

13th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

(105mm How. TrkDr. 24th Inf Div, RA)



Motto: Without fear, favor or the hope of reward

3 June 1916: Constituted in the Regular Army as the 13th Field Artillery.

1 June 1917: Organized at Camp Stewart, El Paso, Texas.

10 December 1917: Assigned to the 4th Division.

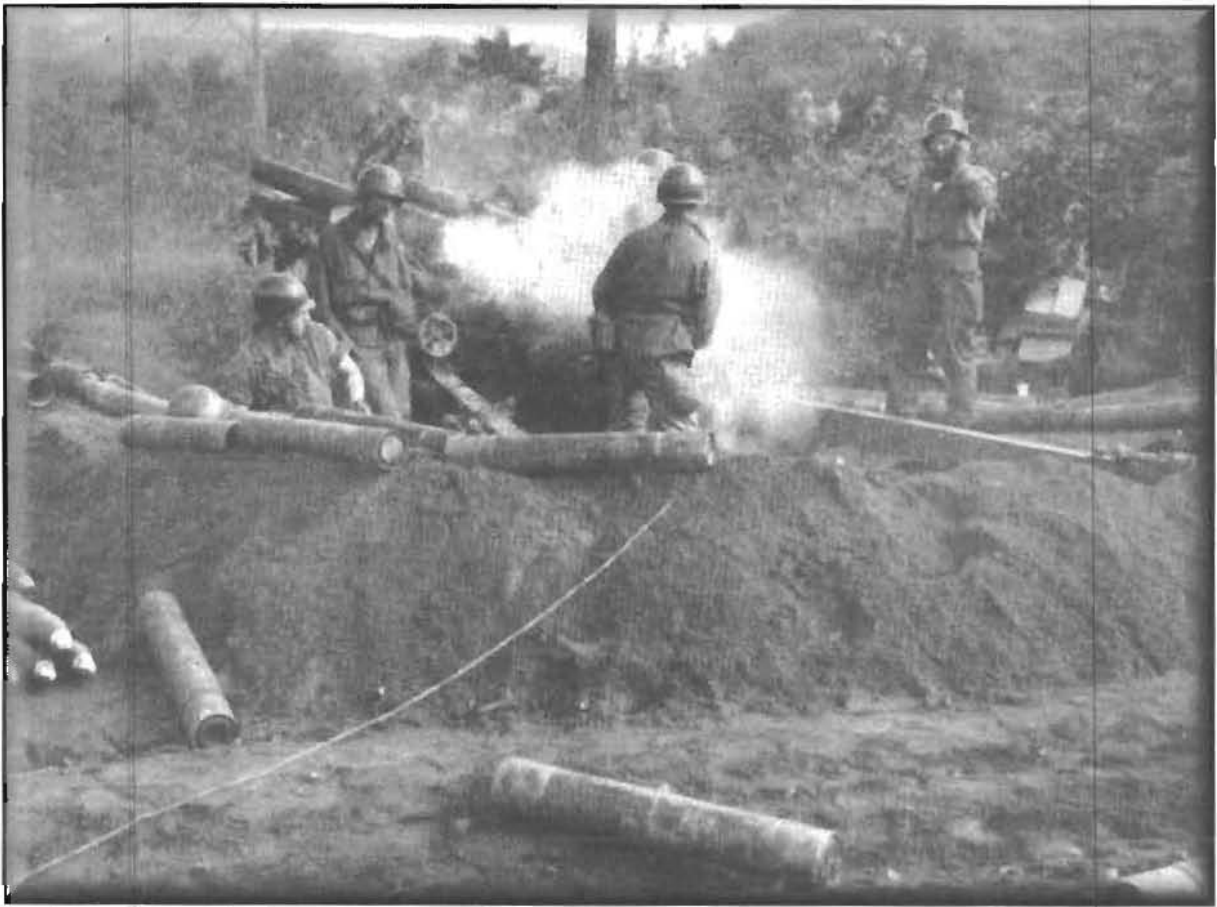
4 October 1920: Relieved from the 4th Division.

1 March 1921: Assigned to the Hawaiian Division (Redesignated the 24th Infantry Division, 1 October 1941).

1 October 1941: Reorganized and redesignated as the 13th Field Artillery Battalion.

31 March 1958: Relieved from the 24th Infantry Division and reorganized and redesignated as the 13th Artillery Regiment.

1 September 1971: Redesignated as the 13th Field Artillery Regiment.



Truck-drawn, 105mm howitzer of the type used by the 13th Field Artillery Battalion in Korea

13th FA Korean War Timeline

25 June 1950

25 June 1950: Camp Hakata, Fukuoka, Japan; 13th Field Artillery Battalion¹ (105mm howitzer, truck drawn), 24th Infantry Division, organic light field artillery element. Army of Occupation duties and peace-time training activities.

30 June 1950: All units, 24th Division alerted for movement to Korea.

Delaying invasion of South Korea

4 July 1950: Pusan, South Korea; 19th RCT (19th Inf and 13th FA), 24th Division, arrives from Japan via LSTs, unloads and moves north by train toward Taegu.

11 July 1950: Taegu area, South Korea; 19th RCT moves toward Taejon.

13-15 July 1950: Taepyong (Kum River line), South Korea; 13th FA, 11th FA (155mm how) and 52d FA (105mm how), 24th Division, direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division. The 52d FA at Tuman-ni, three miles south of the Kum River, 11th FA and 13th FA are two miles further south. The 24th Division is assigned to the Eighth Army on 13 July 1950.

16 July 1950: Taejon, South Korea; 24th Division combines the reduced 105mm howitzer battalions (13th FA, 52d FA and 63d FA²) into a composite battalion for the defense of Taejon with reinforcing fires of the 11th FA (155mm how), 2d Division.

17 July 1950: Tuman-ni, South Korea; 52d FA overrun, loses eight of its nine 105mm howitzers and all but three vehicles. The 11th FA and 13th FA two miles south of the 52d FA, withdraw in the late afternoon to the Taejon Airfield without loss of either weapons or vehicles.

20 July 1950: Taejon, South Korea; Battery A, 11th FA loses all five of its 155mm howitzers and thirty-one out of one-hundred twenty-three men during the withdrawal from Taejon. Only B/13th FA and B/63d FA brought their equipment substantially intact through the roadblock.

25 July 1950: Chinju, South Korea; On the road to Hadong, Battery B, 13th FA loses one 105mm howitzer and four 2 ½ ton trucks to rice paddies (bogged down and unretrievable).

26-28 July 1950: Kochang, South Korea; Battery A, 13th FA direct support 34th Inf, 24th Division.

31 July 1950: Chinju, South Korea; Battery B, 13th FA and B/11th FA (eight 155mm howitzers) in direct support of the 1/19th Inf, 24th Division.

3 August 1950: Chindong-ni, South Korea; 13th FA and A/11th FA (155mm how) direct support 17th ROK Inf, 24th Division.

Defense of the Pusan Perimeter

5 August 1950: Naktong Bulge, South Korea; 24th Division's four artillery battalions (11th FA, 13th FA, 52d FA, and 63d FA) have only seventeen 105mm howitzers and twelve 155mm howitzers to cover a thirty-two mile front.³

6 August 1950: Obong-ni Ridge, Battery B, 13th FA with five guns in direct support of both the 1/34th Inf and 3/34th Inf, 24th Division, with reinforcing fires of the A/11th FA (155mm how). Surrounded and attacked by over two hundred North Korean troops, B/13th FA was forced to break out and move south, extricating one howitzer and seven vehicles.

7-9 August 1950: Obong-ni Ridge (Naktong Bulge), South Korea; 24th Division artillery (a mixture of 105mm and 155mm howitzers) reinforcing fires of Batteries A and B, 15th FA, 2d Division, in direct support of the 9th Inf, 2d Division, attack on Cloverleaf Hill and Obong-ni Ridge.

¹U. S. Army occupation forces were under reduced Tables of Organization and Equipment (TO&E); most field artillery units had two under strength firing batteries instead of the allotted three firing batteries per battalion.

²The 63d FA had lost all ten of its 105mm howitzers at Kongju on the 14th.

³A U. S. Army divisional TO&E called for seventy-two 105mm howitzers and eighteen 155mm howitzers per division.

10 August 1950: P'ohang-dong, South Korea; 13th FA along with C/15th FA (105mm how), 24th Division direct support 3/19th Inf, 24th Division, in defense of Yonil Airfield on east coast.

17-19 August 1950: Naktong Bulge, South Korea; 13th FA, 63d FA (105mm how), 52d FA (105mm how) and 11th FA (155mm how) in direct support of the 9th, 19th Inf and 34th Inf, 24th Division, and the 5th Mar, 1st Mar Division, in reduction of the enemy bridgehead.

24 August 1950: Naktong River Line, South Korea; 24th Division relieved by the 2d Division and becomes Eighth Army reserve.

26 August-2 September 1950: Battery C, 13th FA activated with men and equipment from A/63d FA (105mm how).⁴

8-9 September 1950: Kyongu, South Korea; 13th FA direct support 17th ROK Inf, ROK Cap Division.

10-11 September 1950: Pohangdong-Yongdok, South Korea; 13th FA joins Task Force Davidson (19th Inf(-), 24th Division; 3/9th Inf, 3d Division; C/15th FA (105mm how), 2d Division) to eliminate the threat to Yonil on the east coast.

Breakout of Pusan perimeter and pursuit north

16 September 1950: The 13th FA prepares to move north as 24th Division is attached to I Corps.⁵

12 October 1950: The 13th FA and 90th FA (155mm how), 25th Division, assigned to the 1st Cav Division for its drive on P'yongyang, the North Korean capital city.

9 November 1950: Ch'ongch'on river area, North Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division, with reinforcing fires from the 52d FA (105mm how), 24th Division.

CCF intervention and counteroffensive in North Korea

26 November 1950: Chongju, North Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division.

Withdrawal from central North Korea

3 December 1950: Yul-li, North Korea; 13th FA withdraws southward with 19th Inf on Route 13, as 24th Division released from attachment to I Corps and attached to IX Corps.

2 January 1951: Uijongbu, South Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division.

6 January 1951: Changwon-ni, South Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division with reinforcing fires from the 52d FA (105mm how), 24th Division.

21 January 1951: Ich'on, South Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division.

First UN counteroffensive 1951

20 February-6 March 1951: Operation Killer; IX Corps advance toward Phase Line Arizona, 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division

7 March-22 March 1951: Operation Ripper; IX Corps advance toward Phase Line Idaho, 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division, with reinforcing fires from the 52d FA (105mm how), 24th Division.

2 April 1951: The 24th Division released from attachment to IX Corps and attached to I Corps.

7 April-20 April 1951: Operation Rugged/Dauntless; IX Corps completion of advance to Phase Line Kansas, 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division.

CCF spring offensive 1951

27 April 1951: The 24th Division released from attachment to I Corps and attached to IX Corps.

20 May-8 June 1951: Line Golden, South Korea; 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division, during IX Corps drive north to retake positions on line Kansas, above the 38th Parallel.

UN summer fall offensive 1951

July 1951: With the defeat of the CCF Spring Offensive and the beginning of truce talks, the final two years of the Korean War became a period when portions of the front lines were relatively quiet while a mile or two away furious battles for a ridge line or outpost were under way. *Truce Tent and Fighting Front*, the title of Walter G. Hermes book on this period of the Korean War seems to sum up

⁴The 63d FA reduced to paper status and returned to Japan.

⁵I Corps activated 11 August 1950, assigned to Eighth Army 12 September 1950.

the conduct of the war very well. Others called the last two years, the "battle for the outposts". General James A. Van Fleet wanted to keep an "active defense posture" and "firepower advantage" as the truce talks dragged on. An active defensive posture required aggressive patrols, outposts and patrol bases ahead of the MLR;⁶ a firepower advantage required overwhelming artillery fire power to counter the North Korean and CCF manpower advantage. Divisional artillery units were to remain at the front whenever their parent division was placed in reserve. The artillery battalions were reassigned to support the relieving unit or adjacent ROK forces which had fewer artillery units. More and heavier caliber Corps artillery battalions were requested to counter the increased sophistication of enemy defenses and the growing CCF artillery threat.

6-7 August 1951: Line Kansas, North Korea; 24th Division relieved by 7th Division, 13th FA remains on-line supporting IX Corps units.

5-6 October 1951: Line Kansas, North Korea; 24th Division relieves the 7th Division, 13th FA direct support 19th Inf, 24th Division.

13-22 October 1951: Kumwha area, North Korea; Operation Nomad-Polar, 24th Division advance from line Kansas to secure Phase Line Missouri. The 13th FA in direct support of the 19th Inf, 24th Division.

Second Korean winter 1951-1952

22 January 1952: Kumsong area, North Korea; 13th FA relieved by 625th FA (105mm how), 40th Division, upon its arrival from Japan by an exchange of equipment in place.⁷ The 13th FA ordered to Tent City (24th Division Rear) in preparation for shipment to Camp Younghans, Japan. Those 13th FA redlegs with not enough points to leave Korea are transferred to 40th Division artillery units.

23 January 1952: The 24th Division released from assignment to IX Corps, relieved from Eighth Army and assigned to XVI Corps in Japan.

Korean summer 1953

16 July 1953: The 13th FA deploys to Korea with the 24d Division .

Cease fire 1953

27 July 1953: The 13th FA stands down and prepares to move to post-armistice positions.

November 1954: The 13th FA returns to Japan with the 24th Division.

⁶Main Line of Resistance

⁷The units involved took only individual weapons and equipment, leaving organizational equipment in place. The 13th FA returned to Japan to acquire relatively new howitzers, well-maintained vehicles and organizational equipment generally at TO&E levels while the 625th FA was left with war-weary howitzers, worn-out vehicles and missing organizational equipment.

13th FA Campaign Participation and Unit Citations

UN DEFENSIVE 1950

5 Jul - 15 Sep 50



UN OFFENSIVE 1950

16 Sep - 2 Nov 50



CCF INTERNENTION 1950-1951

3 Nov 50 - 24 Jan 51



FIRST UN COUNTEROFFENSIVE 1951

25 Jan - 21 Apr 51



CCF SPRING OFFENSIVE 1951

22 Apr - 8 Jul 51



UN SUMMER-FALL OFFENSIVE 1951

9 Jul - 27 Nov 51



SECOND KOREAN WINTER 1951-1952

28 Nov 51 - 23 Jan 52



KOREA SUMMER 1953

16 - 27 Jul 53



Army Presidential Unit Citation: *DEFENSE OF KOREA*
2 July-15 September 1950, DA GO 45-50



Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: *PYONGTAEK*
2-22 July 1950, DA GO 35-51
Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: *KOREA 1952-1953*
11 July 1952-1 October 1953, DA GO 24-54

For All Gave Some... Some Gave All

- ANDERSON, Billy Wayne:** Sfc, A Btry
POW (died while captured), 1/1/1951; Maricopa County, AZ
- CORSON, Harold Gerald:** Pfc, Svc Btry
DOC,⁸ 11/19/1950; Philadelphia, PA
- FINK, Robert E:** Pfc
KIA, 8/6/1950; Montgomery County, MD
- FULLEN, Robert L:** 1st Lt
KIA, 7/16/1950; Turner County, GA
- KIRKLAND, James:** Pvt
KIA, 7/16/1950; McMinn County, TN
- LANGE, Elmer R:** Pfc
DOW, 7/23/1950; Lafayette County, MO
- LAPRADE, William J:** Pfc
KIA, 7/16/1950; Providence County, RI
- LEE, William Creed:** Pvt
KIA, 7/30/1951; McDowell County, WV
- LINDSEY, Jophn Richard:** Pfc
KIA, 11/4/1950; Lincoln County, MO
- MARTINEZ, Joseph A:** Pfc
KIA, 11/5/1950; Summit County, UT
- McCUTCHEM, Henry Jr:** Pvt, A Btry
DOC, 7/19/1953; Richmond, VA
- NEDVED, Frederlck E:** Cpl
KIA, 3/18/1951; Milesville, SD
- NEWBERRY, Dallas L:** Cpl
DOW, 3/18/1951; Madison County, TN
- PAYNE, J F:** Pvt
KIA, 7/16/1950; St Clair County, MO
- PINA, Donald A:** Cpl
KIA, 8/10/1950; New Haven County, CT
- PRESCOTT, Coleman L:** Cpl
KIA, 7/16/1950; Comanche County, OK
- RHEUARK, Isaac Bonson:** Pfc, Hqs Btry
DOC, 1/2/1952; Loris, SC
- RICHARDS, Leonard Lee:** Pfc
KIA, 7/20/1950; Licking County, OH
- SINGLETON, Charles L:** Pvt
KIA, 8/12/1950; Hempstead County, AR
- TAYLOR, Norman James:** Cpl, Hqs Btry
MIA (died while missing in action), 1/1/1951; Muskegon County, MI
- THACKER, Columbus H:** Cpl
KIA, 7/16/1950; Maryville, TN
- TOTTY, Robert A:** 1st Lt
KIA, 1/1/1951; Shelby County, TN

⁸Died of other causes.

13th Field Artillery Battalion

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WALLACE, Charles A: Pfc

KIA, 7/16/1950; St Johns County, FL

WHITE, David J: Sgt

KIA, 8/6/1950; Philadelphia County, PA

WILLIAMS, Charles K: Cpl

DOW, 8/12/1950; Knott County, KY

WITWER, Jack J: Pfc

KIA, 7/16/1950; Morgan County, IL

13th FA Bibliography

Robertson, William Glenn. *Counterattacks on the Naktong, 1950*. *Combat Studies Institute*. Fort Leavenworth, Kansas: U. S. Army Command and General Staff College, December 1985