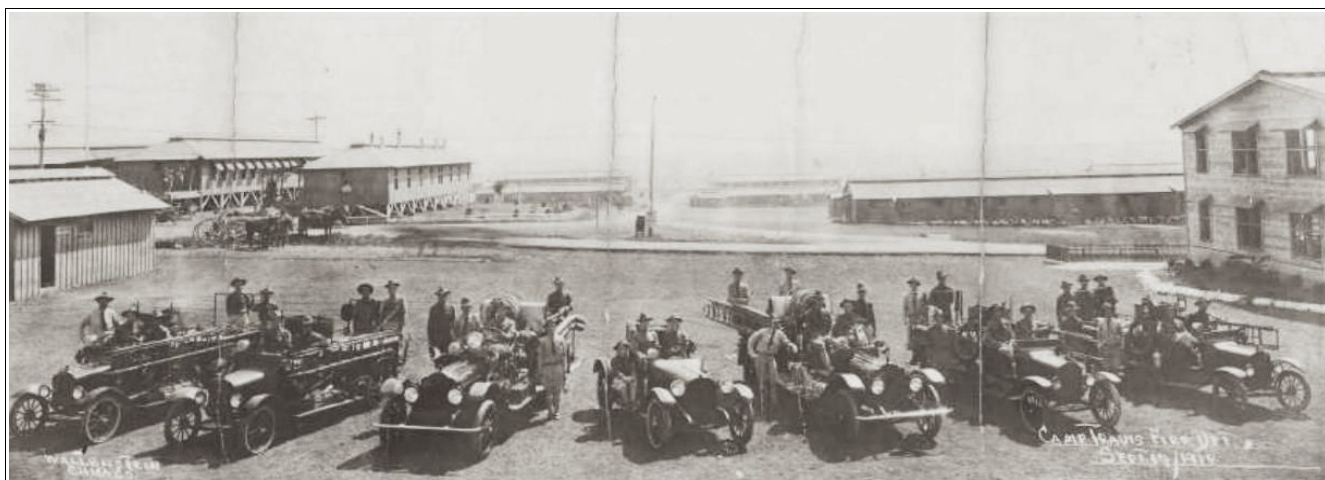


Camp Travis Fire Department

Fire Truck and Hose Company No. 315

Organization September 1917 – Demobilized August 1919



Camp Travis Fire Department – September 1918

The Camp Travis Fire Department was established on July 27, 1917, and consisted of one borrowed horse drawn apparatus from San Antonio. Crews were permitted to go sight seeing frequently for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with the area and apparatus. The personnel consisted of soldiers and civilians employed by the Constructing Quartermaster, McKenzie Construction Company.

Under the direction of Captain Harry L. Collins, the first fire marshall, the fire department was equipped with six triple combination engines and one chemical car. This apparatus is housed in four stations in Camp Travis and one station at Remount Station No. 2. Appliances in barracks and quarters are inspected weekly by firemen of the different stations; warehouses are inspected daily by non-commissioned officers, and weekly by the fire marshall or his assistant. It is this careful fire prevention work that has helped materially to reduce fire in this camp to a minimum.

The alarm system terminates in Fire Station No. 1, known as headquarters, and alarms are transmitted simultaneously to all other stations by means of a belt line and Gamewell fire alarm system. The camp is divided into fourteen fire zones, and a running card has been provided indicating what apparatus will respond to fires. Hand drawn chemical engines are also placed near some of the more important buildings. Five thousand, five hundred feet of two and one-half fire hose is carried on the several apparatus composing the Camp Travis Fire Department.

Instruction is given to the men by efficient instructors who have held responsible positions with fire departments of cities having most modern fire equipment. This instruction included hose and ladder practice, carrying lines with and without water pressure, up ladders or stairways. Test runs are made at night and fire conditions are assimilated as nearly as possible. Comments and criticisms seconds after an alarm is turned in. In one instance, when time was taken, a run of several blocks was made and a stream of water was playing on the supposed fire one minute and thirty seconds after the alarm receiver was first made on these runs.

In addition to fire fighting, firemen are required to act as inspectors of the various fire appliances distributed around the camp.

Along with the motor fire apparatus there are located around the different zones thirty-six hose reels, fully equipped, which can be laid into ten lines, each of which will have in the event of fire at night the men can clothe themselves and be ready to leave the house within fifteen minutes.



QMC Ford-Buckeye 250 gpm pumpers at Fire Station No. 3

Known Fire Apparatus

- 1918 Ahrens-Fox Model K-4 Reg. 694 750 gpm
- 1918 White Triple Combination 600 gpm (2)
- 1918 Dodge-Pirsch Double Chemical Tank car
- 1917 Ford-Buckeye 250 gpm (4)

Members of FT & H Co. 315 include.

2nd Lieut Joseph L. Hogan

Sergeants

*John M. Cross
Fred Harvey
Claud A. Hart
Louis H. Heacock
Thomas A. Vorrell
Walter D. Marshall
William L. Newhouse
Henry M. Toudouze
Bias M. Quintero
Sidney B. Walraven
John D. Rizzo*

Corporals

Harry L. Collins

Private First Class

*Willie F. Basham
Paul S. Graham
Euell E. Green
Tillman C. Nichols
George C. Thomas
Arthur J. Carney
Jesse Kelly
Floyd C. Francisco
John H. Richardson*

Privates

*Alex K. Abramson
John M. Baker
John Bernard
Oscar G. Bunger
Joseph Cashion
John J. Donohue
Archie Graham
Roy D. Martin
Robert W. McLvain*

*Tony Amico
James B. Beck
Tom W. Brown
Thomas Y. Butler
Thomas W. Duffel
William O. Good
James R. London
George D. Mayfield
Wallace V. McMorries*

*Lee R. Anderson
Charles O. Benson
Harold R. Parr
James A. Cantor
J.B. Francis Jr.
Paul Farris
Homer A. Lahan
James R. McClure
Willaim H. Overturf*

Joseph Lowery Hogan, First lieutenant Quartermaster Corps, entered service May 8, 1917, commissioned and entered service October 11, 1918. Assigned for duty at Fire Truck and Hose Company No. 315, Camp Travis, TX. Born in San Antonio, TX., served as nozzleman, assistant engineer, ladderman, lieutenant, and captain with the San Antonio Fire Department.



Camp Travis Fire Department – August 1918