

125TH FIELD ARTILLERY HISTORY

1887

15 April - Minnesota Reserve National Guard became the 3rd Infantry Regiment (IR) with Headquarters in St. Paul.

1889

The 3rd IR was recognized as a unit in the National Guard of Minnesota.

1898

4 May - The 3rd Minnesota Regiment reorganized and was re-designated as the 14th Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. It was the first state to mobilize for the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection.

1916

30 June - Mustered into Federal service June 30 for the Mexican Border Conflict.

1917

24 July - The 3rd IR was mustered into Federal service for WWI.



1924

1924 - Re-organized in the Minn. Nat'l Guard as the 125th FA under Col. Elmer W. McDewitt who was instrumental in making the unit part of the Minn. Nat'l Guard lineage. He commissioned someone to design the Battalion Shield.

1941

September - Participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers (the Army's largest peace time maneuvers). 460,000 Soldiers participated.



1941

10 February - Inducted into Federal service at Anoka and Duluth.

1941

7 December - Japanese naval forces attacked and destroyed the American naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

1943

October - Has a strong role at Piedimonte d'Alife destroying one German tank and disabled others. Also knocked out two enemy tanks and shelled propaganda against the German positions on Hill 235 on the hills east of Raviscanina.

1944

January-February - Assisted the infantry who advanced to Cassino, by digging deep, gun pits at the edge of Purple Heart Valley, just 4,000 yards from Cassino. They fired for 33 days until Cassino fell February 19.

1890 1900

WWI 1920

1940 WWII

1898

8 May - It mustered into Federal service may 8, 1898, at St. Paul as the 14th Regiment for the Spanish-American War/Indian Uprising.



1942

1 February - Reorganized and as 125th Artillery Battalion, 34th Infantry Division (ID). Batteries from the 125th FA joined the 135th Infantry Battalion in Fort Barrancas, the Port of New Orleans and Texas City.

1945

1 May - The German LXXV Corps surrendered in Milan to Maj. Gen. Charles L. Bolte, commander of the 34th ID. At 1200 hours on May 2 all hostilities ceased in Italy..The unit was relieved from assignment on June 10, 1946.

1942

December - Embarked for North Africa and participated in the North African Campaign. The 125th FA fired over 250,000 round of artillery ammunition in 480 days of combat, more than any other battalion.

1945

4 August - Headquarters, 125th FA Battalion reconstituted August 4 in the Minn. Nat'l Guard at Anoka and assigned to the newly organized 47th ID.

1900

The 14th Regiment was reorganized in the Minnesota National Guard as the 3rd Infantry with Headquarters at Duluth.

1917

1 October - Re-designated as the 125th Field Artillery Regiment (125th FA) was assigned to the 34th Sandstorm Division and went to the province of Medoc, France. Remained there until November 1918 after the Armistice was signed. The regiment was the only unit of the 34th Division to earn a battle streamer.



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1951

16 January – (Korean War) The 125th FA was ordered into an active Federal service for the Korean War.

1959

1959, 22 February – The unit was consolidated with the 257th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion and reorganized and re-designated as the 125th Artillery, 216th Combat Arms Regiment, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System.



1990

March – Sent to Korea for the I Corps Exercise Team Spirit 90 for 3 weeks. This was the first overseas deployment the battalion sized element from Minn. since World War II. They employed the M114, 155mm-towed howitzer.

1991

1991 August - Converted weapons systems to the M198/155mm towed in August 1991 in a short time period.

1997

Spring - Saw state duty to fight floods in the Minnesota and Red River Valleys. This was the largest civil exercise in the history of the Minn. Nat'l Guard.



1997

Participated in a Field Training Exercise, that practiced NATO strategy, with the 6th Norwegian Artillery Regiment that included ten other countries

1950 **KOREAN** 1960 1970 1990

TO BE CONTINUED...

1963

1 April – The 2nd Battalion, 125th Artillery was equipped with the Honest John Rocket while the 3rd Battalion was armed with the 105mm howitzer as they reorganized to become elements of the 47th ID. During the 1960's they received riot training to help local police departments peacefully control anti-war demonstrations in Minn.



1972

1 May - The Battalion was re-designated as the 125th Field Artillery.

1992

1992 January - Returned to the M101/105mm towed.

1993

November - Another conversion occurred from the M101 to the M102, 105mm towed.

1996

July - Turned over the M101 for the M109A5, 155mm self-propelled howitzer.

1996

Winter – Helped numerous stranded motorists in S. Minn.

1998

March – Headquarters traveled to Setermoen Garrison in Bardu, Northern Norway to participate in a Command Post Exercise, Strong Resolve 98, which supported the 6th Artillery Regiment along with a combined NATO force.

1998

March - Mobilized to assist in SW Minnesota when a tornado tore through the communities of Comfrey, St. James, Le Center and St. Peter. Soldiers began assisting before units were even mobilized.