoted to First Lieutenant on January 21, 1941; assigned as Regimental Intelligence Officer, Assistant Plans and Training Officer and Public Relations Officer, April 16, 1941, to date.



JOHN L. SUTTENFIELD  
Captain  
Chaplain

Born September 4, 1899, in Rockingham County, North Carolina. Graduated from Lynchburg College with A.B. degree. Commissioned First Lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on April 14, 1938; promoted to Captain on January 16, 1941.



JAMES H. B. PEAY, JR.  
1st Lieutenant  
Personnel Adjutant

Born November 1, 1907, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with B.S. degree. Enlisted as private in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, on May 7, 1930; honorably discharged as staff sergeant on May 7, 1933; re-enlisted May 8, 1933; appointed First Sergeant on December 14, 1933; honorably discharged on May 6, 1936; re-enlisted on May 7, 1936; honorably discharged with grade of First Sergeant on May 6, 1939; re-enlisted on May 7, 1939; honorably discharged on November 1, 1939, to accept active commission; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve on May 31, 1939; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on September 7, 1938; promoted to First Lieutenant on September 14, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and assigned to Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery; acting Assistant Adjutant, September 26, 1940 to November 22, 1940; Assistant Adjutant, November 22, 1940; Post Personnel Adjutant, Fort Story, January 21, 1941 to August 21, 1941; Assistant Adjutant, 246th C. A. to date.

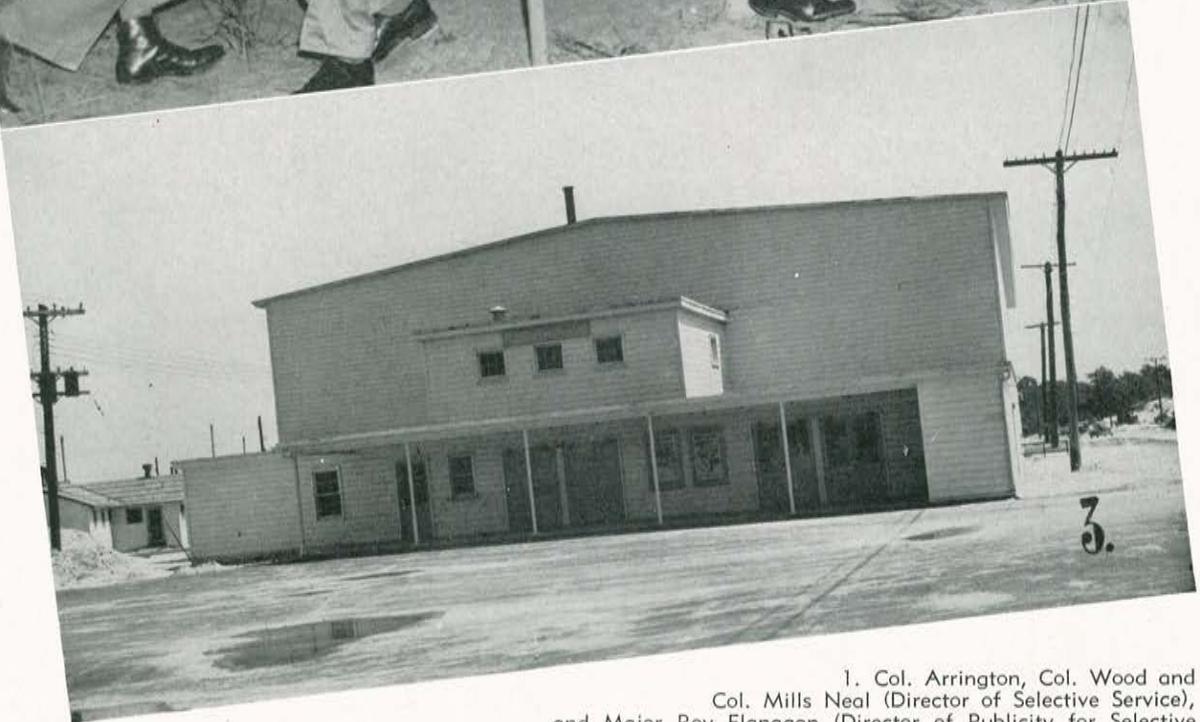


ROBERT G. URBACH  
2nd Lieutenant  
Communications Officer

Born February 10, 1915, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from John Marshall High School, Richmond, Virginia, in June, 1935. Enlisted as private in Headquarters Battery, Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on July 30, 1934; reassigned to active duty with Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., June 25, 1935 to July 29, 1937; honorably discharged in grade of Master Sergeant on July 27, 1940; re-enlisted July 30, 1940; served enlistment with duties in radio, meteorological, master gunners', Battery and Regimental Supply, and communications sections; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, with commission of Second Lieutenant, and attached to Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A.; served as assistant Regimental Supply Officer at Fort Monroe; transferred to Fort Story on September 26, 1940, and assigned to First Battalion Staff as Communications and Supply Officer; detailed Assistant Ordnance Officer and Artillery Engineer, October 3, 1940; Regimental Communications Officer, November 22, 1940; relieved of duty as assistant Ordnance Officer and Artillery Engineer, on February 25, 1941.



# 246th COAST ARTILLERY



1. Col. Arrington, Col. Wood and Col. Mills Neal (Director of Selective Service), and Major Roy Flanagan (Director of Publicity for Selective Service). 2. Officers' Mess, First Army CPX at Fort Story. 3. Fort Story Theatre.

# OFFICERS REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



JOSEPH L. SHOEMAKER, JR.  
*Captain*  
Commanding, Headquarters Battery

Born July 4, 1901, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Enlisted as private in Coast Artillery Corps on April 27, 1922, and discharged with rank of Master Sergeant on November 13, 1923; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery on November 14, 1923; promoted to Captain on June 30, 1927, and assigned as commanding officer of Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery; attended Seacoast Refresher and Chemical Warfare Courses, Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe. Commanding Officer of Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., to date.



HORACE M. STARKE, JR.  
*Captain*

Born February 20, 1899, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the Virginia Military Institute. Enlisted as private in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on April 27, 1922, and was discharged with grade of Master Sergeant on July 22, 1928; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery on June 21, 1922; promoted to First Lieutenant on June 18, 1923; promoted to Captain on May 27, 1931. Inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and served as Regimental Supply Officer from that date until June, 1941. Commanding Officer of Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., from June, 1941, to date.



G. DARRELL HANN, JR.  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born June 15, 1905, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the University of Virginia. Served as enlisted man in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, as Private, Sergeant and Master Sergeant, from October 17, 1923, to September 12, 1940; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the National Guard of the United States in 1937; commissioned Second Lieutenant in 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, and assigned to Headquarters Battery, on September 12, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940. Headquarters Battery Executive from September, 1940 to April, 1941; Post Mess Officer at Fort Story from April to July, 1941.



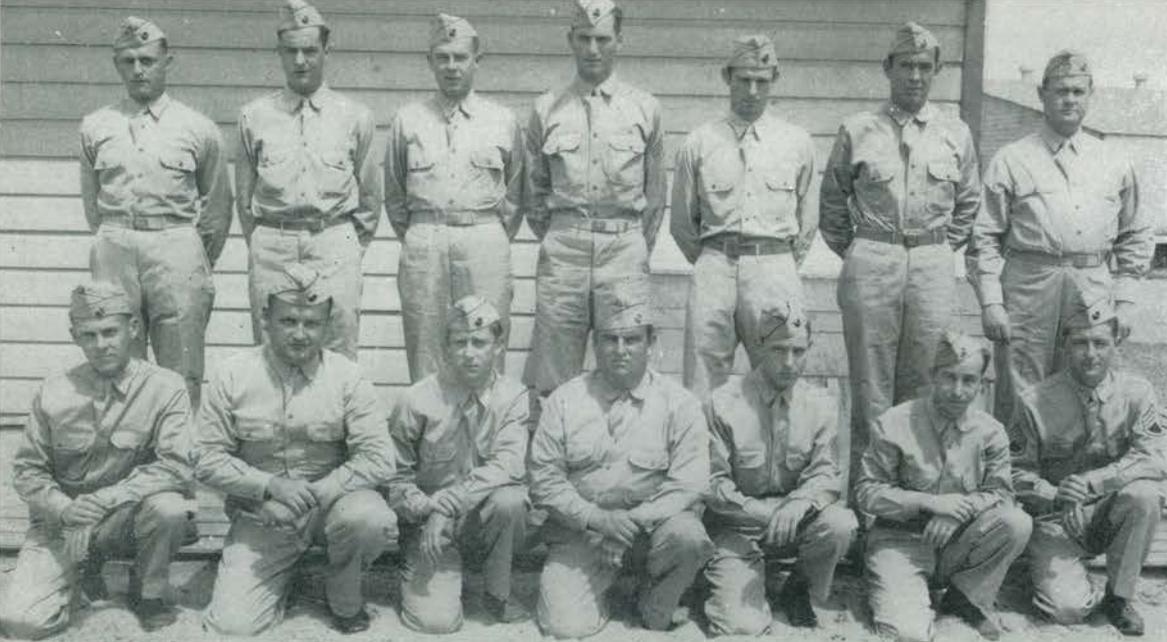
STEWART F. CURRY  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born September 22, 1916, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended T. C. Williams School. Enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in November, 1934, and was First Sergeant at time of honorable discharge to accept commission in September, 1940; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Army of the United States on September 16, 1940, with membership in Coast Artillery Corps; inducted on September 16, 1940, and assigned Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A. (HD), to date; Assistant Personnel Adjutant, February 5, to April 28, 1941, in addition to other duties.



THOMAS C. WHITWORTH, JR.  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born May 2, 1917, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received certificate in Civil Engineering at the Virginia Mechanics Institute, Richmond, Virginia. Served as Private in Headquarters Battery, 54th Field Artillery Brigade, from July, 1934 to November, 1937; Private in Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, from December 2, 1937 to September 15, 1940; appointed Corporal in July, 1938; appointed Staff Sergeant in November, 1939; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps on September 16, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and assigned to Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A.; detailed as Assistant Regimental Supply Officer on February 10, 1941; detailed as Regimental Laundry Officer on March 22, 1941, to present; Assistant Personnel Adjutant, April 28, 1941, to present; Assistant Post Personnel Adjutant, May 12, 1941, to present.



First row: PFC M. P. Bonifant, S. F. Padgett, 3rd, H. P. Boothe, J. W. Hankins, Stf. Sgt. W. A. Street, F. L. Champion, Stf. Sgt. F. D. Sharp. Second row: W. A. Adams, PFC C. D. Spencer, L. H. Love, Cpl. M. H. Bowles, H. A. Bickerton, W. A. Turner, F. M. O'Brien.

# REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

First organized on April 18, 1922 and federally recognized on April 27 as Headquarters Detachment (Service Section), First Coast Defense Command, under the command of Captain Jasper W. Knapp, Jr., this unit was renamed Headquarters Battery, when the regiment was redesignated 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense), August 19, 1924.

Captain Jasper W. Knapp, Jr., was succeeded in command by his brother, Captain Frederick D. Knapp in 1924. Frank L. Montague, Jr., was appointed Captain in the same year and held his command until 1927. In June, 1927, Second Lieutenant Joseph L. Shoemaker was elected

Captain and held his command until June, 1941, at which time he was succeeded by Captain Horace M. Starke, Jr.

Headquarters Battery was called out by the Adjutant General on January 23, 1931 for duty at Schoolfield, Virginia, to assist in maintaining law and order during the textile workers' strike at the Riverside and Dan Cotton Mills. This service lasted until February 9, 1931.

The battery was inducted on September 16, 1940 into Federal Service and went into camp at Fort Monroe, Va., on September 23, 1940. On December 19, 1940, the battery was transferred to Fort Story, at which place their duty has been up to the present time.

First row: Sgt. E. F. Morton, PFC W. M. Whitworth, Stf. Sgt. L. G. Livesay, Cpl. H. D. Marshall, J. C. Chisholm, Cpl. A. M. Kinker, Sgt. C. C. Churn, Jr., F. L. Brandes, T. C. Lemon. Second row: E. B. Williams, J. W. Colonna, Jr., J. R. Nowell, Cpl. W. N. Curry, S. B. McGhee, Jr., J. A. Menkevich, E. B. Poole, Cpl. G. A. Woody,

Jr., Sgt. P. M. Courtney, 3rd, S. Dresher. Third row: F. F. Baggs, Mr. Sgt. J. T. Percy, C. T. Raines, F. J. Simes, PFC W. W. Kirby, J. T. Kaskel, Mr. Sgt. J. H. Valentine, J. A. Moore, R. G. Riordan, L. G. Wilhelm, J. N. England.



First row: PFC W. A. Smith, Jr., Sgt. R. S. Jones, Sgt. E. P. Reams, 1st Sgt. L. D. Schmuck, Jr., Tech. Sgt. V. D. Arthur, PFC R. H. Thomas. Second row: W. A. Palmatary, F. V. Saraceno, Sgt. J. W. Layne, F. L. Haywood, Cpl. R. E. Moore, Jr., PFC E. H. Hann, Sgt. W. D. Letien. Third row: D. B. Powell, D. P. Miner, M. M. Klein, Cpl. M. E. Sparkman, Jr., Z. Bishop, Sgt. E. D. Houston. Fourth row: S. A. Rizzo, T. R. Owen, Jr., C. B. Seay, Jr., PFC G. L. Pond, L. C. Wright, W. H. Young, Jr.



First row: Tech. Sgt. R. L. Powell, Tech. Sgt. E. J. Rice, Mr. Sgt. C. H. Spain, Jr., Tech. Sgt. E. O. Covington, Stf. Sgt. G. B. Cummings. Second row: M. C. Belote, PFC M. L. Foster, PFC R. L. Luck, Sgt. L. E. Starr, Jr., Cpl. D. D. Wilson, A. M. Damiani, Jr. Third row: R. M. Garber, P. W. Allen, A. C. Magill, M. A. Daggy, J. S. Luce, Cpl. H. W. Worrell. Fourth row: W. L. Grant, C. D. LaGrande, 3rd, T. A. Newcomb, PFC W. E. Padgett, Cpl. H. W. Tompkins, Jr., W. H. Martin, Jr.



First row: Cpl. R. W. Newcomb, PFC R. E. Johnson, G. T. Gully, J. W. Emerson, PFC E. B. Owens, Jr., Cpl. I. A. Stein, Jr., PFC J. R. Blakey, PFC J. J. Connelly, 2nd, Cpl. L. P. Byrne, PFC W. W. Wickham. Second row: PFC A. E. Branch, E. O. Gates, S. W. Phillips, J. W. Shorter, A. V. Freitas, J. S. Finnigan, PFC H. H. Wallace, S. A. Bricker, PFC J. D. Griffith, Sgt. D. R. Riggs. Third row: J. H. Price, D. D. Gaddis, PFC C. P. Lowman, R. F. Eaton, E. Pastusak, PFC T. A. Hamilton, B. R. Respass, J. M. Strauss, R. B. Capper, D. M. Schwartz.



# REGIMENTAL BAND

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

### *History*

The Band of the 246th C. A. (HD) was organized April 18, 1923, at Danville, Virginia, as a unit of the Virginia National Guard. It remained in Danville under the direction of Albert A. Hall and Joseph Vezzetti as Warrant Officers until May, 1929. It was then reorganized at Lynchburg, Virginia, May 19, 1929, under the leadership of Warrant Officer Henry D. Harrison. Succeeding Mr. Harrison were: Professor Gustav Kleunter, Warrant Officers Fred P. Hale and William L. Fredrick. On March 13, 1937, Robert L. Bierly was appointed Warrant Officer and assumed the directorship which he still holds.

During the Band's period of existence, it has been a consistent prize-winner, and carries a streamer awarded for efficiency. It was judged by the Inspecting Officer in its last Federal inspection as one of the best National Guard bands in the United States.

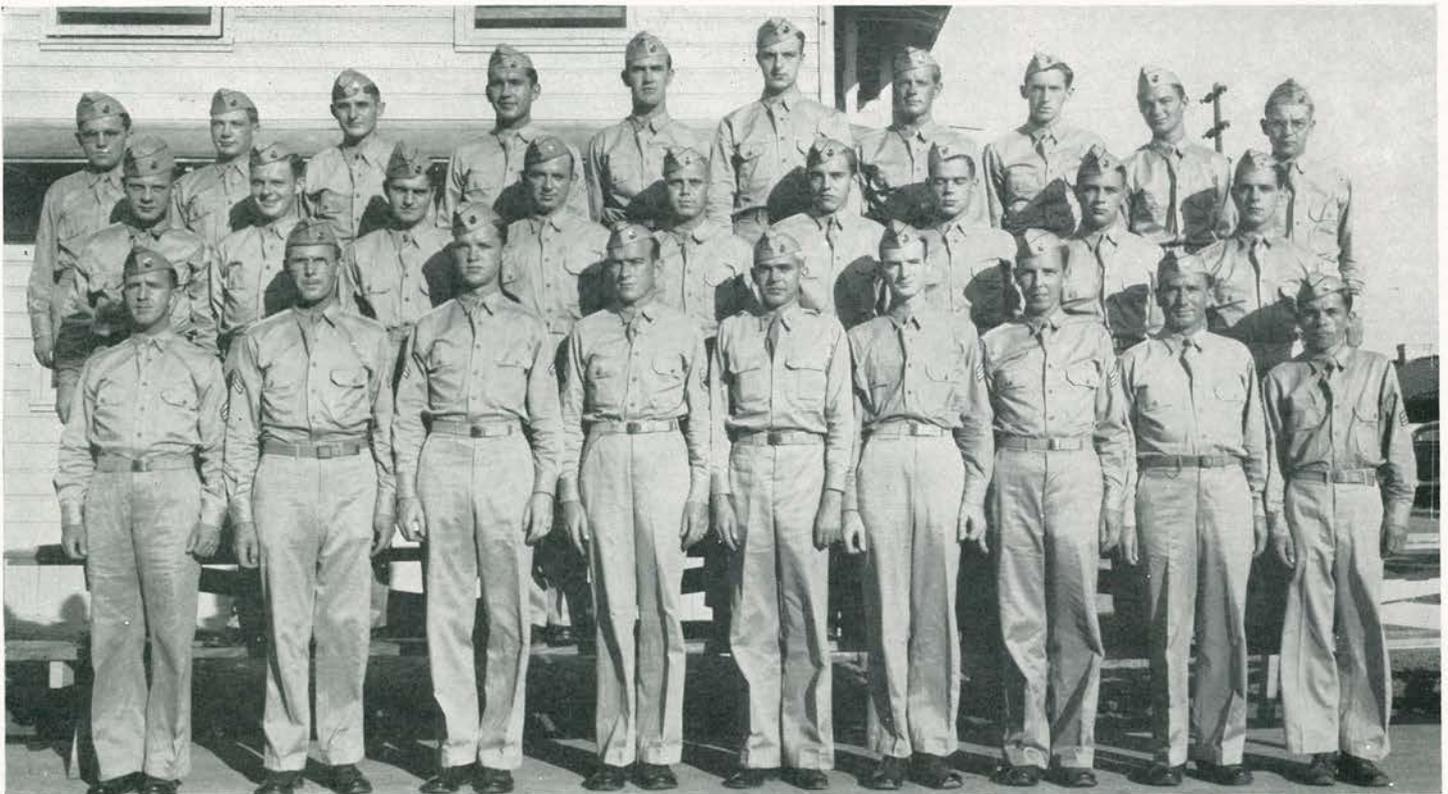
The Band was inducted into Federal service with the Regiment at Lynchburg, Virginia, September 16, 1940, and moved to Fort Story, Virginia, one week later. Since induction it has its duties as an Army band and is now designated the Post Band. In serving both the 246th C. A. (HD) and the 71st C. A. (AA) it has now a full year of service to its credit. During the past year it has participated in parades and other military activities in Norfolk, Hampton and Lynchburg, Virginia. It also accompanied the 71st C. A. (AA) on a convoy to Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

In this first year of service in the Army of the United States the Band has served well and has received many commendations for this service.



ROBERT L. BIERLY  
Warrant Officer

Born June 5, 1910 in the State of Pennsylvania. Graduated from Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, with B.S. degree. Served in 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, as a private, and received warrant as Warrant Officer on September 21, 1936, per S. O. No. 69, AGO, Virginia; assigned to Band Unit, 246th C. A., Va. N. G., on September 21, 1936; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940, and assigned with 246th C. A. Band at Fort Story.



First row: Sgt. A. C. Crank, Cpl. W. D. Giles, Cpl. W. P. Sydnor, Tech. Sgt. G. W. Lindsay, Warr. Off. R. L. Bierly, Sgt. S. W. West, Jr., Sgt. W. H. Clark, Jr., Stf. Sgt. W. C. Whorley, Sgt. R. W. Sutor. Second row: O. H. Anderson, W. H. Foster, L. D. Hillsman, Jr., L. B. Jordan,

J. M. Capps, W. S. Slater, Jr., T. O. Probst, W. G. Weigand, Jr., C. W. Mason. Third row: F. D. Johnson, E. R. Hicks, E. M. Dodson, M. V. Smith, F. L. Lester, Jr., S. F. Marshall, R. E. Foster, E. P. Patterson, Jr., R. L. Taylor, W. M. Sowers.



# MEDICAL DETACHMENT

246th COAST ARTILLERY



IRA H. HURT  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding,  
Medical Detachment

Born October 21, 1890, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Roanoke College, and Jefferson Medical College. Graduated with M.D. degree. Member of S.A.T.C. in 1918; commissioned First Lieutenant on June 1, 1922; commanded Medical Detachment, 246th C. A., from June, 1922 to July, 1937; surgeon, 246th C.A., July, 1937 to date; promoted to Captain on October 31, 1922; promoted to Major on July 2, 1937; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on February 12, 1941. Attended the Medical Field Service School (Refresher Course), in May, 1941.



HOLCOMBE H. HURT  
Major

Born November 1, 1901 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from the University of Virginia with the degree of M.D. Commissioned a 1st Lt. in the Medical Corps, Virginia National Guard, May 25, 1934. Assigned to Medical Detachment. Inducted Sept. 16, 1940. Promoted to Major, Feb. 4, 1941. Attached to Fort Story Station Hospital, April 1, 1941, and designated as Chief of Surgical Service to date.

## History

The Medical Department Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery, was originally organized June 1, 1922, as the Medical Department Detachment, First Coast Defense Command, C. A. C., by First Lieutenant Ira H. Hurt, M. C. It was redesignated Medical Department Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense).

Captain Ira H. Hurt, M. C., commanded the unit until his promotion to Regimental Surgeon on July 2, 1937, at which time First Lieutenant William E. Huff, M. C. (later promoted to Captain), became Commanding Officer. Captain Huff transferred to the Inactive National Guard, effective February 28, 1939, and was succeeded by Captain Charles F. Davis, Jr., M. C., who was the Commanding Officer until date of induction. At that time the Regimental Surgeon, Lieutenant Colonel Hurt, M. C., again assumed command.

In order to bring the organization to full peacetime strength two additional National Guard Officers were assigned to this regiment during 1940, First Lieutenant William C. Tinsley, D. C., on the 24th of May, and First Lieutenant John C. Risher on the 12th of September, both of Lynchburg, Virginia.

The Detachment was inducted into the Army of the United States on the 16th of September, at Roanoke, Virginia; and proceeded to Fort Story, Virginia, on the 22nd of September, 1940, where the 246th Coast Artillery was to be assembled, and has remained at this post from that date. In order to bring the strength of the organization to that prescribed by the Tables of Organization, the following officers of the O. R. C. on an active duty status were assigned: Captain Donald Donley, M. C., Sharon, Pa.; Captain Harry J. Costanza, D. C., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Captain Harry A. Sapira, M. C., Elizabeth, Pa.; and Captain Louis F. Rogel, M. C., Uniontown, Pa.

The enlisted men necessary to bring the strength from a peace to war status, as prescribed by Tables of Organization were obtained through the Selective Service Board, Richmond, Virginia.

During this year, training has been intensive and much has been accomplished. A goodly number of the enlisted men have attended the Service Schools and are now qualified as Medical, Surgical, Dental and Sanitary Specialists. We feel that each man is capable of satisfactorily performing his assigned duties under any conditions.

# MEDICAL DETACHMENT

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



HARRY A. SAPIRA  
Captain

Born December 15, 1906, in the State of Pennsylvania. Attended University of Pittsburgh. Degrees: B.S. and M.D. Commissioned First Lieutenant in Medical Corps, U. S. Army Reserve Corps, on June 10, 1931; promoted to Captain in Reserve Corps on January 29, 1936; entered active duty with regular Army on March 1, 1941, and was assigned to Medical Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.), at Fort Monroe, Va.; served six years and three months on duty with the Civilian Conservation Corps, the last three and a half years as district surgeon, Northern District, C.C.C., of Pennsylvania. Graduated from Carlisle Medical School Refresher Course on June 28, 1941.



CHARLES F. DAVIS, JR.  
Captain

Born on December 12, 1909, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Roanoke College, Salem, Va., and the Medical College of Virginia. M.D. degree. Commissioned as First Lieutenant in Medical Corps, Officers Reserve Corps, on May 2, 1936; transferred to Virginia National Guard and National Guard of United States on March 2, 1939; assigned to 246th Coast Artillery and designated commanding officer of the Medical Detachment at Roanoke, Va.; promoted to Captain on June 5, 1940; inducted into Army of the United States, at Roanoke, on September 16, 1940, and assigned the duties of Battalion Surgeon; accompanied 246th C. A. to Fort Story, Va.



HARRY J. COSTANZA  
Captain

Born January 22, 1905, in the State of Pennsylvania. Received D.D.S. degree at the University of Pittsburgh. Commissioned as First Lieutenant in the Dental Corps, U. S. Army Reserves, in December, 1931; assigned to 324th Medical Regiment, Pittsburgh, Pa., and promoted to rank of Captain on March 3, 1937; assigned to 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.), as Regimental Dental Surgeon, on December 13, 1940.



DONALD DONLEY  
Captain

Born February 2, 1898, in the State of Pennsylvania. Attended Westminster College and the University of Pittsburgh. Degrees: B.S. and M.D. Member of the S.A.T.C. in 1918; commissioned in Medical Reserve Corps in June, 1925; promoted to Captain in the Medical Reserve Corps in 1930; assigned to the Medical Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery, on December 13, 1940. Attended the Medical Field Service School during September and October, 1941.



LOUIS F. ROGEL  
Captain

Born September 9, 1906, in the State of New York. Received M.D. degree at University of Vermont. C.M.T.C., 1924, 1925 and 1926, and R.O.T.C., 1927 and 1928; commissioned First Lieutenant in Medical Corps on October 22, 1935; assigned to Medical Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.), as Captain, on January 8, 1941, with duties of Medical Officer (training), Medical Detachment. Attended the Medical School at Carlisle Field, in April, 1941.



WILLIAM C. TINSLEY  
1st Lieutenant

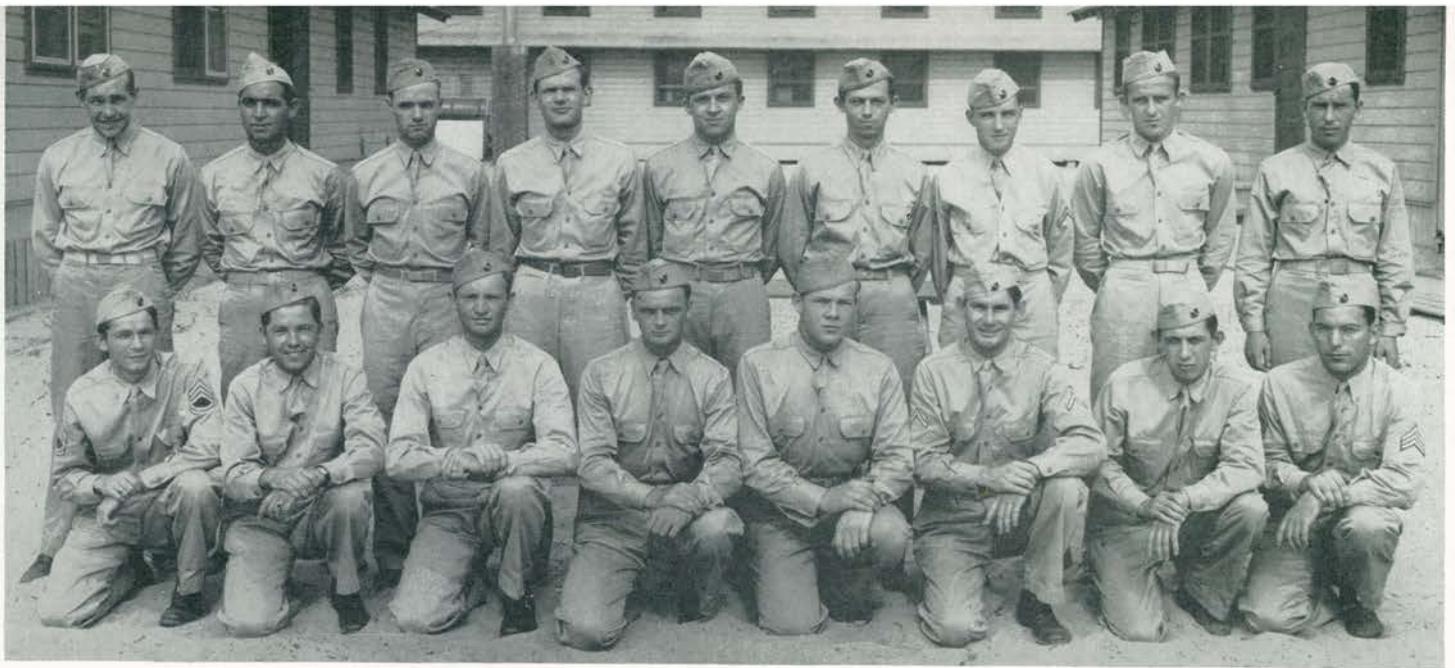
Born November 14, 1915, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Lynchburg College and University of Maryland (Dental). Degree: D.D.S. Enlisted as musician in Band unit, 246th Coast Artillery, on February 14, 1934; honorably discharged on February 14, 1937; served as dental interne, U. S. Marine Hospital, United States Public Health Service, from July 1, 1939 to June 30, 1940; commissioned First Lieutenant in Dental Corps, Virginia National Guard, on May 24, 1940, and was assigned to Medical Detachment, 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.); inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; assignments include duties as Assistant Regimental Dental Surgeon, 246th C. A. Appointed secretary and treasurer of Officers' Club on July 14, 1941.



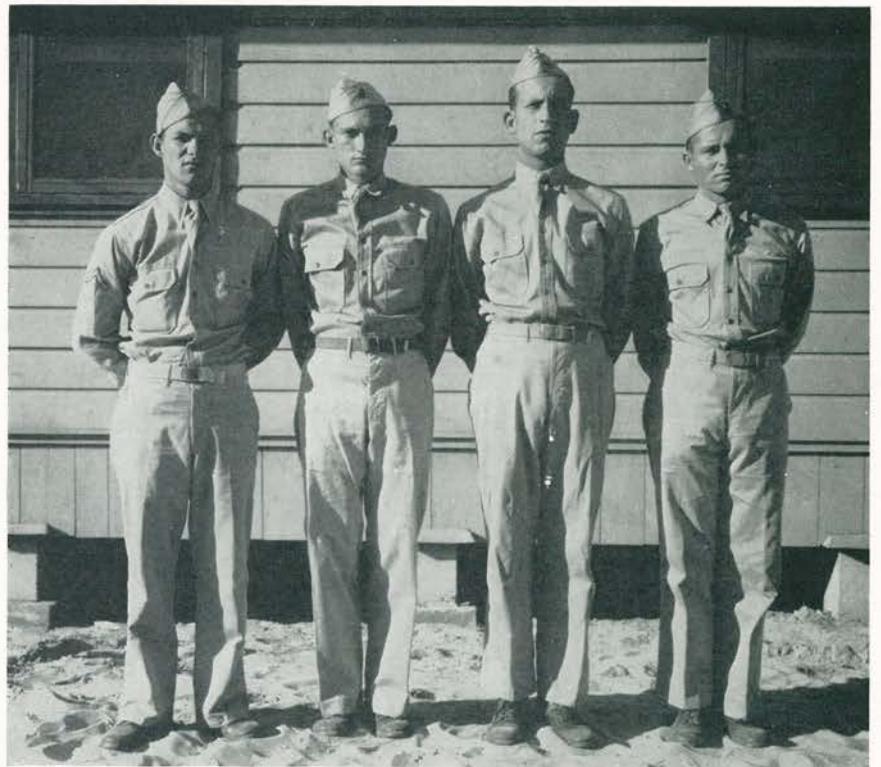
JOHN C. RISHER  
1st Lieutenant

Born May 11, 1910, in the State of Pennsylvania. Received B.S. and M.D. degrees at University of Virginia. Commissioned as First Lieutenant, in Medical Corps, on September 12, 1940, and attached to 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.), on September 16, 1940.





First row: Tech. Sgt. J. W. Shelton, PFC A. M. Hicks, W. H. Foster, E. R. Eanes, PFC J. P. Hurley, J. Haynes, PFC K. I. Cromer, Sgt. J. W. Thomas. Second row: C. A. Thurman, R. F. Grissett, C. E. Howell, W. T. Carpenter, PFC L. G. Surface, PFC P. Saunders, PFC F. R. Wright, PFC R. B. Moore, N. M. Hicks.



PFC E. L. Sparks, J. P. Taylor, M. A. Lovelace, PFC G. B. Haupt.

First row: Stf. Sgt. V. L. Redmond, Cpl. D. S. Hall, Cpl. W. W. Leonard, PFC T. W. Old, J. A. Creamer, Jr., H. E. Melton, W. C. Nelson, Stf. Sgt. A. L. Bradley. Second row: C. Reese, F. F. Hovermale, R. O. Shackelford, I. M. Peregoy, E. F. Kincaid, C. F. Pearcey, J. A. Smith, P. F. Terrell.



# STAFF

## First Battalion

### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



HARRY T. ADKINS  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding,  
First Battalion

Born May 17, 1900 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Military Institute, S.A.T.C. from October 31, 1918 to December 1, 1918. Enlisted as private in the Coast Artillery Corps on November 22, 1923; discharged with rank of Sergeant on May 27, 1924; commissioned Captain in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on June 12, 1924, and commanded Battery B until May 16, 1930; promoted to Major on May 17, 1930; inducted into Federal service September 16, 1940, and assigned as Commanding Officer of the First Battalion, until December 23, 1940; promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (temporary) on December 23, 1940, and reassigned commanding officer of the First Battalion. Attended Seacoast Refresher Course, Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, from June 26, 1941, to August 31, 1941, supplemented by a special tactical course for field officers. Detached service, CPX, Umpire Duty, 1st C.A. District, September 1, 1941 to September 23, 1941.



DOUGLAS A. ROBERTSON  
Major  
Executive Officer

Born December 27, 1900 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Military Institute and the University of Virginia. Degrees: B.A. and B.L. Served as enlisted man in 246th Coast Artillery, (H. D.); commissioned Second Lieutenant in Cavalry Reserve, in 1922; promoted to First Lieutenant in Cavalry Reserve on August 5, 1926; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on November 22, 1926, and assigned as Battalion Adjutant; promoted to Captain in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard in June, 1929, and assigned Regimental Adjutant; promoted to Major in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard on August 26, 1940, and assigned as Executive Officer, First Battalion; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; Commanding Officer of First Battalion from June 26, 1941; other assignments since induction have included Mine Group Commander and Commander of Provisional Recruit Battalion.



HOLLIS L. CAHOON  
Captain  
Plans and Training Officer

Born May 21, 1909 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Commissioned Second Lieutenant, Signal Corps, on May 31, 1931, in Organized Reserve Corps; assigned to duty with 333rd Construction Battalion, Signal Corps, on May 31, 1931; transferred as Second Lieutenant to Battery C, 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, on August 12, 1934; promoted to First Lieutenant in Battery C, 246th C. A., on June 25, 1936; inducted into Federal Service with Battery E, on September 16, 1940; transferred to First Battalion, 246th C. A., as Plans and Training Officer on November 22, 1940; promoted to Captain on December 28, 1940; assigned to Special Duty as Watch Officer at Harbor Entrance Control Post, on July 16, 1941, and serving in this capacity to date. Attended special school for National Guard Officers, April 5, 1940 to April 30, 1940, at C. A. School, Fort Monroe.



HAYWOOD D. VEASEY  
1st Lieutenant  
Asst. Watch Officer, HECF

Born February 27, 1912, in the State of North Carolina. Received B.S. degree at the Virginia Military Institute. Served as Private in Battery F, 115th Infantry, Virginia National Guard, 1930 to 1933; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry on June 1, 1935; promoted to First Lieutenant on July 14, 1933; transferred to Headquarters Battery, Third Battalion, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 12, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; appointed to Staff of First Battalion, as Adjutant, in November, 1940; appointed Commanding Officer of Headquarters Battery, First Battalion, on April 18, 1941; placed on Special Duty with the Harbor Entrance Control Post, July 18, 1941, to date.

# HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

## First Battalion

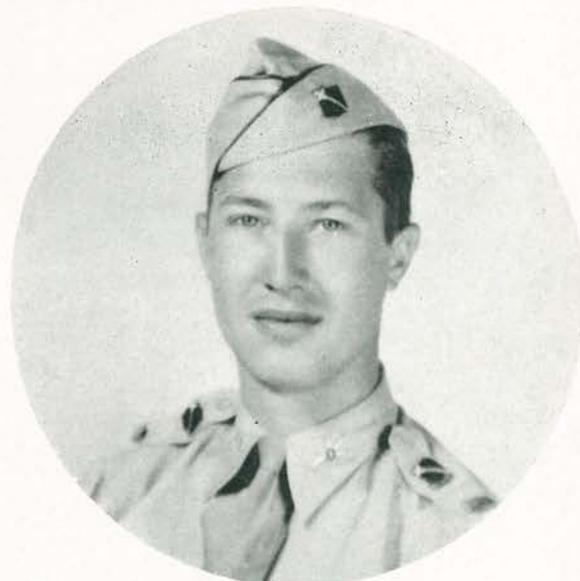
### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

#### History

Upon the reorganization of the Battery in the spring of 1940, this unit was made part of the First Battalion, 246th C.A. (HD). The organization had its beginning May 28, 1940, at Danville, Va., and was Federally recognized on June 7, 1940, with Lieut. Lawrence G. Wilson, transferred from Battery B, 246th, commanding.

Most of the men of the new organization had no previous military experience. O. W. Belton, having had previous enlistments in Battery B, 246th, was made Staff Sergeant. At the same time William H. Richardson was appointed Supply Sergeant. Harold L. Wood was transferred from Battery B and was assigned Battery Clerk.

(Continued on page 72)



WINSTON S. BROOKS  
2nd Lieutenant

Born August 24, 1914, at Harrisonburg, Virginia. Graduated from Lynchburg College with A.B. degree. Served an enlistment in C.M.T.C. from 1930 to 1933; member of the Infantry, Virginia National Guard, from April 16, 1934 to September 1, 1937, and from June 27, 1938 to June 5, 1940; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on June 5, 1940; served as Range Officer for Battery A, 246th C. A., prior to induction into Federal service on September 16, 1940; assignments since induction include Range Officer, Battery A, 246th C. A.; assignment with Headquarters, First Battalion, 246th C. A.; Battery Commander, Headquarters Battery, First Battalion, 246th C. A. Attended advance Small Arms School Instruction Course at Camp Perry, Ohio, from August 31, 1940, through September 15, 1940.



LAWRENCE G. WILSON, JR.  
2nd Lieutenant

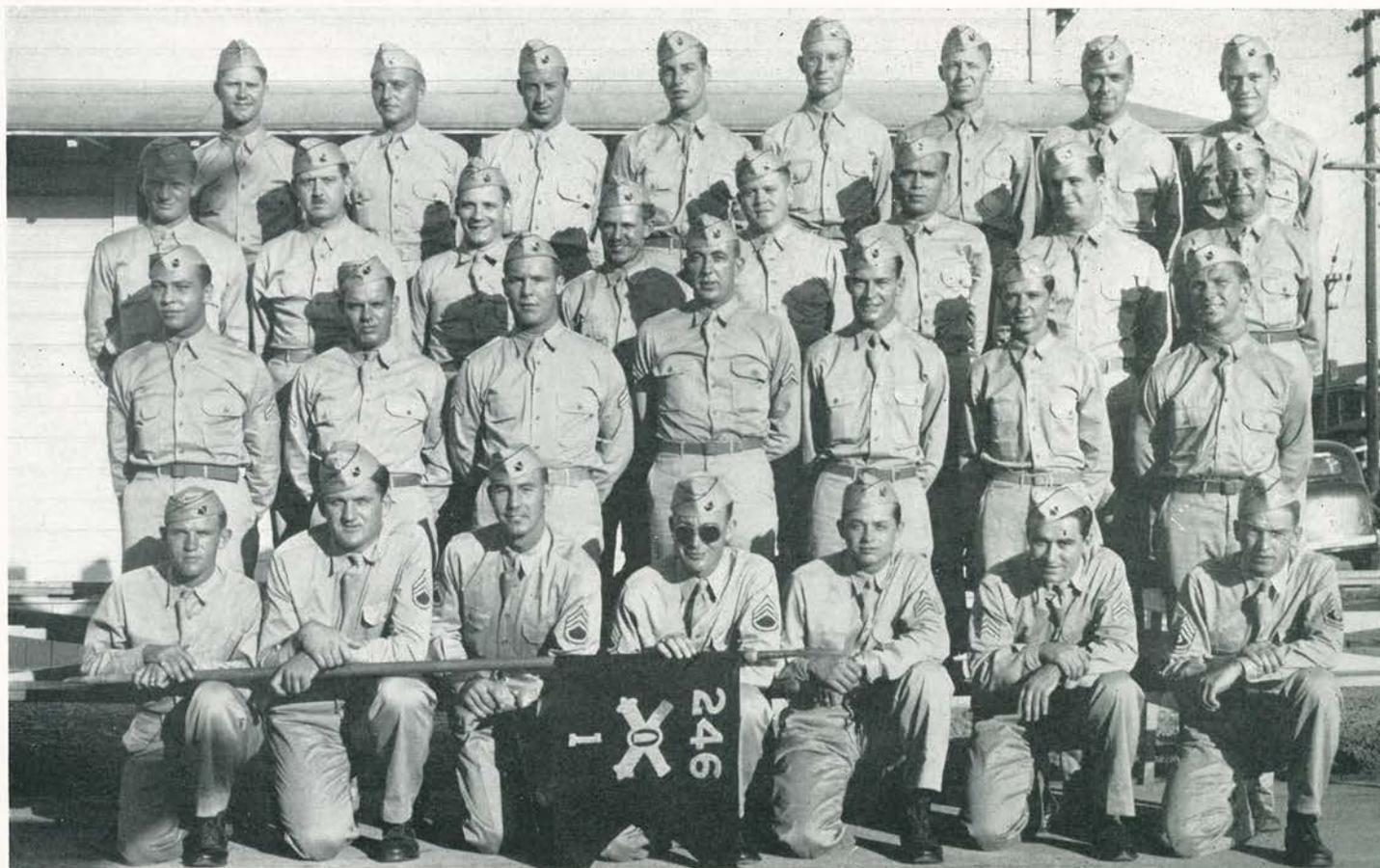
Born November 26, 1897, in the State of North Carolina. Received A.B. degree at the University of North Carolina. Member of the Students' Army Training Corps, July, 1918 to August, 1919.

(Continued on page 72)

HUGH R. NOEL, JR.  
2nd Lieutenant

Born June 12, 1917, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the University of Richmond Law School for two years. Enlisted as a Private in Regimental Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A.

(Continued on page 72)



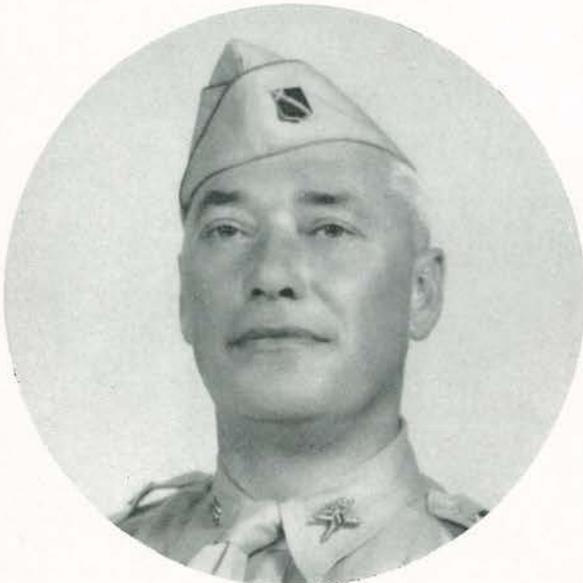
First row: H. S. Clark, St. Sgt. R. S. Henderson, St. Sgt. J. P. Morgan, St. Sgt. J. W. Hall, Sgt. J. W. Wilmoth, Jr., Sgt. W. H. Richardson, 1st Sgt. F. W. Lowe. Second row: Cpl. J. B. Goad, Cpl. J. E. Crane, Cpl. G. L. Hylton, Cpl. V. J. Cassell, PFC J. A. Merricks, J. L. Robinson, C. H. Alverson. Third row: C. P. Houston, Jr., R. M. Hall, O. A.

Pessagno, H. E. Fuller, T. L. Kellam, H. H. Fowler, PFC C. L. Leonard, O. W. Belton. Fourth row: C. B. Smith, H. E. Longfellow, R. J. Clements, D. F. Tucker, W. M. Patterson, PFC C. H. Weber, PFC J. W. Scarce, Jr., M. H. Bousman.

# STAFF

## Second Battalion

### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



WALLACE I. STOCKDON, JR.  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding,  
Second Battalion

Born October 17, 1891, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received his diploma from the T. C. Williams School of Law, University of Richmond. Served as Private in the Infantry from September 30, 1910 to January 31, 1914; as Sergeant in Infantry from August 25, 1914 to August 23, 1915; as Sergeant in Cavalry from June 21, 1916 to July 11, 1916; as private in Cavalry from November 22, 1921 to December 1, 1921; commissioned Captain in the Coast Artillery on December 2, 1921; Battery Commander of Battery now known as Battery K, which he had reorganized on November 25, 1921, from December 2, 1921 to January, 1925; assigned to regimental staff duties from January, 1925 to June 8, 1931; Battalion Commander from June 8, 1931 to date; promoted to Major on June 8, 1931; Battalion Commander from September 16, 1940 to date; promoted (temporary) to Lieutenant Colonel in Coast Artillery on December 31, 1940. Commanding Officer, Group 4, Harbor Defenses of Chesapeake Bay.



EDWARD DILLON, JR.  
Major  
Executive Officer

Born July 26, 1898, at Buena Vista, Virginia. Graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. Private, September 11, 1918 to December 11, 1918. S. A. T.C., Virginia Military Institute; April, 1922 until June, 1922, private in 413th Company, First Coast Defense Command, Virginia National Guard; June, 1922 until July, 1923, Second Lieutenant in 413th Company, First Coast Defense Command; July, 1923 until January, 1924, First Lieutenant in 413th Company, First Coast Defense Command; January, 1924 until June, 1931, First Lieutenant and Regimental Supply Officer, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard; June, 1931 until August, 1940, Captain and Regimental Plans and Training Officer, 246th C. A.; August, 1940 until September 16, 1940, Major and Executive Officer, Second Battalion, 246th C. A.; September 16, 1940, inducted into Federal service as Major and Executive Officer, Second Battalion, 246th C. A.; Commanding Officer, Provisional Railway Battalion; Fort Monroe Post Exchange Council, to date.



HILARY E. DUVAL  
2nd Lieutenant  
Adjutant

Born June 7, 1917, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from John Marshall High School, Richmond, Virginia, in 1936. Enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 54th Field Artillery Brigade, Virginia National Guard, on January 19, 1935; honorably discharged on June 25, 1937. Enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on June 7, 1937; held grades from Private to Staff Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps on September 16, 1940, and inducted into Federal service on that date; Master Gunner, Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., prior to induction; attached to Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., from September 16, 1940 to September 26, 1940; assigned to duty as Battalion Adjutant on September 26, 1940; attached to Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 246th C. A., from September 26, 1940 to January 11, 1941; assigned to Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 246th C. A., from January 11, 1941.



JAMES E. WINGFIELD, JR.  
2nd Lieutenant  
Personnel Adjutant

Born July 3, 1915, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended public schools at Covington, Virginia. Enlisted in Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on June 11, 1934, and remained in National Guard until September 16, 1940, when unit was inducted into Federal service; resigned as Corporal on September 15, 1940, to accept commission as Second Lieutenant; attached to Battery D, 246th C. A., Fort Monroe, from September 16, 1940 to September 26, 1940; attached to Headquarters, Third Battalion, 246th C. A., Fort Story, from September 27, 1940 to December 10, 1940, with the following assignments: Assistant to Acting Post Quartermaster, October 1 to November 13, 1940; detailed as Fire Marshal, Fort Story, November 8, 1940; assistant personnel adjutant, 246th C. A., Fort Monroe, January 6, 1941, to date; assigned to Regimental Headquarters, 246th C. A., Fort Story, and placed on Special Duty with Second Battalion, 246th C. A., at Fort Monroe, on July 14, 1941, as personnel adjutant.



# HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

## *Second Battalion*

### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

#### *History*

Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 246th Coast Artillery (HD), Virginia National Guard, was organized and mustered into the Regiment by Lt. Col. H. H. Blackwell, Regular Army Officer, at Covington, Virginia, on April 5, 1940. Upon organization, the authorized strength of the battery was one officer (Second Lt. Archie C. Gardner) and 12 enlisted men. Lieutenant Gardner and 11 of the enlisted men were transferred from Battery D, 246th C. A. (HD), also stationed at Covington; the other enlisted man being from Lynchburg, Virginia.

During the summer of 1940, from July 8 to July 29, this newly-organized battery experienced its first Summer Encampment Period at Fort Story, Va. Prior to Summer Camp, the authorized strength was increased to 14 men.

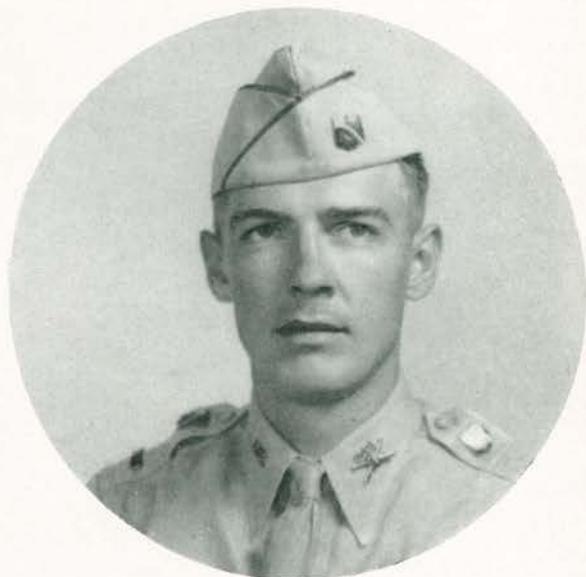
On September 16, 1940, Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, was inducted into the Army of the United States, along with the rest of the Regiment, for a year's active service. Upon arriving at Fort Monroe, Va., the permanent station of the Second Battalion, on September 23, 1940, the battery moved into tents, pending completion of new barracks for the battalion. By this time the authorized strength of the battery had been increased to 18 men.

On September 26, 1940, Second Lieutenant Hilary E. DuVal was assigned to Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, from Regimental Headquarters, this making a total of two officers, and on December 13, Staff Sergeant Flint, transferred from Battery D, was assigned as First Sergeant of Headquarters Battery.

By January 1, 1941, the battery had moved into barracks and, with 12 more men transferred from other batteries of the Regiment at Fort Story and four additional men from Battery D added to its ranks, the battery boasted a total of 34 men and two officers, with four men attached from Regimental Headquarters Battery.

On July 14, 1941, 18 men were assigned to Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, from the Coast Artillery Replacement Training Center of Fort Eustis, Va., thus making the battery 14 men over its authorized strength.

The primary job of Headquarters Battery since its induction into Federal service has been the maintenance and operation of the Group Four Command Tower at Fort Monroe. Also several men have been assigned to Special Duty with various offices and organizations on the Post of Fort Monroe. However, despite its small size, Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, has a very cooperative group of men and is proud of its record and the work it has accomplished.



ARCHIE C. GARDNER  
2nd Lieutenant  
Commanding,  
Headquarters Battery,  
Second Battalion

Born August 3, 1911, in the State of Illinois. Attended Blacksburg, Virginia, High School. Served as enlisted man for eight years and six months. Commissioned Second Lieutenant on June 6, 1940, and assigned to Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; commanding officer of Headquarters Battery, Second Battalion, 246th C. A., to date.



First row: 1st Sgt. J. W. Flint, Mr. Sgt. L. W. Roye, Tech. Sgt. H. L. Vail, Stf. Sgt. E. W. Woodward, Jr., Stf. Sgt. J. W. Bailey, Stf. Sgt. J. B. Thomas, Sgt. W. C. Dudding, Sgt. H. H. Knighton, Sgt. M. A. Dalton, Cpl. L. H. Lockhart, Cpl. R. P. Burruss. Second row: W. M. Sutkowski, PFC R. D. Andrews, S. J. Stanski, C. S. Young, PFC J. R. Lockhart, J. W. Kellam, Cpl. S. M. Cottrell, Cpl. A. B. Doss, Jr.,

C. E. Blankenship, Cpl. R. E. Friel, Cpl. W. R. Bennett. Third row: E. L. Vergason, J. E. Tribble, J. Rivera, A. Heiman, A. J. Alfred, Jr., PFC J. B. Hill, PFC E. E. Burr, R. A. White, E. F. Looney, N. Lewis. Fourth row: T. Rodack, J. T. Hyland, J. C. Schifferdecker, I. W. Jordan, R. J. Jones, A. E. Eastridge, P. K. Young, F. I. Glenn.

# STAFF

## Third Battalion

### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



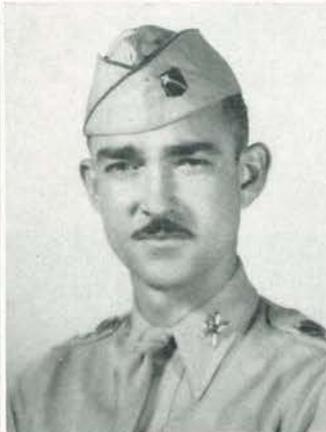
**RANDOLPH MCG. CABELL**  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding,  
Third Battalion

Born November 6, 1895, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the University of Virginia, and received an A.B. degree at Washington and Lee University. Served in World War as Sergeant in Medical Department from October, 1917 to April, 1919; commissioned as Second Lieutenant, C.W.S., in 1923; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in 1924; promoted to First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in 1925; promoted to Captain in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in 1926; promoted to Major in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in June, 1940; promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in August, 1940; inducted into Army of the United States on September 16, 1940, as commanding officer of Third Battalion.



**ERSKIN L. HILL**  
Major  
Executive Officer

Born August 27, 1893 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Private in the First Company Virginia Coast Artillery Corps from June 20, 1916 to April 1, 1917; Sergeant-Major from April 1, 1917 to May 9, 1919, served with AEF; commissioned First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery on March 8, 1922; promoted to Captain on August 14, 1923 and placed in command of Battery F, 246th C. A., Roanoke, Va.; promoted to Major on August 24, 1940 and made Executive Officer of Third Battalion; detailed as Assistant Post Executive Officer (Primary), and additional duty as Plans and Training Officer of Post on July 17, 1941, effective July 8, 1941; relieved of post duties and assigned as commanding officer of Third Battalion, on August 23, 1941. Engagement: Luneville Sector; Baccarat Sector; Champagne-Marne Sector; Vesle-Marne Sector; St. Mihiel-Woevre Sector; Argonne Sector; Sedan; and Army of Occupation of Germany.



**WILLIE N. THOMAS**  
Captain  
Senior Watch Officer,  
HECF

Born October 11, 1906, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Montvale, Virginia, High School. Enlisted in Battery F, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, as a Private, on January 9, 1924, and was discharged on January 8, 1927; reenlisted as Private in Battery F, 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, on September 5, 1927; discharged as Sergeant on June 19, 1934, to accept commission as Second Lieutenant in 246th C. A., Va. N. G.; transferred to Battery H, 246th C. A., as Second Lieutenant, on February 5, 1939; promoted to First Lieutenant and assigned to Battery H, 246th C. A., on March 2, 1939; transferred to Battery I, 246th C. A., on August 24, 1940; promoted to Captain and assigned as Commanding Officer of Battery I, 246th C. A., on August 24, 1940, and served in this capacity until July 15, 1941, when he was reassigned to Special Duty as Senior Watch Officer at the Harbor Entrance Control Post, where he is on duty to date. Attended special course in Coast Artillery School in 1936.



**EMMETT C. RANKIN**  
1st Lieutenant  
Asst. Watch Officer  
HECF

Born December 17, 1912, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with B.S. degree. Member of the Citizens Military Training Corps, July 1, 1930 to July 30, 1930; Reserve Officers Training Corps, Virginia Military Institute, 1931 to 1930; commissioned Second Lieutenant O.R.C., on May 30, 1935; promoted to First Lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve, September, 1938; transferred to the Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on June 5, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and assigned to duty as Commanding Officer of Headquarters Battery, Third Battalion, 246th C. A., at Fort Story; ordered to special duty with Harbor Entrance Control Post, as watch officer, in July, 1941.



**JOHN C. BOOTH, JR.**  
1st Lieutenant

Born April 17, 1904 in Richmond, Virginia. Received A.B. degree at the Virginia Military Institute. Enlisted on January 24, 1922 as a private in the Quartermaster Corps, Virginia National Guard; transferred as Corporal on January 24, 1923, to Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard; discharged as Staff Sergeant in January, 1925; reenlisted as Technical Sergeant in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on July 8, 1925; also served as Technical Sergeant in Headquarters Battery, 246th Coast Artillery, from August 2, 1926 to August 1, 1930; Master Sergeant from January 2, 1931 to June 8, 1936; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry, O. R. C., on June 15, 1927 and served to June 8, 1930; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the National Guard of the United States on September 6, 1934 and served to June 8, 1937; called to active duty with Battery A (now Battery K), 246th C. A., on June 9, 1936; promoted to First Lieutenant on June 26, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 14, 1940 and ordered to the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va.; relieved from active duty on October 17, 1940; reinducted on May 28, 1941. Completed electrical course, Coast Artillery School in 1931 and Radio Course in 1930.

# HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

## *Third Battalion*

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



CLUNET H. PETTYJOHN  
*1st Lieutenant*  
Commanding, Headquarters Battery,  
Third Battalion

Born August 15, 1914, at Lynchburg, Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Military Institute. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Field Artillery Reserve on May 30, 1936; commissioned First Lieutenant in 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on June 4, 1940; assigned as Adjutant of First Battalion, 246th C. A., on June 4, 1940; assigned as Adjutant of Third Battalion, 246th C. A., on August 19, 1940; assigned Regimental Intelligence Officer and Public Relations Officer and Assistant Plans and Training Officer on November 22, 1940; assigned to Headquarters Battery, Third Battalion, 246th C. A., on April 16, 1941; Commander of Headquarters Battery, Third Battalion, 246th C. A., July 22, 1941, to date.

## *History*

Headquarters Battery, Third Battalion, 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense), was organized at Roanoke, Virginia, on May 27, 1940, with First Lieut. Emmett C. Rankin as the first Commanding Officer.

One of the newer Batteries of the 246th Coast Artillery, the organization drew 15 men of its authorized 17-man strength from Battery F, the present Battery I, another Roanoke unit of the Virginia National Guard, and with the enlistments of Durwood T. Davis and Nelson B. Meador, as Privates, on July 3, 1940, the Battery then had its full quota of men.

Since its induction into the Federal service on Sept. 16, 1940, the Battery is charged with maintaining efficient communications and manning strategic posts in the Harbor Defense of Chesapeake Bay.

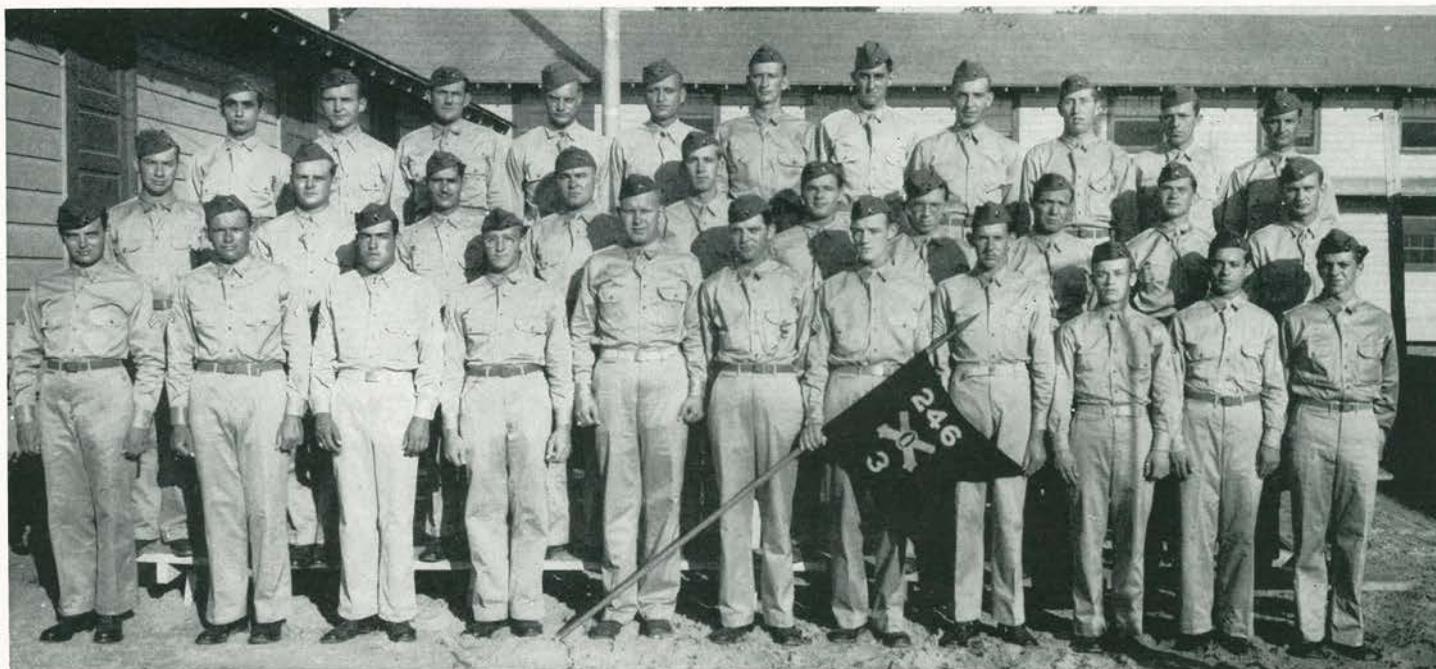
John D. Henretta was First Sergeant and William J. Holbrook, Sherrill W. Stockton and Clyde M. Jones were Staff Sergeants and William A. Sizer was Supply Sergeant when the Battery was ordered to Fort Story on July 7, 1940, for its first annual summer encampment. The Battery then had two Corporals, William L. Proffitt and Vernon Knox.

After being called into Federal service, First Lieutenants Haywood D. Veasey and Thomas D. Sledge were assigned to the Battery as additional officers. Sgt. Charles S. Johnson assumed the duties of First Sergeant and Lyndon M. Rothwell was appointed Sergeant Major of the Battalion.

Late in September the Battery was increased to a strength of 21 men, and since then selectees have raised the total to 38 men.

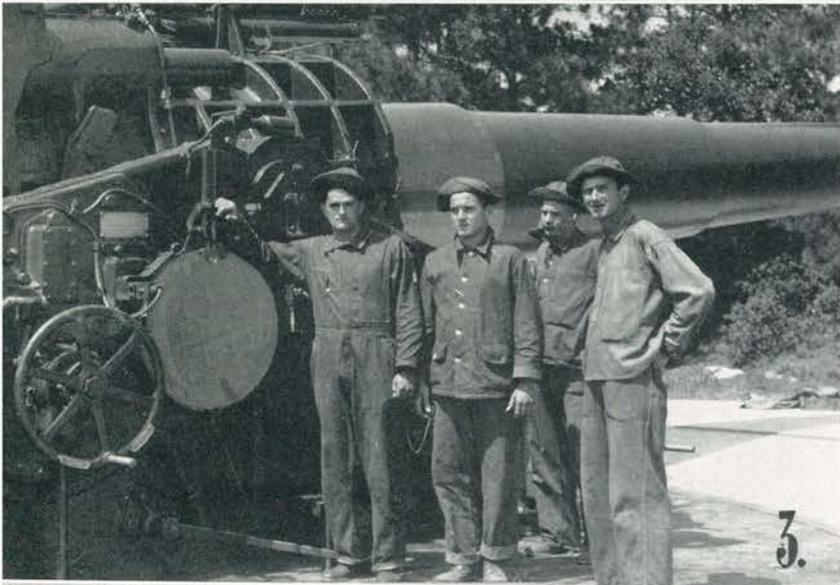
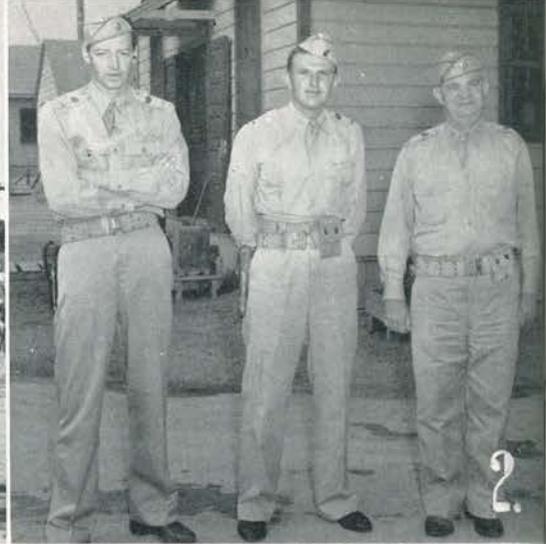
Lieutenant Rankin was relieved of command of the Battery on July 22, 1941, and First Lieutenant Clunet H. Pettyjohn succeeded him as the Battery's second Commanding Officer.

Nine men are attached to the Battery at the present for special duty.



First row: Cpl. C. C. Pillow, Jr., Cpl. T. J. Breeden, Cpl. M. LaPrad, Jr., Sgt. J. L. Findlay, Jr., Stf. Sgt. W. L. Proffitt, Tech. Sgt. W. A. Sizer, Stf. Sgt. A. P. Marsh, Jr., Sgt. C. T. Stevens, Cpl. N. B. Meador, Cpl. P. F. Goff, Cpl. C. W. Boone. Second row: W. A. Sparrow, R. F. Shea, S. S. Musso, L. S. Mierzwa, S. C. Reid, Jr., PFC L. A. Correll, PFC

R. C. Schenk, I. W. Levy, C. E. Smith, F. D. Henderson. Third row: PFC D. T. Davis, S. M. Mrozek, J. W. Ware, J. F. Martino, H. E. Roberts, D. K. Jefferson, R. C. Richards, C. M. Major, Jr., W. G. Leake, PFC L. R. Hughes, E. C. Jones.



## BATTERY A

1. Battery A on parade. 2. Lt. Hancock (Battery A), Lt. Heard (Battery E), Capt. Garbee (Battery A). 3. 16-in. gun crew. 4. Saturday morning inspection by Maj. Robertson and Capt. Garbee. 5. Communications furnished by Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion. 6. Ready for target practice.



# OFFICERS

## BATTERY A

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



WALTER A. GARBEE  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery A

Born November 29, 1891, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended public schools in Lynchburg, Virginia. Served as enlisted man from September 16, 1916 to May 6, 1919, with A.E.F., and from May 9, 1921 to February 1, 1922; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on February 1, 1922; promoted to First Lieutenant on May 14, 1923, and given assignment of Emplacement Officer; promoted to Captain on June 15, 1925, and assigned as Battery Commander; present assignment, Commanding Officer of Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery (H. D.).



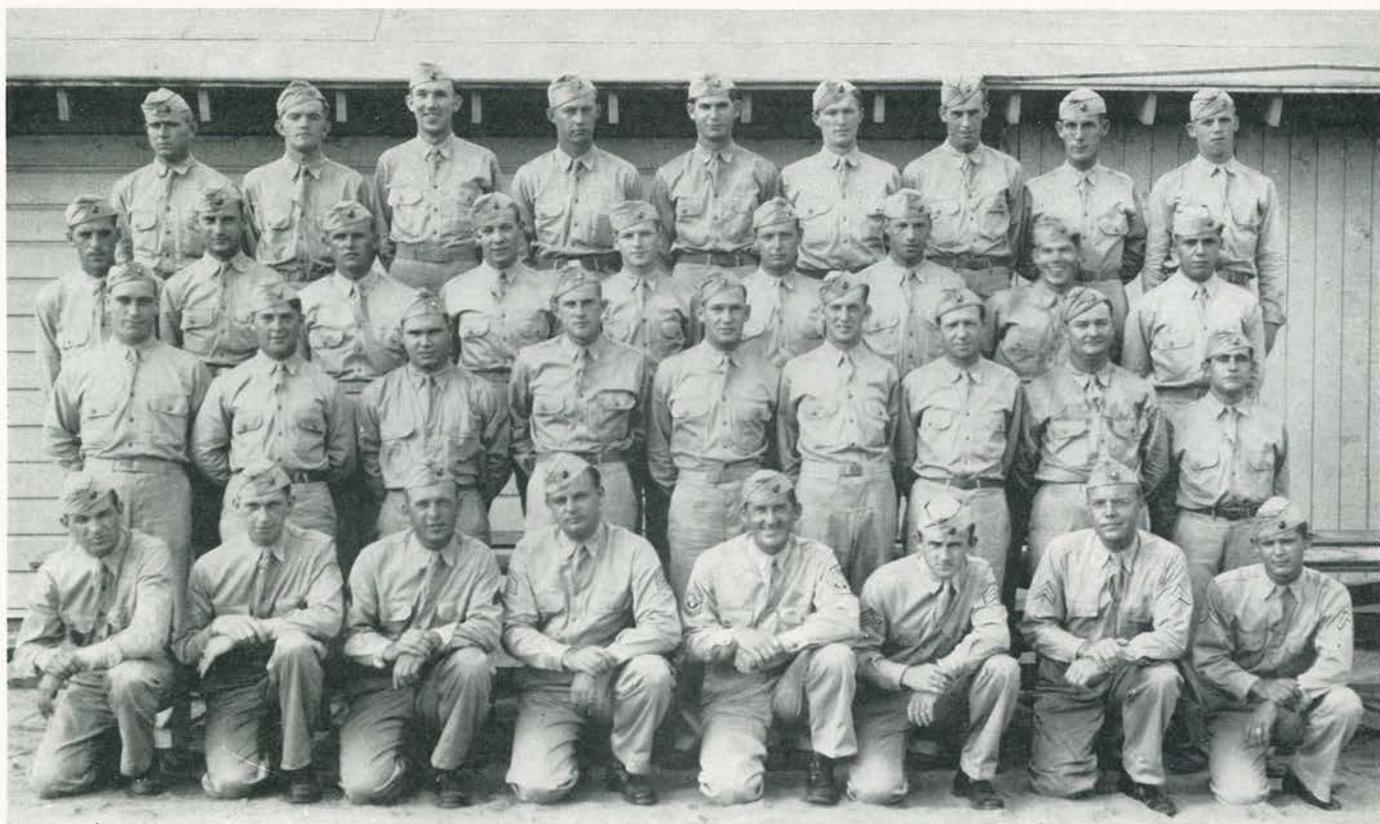
JOHN R. SINGLETON  
*1st Lieutenant*

Born April 16, 1895, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Served as an enlisted man from February, 1917 to May 6, 1919, and from April, 1921 to June, 1925; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps in June, 1925; promoted to First Lieutenant in June, 1926; served as Executive Officer of Battery A, and Executive Officer of the 246th Coast Artillery Band prior to induction into Federal service on September 16, 1940; Executive Officer of Battery A, 246th C. A., to date.

CHARLES W. HANCOCK  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born December 25, 1911, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at the Virginia Military Institute in 1935; served one day as an enlisted man and was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Cavalry Reserve in June, 1935; transferred with rank of Second Lieutenant to the 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 16, and on that date was inducted into the Army of the United States. Assignments since induction: Emplacement Officer on the 16-inch Howitzers, Range Officer on 16-inch Howitzers, and Mess Officer for Battery A, Finances and Administration. Attended the Coast Artillery School (Refresher Course) from February, 1941 to April, 1941.





*First row:* Cpl. W. W. Caudill, Cpl. J. E. Nichols, Sgt. W. H. Sandifer, Sgt. D. T. Watts, 1st Sgt. M. J. Rush, Sgt. H. H. Viar, Cpl. D. F. Short, PFC T. W. Johnson. *Second row:* J. R. Moore, R. B. Atkins, G. C. Hanvey, J. F. Rector, B. W. Amos, H. L. Worrell, L. E. Davidson, J. P. Wood, W. H. Alley. *Third row:* T. S. Crump,

H. E. Branch, B. C. Sandidge, J. J. Daughtrey, C. H. Akers, G. W. Foster, A. W. Cox, E. L. Vest, R. L. McFaddin. *Fourth row:* J. Johnson, S. Potter, PFC J. E. Bateman, Jr., C. L. Leonard, PFC H. C. Woody, W. E. Norris, Jr., W. L. Neice, W. A. Dameron, O. W. Revere.

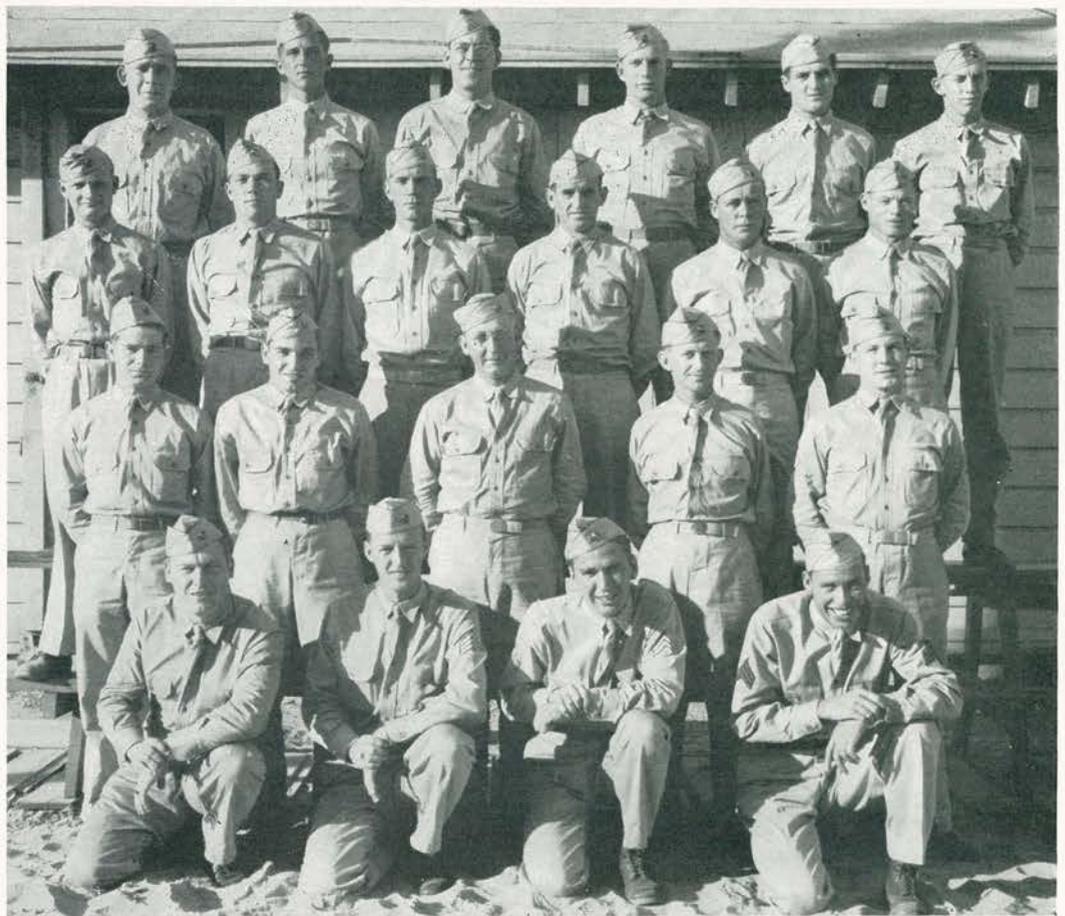
# BATTERY A

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

*First row:* Sgt. R. C. Thomas, Cpl. G. W. Smoot, Cpl. A. G. Barbour, Sgt. B. D. Bryant, Cpl. W. S. Wilkins, Cpl. J. G. Rosenberger, Cpl. E. E. Evans, Cpl. R. W. Bryant. *Second row:* PFC H. J. Ernst, S. M. Hudson, O. Shifflett, PFC T. C. Martin, J. B. Bennett, PFC J. W. Dearing, Jr., P. H. Lane, PFC E. G. Dodd.

*Third row:* PFC R. L. Carter, C. M. Wagner, Jr., PFC F. F. Smith, T. Mullins, PFC R. J. Flippin, C. L. Reynolds, W. H. Slough, J. F. Zirkle, W. E. Mann. *Fourth row:* E. McClanahan, G. C. Gooch, PFC J. M. Hopkins, C. E. Davis, PFC W. E. Dunford, A. J. Hensley, R. L. Stables, PFC A. R. Brooks.





First row: Cpl. H. S. Glass, Sgt. G. H. Dawson, Cpl. T. R. North, Sgt. E. R. Walker. Second row: J. S. Mehler, W. J. Laslo, F. T. Dobbins, A. T. Waddell, PFC T. L. Wilcox. Third row: PFC F. X. Wallace, A. M. Williams, E. J. Blankenship, H. J. Leach, A. M. Mills, C. F. White. Fourth row: PFC S. M. Tyler, A. Ore, Jr., W. G. Thomas, R. H. Rust, PFC L. H. Massey, PFC L. K. Dean.

## History

Preceding the World War days there was seen a necessity for organizing a home defense unit which would serve as a home guard in peacetime and a well-trained defense unit in case of war.

In the spring of 1916 Captain Frank B. Varney, with the assistance of First Lieut. Emmett Butts and Second Lieut. Frank Brosch, organized the Second Company, C.A.C., Virginia National Guards, of Lynchburg, Virginia. This was the beginning of a Battery which was to play a very important part in the World War, and for years to come following the war. The Company drilled at the Lynchburg

Armory through the fall and winter, when it was called out in March, 1917, for the purpose of guarding railroad bridges, and remained at this duty until April, 1917.

The newly-organized company, having proven its worth in the first small detail it had been called upon to perform, was now faced with the issue which proved the worth of all military organizations of that time, the war with Germany. Answering the call to arms on April 7, 1917, it was first sent to Fort Monroe, Virginia, for further training, which was completed in the early part of August, 1917, and was sent immediately to Camp Mills, New York, where the Forty-Second Rainbow Division was being formed.

(Continued on page 72)



First row: Sgt. E. T. Wingfield, Stf. Sgt. J. W. Paris, Sgt. H. P. Cheatham, H. M. Figg, Jr., P. F. McCraw. Second row: W. A. Shepherd, W. H. Martin, R. W. Wright, N. W. Wilson, D. J. Beeler, J. D. Niece. Third row: B. L. Powell, O. Shifflett, E. G. Dodd, C. E. Walker, W. D. Hudnall, E. V. Horton. Fourth row: S. W. Hill, PFC J. C. Souder, PFC E. G. Wright, W. M. Roberts, Jr., H. A. Masters, PFC S. P. Cheatham.



1.



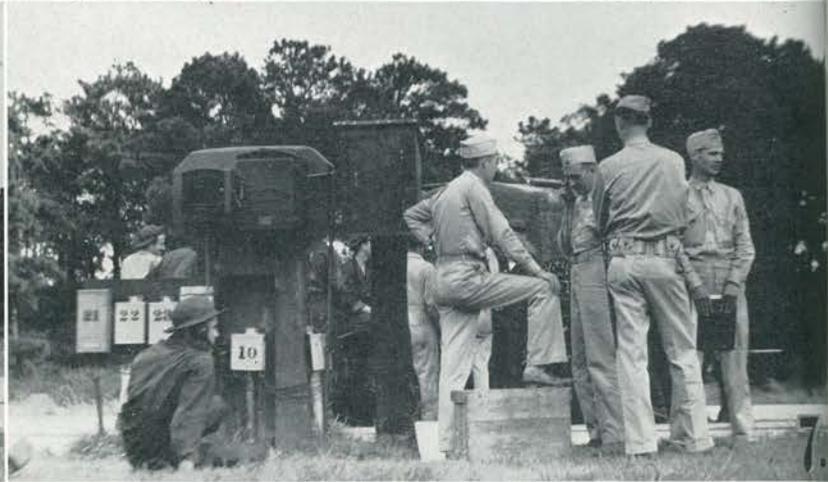
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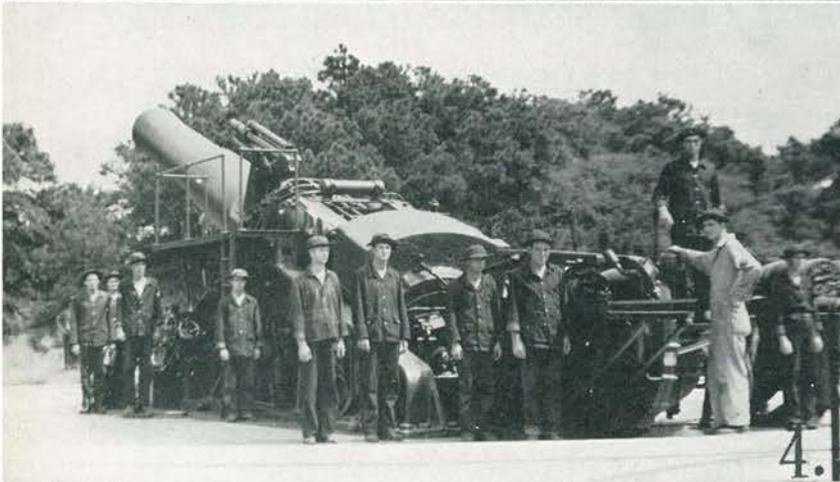
6.



3.



7.



4.



8.



5.



9.



10.

## BATTERY B

1. Azimuth phone. 2. Range data board. 3. No. 1 gun, 16 inch Howitzer. 4. 16 inch Howitzer gun crew. 5. "Messages for Special Delivery." 6. Taking Azimuth reading. 7. Telephone communication from observation tower. 8. Saturday morning inspection of rifles. 9. Plotting room; firing 16 inch Howitzer. 10. Gun and crew.

# OFFICERS BATTERY B

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



JOHN W. SQUIRE  
Captain  
Commanding, Battery B

Born February 26, 1896, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Graduated from Virginia Military Institute, with B.S. degree, in 1917. Attended the First Officers Training School at Fort Myer, Virginia, in 1917, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry on August 14, 1917; assigned to 155th Depot Brigade on September 1, 1917, Camp Lee, Virginia; transferred to 164th Depot Brigade on July 20, 1918; transferred to 816th Pioneer Infantry on September 17, 1918; joined the American Expeditionary Forces on September 25, 1919; commissioned First Lieutenant in Infantry Officers Reserve Corps on February 4, 1920; commissioned First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, and assigned to Battery B, 246th C. A., on May 11, 1925; promoted to Captain and assigned to Battery B, 246th C. A., on August 21, 1934; inducted into Federal service as Captain on September 16, 1940, and assigned to Battery B, 246th C. A.; attended Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, in 1931, and again in 1941.



TAYLOR M. NANCE  
1st Lieutenant

Born October 8, 1900, in the State of North Carolina. Attended public schools in Danville, Va. Served as enlisted man in United States Navy from 1917 to 1919; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps on May 21, 1930; assigned to Battery B, 246th Coast Artillery, as Executive Officer; promoted to First Lieutenant on February 27, 1931; transferred to Battery E, 246th C. A., as Executive Officer on December 1, 1940; transferred to Battery B, 246th C. A., as Commanding Officer on June 20, 1941. Attended Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va., during winter 1938 and 1939.

J. ROBERT SERENA  
2nd Lieutenant

Born December 7, 1910, in the State of Pennsylvania. Attended Randolph-Macon College and Johns Hopkins University. Degree: B.A. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Virginia National Guard on September 14, 1940; assigned to Battery B as Emplacement Officer; duties include those of Post Football Coach and Regimental Basketball Coach and Mess Officer. Attended Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va., September through December, 1941.

EDWARD M. FORD  
2nd Lieutenant

Born February 6, 1909, in Richmond, Virginia. Attended public schools in Richmond, Va. Enlisted in the Virginia National Guard, in February, 1929; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the National Guard of Virginia on September 16, 1940. Inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940.





First row: PFC C. L. Darr, G. G. Burnett, Cpl. M. L. Hall, Sgt. W. J. Clark, Sgt. H. B. Brown, Sgt. R. S. Morton, Stf. Sgt. S. M. Farley, Cpl. J. K. Carter, Jr., Cpl. J. T. Evans, Jr., Cpl. A. H. White, Sgt. K. L. Harris, "Yardbird" (Mascot), "Relay" (Dog). Second row: R. S. Bolling, PFC D. A. Biles, H. L. Bush, E. W. Bell, Jr., C. G. Mitchell, J. R. Thomasson, W. E. Barnes,

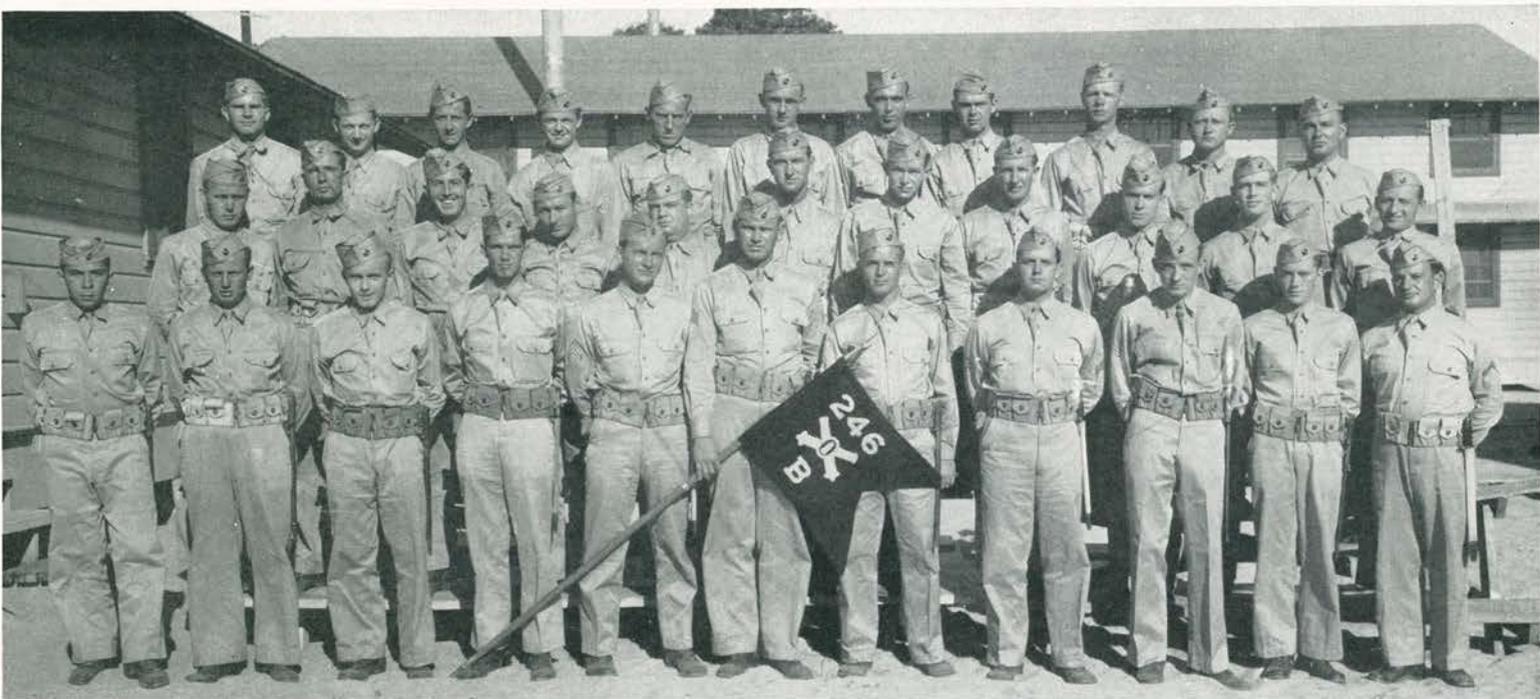
R. W. Peck, PFC R. B. Massengill, J. L. Ferrell, D. L. Boaz. Third row: PFC S. A. Steidell, C. A. Munsey, PFC R. T. Coleman, PFC R. A. Marshall, W. B. Widgen, R. A. Beasley, PFC G. T. Motley, W. D. Atkins, C. W. McCulloch, J. M. Griffith, PFC E. T. Pryon.

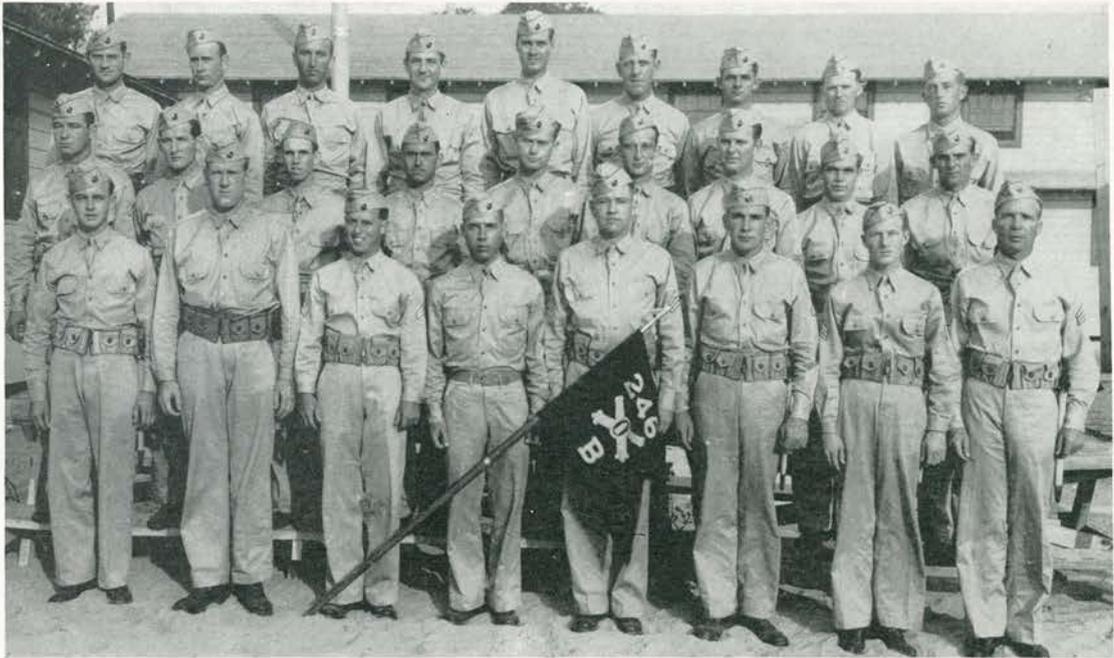
# BATTERY B

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

First row: F. C. Sawyer, G. E. Branton, Jr., R. T. Bosserman, Cpl. B. K. Hayden, Cpl. R. B. Harvey, Jr., Sgt. W. H. Mabry, G. C. Lewis, Cpl. E. L. Osborne, Cpl. L. H. Phelps, W. H. Wall, S. Iskow. Second row: O. W. Frye, J. S. Arthur, C. W. Halterman, P. W. Parsons, H. E. Madison, B. R. Alder-

man, W. B. Salyer, E. T. Price, PFC R. Campbell, PFC E. Talley, PFC W. L. Toler. Third row: W. H. Costenbader, H. B. Cook, Jr., R. B. Anderson, A. L. Housden, W. Deloach, J. F. Southworth, PFC O. D. Sparks, J. R. Thomasson, L. H. Robertson, H. Smith, L. S. Mierzwa.





First row: G. C. Goodman, PFC C. L. Whitten, Cpl. L. J. White, Cpl. R. W. Lester, Sgt. R. M. Mustain, Cpl. C. J. Costello, Sgt. M. M. Seay, Sgt. J. E. Cook. Second row: PFC H. H. Harrison, D. M. Helderman, W. F. Wells, C. H. Hobbs, Jr., W. L. Moore, C. N. Keesee, T. E. Lee, E. D. Osborne, W. T. Tebo. Third row: P. H. Hardy, E. F. Weatherman, J. Barnes, PFC C. H. Meadows, R. V. Marye, Jr., A. M. Counts, A. E. Church, W. R. Keatts, PFC C. B. Parrott.

## History

Few State organizations have had a more glorious history than Danville's Battery B, 246th Coast Artillery (HD), which has heroically served the country in every major campaign since its original formation in 1856.

As the Danville Grays, Battery B joined the Confederates in the War Between the States on April 23, 1861, and became Company B of the Eighteenth Virginia Regiment. It served the South throughout the war, heroically participating in such famous battles as the First Manassas and the battles of Richmond and Gettysburg.

In 1871 the company was reorganized as the Danville Grays, and in 1881 was assigned to the Third Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, of Virginia, and again, in 1884, the designation was changed, this time to Company A.

Mustered into Federal service on May 14, 1898, for the Spanish-American War, it served within the continental limits of the United States and was mustered out on November 5, 1898. In July, 1900, the company was reorganized as the Danville Light Infantry, and during the same year was redesignated Company M, Seventieth Regiment, Infantry, Virginia Volunteers. In 1908, the designation of the Seventieth Regiment, Infantry, Virginia Volunteers, was changed to the First Regiment, Infantry, Virginia Volunteers.

Company M saw action on the Mexican border from June 30, 1916, to January 16, 1917.

The Grays showed the same courage in important battles and skirmishes during the World War that the Virginians, before their time, had demonstrated in their fights for freedom and democracy. Drafted into Federal service for the World War on August 5, 1917, the Battery was sent to France as Company C, 116th Infantry, the men seeing combat service in the Meuse-Argonne, October 5-30, 1918, and the Center Sector (Alsace), July 25 through September 23, 1918. The organization was demobilized in May, 1919.

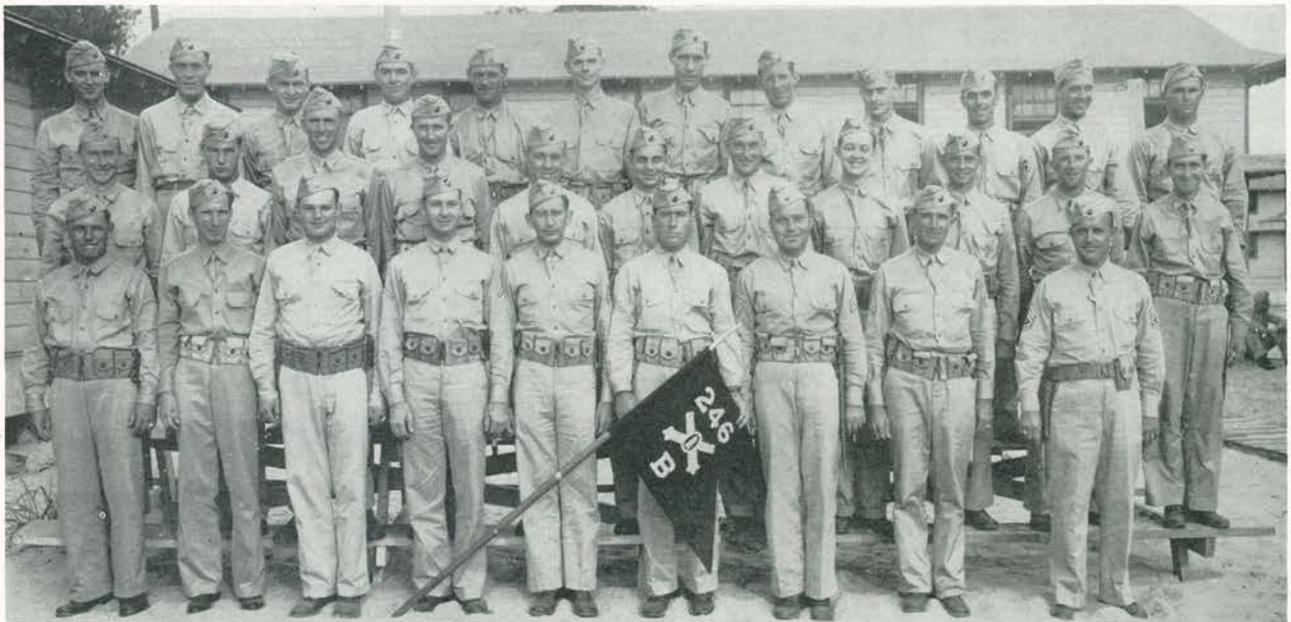
Reorganized by Captain Harry T. Adkins, now a Lieutenant Colonel, the Danville Grays were assigned to the 246th Coast Artillery on May 28, 1924, and has served the regiment continuously since, and today boasts of being the oldest battery in the 246th.

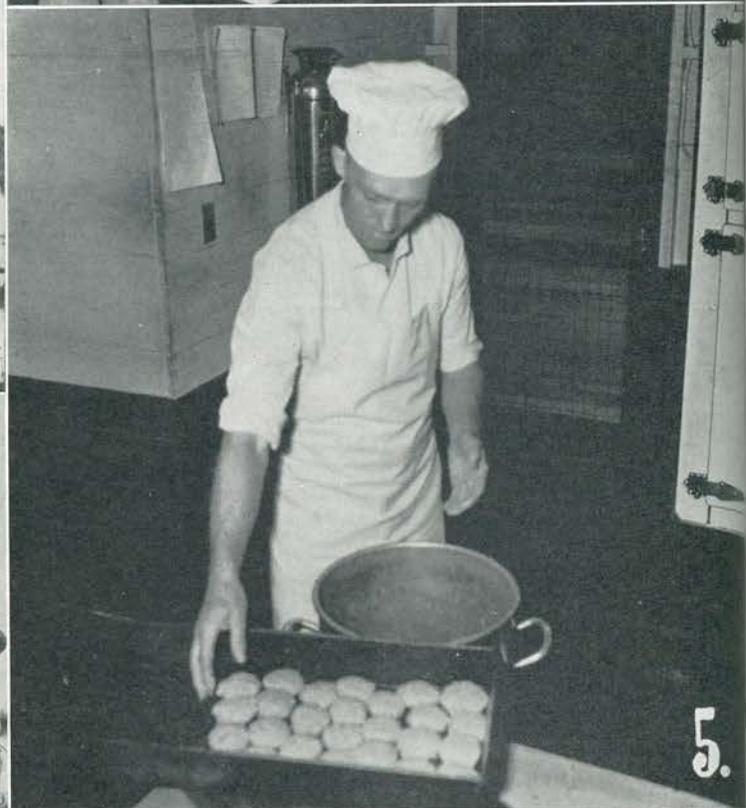
The Battery was accepted for membership in the Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands, and took part in the celebration of the 163rd Anniversary of the Battle of Long Island at the New York World's Fair, on August 27, 1939.

Battery B moved to Fort Story, Va., with the 246th Coast Artillery shortly after the regiment was inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940. In addition to other phases of the Battery's training program, the men are now engaged in manning Story's powerful 16-inch Howitzers.

First row: PFC R. L. Bailey, PFC J. L. Franklin, PFC J. L. Lane, O. L. Bull, Cpl. L. O. Belton, Cpl. J. H. Fowler, Sgt. R. A. Crutchfield, Sgt. D. A. Baugh, 1st Sgt. F. K. Farley, Jr. Second row: H. C. Blanton, L. W. Whittaker, R. C. Willis, E. T. Price, J. R. Switzer, J. G. Johnson, H. D. Dalton, PFC H. D. Haraway, A. R.

Bartenstein, PFC W. D. Wood, H. G. Hopkins. Third row: R. E. Meadows, L. C. Brinkley, D. B. Cox, W. T. Davis, A. B. Slaughter, G. L. Oakham, H. Duncan, R. T. Wray, T. P. Carter, Jr., J. C. Smiley, R. V. Carr, PFC C. R. Jones.





## BATTERY C

1. Saturday morning inspection.
- 2-3. Crew firing 8-inch railway gun.
4. Mess Sergeant Sligh and cooks.
5. Preparing salmon cakes.
6. Barrack ready for inspection Saturday morning.

# OFFICERS BATTERY C

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



HENRY H. COLEMAN  
*Captain*  
Commanding,  
Battery C

Born June 12, 1904, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.A. degree at Hampden-Sydney College. Enlisted in service on August 5, 1929, and served as Master Sergeant (Sergeant Major); honorably discharged on March 17, 1937, to accept commission; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery on March 18, 1937; assigned to Battery E, 246th C. A., from March 18, 1937 to June 5, 1940; promoted to First Lieutenant and assigned to Battery C on June 5, 1940; promoted to Captain on July 8, 1940, and placed in command of Battery C. Attended special class in Coast Artillery School during spring of 1940.



ALBERT W. HARVEY  
*1st Lieutenant*

Born August 26, 1908, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Degree: B.S. in I.E. Served as Private in the 246th C. A. Band unit and Sergeant Major in Headquarters, 246th C. A., for three years; commissioned Second Lieutenant in 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, on June 18, 1940; assigned to Battery C, 246th C. A., with duties of Executive Officer and Range Officer; promoted to First Lieutenant in 246th C. A. on August 26, 1940; assignments since induction into Federal service on September 16, 1940, include Range Officer of Battery C and Battery I and Executive and Mess Officer of Battery C, 246th C. A.



CHARLES E. MORRIS  
*2nd Lieutenant*

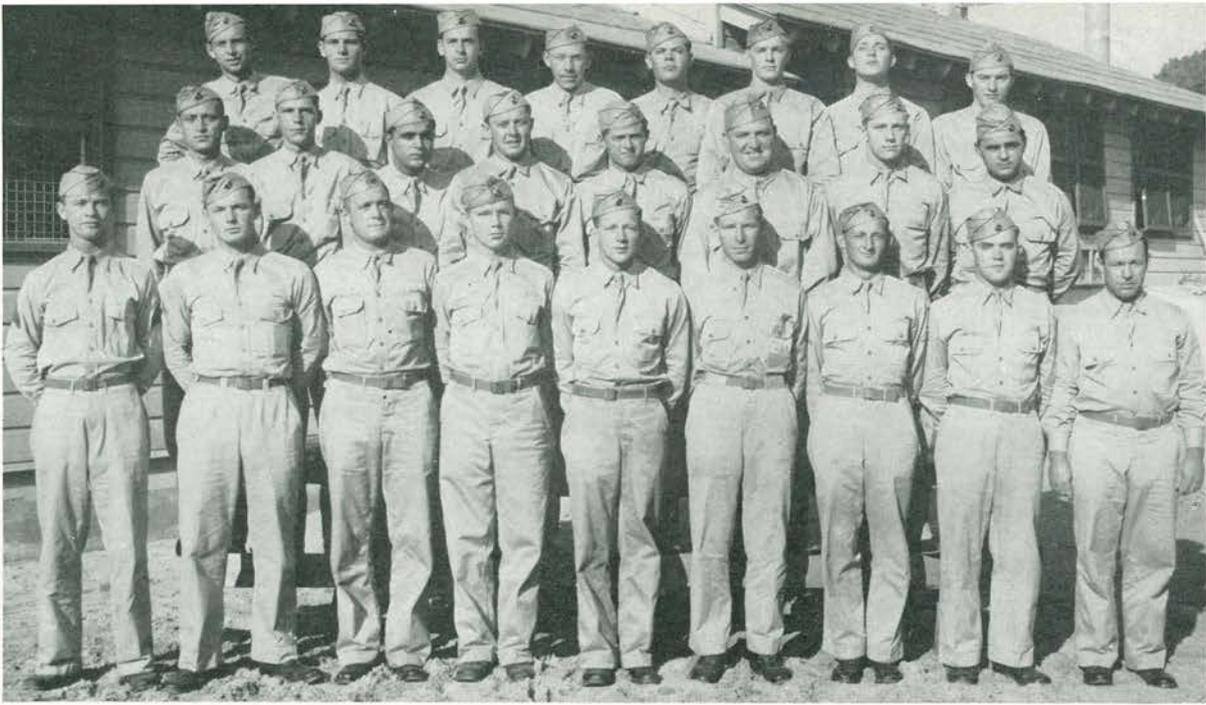
Born October 14, 1914, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended E. C. Glass High School, Lynchburg, Va.; enlisted in Battery E, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 25, 1933; appointed Corporal on October 18, 1937; discharged on June 3, 1940; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Battery C, 246th C. A., Virginia National Guard, at Lynchburg, on June 5, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940.



JOHN A. COX  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born January 1, 1915, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received his B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Enlisted in Battery E, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in July, 1935; discharged in August, 1937; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers Reserve Corps, Coast Artillery, on June 8, 1938; transferred from O.R.C. to Virginia National Guard, with membership in Battery C, 246th C. A., on September 12, 1940; assignments since induction into Federal service include those of Assistant Executive Officer, Battery C, 246th C. A., Mess Officer, Battery C, Assistant Supply Officer, Battery C, Assistant Provost Marshal at Virginia Beach, Va., Assistant Provost Marshal at Fort Story, Va., Emplacement Officer, Battery C, Assistant to Emplacement Officer, Battery E, 246th C. A., and Mess Officer for Battery E, 246th C. A.





First row: Sgt. R. T. Martin, Cpl. H. S. Shanklin, Jr., PFC W. C. Ivey, PFC C. P. Lovell, Jr., PFC W. R. Bolton, J. S. Kenworthy, PFC W. C. Glass, D. H. Dean, W. F. Hash. Second row: R. T. Roberts, PFC H. T. Lindsay, R. G.

Clark, PFC H. R. Honig, E. H. Kilgore, PFC H. W. Rose, PFC J. D. Bibb, PFC E. M. Adams. Third row: PFC C. B. Arnold, F. G. Ragland, J. M. Seawell, G. C. Sampson, F. A. Jackson, M. Smith, PFC F. Murray, J. O. Mason.

# BATTERY C

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

### History

In accordance with instructions from the War Department and pursuant to General Order No. 7, the Adjutant General of Virginia, dated May 8, 1940, the Regimental Commander directed the organization of Battery C at Lynchburg, Virginia. Second Lieutenant Henry H. Coleman, Battery A, was designated recruiting officer and immediately began receiving applications for enlistment. On June 5, 1940, the Battery was mustered into Federal and State service, there being two officers and sixty-two enlisted men on the initial roster. Lieutenant Colonel Samuel F. Hawkins represented the Federal authorities and Captain Douglas A. Robertson the State. Lieutenant Coleman received his appointment as First Lieutenant on this date, and Second Lieutenant Charles E. Morris, having been Federally recognized, assumed his duties with the organization. Of the original members of the Battery the following were transferred from Battery A: First Sergeant Merton L. Glass, Sergeants Henry S. Gilliam, Willie H. Gilliam, Paul A. Humphrey, William W. Sligh, Daniel C. Steppe, Corporals Archer W. Anderson, William E. Grant, Privates Irvine L. Gunter, Frank G. Murray and William S. Osborne. The original noncommissioned officers of Battery C were: First Sergeant Merton L. Glass, Sergeants Benjamin S. Beahm, Henry S. Gilliam, Willie H. Gilliam, Paul A. Humphrey, William W. Sligh, Daniel C. Steppe, and Corporals Archer W. Anderson, Edward H. Blanks, William C. Feagans, William E. Grant, Woodrow W. Hunt, Robert R. Matthews, Willie L. Staples and James P. Williamson.

On June 18, 1940, Lieutenant Albert W. Harvey received his Federal recognition as Second Lieutenant and joined the Battery.

The organization attended its first field training camp at Fort Story, Virginia, July 7 to 27, 1940. Lieutenant Coleman was promoted to Captain on July 8, 1940. The Battery conducted its first target practice, firing the 8-inch railway guns on July 24, 1940. Outstanding among the many duties during this field training period was the consistently excellent barracks inspection. In this, Supply Sergeant Willie H. Gilliam deserves commendation for his untiring efforts in maintaining such a record.

Having completed his work for qualification, Lieutenant Harvey received his appointment to First Lieutenant on August 24, 1940.

With the announcement of a limited emergency by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and an increase in officers and enlisted personnel authorized, Second Lieutenant John A. Cox joined the Battery on September 12, 1940. Meanwhile considerable turnover in personnel occurred. Eighteen men were discharged and replacements recruited. Of the original noncommissioned officers, five were lost to the Battery: Sergeants Willie H. Gilliam, Daniel C. Steppe,

Sergeant Edward H. Blanks, Corporal William E. Grant and Willie L. Staples.

On September 16, 1940, the Battery, along with the Regiment, was ordered into Federal service with a strength of four officers and 70 enlisted men. Following a preliminary training and recruiting period of one week at Lynchburg, Virginia, the Battery departed for Fort Story, Virginia, on September 23, 1940, with a roster of four officers and 107 men.

After spending the first three months in a tent camp, the Battery moved into new barracks the middle of December, 1940. During the Christmas holidays, 42 men were transferred to the Fort Monroe units of the Regiment. In February, 1941, the Battery received its first group of Selective Service men, and by March, with the further addition of selectees, reached its authorized strength of 139 men.

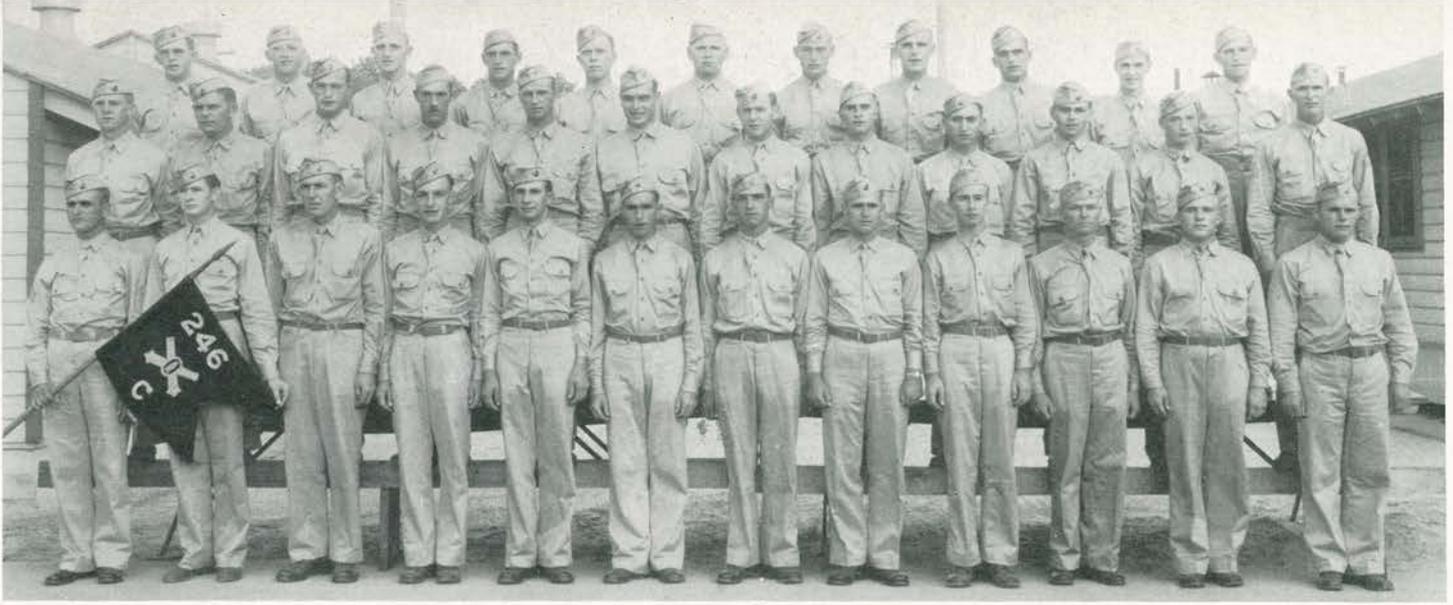
Basketball proved very popular during the winter months. Lieutenant Charles E. Morris coached the Battery team, members being: Sgt. James P. Williamson, Sgt. Harry H. Hill, Jr., Cpl. Woodrow W. Hunt, Cpl. Hugh B. Jackson, PFC Frank E. Smoot and PFC Dudley H. Broyles. This team won the Fort Story Post Championship Tournament, 1941.

In the spring of 1941 the Battery, now manning Battery Y, consisting of two 8-inch railway guns, constructed a new emplacement, laying a 300-yard spur track southeast of its former position. This was quite an undertaking, materials being salvaged from all over Fort Story, old tracks torn up, and tools being as scarce as the proverbial hen's teeth. In the latter part of May the emplacement was completed, the tracks greased and the guns moved into their new positions by main strength.

The Battery fired its second target practice (the first under Regular Army rules) on June 18, 1941, attaining a score of 123.1, this being the highest score for Seacoast Artillery in the Third Coast Artillery District for the current training year.

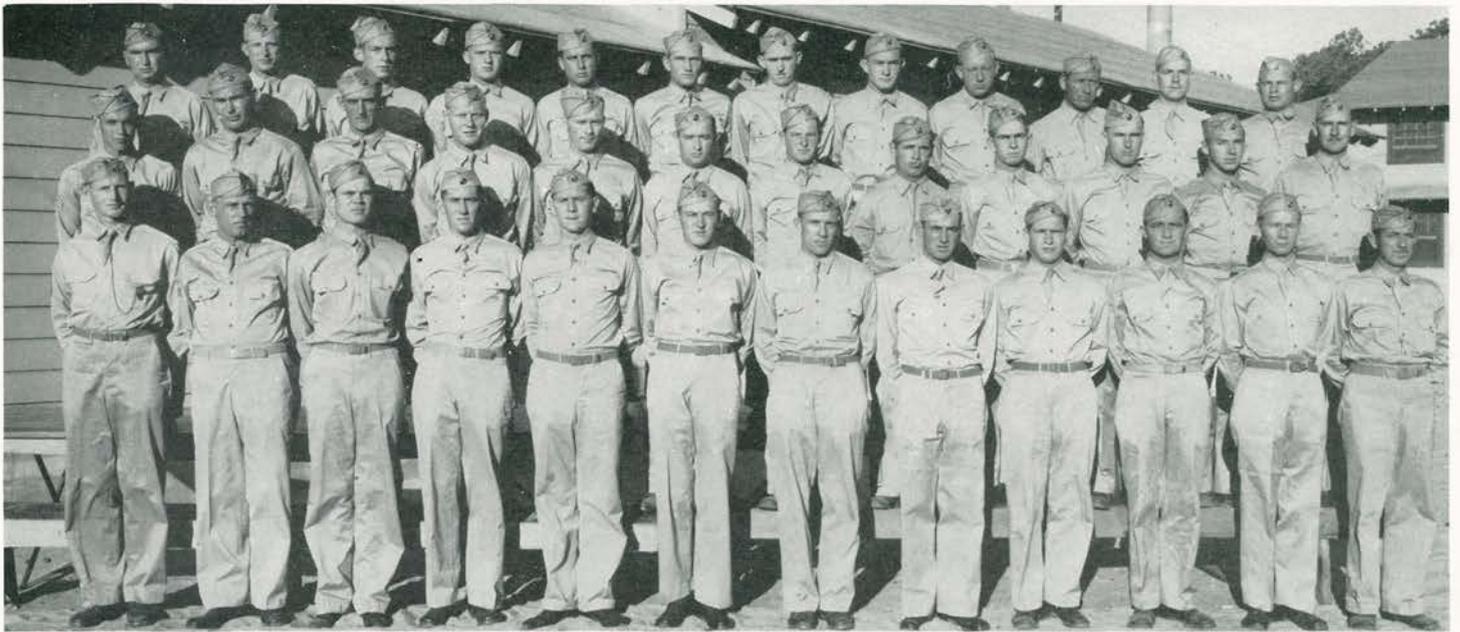
During the spring and summer several changes in officer personnel were made. On April 4, 1941, Second Lieut. Charles E. Morris was relieved of duty with the Battery and assigned to Battery E, Second Lieut. Doyle F. Snyder coming to the unit from Battery E. Captain Henry H. Coleman was assigned to special duty with Regimental Headquarters from July 1st to July 7th. Along with three other officers from the Regiment, Lieut. Doyle F. Snyder was placed on special duty and sent to Fort Eustis, Virginia, on July 10th. First Lieut. Albert W. Harvey was placed on special duty with Battery I on July 31st, and First Lieut. James H. B. Peay, Jr., Regimental Headquarters Staff and Post Personnel Adjutant, came to Battery C on special duty on August 21, 1941.

The year of active duty at Fort Story has given the Battery an opportunity to become a well-knit organization, made up of men who have proven themselves capable of maintaining a high state of morale under many and varied circumstances.



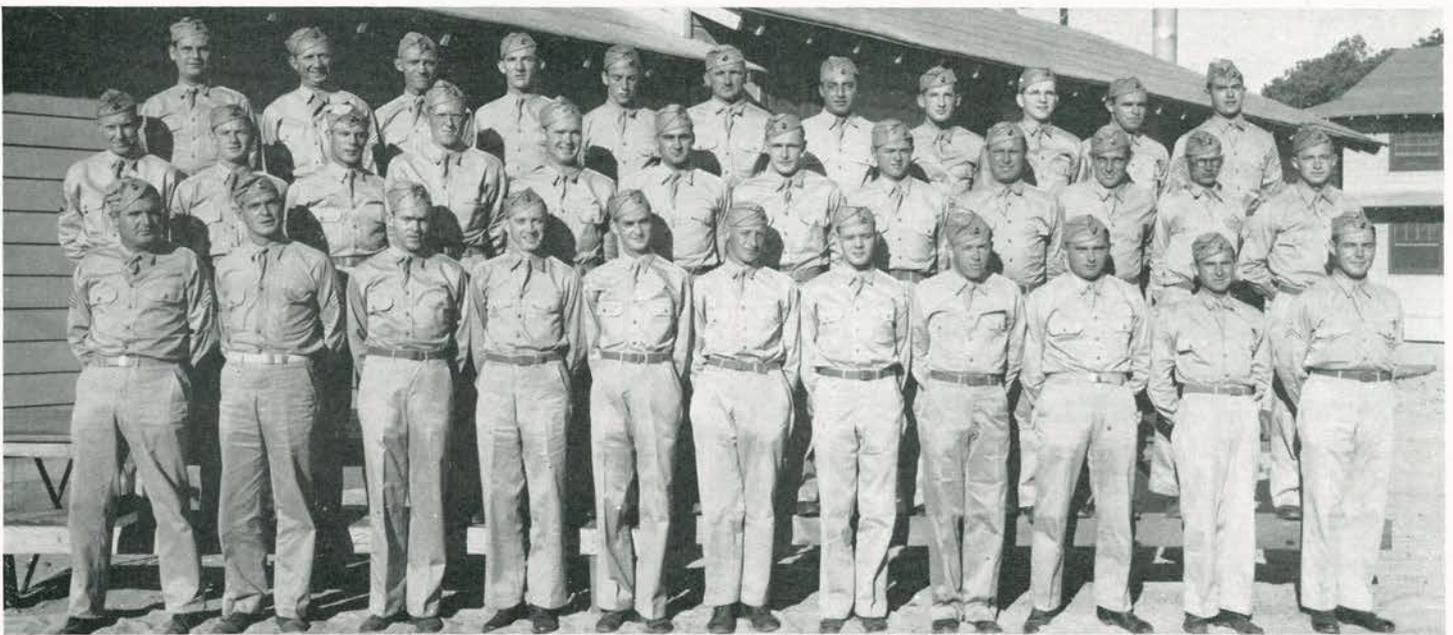
*First row:* Sgt. H. S. Gilliam, PFC W. M. Dawson, G. E. Hodgson, PFC J. R. Hamilton, J. H. Whitlow, D. Boardwine, A. J. Hicks, PFC H. F. Martin, W. H. Pillar, E. E. Tyree, PFC W. E. Harvey, PFC F. F. Hill. *Second row:* Sgt. H. H. Hill, Jr., Cpl. H. B. Jackson, PFC R. W. Mullan, H. H. Parcell, O. C. Austin, S. P. Cumbie, W. J. Soux, L. T. Rose,

R. Parsons, H. H. Beal, P. S. Meredith, Cpl. W. W. Hunt. *Third row:* Cpl. C. P. Viar, PFC O. W. Reynolds, W. W. Spencer, H. C. McCullough, PFC J. W. Harris, J. Looney, C. E. Thomas, E. P. Kiernan, Jr., W. A. Berger, PFC T. P. Hight, Jr., H. L. McGhee.



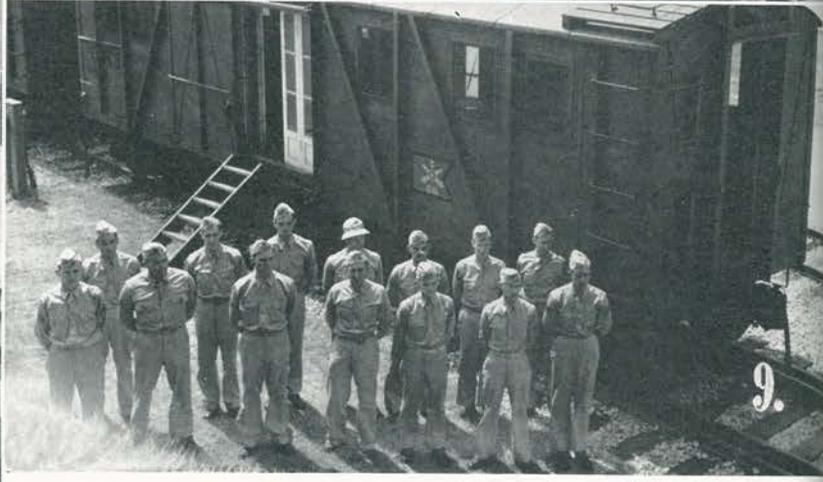
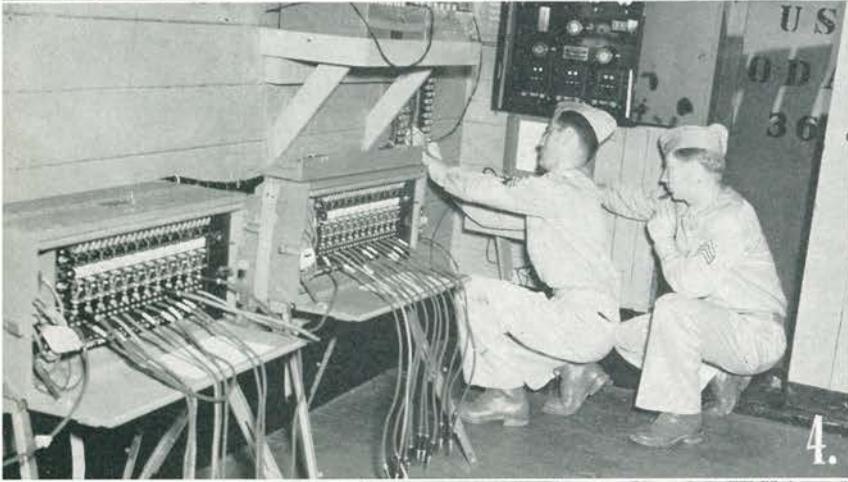
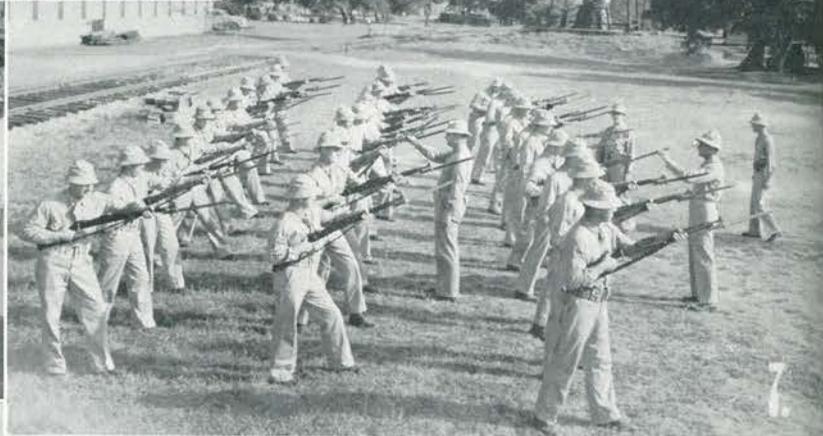
*First row:* Sgt. J. P. Williamson, Cpl. J. T. Thomas, PFC H. W. Reynolds, J. F. Horan, PFC J. M. Smith, A. T. Wiggins, C. T. Poster, E. Jessee, A. P. Wickowski, H. C. Craig, W. H. Pillar, E. C. Guttridge. *Second row:* A. H. Coates, L. D. Edwards, C. T. Smith, A. M. Worralls, E. F. Selby, PFC H. E. Drumheller, E. H. Ayers, J. E. Tickle, PFC W. T.

Harvey, Jr., E. N. Lewis, A. R. Weiss, Sgt. A. W. Anderson. *Third row:* Cpl. L. C. Wilks, H. V. McAbee, Cpl. W. C. Feagans, Cpl. F. E. Smoot, Cpl. W. E. Hunt, R. P. Cross, H. T. Harris, N. L. Ferguson, W. D. Sorrell, H. W. Marcum, H. W. Donaghy, 1st Sgt. M. L. Glass.



*First row:* Sgt. R. R. Matthews, Sgt. C. S. Carroll, W. C. Childers, PFC C. F. Brown, J. H. Alley, E. C. Brooks, PFC J. W. Dillard, H. L. White, A. E. Daves, R. L. Price, Cpl. G. M. Rhodes. *Second row:* Stf. Sgt. W. W. Sligh, Sgt. G. B. Selve, Cpl. D. H. Broyles, E. D. Tabor, R. E. Garrett, T. P. Gunter, J. W. Marks, E. H. Kilgore, C. E. Lytton,

M. E. Murphy, PFC J. E. Seagle, Sgt. C. B. Wingfield, Jr. *Third row:* Sgt. B. S. Beahm, Cpl. E. B. Wilmer, Jr., PFC J. S. Walton, H. E. Mayo, A. L. Earles, J. B. Wines, PFC T. H. Folsom, PFC J. B. Hardy, Jr., W. W. Wallace, D. R. Beach, Cpl. V. E. Thompson.



## BATTERY D

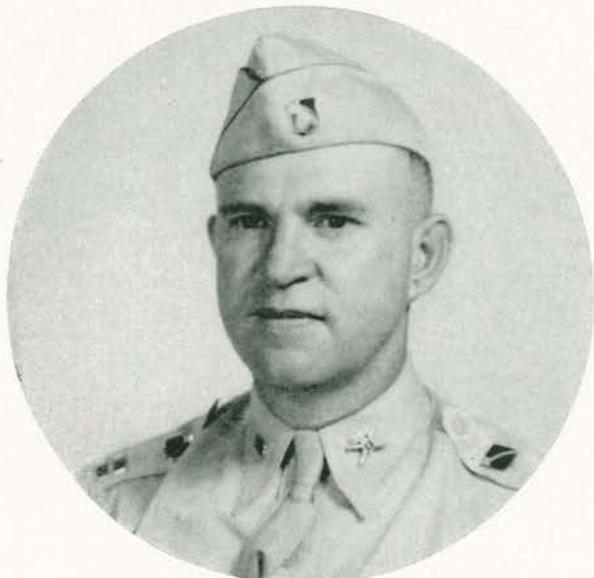
1. Machine gun and crew. 2. Cpl. Holloman and Battery mascots. 3. Interior of plotting car, Battery D. 4. Fire control car, Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion. 5. Cooks preparing meal, Battery D. 6. Members of Battery D (left to right), first row: Q. M. Perkins, P. M. Paxton, J. W. Lawhorn; second

row: W. B. Burkholder, PFC D. O. Lamb, W. A. Michael, M. R. Buckholder, Cpl. C. D. Bailey. 7. Bayonet drill, Battery D. 8. School in rifle nomenclature. 9. Battery D plotting car and range section.

# OFFICERS

# BATTERY D

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



ROBERT L. GIBSON  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery D

Born July 9, 1898 in the State of West Virginia. Attended the Georgia Military College. Enlisted in Engineers' Corps at Atlanta, Georgia, on May 18, 1917; served 21 months with A.E.F. in England and France, and was discharged as sergeant, on April 16, 1919; commissioned First Lieutenant in Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in January, 1927; promoted to Captain in August, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; Commanding officer of Battery D, 246th C. A., to date.



CHARLES F. COBURN  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born October 28, 1911 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the Danville Military Institute, Danville, Virginia. Served eleven years as an enlisted man in the Virginia National Guard; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on June 6, 1940, and assigned to Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940, and assigned as Executive Officer of Battery D, 246th C. A. Attended the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va., August 11, 1941 to October 18, 1941.



JACK G. DEACON  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born April 21, 1912 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the public schools in Covington, Virginia. Enlisted in the 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, as a private, on December 6, 1930; promoted to Private First Class on December 3, 1931; promoted to Corporal in 1933; promoted to Sergeant in 1935; commissioned Second Lieutenant on September 16, 1940 and on that date was inducted into Federal Service. Attended the Post Gas School, April 4, through June 12, 1941.



LESTER F. LINTHICUM  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Enlisted in the National Guard as private, on June 13, 1931. Held all grades through Staff Sergeant. Appointed Second Lieutenant on August 16, 1940. Inducted into Federal active duty on September 16, 1940 and has remained with 246th C. A. to date.

# BATTERY D

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

### History

Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery, was originally organized at Buchanan, Virginia, December 21, 1921 as 413th Battery, First Coast Defense Command; disbanded and reorganized in Covington, Virginia, December 18, 1923, and on January 10, 1924, Federally recognized as Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery, with 53 men and Captain Ashby B. Land, First Lieut. Harry P. Pugh and Second Lieut. James R. Alexander. Battery D is considered the offspring of two units which preceded it in Covington: Carpenter's Battery, organized in 1861, and Company H, 116th Infantry, formed in 1914. About 450 men have served in Battery D from 1923 to 1941.

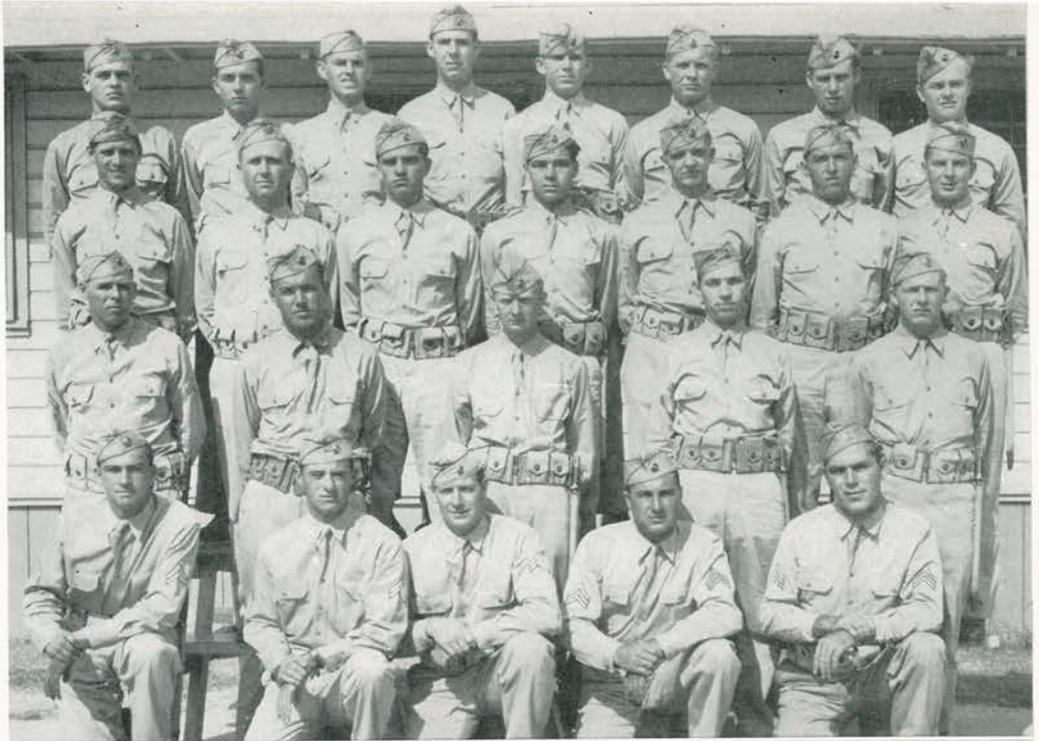
Important dates in the Battery's history include: December 18, 1923, organized in Covington; January 10, 1924, Federal recognition; April 24-25, 1924, called into service to assist civil authorities; July 8, 1927, called into service to assist civil authorities; August 24, 1929, presented regimental rifle cup; August 15, 1930, presented regimental rifle cup; August 19, 1931, Battery D, firing a 12-inch gun of Battery DeRussy, completely destroyed a small target seven miles out at sea with one shot; August 23, 1933, hurricane struck Fort Monroe; October 19, 1934, served as escort of honor to President Roosevelt at Roanoke, Virginia; August 13, 1935, fired service target practice on 8-inch railway gun at Fort Monroe, rated as "Excellent," and received gunner streamer for highest score in 246th Coast Artillery; August 14, 1937, awarded Efficiency Cup for most efficient Battery in 246th Coast Artillery in preceding year; July 23, 1938, awarded Efficiency Cup for second time; July 27, 1939, fired service target practice on 8-inch Railway Gun at Fort Story and received rating of "Excellent";

July 29, 1939, awarded Infantry Cup for best drilled unit in competitive close-order drill; January 3, 1940, plans for Battery D's new armory, having been previously accepted by Covington municipal authorities, received approval of Virginia Art Commission and the Virginia Army Commission; May, 1940, ground broken for new armory; July 26, 1940, awarded Infantry Cup for second best drilled unit in competitive close-order drill; September 16, 1940, inducted into active military service with strength of four officers and 70 enlisted men—one week spent at home station in mobilizing, intensive drill and recruiting; September 22, 1940, entrained at Covington, Virginia, and with big send-off departed for training center in Chesapeake Bay area; September 23, 1940, arrived at Fort Monroe, Virginia, with four officers and 89 enlisted men, under command of Captain Robert L. Gibson; quartered in tents and experienced first hardships of tent life when mild hurricane hit eastern seaboard and flattened a number of tents; assigned to Battery DeRussy for artillery training; November, 1940, new armory at home station completed; December 23, 1940, moved from tent area into temporary wooden barracks. Reassigned to 8-inch Railway Gun with primary mission of firing for Coast Artillery Board and Coast Artillery School; March, 1941, assigned to 3-inch Gun Battery at Fort Wool, off Old Point Comfort, Virginia, to conduct experimental firing for the Coast Artillery Board; became first unit to fire fixed artillery at moving radio-controlled speedboat; May 24, 1941, experienced first tragedy in death of Private Adna W. Leffel at Walter Reed General Hospital as result of injuries sustained in automobile accident in November, 1940; May 30, 1941, firing squad went to Yorktown, Virginia, to participate in Memorial Day exercises; August 11, 1941, second tragedy occurred in unit when Private Carroll W. Davis was fatally injured in automobile accident at Richmond, Virginia. August 28, 1941, service target practice from the 8-inch Railway Guns completed.



First row: 1st Sgt. C. M. Worsham, Sgt. J. A. Barrow, Cpl. F. Gilbert, Jr., Cpl. P. A. Harter, C. V. Walker, C. D. Nicely, L. L. Doss. Second row: R. C. Payne, Jr., PFC M. H. Dickson, N. L. Breeden, B. C. Loan, B. T. Adzowski, PFC E. V. Gilliland, N. C. Vandegriff, Cpl. C. C. Burks. Third row: PFC M. F. Miller, G. J. Averitt, PFC R. L. Bush, H. R. Wright, J. C. Unrue, J. O. Sibold, PFC J. A. Taylor, A. B. Craft. Fourth row: T. E. Slater, W. L. Baldwin, E. L. Kessinger, PFC N. R. Johnson, E. V. Heironimus, B. Irvine, R. E. Cross.

First row: Cpl. R. S. Holloman, Cpl. L. F. Rice, Cpl. F. G. Firebaugh, Sgt. R. B. Hickman, Sgt. R. E. Hall. Second row: PFC J. M. Argenbright, E. R. Jones, PFC W. R. Thomas, F. A. Holt, B. M. Jones. Third row: PFC R. F. Whitehead, R. G. Conner, PFC J. R. Via, M. J. Via, PFC F. J. Bunch, F. G. Akers, R. H. Smith. Fourth row: PFC W. H. Long, Jr., PFC H. G. Arritt, R. H. Richmond, W. L. Posey, J. L. Mahaney, W. D. Field, Jr., L. E. Volk, M. L. Shelton, Jr.



First row: Cpl. W. S. Childs, Sgt. A. C. Smith, Sgt. L. C. Patterson, Sgt. H. W. Spittler, Sgt. O. L. Baker. Second row: R. B. Fuqua, H. T. Newman, H. G. Pears, D. B. Lamb, L. E. Dudding, R. Mehaffey. Third row: PFC E. B. Napier, H. S. Storey, W. A. Rogers, Jr., W. R. Bodecker, PFC H. A. Null, PFC J. M. Osborn, J. A. Woodfin. Fourth row: C. A. Mitchell, Jr., T. B. Merryman, R. L. Humphries, PFC A. L. Rice, Jr., PFC E. F. Shifflett, PFC J. D. Haynes, W. A. Maupin.



First row: Sgt. L. G. Perkins, Cpl. R. L. Sizer, Cpl. H. J. Wilkerson, Cpl. J. E. Dawson, Cpl. H. C. Hall, Sgt. E. G. Humphries. Second row: M. E. Folks, P. S. Powell, R. F. Simpson, C. S. Bayne, K. A. Nicely, PFC C. D. Collins, PFC C. W. Lemon. Third row: W. A. Cole, J. J. Thompson, R. L. Kimberlin, F. A. Sykes, PFC I. L. Weikel, Jr., S. M. Thompson, F. T. Hyler. Fourth row: N. C. Baldini, PFC W. W. Hollie, R. C. Payne, Jr., E. R. Arrington, E. H. Tweedy, A. L. Cross, Jr., M. F. Downey.





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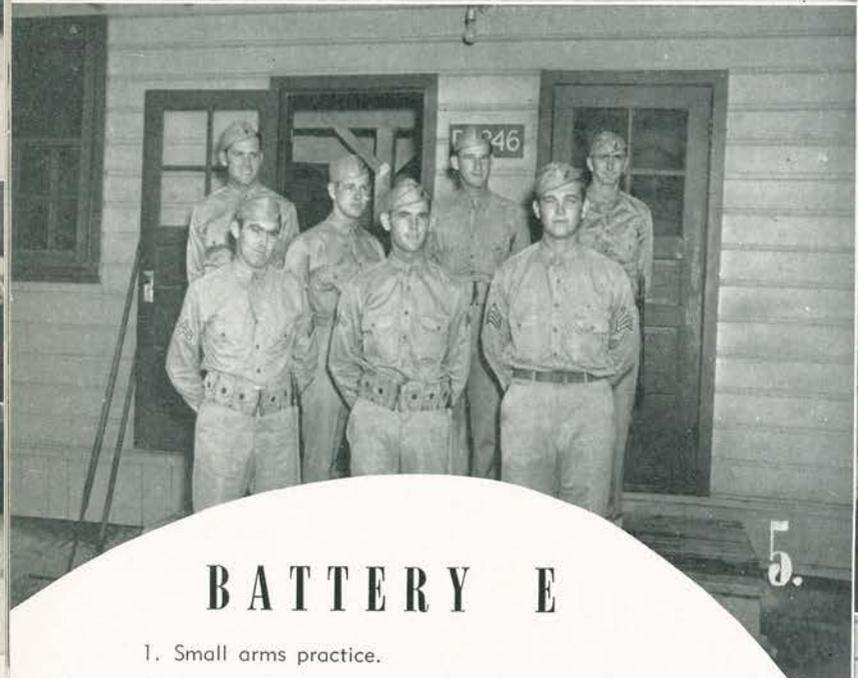
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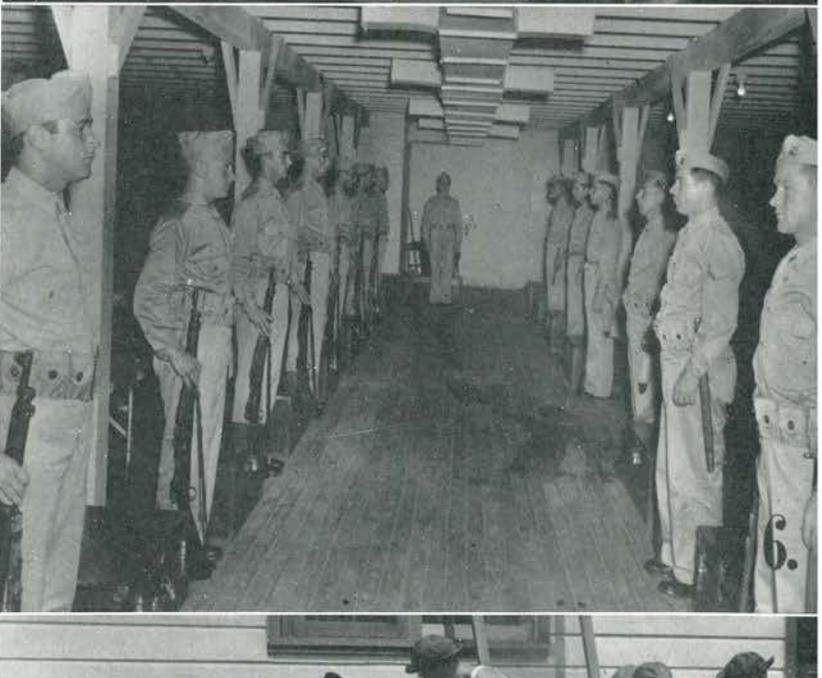
3.



4.



5.



6.

# BATTERY E

- 1. Small arms practice.
- 2. Set to go! Test firing of 6-in. fixed mount rifle.
- 3. 6-inch rifle crew.
- 4. 1st Sgt. R. W. Reid and W. L. Wade, clerk.
- 5. Waiting for Saturday morning inspection.
- 6. Inspection.
- 7. Building coal box.



7.

# OFFICERS

# BATTERY E

*Third Battalion*

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



ROBERT S. ROADCAP  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery E

Born July 24, 1893, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Served as Private, Corporal and Sergeant in the Infantry, October 8, 1917 to September 30, 1918, in the A. E. F.; appointed Second Lieutenant in the Infantry, October 1, 1918, and served until June 6, 1919, when he was reverted to inactive status; Captain in the Coast Artillery Reserve, Virginia National Guard, December 29, 1921 to July 30, 1923, and from July 31, 1923 to January 18, 1924; First Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, February 11, 1924, and promoted to Captain on June 27, 1935, with assignment as Commanding Officer of Battery E, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard; graduated from the Coast Artillery School for National Guard Battery Officers in 1922.



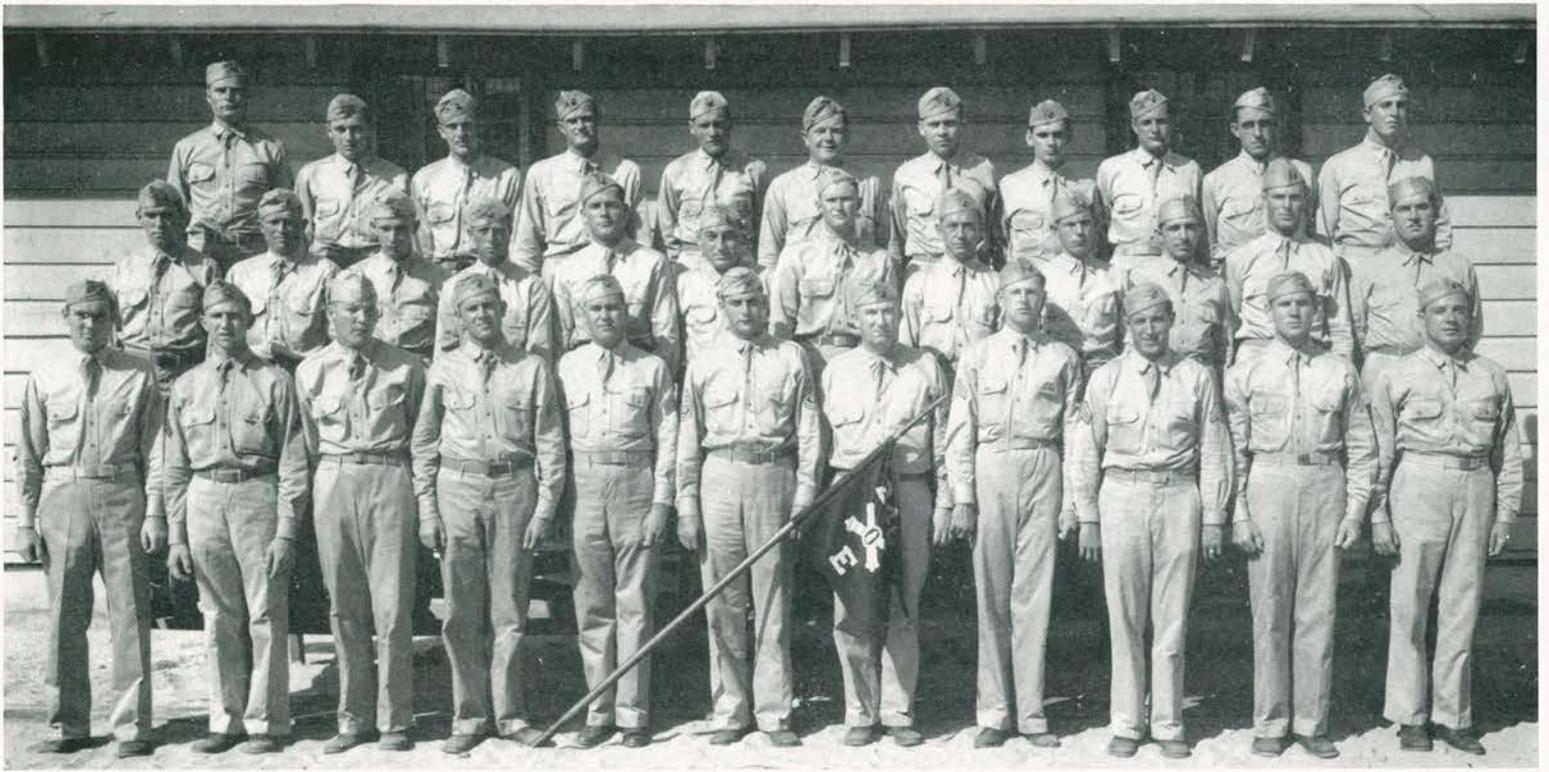
WILLIAM C. HEARD, JR.  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born May 14, 1916, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1939. Served three years as enlisted man in 29th Tank Company, Virginia National Guard, at Danville, 1932 to 1935; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers' Reserve Corps, Coast Artillery, on June 3, 1939; transferred as Second Lieutenant to Second Lieutenant in Infantry, and assigned to 29th Tank Company, Va. National Guard, October 4, 1939; transferred to Battery B, 246th Coast Artillery (HD), Danville, July 8, 1940; emplacement officer, Battery B; assigned Battery E, 246th C. A., on July 14, 1941.

JAMES S. FRIDLEY  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born November 16, 1913, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the public schools in Clifton Forge, Virginia. Served as enlisted man in the National Guard of Virginia from October 16, 1932 until August 24, 1940; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on August 24, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and assigned to Battery E, 246th C. A., as Battery Officer; later assigned as Battery Officer of Battery B and Battery I, 246th C. A.





*First row:* Cpl. J. C. Nicely, Cpl. R. D. Fridley, Sgt. F. B. Hall, Sgt. C. M. Cunningham, Sgt. J. P. Bethel, 1st Sgt. R. W. Reid, Stf. Sgt. R. F. Craft, Sgt. W. S. Shorter, Sgt. N. T. Duff, Cpl. J. E. Scruggs, Cpl. J. B. Goode. *Second row:* Cpl. F. M. Burnside, C. W. Dickerson, M. W. Spady, R. M. Snider, PFC N. E. Ray, PFC C. W. Tyree, C. W. Clements, R. C. Elam,

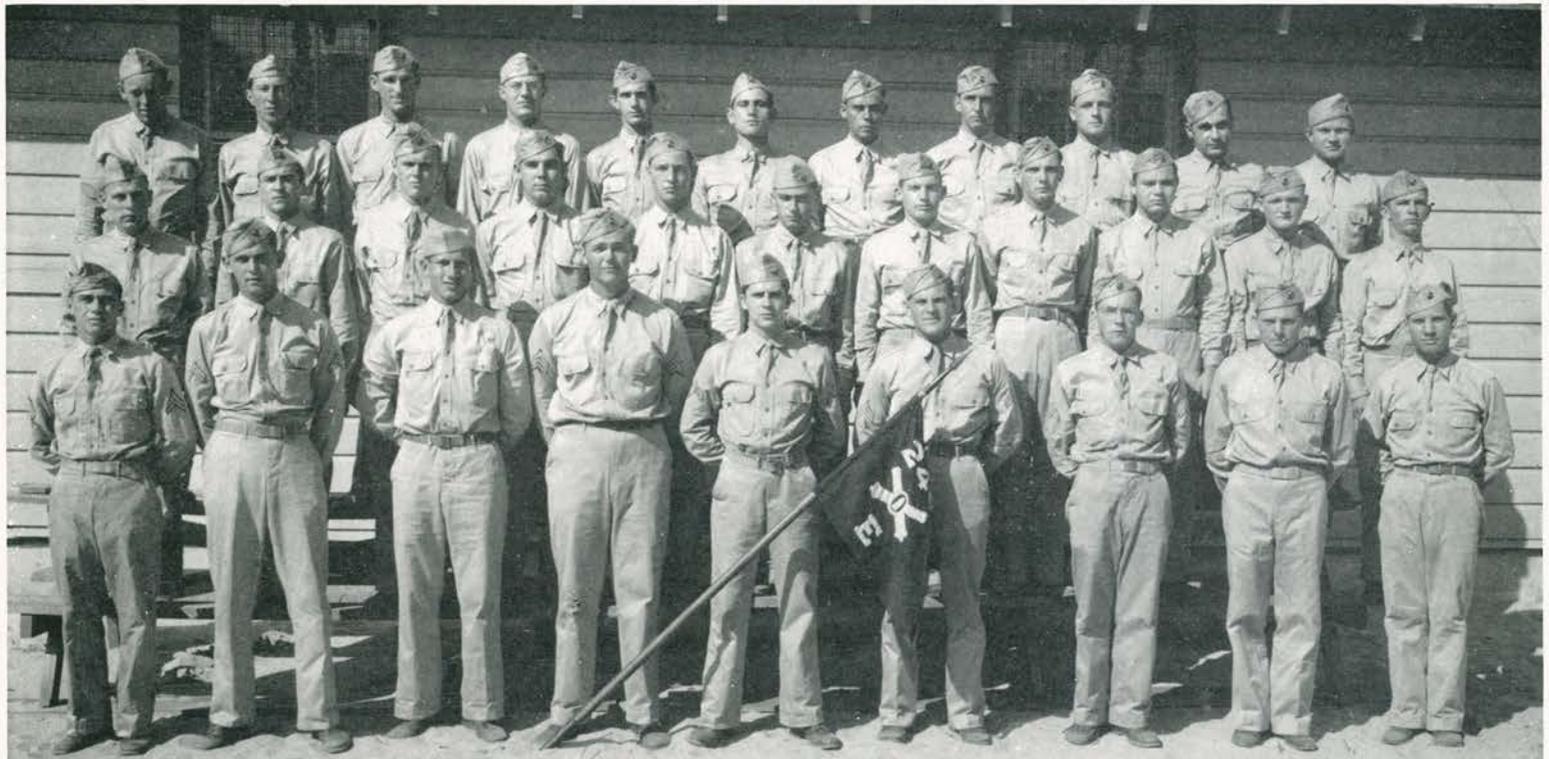
PFC W. H. Perry, J. A. Verdi, PFC H. L. Cumby, PFC W. L. Wade. *Third row:* W. F. Mason, R. L. Barbour, W. E. Simpson, D. M. Thomas, PFC S. J. Hostetter, PFC F. W. Snyder, PFC C. A. Bear, W. L. Belcher, R. D. Kitts, M. K. Burk, J. D. Mann.

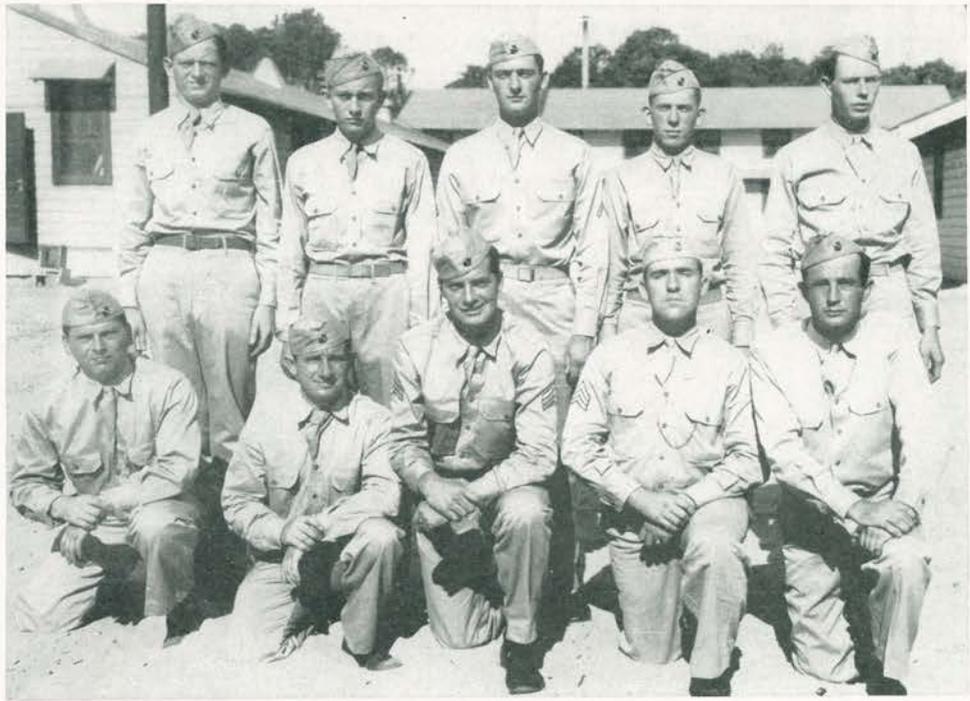
# BATTERY E

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

*First row:* Cpl. J. A. Collins, Cpl. J. M. Binion, J. P. Sadler, Cpl. C. T. Farrar, Cpl. R. H. Showalter, Cpl. C. W. Spangler, Cpl. P. W. Bodkin, R. R. Williams, PFC J. R. Holt. *Second row:* C. J. Zirkle, V. W. Spurlock, T. C. Cobb, C. L. Harryman, R. M. Schrader, I. C. Seward, PFC C. E. Dean,

PFC S. C. Foote, F. A. Downey, E. J. Wilgus, P. S. Boggs. *Third row:* K. E. Hurd, PFC J. O. Brown, L. N. Burks, J. H. Gatewood, PFC R. H. Minyard, N. L. Clark, S. W. Surber, W. J. Brooks, L. Sherwood, R. Gephart, G. W. Rowley, Jr.





First row: W. S. Hatcher, J. F. Allen, Sgt. C. E. Carter, Sgt. R. B. Smith, Jr., PFC O. S. Price. Second row: H. M. Ayers, PFC J. M. Johnson, PFC J. C. Murphy, H. S. Pauley, W. B. Whitlow.

## History

Battery E, 246th Coast Artillery, was organized originally in 1917 as the Fourth Company, C.A.C. Drafted into Federal service for the World War August 5, 1917, it became the Eighth Company, Coast Defense of Chesapeake Bay, serving within the continental limits of the United States during the war.

On December 5, 1921, this Company was reorganized as the Fourth Company, C.A.C., and Federally recognized December 21, 1921, with the enlistment of 58 men and Captain Robert S. Roadcap, First Battery Commander; Ralph H. Harris, First Lieutenant, and Frederick W. Harris, Second Lieutenant. These officers were elected by the members of the Battery.

During its first year in camp and again in 1928 the unit was awarded the Efficiency pennant. It was first assigned to Battery Parrot, 12-inch Rifle, and then later was assigned to Battery Derussey, another 12-inch Rifle, at Fortress Monroe, Va. These 12-inch guns were fired by this Battery until 1935, when it was assigned to 155mm guns.

This Battery was one of the first National Guard units called into service. On order of the President of the United States this outfit was inducted into Federal service September 16, 1940. After training in its home town of Clifton Forge, Va., for a week, it left for Fort Story, Va., to begin its task of a year of intensive

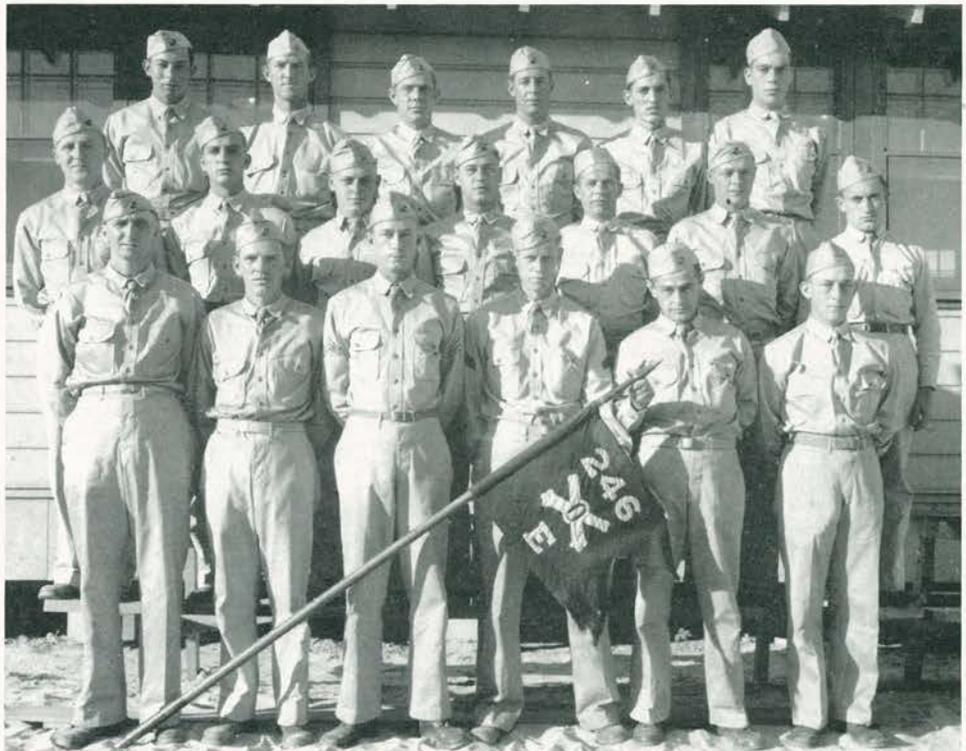
training. The Battery consisted of 104 enlisted men and four officers, Captain R. S. Roadcap, Battery Commander; Hollis Cahoon, First Lieutenant; Doyle M. Snyder, Second Lieutenant; and James E. Fridley, Second Lieutenant, when it arrived into camp.

This Battery was assigned 70 Selective Service men to train, and to make room for them we sent 40 of our old men to Fort Monroe to fill out other batteries of the 246th stationed there, which included D, F, and H Batteries. These new men came to us on January 8th and have developed into splendid soldiers since then.

After firing the 155mm guns in service fire this summer, this Battery was assigned to several 6-inch guns which were assembled by members of this outfit.

There have been quite a few changes in the officer personnel of our Battery since arriving into camp last September. Captain R. S. Roadcap has resigned and Captain Martin W. Richwine has taken command of the Battery. Lieutenant Cahoon has been promoted to Captain and his place has since been taken by Second Lieutenant William Heard. Second Lieutenants Doyle M. Snyder and James E. Fridley have been assigned to other units, and to fill in the required number of officers we received William S. Cox.

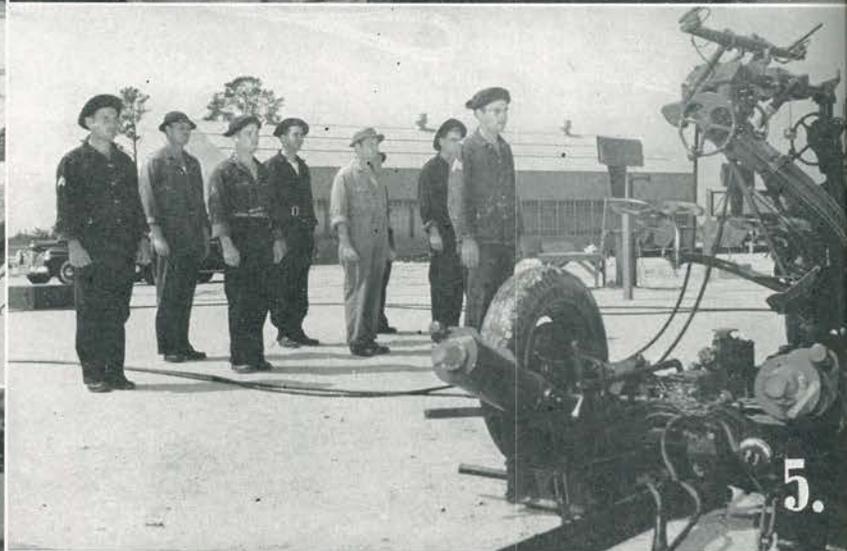
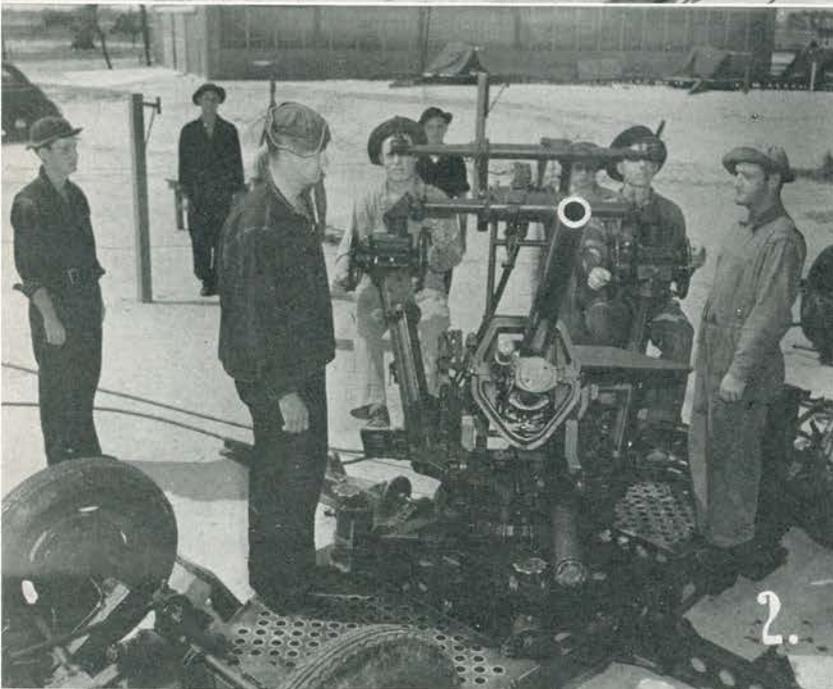
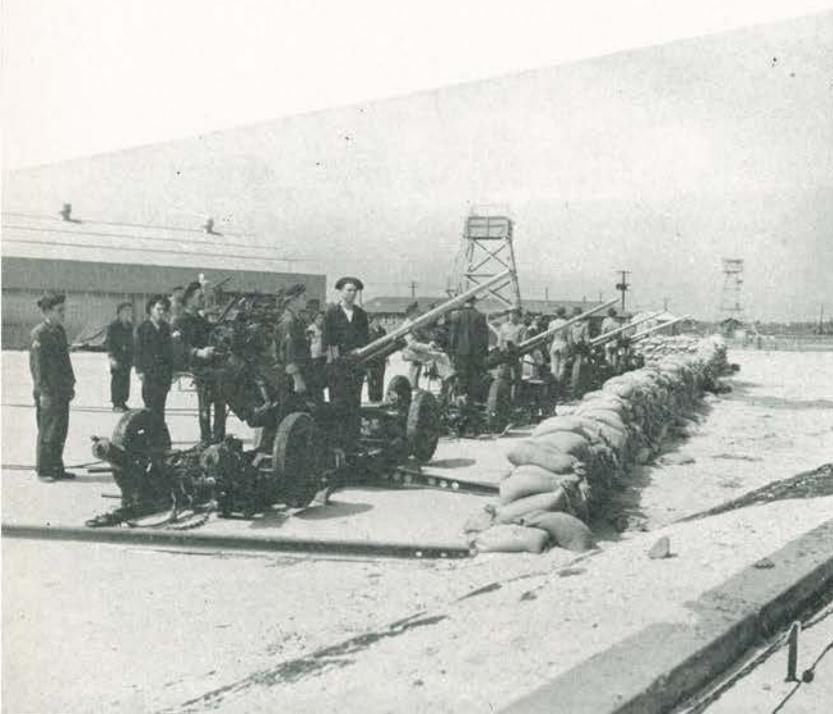
During the years this Battery has been formed there have been over 700 men trained, and out of this group there has come quite a number of young officers as well as a large group of college graduates.



First row: S. W. Kinzer, PFC G. G. Burnside, Cpl. J. R. Ross, Cpl. J. E. Marshall, J. E. Powers, S. M. Rowley. Second row: M. G. Wilson, PFC C. L. Hall, PFC C. W. Linkswiler, PFC J. R. Fore, Jr., PFC J. E. Jeffries, K. Kilgore, PFC J. H. Miller. Third row: H. M. Phillips, M. C. Davidson, PFC C. N. Van Buren, F. E. Trussell, W. O. Dudley, R. C. Nash.

# BATTERY F

1. Battery in line. 2. No. 2 gun crew in action. 3. Range section in action. 4. Short wave directing plane for 37mm fire. 5. Gun crew ready for action on 37mm gun. 6. Recreation room. 7. Checking rifles in barracks. 8. Lt. Walker, Lt. Dol-lins, Lt. Sowers and 1st Sgt. Martin in front of Battery F office.



# OFFICERS

## BATTERY F

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



MARTIN W. RICHWINE, JR.  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery F

Born March 8, 1903, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Randolph-Macon College. Enlisted in Headquarters Battery, 246th C. A., on May 5, 1926; appointed Sergeant on July 6, 1926; appointed Staff Sergeant on October 17, 1927; appointed Technical Sergeant on August 2, 1930; commissioned as Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Officers' Reserve Corps on December 31, 1931; Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on January 10, 1936; promoted to First Lieutenant on November 2, 1939. Assignments: Adjutant, Second Battalion; Executive Officer, Headquarters Battery, and assistant Regimental Plans and Training Officer; promoted to Captain on January 13, 1941; appointed Assistant Regimental Plans and Training Officer, in February, 1941; Commanding Officer of Battery F, from February 19, 1941 to June, 1941; appointed Commanding Officer of Battery E in September, 1941, and serving in this capacity to date. Received Certificate of Eligibility as Captain on June 1, 1940; attended C.A.S. Refresher Course (Seacoast) from June 23, to August 30, 1941.



ALVAN G. WALKER, JR.  
*1st Lieutenant*

Born April 12, 1916, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Studied Electrical Engineering at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and graduated with B.S. degree. Attended R.O.T.C. at V. P. I. from 1934 through 1938; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Reserve in June, 1938; commissioned First Lieutenant in 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on August 24, 1940, and assigned to Battery H; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; student in Anti-Aircraft Refresher Course at the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va., October and November, 1940; range officer, Battery H, from December, 1940 to June, 1941; assigned to Battery F, 246th C. A., in June, 1941, and designated Battery Commander; relieved of assignment with 246th C. A. on September 15, 1941, and transferred to training group at Fort Monmouth, N. J. Completed Refresher Course, Coast Artillery School (Anti-Aircraft) in December, 1940.



HENRY I. SOWERS  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born November 18, 1912, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended public schools at Blacksburg, Virginia. Served enlistment in Virginia National Guard, 1929 to 1931, and reenlistment from 1934 to 1940; discharged as Sergeant; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on August 24, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; Mess Officer, from September 16, 1940 to July 1, 1941; Supply Officer, July 1, 1941, to date; Battery Executive, July 1, 1941, to date. Attended Post Gas School at Fort Monroe, Va., May 23, 1941, to July 18, 1941.



ALVIN L. DOLLINS  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born March 18, 1913, in Virginia. Attended Augusta Military Academy. Enlisted in Virginia National Guard with Battery D, 246th C. A., served as an enlisted man for four years and was commissioned and inducted as Second Lieutenant in National Guard of U. S., C.A.C., with 246th C. A., at Covington, Va., on Sept. 16, 1940. Served as attached officer with Battery D from Sept. 16, 1940 to Sept. 28, 1940, when relieved from this duty and detailed as assistant Regimental Supply Officer. Remained on this assignment until Dec. 15, 1940, then reassigned to Battery F. Served with Battery F from Dec. 15, 1940, to date. Present duties: 37mm gun Platoon Commander and Mess Officer.



# BATTERY F

## Second Battalion

### 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

#### History

Battery F, 246th Coast Artillery, is the only National Guard unit located in the western part of Virginia. Records of its early days date from December 14, 1921, when the Fifth Company, First Provisional Regiment, Coast Artillery, was formed at Christiansburg, Captain J. L. Montague commanding one platoon located in Christiansburg, and First Lieutenant J. O. Hoge one platoon in Blacksburg.

The Fifth Company was originally organized in 1917 as the Fifth Company, C.A.C., Va. N. G. Battery F was drafted into Federal service for the World War, August 5, 1917, becoming Battery B, 60th Regiment, C.A.C. It had the following combat service in France: St. Mihiel, September 12-16, 1918; Meuse-Argonne, September 26-November 11, 1918. It was demobilized in February, 1919, and reorganized in December, 1921.

Federally recognized December 21, 1921, it was redesignated 414th Company, but when the 415th Company was formed in Christiansburg, January 30, 1923, the 414th Company Headquarters was moved to Blacksburg. Redesignated Battery G, 246th Coast Artillery, November 5, 1923, it was assigned to the Second Battalion. The unit remained Battery G until February, 1940, at which time it was redesignated Battery F, 246th Coast Artillery, and as such was inducted into active Federal service September 16, 1940.

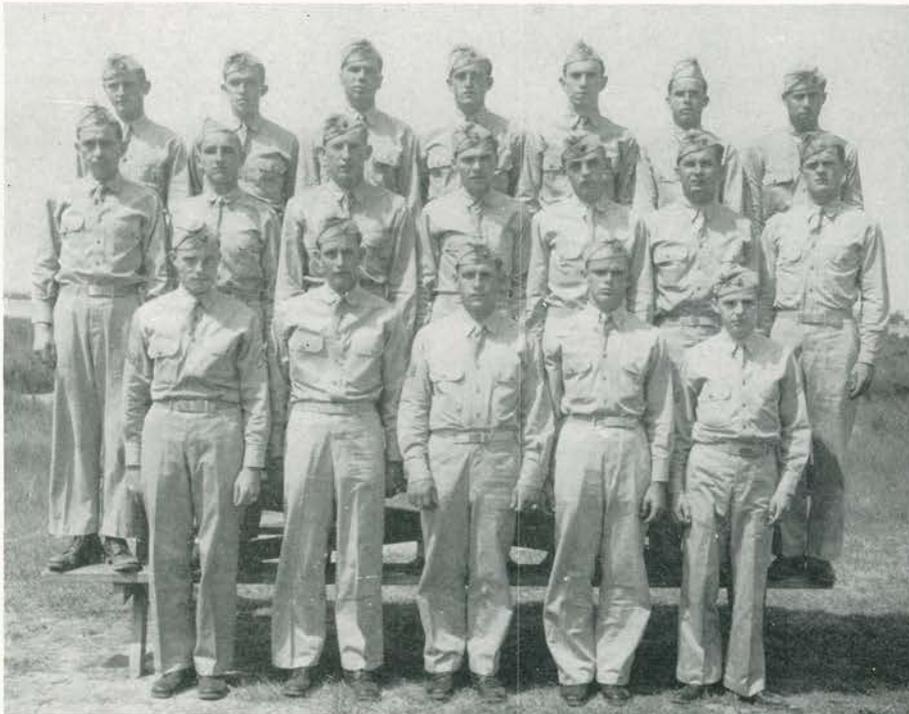
In spite of a membership drive prior to induction, Battery F was unable to attain full strength. This has been accomplished by the transfer of men from other batteries of the 246th and more recently by reception of a number of selectees. Hence, the Battery can hardly be called the Blacksburg Battery any longer, and its personnel now in-

cludes men from Danville, Roanoke, Clifton Forge, Lynchburg, New York, and Chicago.

A year in Federal service has also brought several changes in the commissioned personnel. Of the officers at the time of induction Second Lieutenant Sowers is the only one remaining with the Battery. The original officers were: Captain W. T. Hartman, Commander; Captain Willard H. White, First Lieutenant Wesley C. Royer, and Second Lieutenant Henry I. Sowers. Both Captain White and Lieutenant Royer received promotion after induction. First Lieutenant Alvan G. Walker is now acting Battery Commander in the absence of Captain Martin W. Richwine, who is at present attending the Coast Artillery School. First Lieutenant Thomas D. Sledge, for a time with Battery F, is now assigned to another battery.

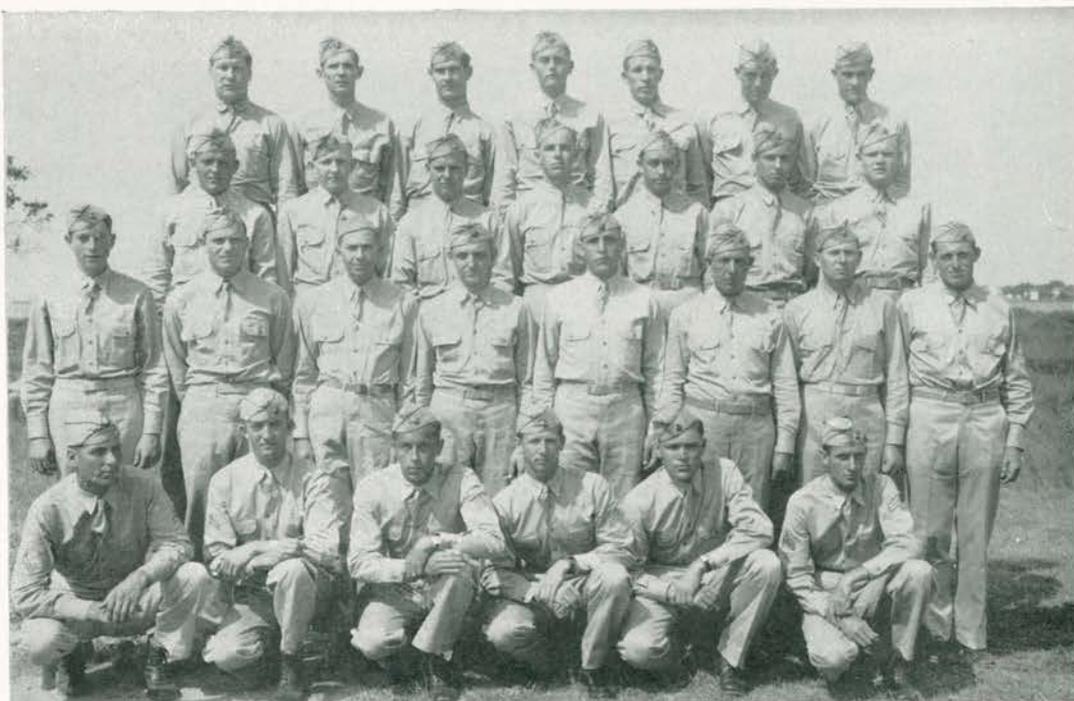
Originally assigned to maintain Battery Montgomery, at Fort Monroe, Battery F is now officially a 37mm battery, although maintenance of 30-caliber and 50-caliber machine guns is at present required for instructional purposes in connection with the Coast Artillery School, located at Fort Monroe, Va.

In addition to an admirable record under its present assignment Battery F can boast of many honors and much usefulness during its history. Called upon six times to fight forest fires since December 21, 1921, the Battery has aided in saving homes and preventing inestimable property damage. Honors won by the Battery include: permanent possession of William Sale Rifle Cup; first place cups infantry drill competition, 1931, 1932, and two second-place cups; efficiency cup, 1931; first battery of regiment to receive excellent rating for artillery drill, 1931; commendation of War Department for excellent fire control discipline during 1937 field training period; a rating of excellent and the right to wear the coveted "E" for firing during 1940 summer camp, and appointment as official honor guard to General Drum during his May 20, 1941, inspection of Chesapeake Bay defenses.

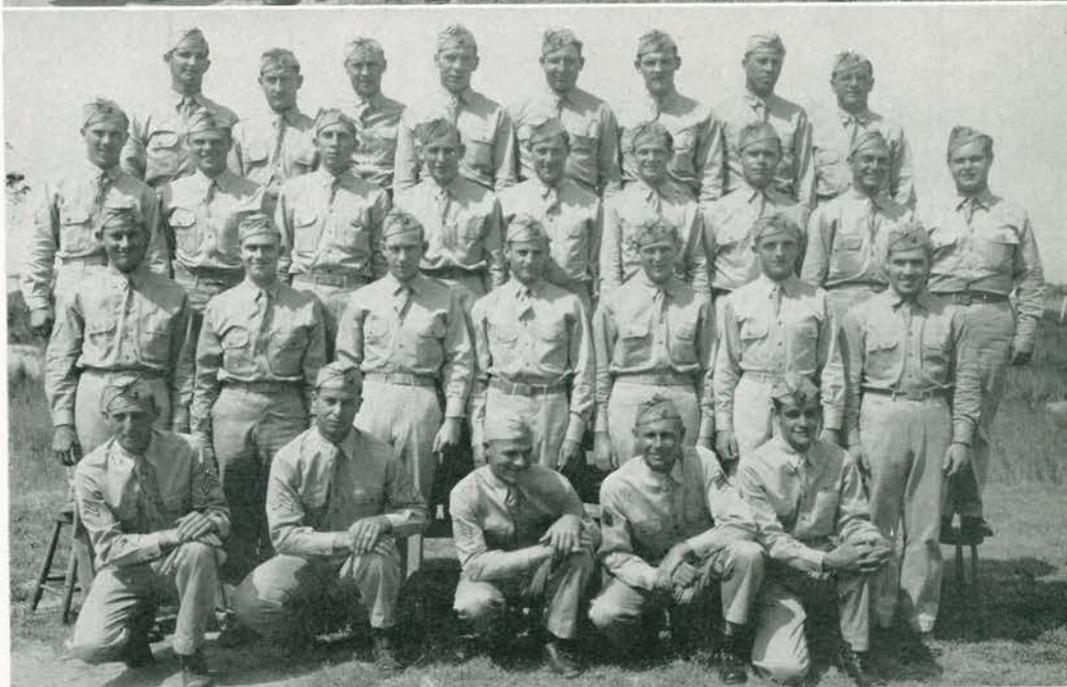


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★  
First row: Cpl. L. S. Price, Cpl. J. S. McFarland, Sgt. J. D. Pearman, Cpl. D. E. Guynn, Cpl. H. O. Sprouse. Second row: PFC J. P. Savage, E. D. Huddleston, J. L. Stewart, P. J. Childress, H. J. Smoot, W. Stromick, A. Andrychowski. Third row: F. J. Roark, A. L. Ashwell, PFC A. R. Price, N. K. Purgason, PFC J. T. Shaver, L. T. Farmer, PFC S. C. Smith.

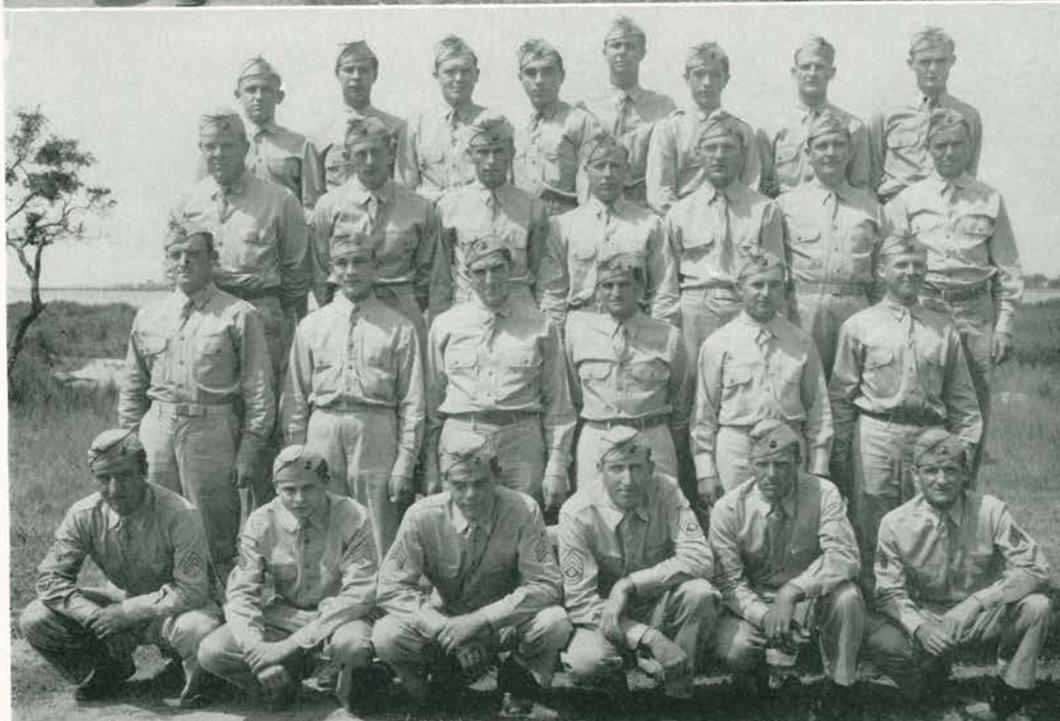
First row: Cpl. J. N. Martin, Cpl. C. C. Miller, Sgt. W. P. Williams, Sgt. P. A. Weddle, Cpl. J. E. Guynn, Cpl. F. H. Hazlewood. Second row: P. E. Sowers, M. J. Bowles, R. F. Walter, B. S. Kessinger, PFC R. E. Mathena, G. W. Cox, PFC H. W. Mays, PFC A. J. Gunter. Third row: PFC K. K. Nowlin, PFC W. E. Blalock, J. F. Savage, PFC M. L. Davis, J. O. Nuckols, H. W. Watts, P. E. Gammon. Fourth row: C. N. Robbins, L. B. Shaw, D. M. Williams, W. Fox, W. A. Taylor, E. J. Long, PFC C. A. Cowan.



First row: Cpl. E. J. Helvey, Cpl. H. E. Reed, Sgt. R. W. Hartless, Sgt. H. B. Gordon, Cpl. G. W. Alvanos. Second row: PFC R. A. Lee, M. H. Ashwell, B. W. Coleman, J. L. Hardy, R. E. Lipscomb, PFC L. E. Martin, H. E. Graham. Third row: PFC T. L. Robinson, J. E. Scruggs, R. H. Snider, F. J. Tucker, L. Matney, A. S. Kessler, PFC C. L. Johnson, C. L. Irvin, B. T. Graveley. Fourth row: J. E. Williams, M. L. Deboe, PFC J. W. Adams, R. E. Roberts, PFC R. C. Dixon, PFC R. D. Drinkard, H. L. Jones, E. F. Snead.



First row: Cpl. J. H. Carrick, Sgt. E. L. Hawkins, Sgt. M. W. Smoot, 1st Sgt. B. K. Martin, Sgt. H. W. Day, Sgt. C. E. Dudley. Second row: PFC H. W. Cromer, S. T. Wagstaff, Jr., J. J. Gillespie, J. Tommasini, P. G. Maddox, G. L. Poston. Third row: PFC F. C. Ward, PFC R. L. Sprouse, PFC A. T. Long, C. H. Weddle, F. E. Dziejewi, PFC R. E. Barker, J. J. Bennett. Fourth row: PFC K. C. Dove, R. E. Snider, Jr., PFC L. K. Webb, A. T. Underwood, C. R. Mann, N. E. Rakes, B. R. Whitt, R. G. Gauldin.



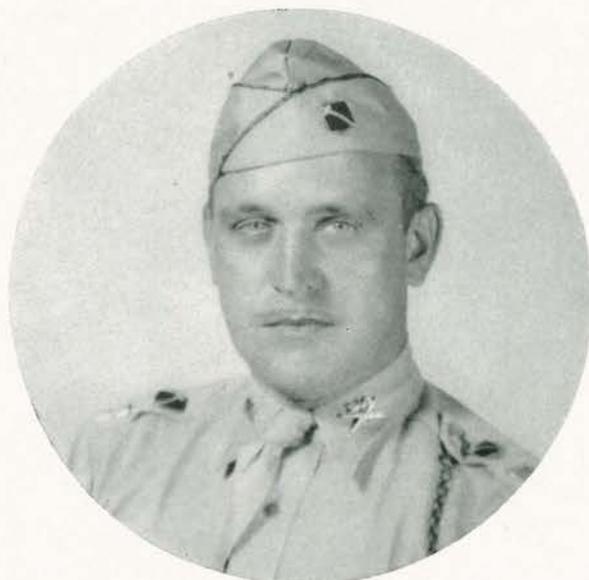


# BATTERY G

1. Commander tracking plane. 2. Director crew marks target. 3. Height finder crew and instrument. 4. Gun drill on 3-inch anti-aircraft. 5. Command Post, Communications. 6. Switchboard.

# OFFICERS BATTERY G

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, JR.  
Captain  
Commanding,  
Battery G

Born February 6, 1904, in the State of West Virginia. Attended the Jefferson High School, Roanoke, Virginia. Enlisted in Battery F, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on March 6, 1922, serving as private, private first class, and sergeant; discharged on July 7, 1923, to accept commission; commissioned First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on July 8, 1923; assigned to Battery F, 246th C. A., as Battery Officer; promoted to Captain on June 5, 1941; assigned to Battery G, 246th C. A., as Commanding Officer, on June 6, 1941. Attended Battery Officers' School, Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, in 1932.



RAYMOND H. HILL  
1st Lieutenant

Born December 23, 1896, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Served as Private, Corporal and Sergeant in Second Virginia Infantry, from June, 1916 until February, 1917; as Sergeant in 116th Infantry from March, 1917 to February, 1918; Private, Corporal and Sergeant in 116th Infantry, Virginia National Guard, from September, 1930 to June, 1932; commissioned Second Lieutenant in 116th Infantry, Virginia National Guard, in June, 1932, and served until June, 1940; transferred to 246th Coast Artillery (H.D.), in June, 1940, with rank of First Lieutenant. Battery Officer, Battery G.



HENRY D. SHANK, JR.  
1st Lieutenant

Born September 11, 1911, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, in October, 1932; assigned 917th A. A.; assigned to Battery G, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in June, 1940; promoted to First Lieutenant on August 24, 1940; Mess Officer, Battery G, April 1, 1940, to date; Range Officer, December 7, 1940, to date. Attended A. A. Refresher Course, C. A. School, October, 1940 to December, 1940.



GROVER C. LIGON, JR.  
2nd Lieutenant

Born May 6, 1917, in the State of Maryland. Received B.S.C.E. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Corps of Engineers, Officers Reserve Corps, on June 10, 1940; transferred to 246th Coast Artillery, as Second Lieutenant, and assigned to Battery G, 246th C. A. (H.D.); assignments to date, Battery Supply Officer, Gas Officer and Athletic Officer.





First row: PFC J. E. Legard, Jr., B. B. Ashworth, W. H. Dean, Sgt. W. W. Williams, Sgt. R. L. Collins, Sgt. H. D. Bower, PFC E. N. Hawkins. Second row: B. W. Reese, H. J. Dollens, T. A. Hodges, PFC J. I. Dean, PFC E. Jones, PFC M. L. Thomas, PFC J. A. Stevens, Jr. Third row: H. C. Sadler, W. L. Sink, Cpl. D. O. Flesman, E. C. Oaks, Cpl. M. C. Agee, PFC T. E. Pettit, PFC M. A. Mills.

# BATTERY G

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

### History

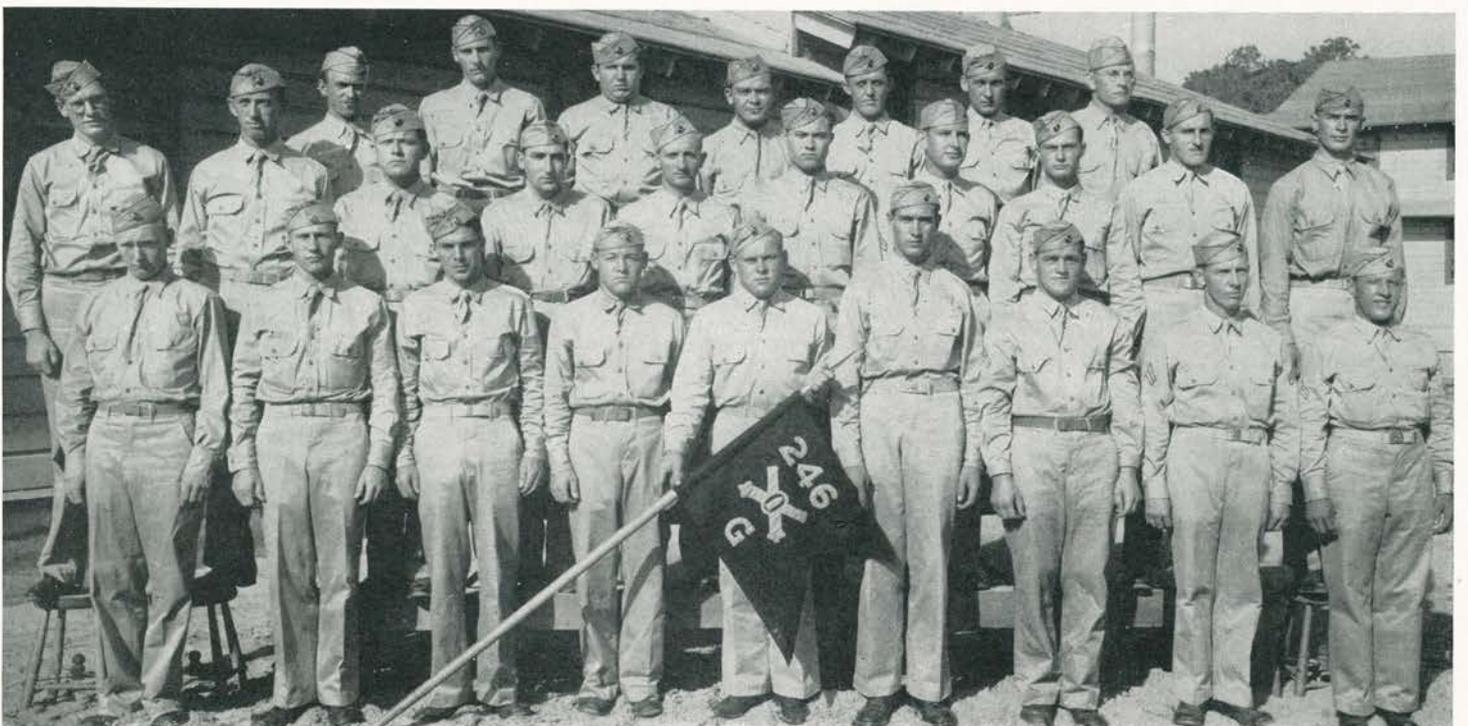
Battery G, 246th Coast Artillery (HD) AA, being a new anti-aircraft unit under the new Tables of Organization of the 246th Regiment, Coast Artillery, was Federally recognized June 6, 1940, at Salem, Virginia.

In April, 1940, information was received concerning expansion of the 246th Regiment, Coast Artillery, and that an anti-aircraft battalion was to be included. Upon receipt of this information, Capt. William E. Johnson, Jr., at that time First Lieutenant of Battery F, began initial steps to organize the new unit in Salem. This new unit was assigned to the 3-inch anti-aircraft guns (fixed mounts), Fort Story, Virginia, which it has continued to man throughout its first year's Federal service.

In cooperation with town and county officials, a brick building, formerly used as a morgue, was secured and rented as an armory. Authority received, recruiting began

First row: F. O. Hall, J. F. Bosiger, G. K. Franks, PFC J. T. Bowles, PFC W. H. Greer, J. B. Blankenship, Jr., Cpl. E. M. McGrady, Cpl. W. L. Giles, Cpl. H. M. Mills. Second row: H. P. Smith, R. B. Rhoades, PFC R. E. Davis, F. E. Mueller, E. F. Niday, A. C. Jones, Cpl. W. L. Bain,

G. A. Scott, T. Moore, R. E. Simmons. Third row: PFC J. L. Andrews, R. G. Hicks, PFC W. L. Bolt, PFC M. L. Thompson, J. T. Brown, W. W. Smith, W. W. Jamerson.





First row: Cpl. E. H. Conner, Sgt. G. A. Wright, Jr., Cpl. R. L. Hensley, 1st Sgt. L. T. Dillard, Cpl. W. P. McC. Bowman, Sgt. B. L. Wise, Sgt. J. W. Ulrey, Sgt. J. W. Sample, Sgt. R. S. Pechin. Second row: B. W. LaFoon, A. T. Roach, PFC J. P. Pendleton, E. B. Osborne, D. O. Woodall, J. W. Bentley, S. M. Flecker, H. C. Hodges, W. J. Turner. Third row: PFC B. T. Harlow, C. L. Minter,

H. E. Fowler, Z. T. Simerly, PFC B. L. Marshall, PFC R. C. Rudder, PFC L. L. Tingler, H. M. Silbert, PFC J. M. Taylor, Jr. Fourth row: C. E. McClellan, PFC J. W. Downey, PFC M. W. Foutz, PFC C. G. Martin, PFC M. O. Walters, G. W. Luttrell, G. W. West, PFC C. J. Hughes, PFC D. M. D. Hutchinson.

May 6, 1940, in the Salem fire station, under supervision of Captain Johnson and First Lieutenant Raymond H. Hill in an effort to secure a quota of at least 60 men for Federal recognition. Sufficient personnel was available for Federal recognition by May 25, 1940, when request was made.

Lieutenant Henry D. Shank, Jr., was transferred from the O.R.C. to Battery G as Second Lieutenant.

Instruction and intensive training began immediately for new recruits by the officers, and the following enlisted men with prior military service: Luther T. Dillard (First Sergeant since induction into Federal service), Emory J. Moore (honorably discharged because of dependency, upon induction into Federal service of the National Guard), Richard S. Pechin, John F. Brown (honorably discharged), Samuel A. Ennis, Clempsey R. Perdue (honorably discharged), John E. Shaver. Sergeant James W. Sample was first man to enlist in the new unit. September 16, 1940, Lieutenant Grover C. Ligon was officially assigned to Battery G as Second Lieutenant, having been transferred from C.E.-O.R.C.

Battery G enjoyed a successful training period during summer encampment at Fort Story July 7 to July 27. At this time its total strength was 64 enlisted men and three officers. Being a young and enthusiastic military unit, Battery G soon learned to handle effectively its 3-inch anti-aircraft guns. In a year of Federal service it has gained the reputation of a first-class anti-aircraft battery.

At the time of induction into the Federal service, Battery G had a total strength of only 54 men and four officers, having lost the balance because of dependencies and physical handicaps.

With the induction of selectees, the Battery in its expansion grew in strength. The new men, absorbed in the manifold duties of a new life, proved themselves capable and as a whole a boon to the battery's efficiency and productivity.

Deep in our hearts we trust Battery G will live in the annals of military service as a unit ever increasing in strength and honor.

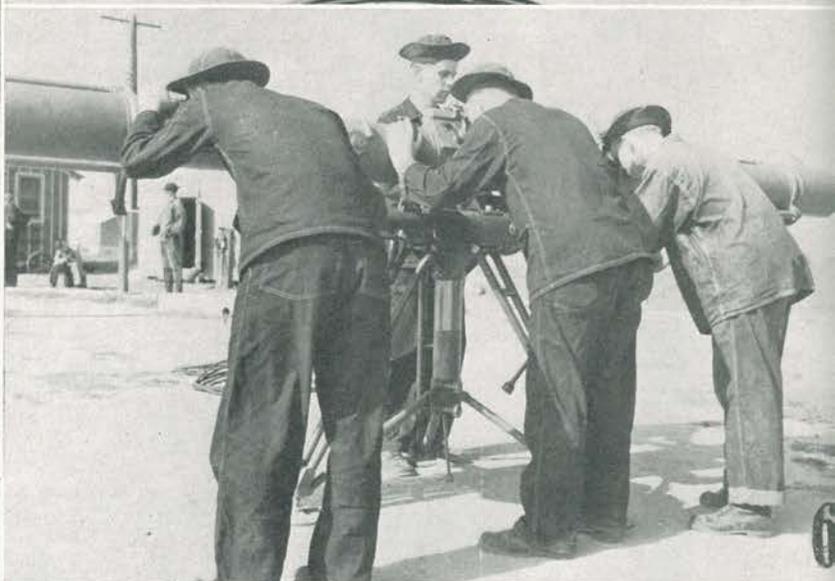
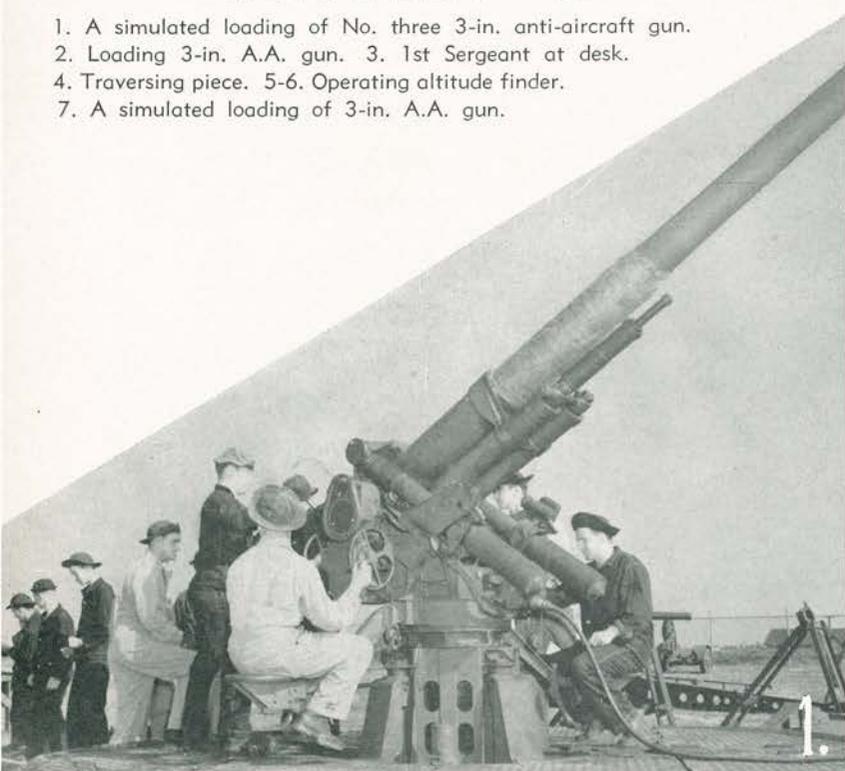
First row: T. E. Adcock, Cpl. L. F. Hodges, Sgt. J. C. Jefferson, Stf. Sgt. C. N. D. Turner, Cpl. J. N. Omohundro, Cpl. V. W. Wygal. Second row: A. Dunnivan, J. M. Smith, R. W. Walters, W. Shepherd, R. S. Morgan, R. M. Gilbert, PFC O. F. Crews, B. O. Hamilton, Jr., F. D. Gibbs. Third row: L. M. Thurman,

S. T. Dalton, M. Y. Sands, PFC W. A. Kurchorski, J. M. Riddle, E. L. Roe, Cpl. S. A. Ennis, A. M. Gambill, J. W. Sickel, Jr., A. A. Whited. Fourth row: A. L. Hann, G. M. Tomlinson, D. H. Martin, Jr., W. W. Jacobs, R. B. Webb, W. N. Hollins, B. S. Moore, Cpl. H. B. Apperson, PFC I. L. Davis.



# BATTERY H

1. A simulated loading of No. three 3-in. anti-aircraft gun.
2. Loading 3-in. A.A. gun.
3. 1st Sergeant at desk.
4. Traversing piece.
- 5-6. Operating altitude finder.
7. A simulated loading of 3-in. A.A. gun.



# BATTERY H

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



GILBERT P. KEY  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery H

Born May 30, 1906 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Served as Private, Private First Class and Corporal in the Coast Artillery Corps from July 25, 1925 until December 13, 1928; appointed Second Lieutenant on December 14, 1928 and held this rank until May 27, 1930; First Lieutenant from May 27, 1930 until March 3, 1939; graduated from the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, in 1930; graduated from the Chemical Warfare School, Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, in 1935; Captain and commanding officer of Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery, from March 4, 1939 to date. Inducted into Army of the United States on September 16, 1940.



JAMES O. GARDNER, JR.  
*1st Lieutenant*

Born February 19, 1908 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended Virginia Military Institute. Enlisted as private in Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on July 5, 1928; honorably discharged on November 25, 1933; reenlisted on February 7, 1939; discharged on March 31, 1939, to accept commission; appointed Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on April 1, 1939; assigned to Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on April 1, 1939; promoted to First Lieutenant on August 26, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and has had continuous assignment with Battery H, 246th C. A. Graduated from Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe, in 1940.



THOMAS D. SLEDGE  
*1st Lieutenant*

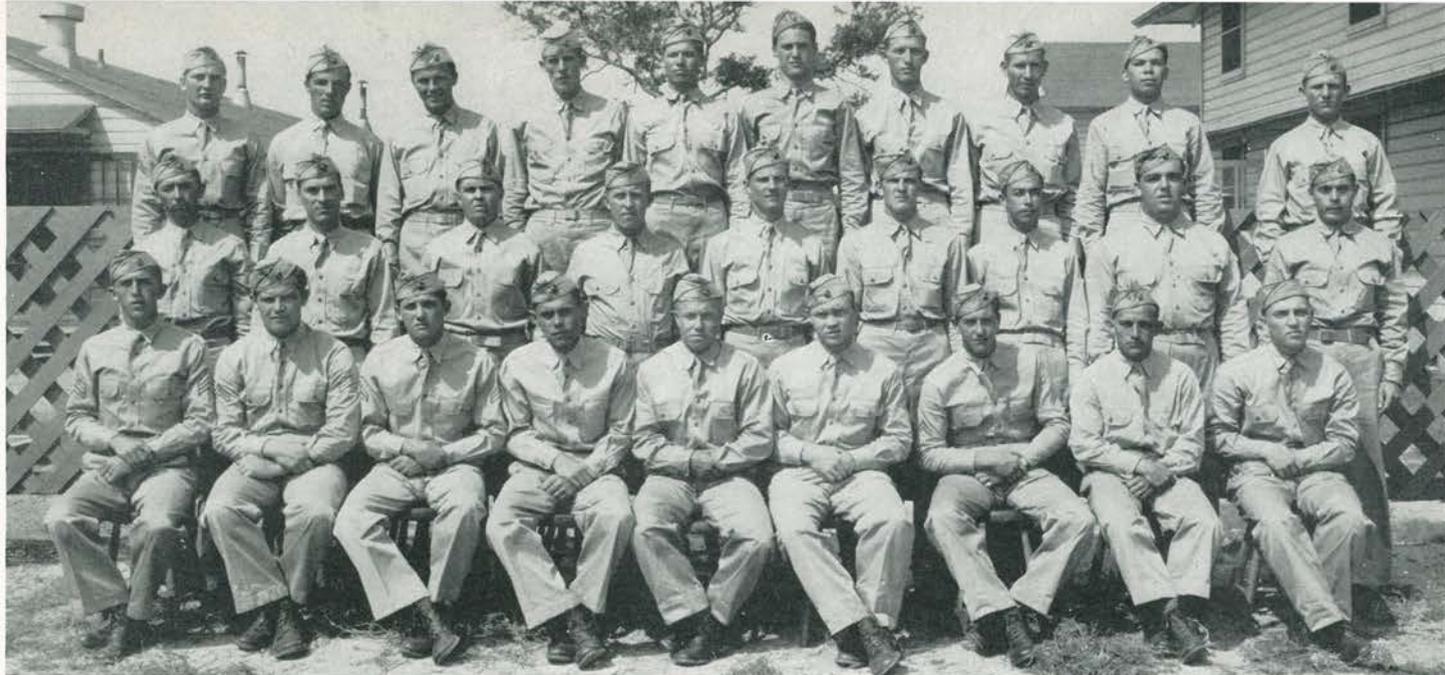
Born December 29, 1914 in the State of North Carolina. Graduated from Virginia Military Institute with B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. Served one enlistment in the North Carolina National Guard; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve, on January 8, 1936; appointed First Lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve, on February 7, 1939; appointed First Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on September 12, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940. Assignments prior to induction included services with 321st Infantry Reserve, January 8, 1936 to July 15, 1936; 317th Infantry Reserve, July 15, 1936 to September 12, 1940; First Lieutenant in Infantry Reserve, February 7, 1939. Attended Coast Artillery School, Anti-aircraft refresher course, September 30, 1940 to December 7, 1940. Assigned Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, September 12, 1940 to April 3, 1941; Battery F, April 5, 1941, Battery H, July 11, 1941.



ROBERT L. BROWN  
*1st Lieutenant*

Born February 14, 1910 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, R.O. T.C. student; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, Reserve, on May 31, 1931; promoted to First Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, Reserve, on December 21, 1934; commissioned First Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, on August 24, 1940; assignments since induction, on September 16, 1940, include duty with Battery H and special duty on construction projects; member of Second Battalion Staff to date.





*First row:* Sgt. J. E. Robertson, Cpl. C. E. Cabaniss, Cpl. O. V. Robertson, A. H. Lanham, R. W. Wingfield, Cpl. C. E. Holt, Cpl. A. E. Davis, W. H. Binder, J. E. Greaner. *Second row:* G. A. Ferguson, L. C. Bennett, Jr., T. G. Dyer, Jr., M. C. Carroll, PFC J. E. Carter, C. R.

Hannabass, E. R. Crist, Cpl. W. B. Basham, PFC W. A. Inge. *Third row:* Cpl. R. E. Blankenship, R. M. Strong, R. E. Armstrong, O. E. Austin, PFC D. J. Howell, W. J. Bartlett, R. B. Creasy, PFC C. E. Hendrick, E. O. Brown, W. N. Andrews.

# BATTERY H

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

*First row:* I. Nagle, P. C. Cabiness, W. E. Evans, R. D. Ragland, C. A. Lee, Jr., C. C. Thompson, W. W. Hall, PFC J. R. Witt, E. N. Moon, E. S. Moorefield. *Second row:* J. V. Boltz, C. M. Sprague, A. J. Jarrett, B. E. Hudson, H. E. Campbell, PFC E. T. Perdue, PFC A. W.

Moore, C. S. Thompson, W. T. Holland, R. A. Barker. *Third row:* PFC H. B. Morcom, J. O. Williams, J. B. Kane, J. H. Eyler, L. W. Vest, F. E. Hedrick, F. W. Langford, PFC R. D. Carter, M. M. Gordon, Cpl. C. H. Shartzler.





First row: PFC H. P. Kettell, A. Bischoff, PFC S. Kocen, E. H. Terry, Jr., L. D. Rowland, J. A. Arthur, C. W. Edwards, W. A. Vaughan, A. Foutz, D. Hurd. Second row: Cpl. W. L. Carter, A. Goodman, W. D. Riceman, W. L. Engle, C. R. Harder, E. W. Thomas, L. C. S.

Tenor, F. F. Sale, Jr., G. A. Ciucci. Third row: I. E. Katz, A. A. Elkin, E. G. Greer, Jr., C. E. Crouch, R. G. Martin, W. A. Londeree, Jr., L. A. Epperly, J. L. Davidson, H. F. Weeks, A. C. Maddox.

## History

Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery (HD), was originally organized in 1917 as the Seventh Company, CAC, Virginia National Guard. It was drafted into Federal service for the World War on August 5, 1917, and became the Eleventh Company, Coast Defenses of Chesapeake Bay. It served within the continental limits of the United States during the war.

On January 1, 1922, this company was reorganized as the Seventh Company, CAC, Virginia National Guard. Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery (HD), was disbanded June 30, 1928, at Christiansburg, Virginia, and reorganized in Vinton, Virginia. It was mustered and Federally recognized by Major James de B. Walbach (C. A. C.), D.O.L. on July 5, 1928.

Battery H was inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and arrived at Fort Story, Virginia, on September 23, 1940. The organization consisted of four officers and fifty-six enlisted men.

The Battery took its assigned location in the tent area occupied by the regiment. Within a few days the personnel had become entirely adjusted to camp life. The personnel accepted with good-natured grace the hardships attendant upon being quartered in a hastily improvised camp. Frequently, during the first few days, bathing was accomplished beneath ice-cold showers. Within a short time, however, facilities were improved.

In short order—a matter of days—the Battery, which included in its personnel men who had joined the organization very shortly before its induction into Federal service and who had never before attended a previous encampment of the National Guard or any other military organization, was rounded into shape as an efficient and organized unit. The newly enlisted men were shortly as well

adjusted as were those men who had been in the National Guard for a period of years.

In the last week of November, 1940, the unit moved from the tent area into the barracks which had been built to house the 246th. Another short period of readjustment followed. Again, within a few days, the men had adjusted themselves to the new situation and to the improved facilities.

On December 19, 1940, the organization was transferred to Fort Monroe, Virginia. On the first of January, 1941, the Battery was assigned the duties of testing Anti-Aircraft material for the Coast Artillery School and the Coast Artillery Board.

During the latter part of December, 1940, and the first month of 1941, the Battery strength was increased by the addition of National Guardsmen transferred to the unit from other organizations of the 246th which had remained at Fort Story.

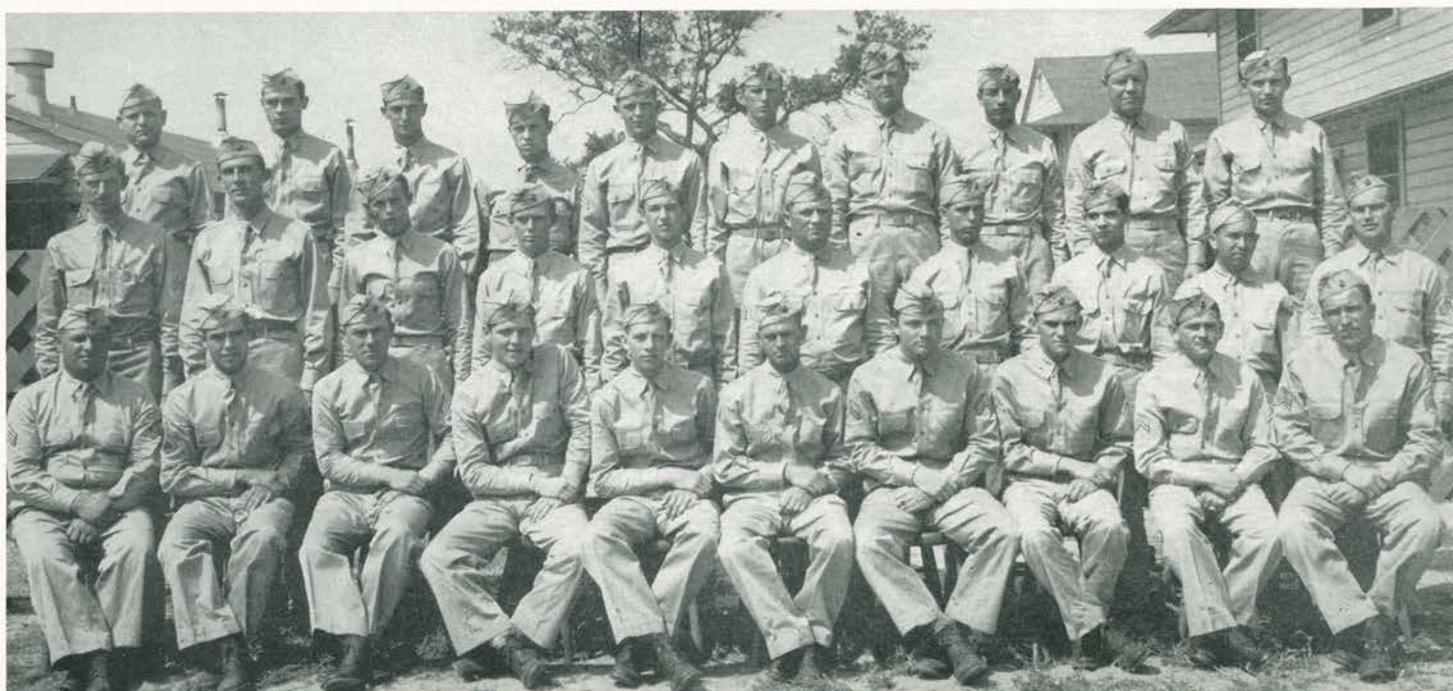
That morale of the organization was high and the battery efficiency was attested by the Commendation of Colonel W. S. Bowen, President of the Coast Artillery Board, who, following a demonstration given before leading ordnance manufacturers of the U. S., the general staff officers of the United States Army and members of the British Purchasing Commission, wrote the Commanding General of the Harbor Defenses of Chesapeake Bay. "It is requested that you convey to Captain Gilbert P. Key and the enlisted personnel of Battery H, 246th Coast Artillery, my appreciation and that of all members of the board, of the valuable assistance."

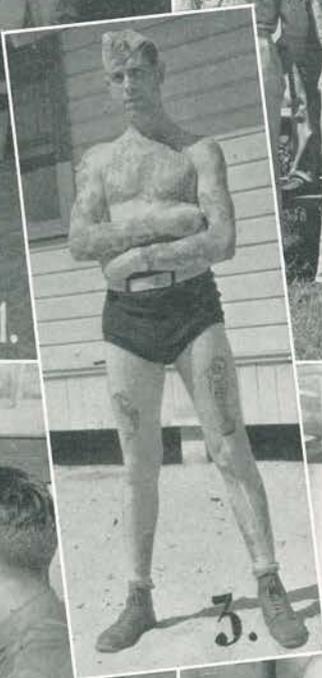
It was not until July 14, 1941, that the Battery received, for the first time, men who had been inducted into service through the operation of the Selective Service Act. On that date, six selectees were received.

On September 16, 1941, the Battery celebrated the end of its first year of active Federal service. On the same date, discharge began of those men who had enlisted in the Army of the United States for a period of one year.

First row: Sgt. H. T. Dudley, Stf. Sgt. J. D. Finney, Jr., Cpl. J. B. Hendrick, J. A. Horning, G. L. Fulks, R. C. Gilliam, Cpl. W. B. Barker, PFC B. H. Clark, Cpl. J. T. Jefferson, Sgt. J. D. Womack. Second row: PFC H. D. Carper, R. A. Coates, R. S. Saunders, PFC C. V. Layne, PFC L. W. Snellings, Sgt. W. Payne, Sgt. W. A. Finney, Sgt. E. B.

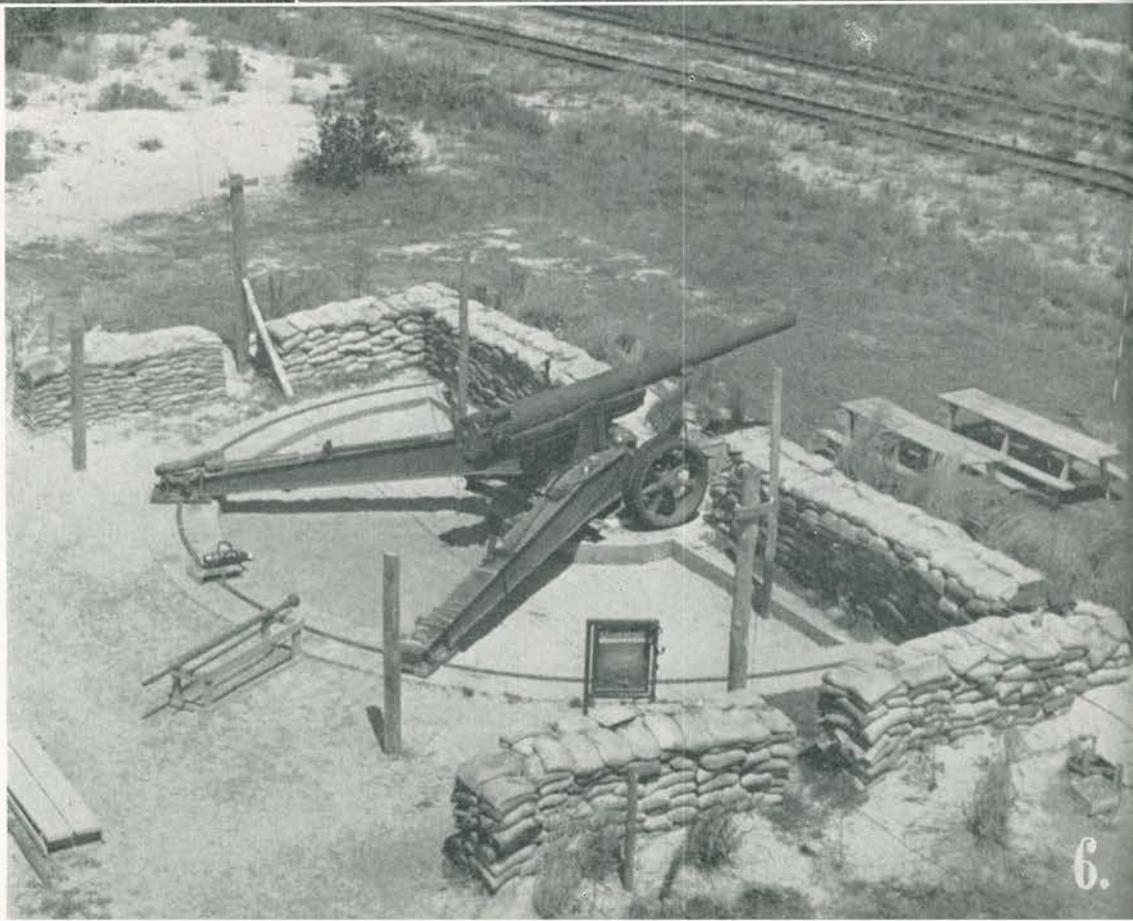
Finney, PFC R. E. Farmer, Sgt. T. E. Mitchell. Third row: 1st Sgt. H. D. Howell, PFC J. O. Fowler, Jr., R. K. Brooks, J. S. Hurley, Cpl. M. Basham, Sgt. W. M. Meador, H. V. Lacy, Sgt. A. G. Miller, Sgt. R. E. Wheeler, N. W. Crawford.





## BATTERY I

1. Playing ping pong.
2. Day room.
3. Most tattooed man in the army.
4. Non Coms.
5. Kitchen.
6. Gun positions.



# BATTERY I

246th  
COAST ARTILLERY  
(HD)



WILLIS G. VAIL  
Captain  
Commanding,  
Battery I

Born July 7, 1911, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended public schools at Covington, Va.; enlisted in Battery D, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, at Covington, Va., on January 29, 1930; served as enlisted man in Battery D until December 14, 1937. Second Lieutenant in Battery D, C.A.C., Va. N.G., December 14, 1937 to June 6, 1940; First Lieutenant in Battery D, June 6, 1940 to September 16, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940 as First Lieutenant, Battery D, and served as Executive, Range and Supply Officer; transferred to Headquarters, Second Battalion, 246th C. A., and assigned as Assistant Regimental Supply Officer, Plans and Training Officer, and Intelligence Officer until August 26, 1941; promoted to Captain on January 20, 1940; transferred to and assigned as Commanding Officer of Battery I, August 26, 1941; attended special class for National Guard Officers, Coast Artillery School, during Spring of 1940.



JAMES E. HILLSMAN  
1st Lieutenant

Born August 13, 1914 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Enlisted as a private in the Service Company, 116th Infantry, in June, 1930; discharged in June, 1934; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers Reserve Corps on August 16, 1936; transferred to Virginia National Guard on April 1, 1939; promoted to First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, in June, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940 and assigned as Battery Officer. Attended School for Mess Officers and Gas School, at Fort Story, and Coast Artillery School at Fort Monroe, August-November, 1941.



JOSEPH H. NOEL  
1st Lieutenant

Born December 26, 1914 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, in 1937. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers Reserve Corps, in May, 1937; transferred to Virginia National Guard on June 5, 1940, as Second Lieutenant in 246th Coast Artillery, (H.D.); promoted to First Lieutenant August 24, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; completed Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Refresher Course on December 7, 1940.



WILLIAM M. DOWDY  
1st Lieutenant

Born April 17, 1918 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Received B.S. degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Commissioned Second Lieutenant in Officers' Reserve Corps, in May, 1939; joined Virginia National Guard on September 12, 1940 and was promoted to First Lieutenant; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940; assignments to date have included those of Mess Officer, Supply Officer and Emplacement Officer of Battery I, 246th Coast Artillery, (H.D.).





*First row:* Cpl. M. H. Lewis, Cpl. E. F. Jones, Cpl. J. W. Elmore, 1st Sgt. A. G. Hurd, Sgt. G. H. Spradlin, Cpl. E. E. Riddleberger, Cpl. R. H. Owen. *Second row:* W. E. Suit, E. G. Wimer, E. I. Ogle, N. J. Morris, O. T. Hamlin, G. H. Frith, F. L. Bailey, A. Meadows, A. DeLoach. *Third row:*

F. D. Rife, J. W. Brown, PFC C. W. Hanger, H. D. Schlansky, W. C. Caudell, V. W. Chandler, R. L. Coulter, F. R. Cary, J. K. Belcher, O. B. Dalton. *Fourth row:* Sgt. M. P. Hurt, W. C. Moon, J. J. Mullen, R. L. Simcox, G. M. Wheeler, H. R. Eakin, PFC J. B. Carr, H. M. Burress, A. B. Evans.

# BATTERY I

## 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)

*First row:* Cpl. B. F. Duncan, Cpl. N. H. Bush, Sgt. M. G. Hurd, Sgt. V. A. Manning, Sgt. L. M. Kane, Sgt. L. R. Haislip, Stf. Sgt. B. M. Duncan. *Second row:* R. L. Flint, Sgt. O. E. Furrow, W. M. Webb, PFC J. G. Falls, PFC G. A. Smith, A. C. Johnson, PFC C. A. Foutz, C. J. Miles. *Third row:* W.

Nester, A. Simpson, PFC J. M. Wilhelm, Jr., B. A. Burley, A. G. Claytor, K. A. Brickey, E. A. Wright, J. P. Bowers. *Fourth row:* PFC T. H. Bentley, PFC A. G. Harris, R. T. Greer, R. E. Epperson, F. A. McConnell, B. L. Carr, E. Payne, L. M. Watson, J. G. Turner.





First row: D. Whitehead, C. R. King, PFC O. F. Tooley, G. W. Hodge, L. C. Patrick. Second row: PFC J. M. Sink, J. T. Parks, Cpl. E. N. Thomas, PFC O. W. Miller, R. E. Looney. Third row: R. A. Taylor, PFC R. H. Leftwich, M. E. Golladay, L. E. Shrader, J. L. Watson, E. H. Miller.

## History

First organized in December, 1915, as the First Company, Virginia Coast Artillery, Roanoke, Virginia, Battery I, 246th Coast Artillery, drilled in civilian clothes until the spring of 1916, when it was Federally recognized and issued the necessary equipment. Ordered to Fort Monroe, August 19, 1916, for summer camp, it was assigned to Battery Church, composed of two 10-inch disappearing rifles. In March, 1917, it participated in the second inaugural parade for President Wilson. From March 23 to April 3, 1917, it guarded the railway property from Roanoke to Newport, on New River.

After undergoing a strict physical examination at Roanoke, the Battery was ordered to Fort Monroe, Va., and was mustered into Federal service on April 15, 1917. The members served as instructors, First Officers Training Camp, from May until August 14. Assigned to the 42nd Infantry Division, August 23, it left August 27 as First Company, Military Police, for Camp Mills, Long Island, N. Y., where the division was being concentrated.

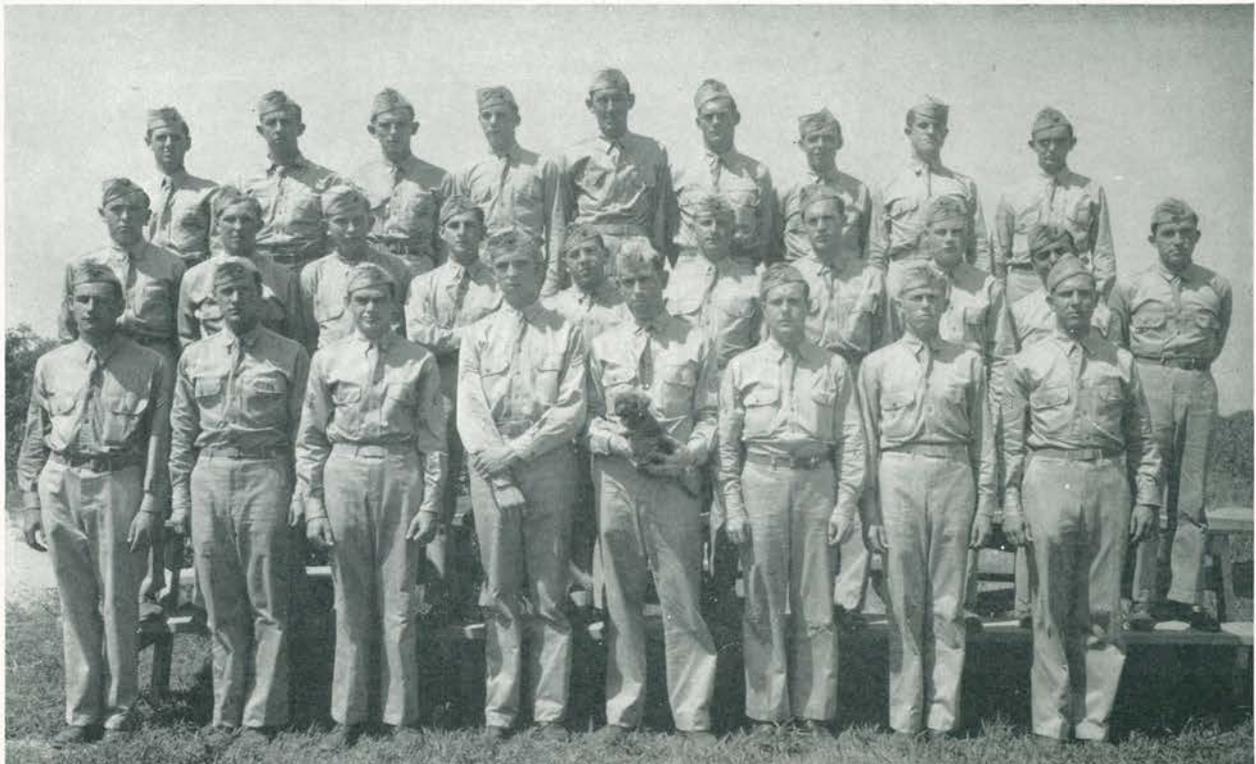
The Battery sailed from Hoboken, N. J., on October 18, arriving at St. Nazaire, France, October 31. The unit participated in all of the Division's engagements, namely, Luneville Sector, Lorraine, Baccarat Sector, Esperance Souain Sector, Champagne-Marne defensive, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel offensive, Essey-Pannes Sector, Meuse-Argonne offensive. Leaving France April 15 and arriving at Newport News, Va., April 28, 1919, the Battery was mustered out on May 7, 1919.

Reorganized and Federally recognized on March 8, 1922, as the 416th Company, Provisional Coast Artillery Regiment, it was later redesignated Battery F, 246th Coast Artillery, at Roanoke. It attended summer camp at Fort Monroe and Fort Story, Va., for 18 years. It has been on civil duty on six different occasions, serving two weeks at Danville, Va., on strike duty.

In April, 1940, the Battery was again redesignated and named Battery I, 246th Coast Artillery, with headquarters in Roanoke, and after its summer encampment of the same year, it was called into Federal service along with other units of the 246th C. A. on September 16, 1940, and on September 22, 1940, it moved to Fort Story, Va., where it is now stationed.

First row: Cpl. W. E. Kirk, Cpl. J. H. Ramsey, Cpl. C. Mullins, Cpl. W. M. Ringgold, Sgt. L. Willard, Cpl. J. W. Drewry, Cpl. J. M. McGlothlin, Sgt. F. M. Mills. Second row: C. C. Stump, O. R. Chisom, C. L. Dove, Cpl. J. W. Mauck, PFC R. J. Cunningham, T. R. Canada, J. W. Carico, L. L. Foutz,

PFC E. J. Assaid, T. N. Langhorne. Third row: W. W. Crabtree, J. W. Graham, S. E. Rexrode, PFC W. L. Alcorn, W. O. Breedlove, H. L. Darter, W. P. Lynch, PFC T. H. Wilmer, J. W. Gates.





## BATTERY K (Searchlight)

- 1-2. Searchlight and crew.
3. Searchlight in operation.
4. Instrument which controls the big light. Plane is tracked by means of this instrument.
5. Generator for big light.



# OFFICERS

# BATTERY K

(Searchlight)

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



JESSIE F. FITCHETT  
*Captain*  
 Commanding,  
 Battery K

Born April 30, 1891, in Portsmouth, Virginia. Attended public High School. Served as enlisted man on Mexican Border from 1916 to 1917, and with the A.E.F. in France from July, 1918 to May, 1919; commissioned Second Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps, Virginia National Guard, in 1921; promoted to First Lieutenant in Coast Artillery Corps in May, 1922; promoted to Captain in Coast Artillery Corps on July 16, 1925; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, as Captain and Commanding Officer of Battery K, 246th Coast Artillery.



FREDERICK H. GARBER  
*1st Lieutenant*



ERNLE G. SMITH  
*2nd Lieutenant*



EDWARD S. WOOD  
*2nd Lieutenant*

Born April 13, 1910 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the University of Richmond and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Enlisted as a private in the National Guard of Virginia, in May, 1938 and was discharged as Staff Sergeant in September, 1940; Commissioned in the Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 16, 1940; inducted into Federal Service on September 16, 1940, and assigned to Searchlight Battery K, 246th C. A., as Battery Officer. Additional duties include those of Assistant Post Exchange Officer.

Born June 15, 1912 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Enlisted in Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 4, 1929; commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, National Guard of the United States, in March, 1937; recommissioned Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, National Guard of the United States, in May, 1940; inducted into Federal Service as Battery Officer, with Searchlight Battery K, formerly Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on September 16, 1940.

Born June 12, 1912 in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Attended the Virginia Mechanics' Institute, Richmond, Virginia. Enlisted in Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on March 27, 1931; promoted to Private First Class on June 13, 1932; promoted to Corporal on August 2, 1934; promoted to Sergeant on June 26, 1939; qualified as Marksman (rifle) on August 4, 1932; qualified as Expert Gunner (Coast Artillery), on February 22, 1935; requalified as Expert Gunner (Coast Artillery) on March 30, 1939; discharged from National Guard on September 15, 1940, to accept commission; inducted into Federal Service as Second Lieutenant on September 16, 1940; assigned to temporary duty at Fort Eustis, Va., on June 25, 1941.

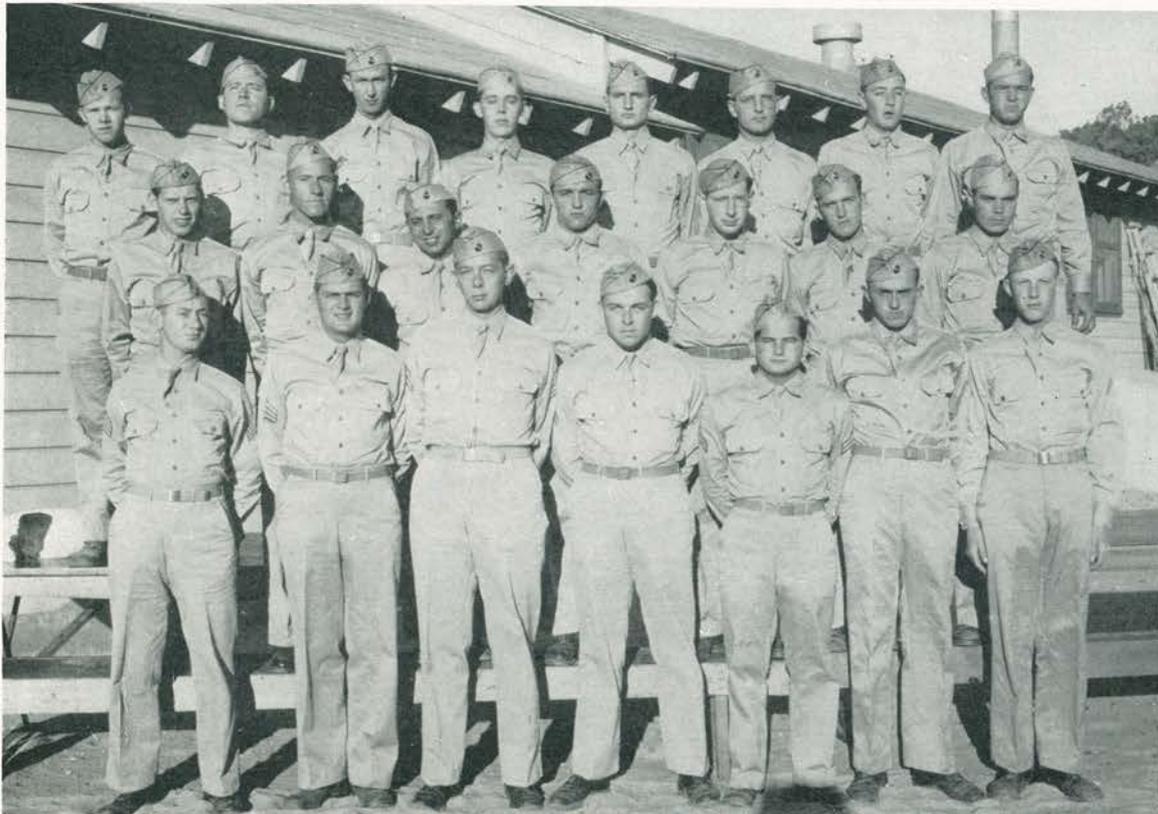




First row: Cpl. R. M. Carter, Sgt. W. M. Rhodes, Jr., Sgt. R. M. Howard, Sgt. M. L. Simmons, Sgt. W. V. Huckstep, Jr., Cpl. J. E. Morris, Jr., Cpl. W. D. Crump, Jr. Second row: R. J. Tannehill, R. T. Turlington, B. G. Whalin, PFC A. S. Garrett, H. W. King, PFC H. Rhodes, PFC H. Whyte, Jr., C. E. Williams, Jr. Third row: PFC T. F. Peay, Cpl. W. E. Savage, PFC E. L. Southard, R. C. McQueen, H. R. Low, Jr., F. D. Tate. Fourth row: Cpl. M. L. Angle, PFC L. H. Overby, PFC E. L. Brauer, Jr., PFC J. R. Chinn, A. F. Prime, G. Lazuk.

# BATTERY K (SEARCHLIGHT)

246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



First row: Sgt. A. L. Tredway, Sgt. W. R. Vaughan, Cpl. C. M. Evans, Jr., Cpl. C. B. Rennie, Cpl. H. M. Reynolds, H. B. Covington, PFC M. O. Trent. Second row: C. H. Simms, C. R. Criddle, F. M. Hoffer, W. J. Warden, J. S. Klein, C. A. Beach, F. M. Johnson. Third row: C. H. Loosse, J. E. Overend, PFC W. A. Tribble, PFC C. E. Parks, G. F. Diemer, PFC E. T. Hughes, G. P. Holley, J. Richter.



First row: F. L. Pennington, PFC T. W. McCauley, J. A. Lawless, J. M. Gatewood, PFC C. B. Jordan, J. L. Thacker, PFC M. D. Soroko, PFC M. Yaffe, PFC R. L. Newman. Second row: PFC A. W. Lee, J. W.

Madison, W. K. Hodges, Cpl. R. W. Lee, Stf. Sgt. T. L. Bailey, Sgt. H. E. Horner, J. T. Garrison, PFC C. L. Jones, PFC C. J. McCauley, PFC C. D. McCargo, Cpl. O. K. Lyle, Jr.

## History

Battery K, 246th Coast Artillery (HD) was originally organized as the Ninth Company, C.A.C., Virginia National Guard, at Richmond. Drafted into Federal service for the World War on August 5, 1917, it became Battery F, Sixtieth Regiment, C.A.C. It had combat service in France in the St. Mihiel, September 12 to 16, 1918, and the Meuse-Argonne, September 26 to November 11, 1918. It was demobilized in February, 1919.

Reorganized November 25, 1921, as First Company, C.A.C., Virginia National Guard, it was Federally recognized December 2, 1921. The unit was redesignated 411th Company, First Coast Defense Command, on April 1, 1922. The designation, Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery (Harbor Defense) was made on August 19, 1924. The designation

was again changed in May, 1940, to Searchlight Battery, and again to Battery K on November 28, 1940, the present designation.

This unit was organized by Captain Wallace I. Stockton, Jr. (now Lieutenant Colonel commanding the Second Battalion of this Regiment) and received its Federal recognition on December 2, 1921, with First Lieut. Hugh S. Dobbins and Second Lieut. Jesse F. Fitchett, as other Battery officers. On July 16, 1925, Lieut. Fitchett was promoted to Captain, succeeding Captain Stockton as Battery Commander, serving in that capacity to date.

This unit was inducted into the Army of the United States on September 16, 1940, under the National Mobilization Act of 1940, and after a week of reorganization at the home station, Richmond, Virginia, made camp at our war-time station, Fort Story, Virginia, where the unit has since undergone extensive training as an Anti-Aircraft and Harbor Defense Searchlight Battery, under the leadership of Battery officers all promoted from the enlisted ranks.

First row: F. C. Mott, Stf. Sgt. J. P. Crenshaw, Cpl. C. B. Southward, Tech. Sgt. S. D. Savage, Cpl. J. M. Shelton, Stf. Sgt. H. E. Rosemond, PFC M. A. Yarbrough. Second row: Cpl. W. A. Rae, Cpl. S. N. Monk, Cpl. E. H. Cosby, Jr., Sgt. R. C. Watson, Sgt. B. H. Price, Stf. Sgt. J. M. Beale, Cpl. L. B. Wingfield, Cpl. R. E. Evans, 1st Sgt. B. L. Wilkin-

son. Third row: Sgt. E. A. Leake, Cpl. H. G. Parrish, Jr., Sgt. R. S. Bruce, Cpl. J. M. Reynolds, Jr., Cpl. S. G. Wills, Sgt. R. B. Adams. Fourth row: S. F. Smalarz, PFC M. J. Waidlich, PFC C. B. Whitehead, E. C. Brown 3rd, J. M. Pollard, H. W. Rowley.



246th  
COAST ARTILLERY  
(HD)



Fort Monroe Officers' Club



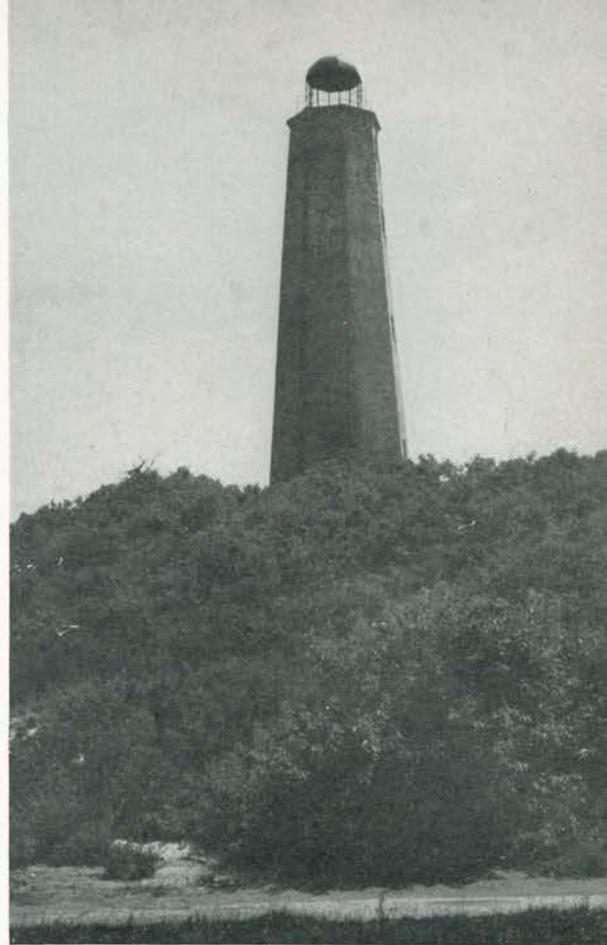
Service Club, Fort Story

Fort Story, Virginia





Regimental Colors



Old Cape Henry Lighthouse  
(Built in 1791)



Marker at Old Cape  
Henry Lighthouse

Memorial to landing of first Jamestown colonists at Cape Henry in 1607  
(Fort Story Reservation)



New Lighthouse

# 246th COAST ARTILLERY (HD)



1. Pvt. Corbell Jones, 3rd Bn. Hq. Battery, Author of Regimental History.

2. Lloyd B. Jordan, post photographer.

3. R. L. Bierly, W. O., directing band at Easter Sunrise Service.



4. Dance band from 246th C. A. Regimental Band.





1.



2.



3.



5.



4.

## Recreation

1. Basketball team, Battery C; Fort Story Post tournament champions, 1941.
2. Hodges winding up, 246th versus N. T. S.
3. Smiley stealing second.
4. Hodges on the mound.
5. Smiley safe at first; Webb coaching at first.
6. Rector looking the ball over.

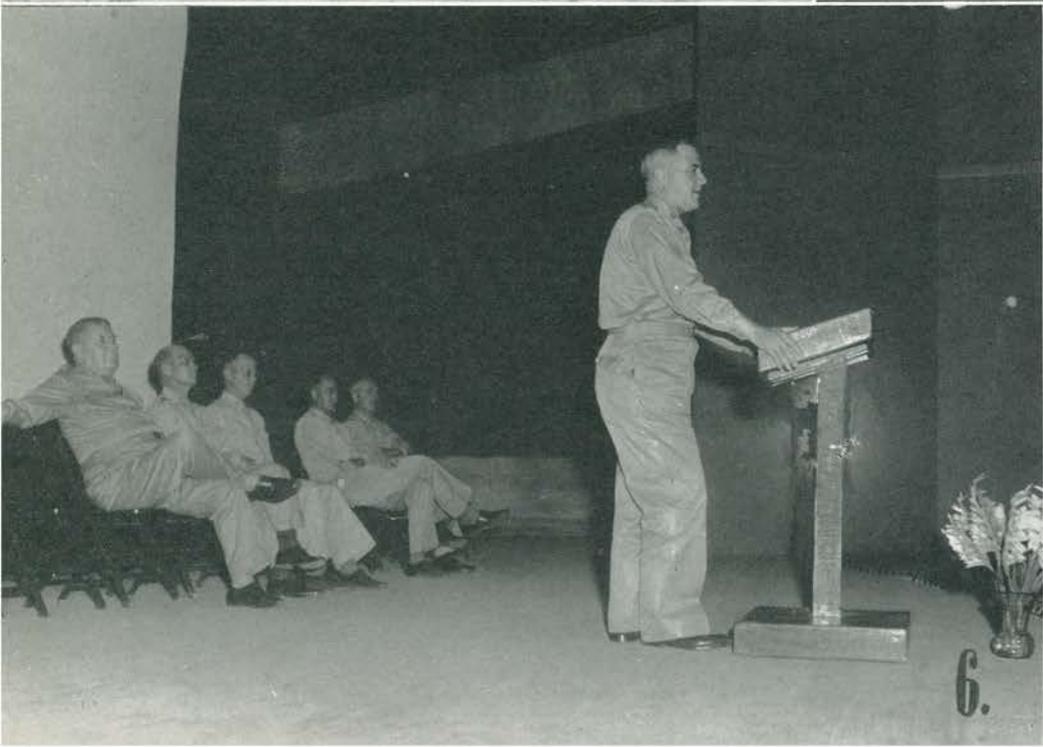
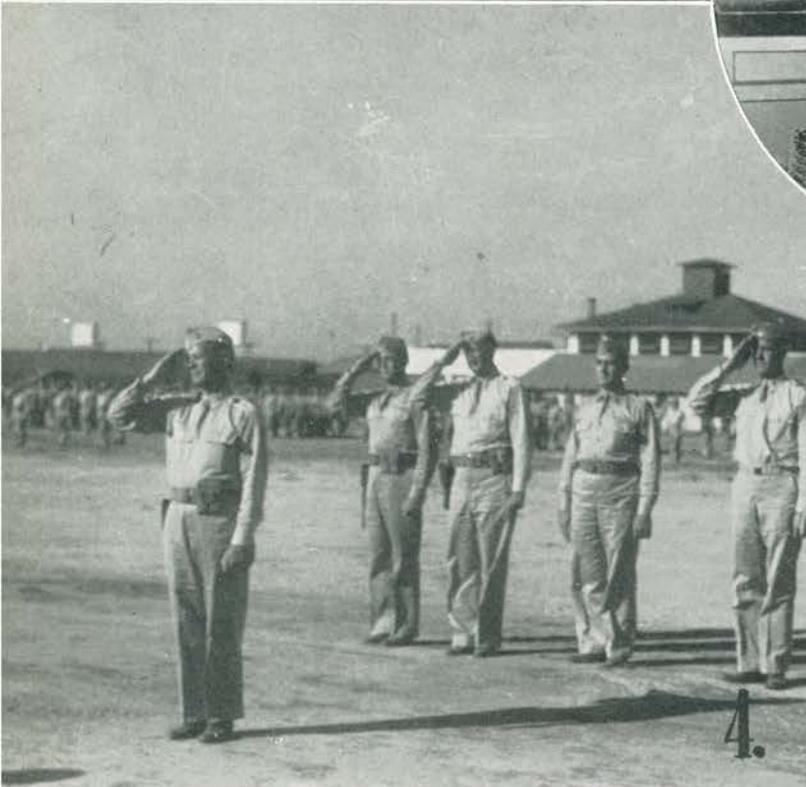
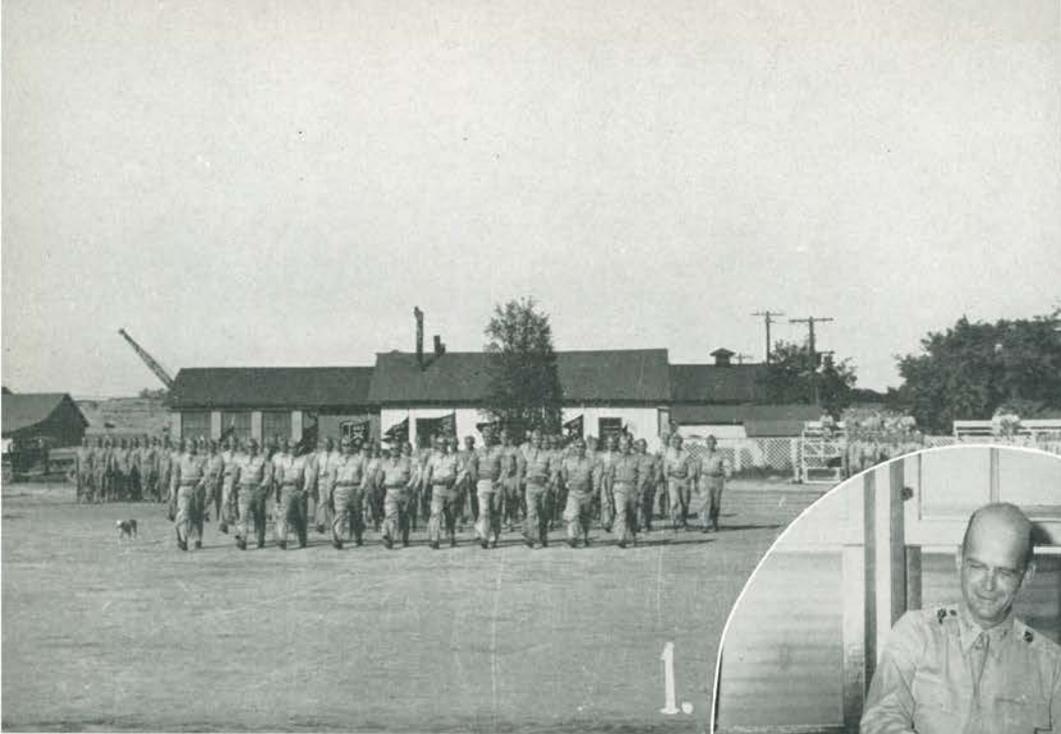


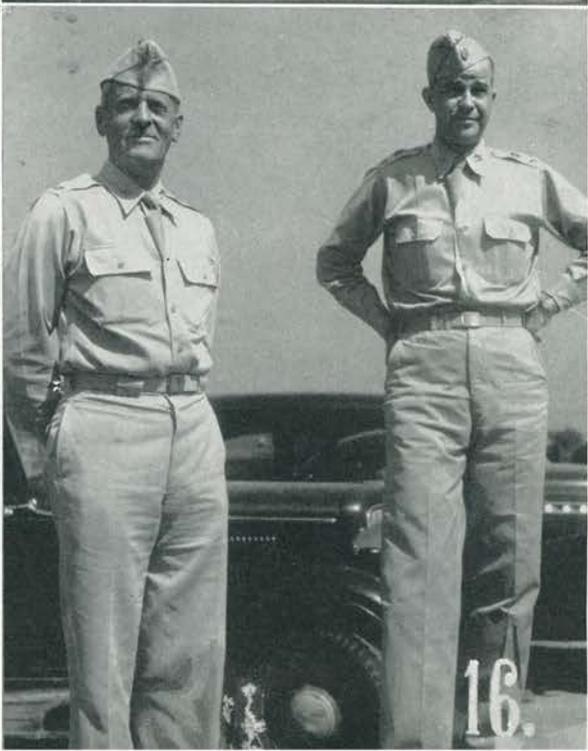
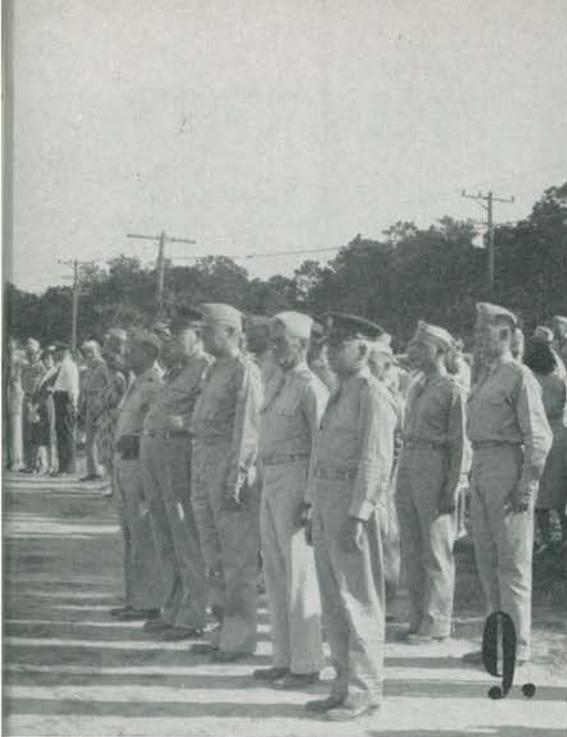
6.



7.

7. 246th baseball team. Kneeling: Madle, pitcher; Rector, outfielder and shortstop; Barnes, outfielder; Haraway, outfielder; Jones, pitcher; Smiley, third base; Lynch, second base (on leave). Standing: Webb, third base; Iser, catcher; Hodges, pitcher; Watters, outfielder; Motley, catcher; Alderman, first base; Wilson, coach and pitcher.





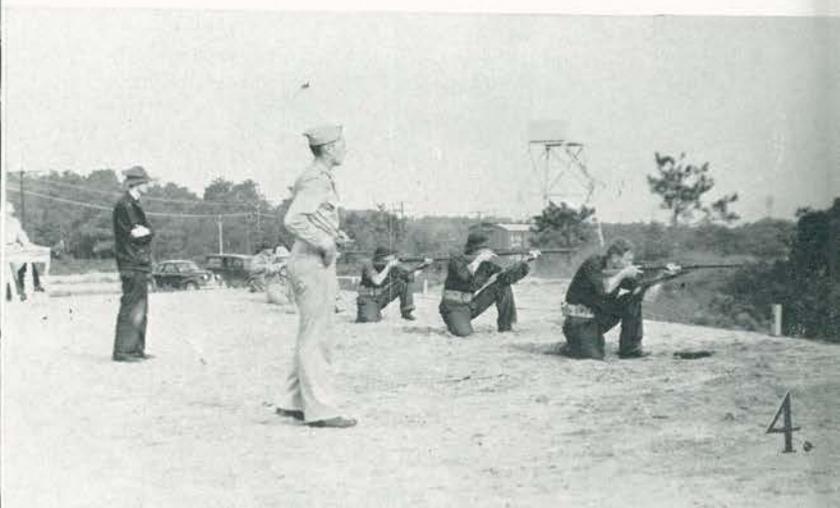
## 246th COAST ARTILLERY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1. Parade. 2. To the Colors. 3. Col. R. T. Arrington cutting 1-year birthday cake. 4. Lt. Col. Arrington presents the troops to Gen. Waller. 5. Gen. Waller and party leaving the theatre. 6. Seated: Gen. Waller, Lt. Col. Arrington, Col. Cocroft, Col. Cabell, Col. Neal. Speaking: Brig. Gen. Tilton at Anniversary meeting in Post theatre. 7. Gen. Waller speaking. 8. Col. Cocroft speaking. 9. Officers reviewing parade. 10. Band Concert during Anniversary Celebration. 11. Capt. John L. Sutfenfield, baseball oldtimer, shows fans at Anniversary Celebration game how it should be done. 12 and 13. Baseball game, Anniversary Celebration. 14. Lt. Col. Hindon, Lt. Col. Arrington and Brig. Gen. Tilton. 15. Brig. Gen. Tilton, Post Commander, Col. Cocroft and Lt. Col. Arrington. 16. Col. Cocroft and Lt. Col. Hindon watching Anniversary baseball game.



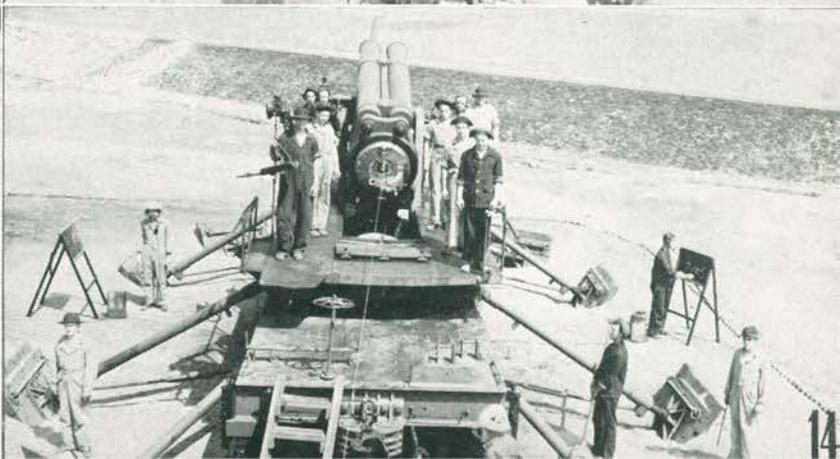
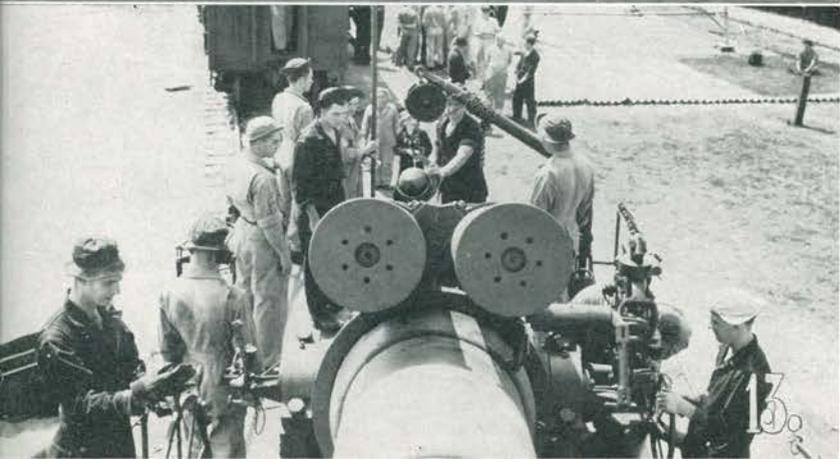
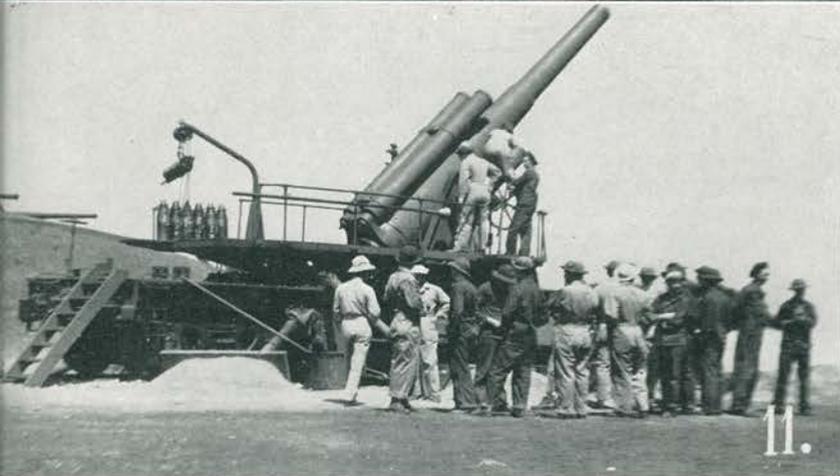
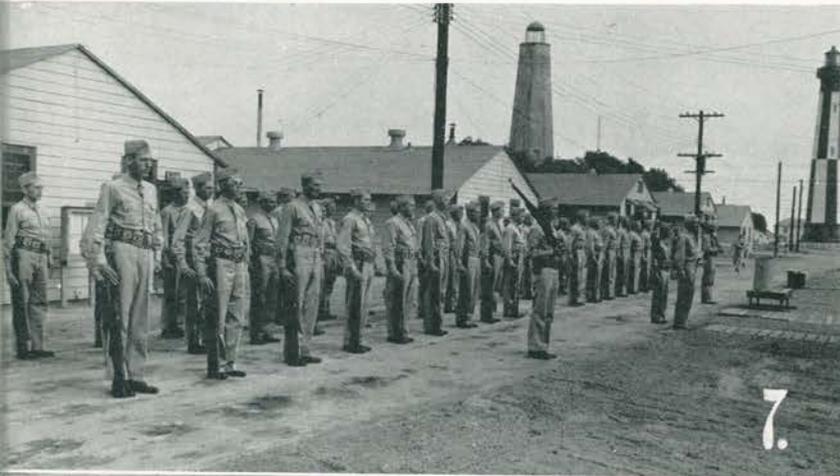
# 246th COAST

1. Captain Starke of Headquarters Battery, acts as safety officer during firing. 2-3. Instruction on rifle range. 4. Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion firing on range. 5. Members of Regimental Headquarters Battery and Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, placing targets on rifle range. 6. Rifle range, showing



# ARTILLERY (HD)

members of Regimental Headquarters Battery, Headquarters Batteries, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions. 7. Saturday morning inspection. 8. Barracks—Saturday morning inspection. 9. M-3 plotting board. 10. Operation of Gray spotting board, BD-95 Switchboard in rear. 11-14. Battery D gun crews on 8-inch railway guns.



Royce, Wesley  
T.A.R.  
Clare

### History, Headquarters Battery, First Battalion

(Continued from page 19)

The following men made up the original Battery: Charles H. Alverson, Jr., Joseph E. Crane, David E. Gilbert, Phinso Hicks, Garland L. Hylton, Thomas L. Kellam, Jack W. Setliff, and James W. Wilmoth, Jr., bringing the Battery to maintenance strength.

During the week following the induction, Sept. 16, 1940, the following men were enlisted to bring the Battery up to specified strength: Murray H. Bousman, Thomas H. Breeden, Alfred Doss, James B. Goad, Johnnie H. Hall, Robert S. Henderson, Charles L. Leonard, James A. Merricks, Grover C. McKinney, and James P. Morgan. At the same time William H. Foster transferred from Battery B.

Later the strength was increased to 38 men by the transfer of other men from Battery B, and later the addition of selectees. The object of this Battery is to maintain communications and manning vital observation posts in the Chesapeake Bay area.

Lieutenant Wilson was transferred to Headquarters, First Battalion Staff, on April 18, 1941, at which time Lieut. Haywood D. Veasey took command. Lieut. Winston S. Brooks was transferred from Battery A, 246th, in order to take command from Lieutenant Veasey on July 18, 1941.

### Military Record of Hugh R. Noel, Jr.

(Continued from page 19)

246th Coast Artillery, on November 18, 1939, for three years; was discharged on September 15, 1940, to accept commission as Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and until January 1, 1941, was assistant to Regimental Supply Officer; appointed Motor Transport Officer for the Quartermaster on January 1, 1941, and on May 15, 1941, in addition to his other duties, detailed as Post Small Arms Range Officer.

### Military Record of Lawrence G. Wilson, Jr.

(Continued from page 19)

1918; served as enlisted man in Battery B, 246th Coast Artillery, from March, 1931 to November, 1931; commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on November 21, 1931; transferred to Headquarters Battery, First Battalion, 246th Coast Artillery, Virginia National Guard, on June 5, 1940; inducted into Federal service on September 16, 1940; Director of Athletics for 246th C. A. to date.

### History of Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery (HD)

(Continued from page 27)

After joining the Forty-Second Rainbow Division at Camp Mills, the company was redesignated Company B, 117th Train Headquarters and Military Police and served in this capacity until October 8,

1918, when it was again changed to the Forty-Second Military Police Company. The Battery served in this capacity until mustered out of service on May 6, 1919.

The Forty-Second Military Police Company sailed for France with the Rainbow Division on November 5, 1917, arriving on November 18, 1917, and was kept behind the lines for training until February 23, 1918, when it saw actual combat in the following engagements: Champagne-Marne, July 15-18, 1918; Aisne-Marne, July 24-August 6, 1918; St. Mihiel, September 12-16, 1918; Meuse-Argonne, October 5-November 10, 1918; Luneville (Lorraine), February 24-March 22, 1918; Baccarat (Lorraine), February 24-March 22, 1918; Esperance-Souain (Champagne), July 5-14, 1918, and Essey-Pennes (Lorraine), September 17-October 1, 1918.

Following the signing of the armistice, it served as Army of Occupation until April 1, 1919, leaving Germany on this date. The Battery was mustered out of service on May 6, 1919, at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and was demobilized. After being demobilized on May 6, 1919, the Battery was reorganized in Lynchburg, Virginia, on May 9, 1921, and designated the 409th Company, C.A.C., Virginia National Guards, and served in this capacity until 1923, when it was again redesignated Battery E of the 246th C. A. (HD).

The late Captain Frank B. Varney, having commanded the Battery up until this time, was promoted to Colonel in 1922, and First Lieut. Alonzo E. Wood was promoted to Captain, to serve in this capacity until June 15, 1925, when he was promoted to Major, and First Lieut. Walter A. Garbee was promoted to Captain. Major Alonzo E. Wood was later promoted to Colonel, this being the second Colonel that the Battery has produced since its organization.

### THE BATTERY TODAY

Battery E was redesignated Battery A, 246th Coast Artillery (HD) in the spring of 1940 and is serving in this capacity at the present time. The battery for the second time in its history was called into Federal service on September 16, 1940, for training at Fort Story, Virginia, and also for the purpose of training Selective Service men. At the time of its induction in September, the Battery had a strength of 104 men, 44 later transferred to Fort Monroe to fill other parts of the Regiment and also to make room for 78 Selective Service men who were brought into the Battery in January, 1941.

The Battery has been very outstanding in the line of sports, particularly in basketball, last year having won the regimental championship, and has also won the efficiency awards for 1939 and 1940.

The Battery has been on the following armament: 10-inch Disappearing Guns, 8-inch Railway Guns, and 16-inch Howitzers, and at present is manning the 16-inch Howitzers. An excellent rating was obtained in artillery practice for the years 1938, 1939, and 1940, firing the 8-inch Railway Guns.

Now that you have seen what Battery A has done in the past and is doing today, you can readily see why we, as members, are proud to be with such an organization as this and to help in what way we can to maintain its high standard of efficiency.



IV--Executive order--Extension of periods of service of persons in the military service.--The following Executive Order (No. 8862) is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EXTENDING THE PERIODS OF TRAINING AND SERVICE, ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE, AND ENLISTMENT OF PERSONS IN OR SUBJECT TO TRAINING AND SERVICE OR ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

By virtue of the authority conferred upon me by section 2 of the Service Extension Act of 1941 (Public Law 213, 77th Congress), approved August 18, 1941, and as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, it is ordered as follows:

1. The periods of training and service of all persons inducted for training and service under the provisions of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, who are now, or who may hereafter be, in such training and service are hereby extended for a period of eighteen months, unless such persons are sooner discharged. Notwithstanding such extension of the periods of training and service, the Secretary of War shall, as the interests of National defense permit, release from training and service and transfer to a reserve component of the land forces, as provided in section 3 (c) of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, all those persons who shall have completed twelve months of such training and service. The release of such persons from training and service and their transfer to a reserve component of the land forces shall be accomplished with a view to the early creation of a large trained reserve while, at the same time, maintaining the Army in immediate readiness for use in the defense of the nation.

2. The periods of active military service of all members of the Regular Army Reserve, all members of the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and all members and units of the National Guard of the United States, who are now, or who may hereafter be, in the active military service of the United States, pursuant to orders issued under the authority of Public Resolution No. 96, 76th Congress, approved August 27, 1940, are hereby extended for a period of eighteen months, unless such persons or units are sooner released or discharged. After completion in each case of twelve months of active military service by such persons and units, and as the interests of national defense permit, the Secretary of War shall provide for the release of such persons or units from active military service under such regulations as he shall from time to time prescribe.

3. The periods of enlistment of all persons who are now, or who may hereafter be, enlisted in the Regular Army, the Regular Army Reserve, the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and the National Guard of the United States are hereby extended for a period of eighteen months, unless such persons are sooner discharged. After completion in each case of the unextended period of enlistment by such persons, and as the interests of national defense permit, the Secretary of War shall provide for their discharge under such regulations as he shall from time to time prescribe.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
August 21, 1941.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

G. C. MARSHALL,  
Chief of Staff.

Official:

J. A. ULIO,  
Brigadier General,  
Acting The Adjutant General.

