

COMPANY B, FIRST INFANTRY

Graham Guardian, Safford, Arizona April 21, 1916. Page 1

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Passes First Inspection by Lieutenant Ristine, U. S. army

'BOYS' MARCH LIKE VETERANS

Adjutant General Harris and Colonel Tuthill Present at Inspection

A large crowd of people witnessed the first inspection of Company B, First Infantry, Arizona National Guard, Wednesday night, at the Armory.

The galleries and both sides of the lower floor were filled with spectators when, promptly at 8:00 o'clock, Captain Roach gave the command: Attention! To the company, which had assembled in double ranks in the center of the floor.

The "boys" were out in full company strength, and presented a very soldierly appearance, when Lieutenant Ristine, of the Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, stationed at Santa Fe, N. M. accompanied by Col. Charles W. Harris, Adjutant General of the Arizona National Guard, and Col. A. M. Tuthill, commanding the First Regiment, Arizona National Guard, made their appearance in the Armory.

The inspecting officer, Lieutenant Ristine, sent here by the War Department to inspect Safford's first company of militia, took charge of the company and began the inspection of arms, after which the company was turned over to Captain Roach for drill in the manual of arms, foot manoeuvres (sic), bayonet drill and exercises, which took place in the Armory.

The company then marched into the street and were put through the different formations.

The boys did fine, a little nervous at first, which soon wore off, and they did their work like veterans, reflecting great credit on Captain Roach for his ability as a drill master.

The company was mustered into the Arizona National Guard, March 1, 1916 by Major Coykendall just seven weeks ago. Since that time the company has drilled regularly every Wednesday night, with very few absentees and has made remarkable progress.

The guns were received March 27th and the first drill in the manual of arms too place March 29th. Since then there has been just three company drills in the manual and captain Roach deserves much credit for the proficiency secured in so short a time.

Captain Roach is ably assisted by his two lieutenants, Ernest S. Wickersham and Clyde Ijams, both of whom are good officers and attentive to their duties.

Lieutenant Geo. S. Martin and Acting Quartermaster Sergeant R. W. Smith look after their end like veterans and First Sergeant Baker is "Johnny on the spot" every drill night.

The "boys" are all enthusiastic and ambitious to help Captain Roach in making Company B the best drilled company in the Arizona National Guard.

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