



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Lineage and Honors

**256th MEDICAL COMPANY
(ST. AUGUSTINE GUARDS)**

Organized 1 August 1826 at St. Augustine as the Florida Rangers, Capt. Joseph Woodruff

Ordered into active Federal service 16 November 1835 at St. Augustine; released from active Federal service 31 December 1835 and reverted to state control, Captain George L. Philipps commanding

Ordered into active Federal service 27 May 1836 at St. Augustine; released from active Federal service 29 October 1836 and reverted to state control, Captain George L. Philipps commanding

Reorganized as Captain Elias B. Gould's Company of the Veteran Volunteers of the Florida Militia, and ordered into active Federal service 17 July 1837 at St. Augustine; released from active Federal service 1 January 1838 and reverted to state control

Consolidated and reorganized 1854 with the St. Augustine Guards (see ANNEX 1); consolidated unit redesignated Florida Independent Blues at St. Augustine

Defected 10 August 1861 from the Florida Militia at Amelia Island and redesignated as *Company B (St. Augustine Blues), 3d Florida Infantry, Captain John Lott Philipps commanding*

Surrendered 26 April 1865 at Greensboro, North Carolina

Reorganized in 1885 as the St. Augustine Guards, an independent militia company, at St. Augustine

Reorganized and redesignated in 1887 as Company F, 2d Battalion of Infantry, Florida State Troops

Reorganized and redesignated in 1892 as Company B, 1st Battalion of Infantry, Florida State Troops

256th MEDICAL COMPANY (ST. AUGUSTINE GUARDS)

Consolidated with Company D, 1st Battalion of Infantry, Florida State Troops (organized in 1891 as the St. Augustine Rifles), reorganized and mustered into Federal service 23 May 1898 at Tampa as Company G, 1st Florida Volunteer Infantry; mustered out of Federal service 27 January 1899 at Huntsville, Alabama

Reorganized in 1899 as Company B (St Augustine Light Infantry) and Company D (St Augustine Rifles), 1st Regiment of Infantry, Florida State Troops, at St. Augustine

Company B disbanded 17 August 1899

Reorganized and redesignated in 1900 as Company G (St Augustine Rifles), 1st Battalion of Infantry

Disbanded 29 December 1906 at St. Augustine

Reorganized 22 September 1913 in the Florida National Guard as Company G, 1st Regiment of Infantry, at St. Augustine

Reorganized and redesignated 29 November 1916 as a platoon, Company D, 1st Battalion of Infantry

Reorganized in 1917 as the Supply Company, 1st Regiment of Infantry

Drafted into Federal service 5 August 1917

Reorganized and redesignated 1 October 1917 as the Supply Company, 56th Depot Brigade, an element of the 31st Division

(56th Depot Brigade demobilized 31 October 1917 at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, and personnel transferred to other organizations of the 31st Division)

Former Supply Company, 1st Regiment of Infantry reorganized and Federally recognized 1 March 1921 as the Service Company, 1st Infantry, at St. Augustine

Redesignated 19 December 1921 as the Service Company, 154th Infantry, and element of the 39th Division

Redesignated 1 July 1923 as the Service Company, 124th Infantry, an element of the 31st Division

Inducted into Federal service 25 November 1940 at St. Augustine

(124th Infantry relieved 15 December 1941 from assignment to the 31st Division)

Inactivated 2 March 1944 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina

256th MEDICAL COMPANY (ST. AUGUSTINE GUARDS)

Activated 5 April 1944 in New Guinea as an element of the 31st Infantry Division (formerly 31st Division)

Inactivated 16 December 1945 at Camp Stoneman, California

Converted, redesignated, and Federally recognized 6 June 1949 as Battery B, 148th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, an element of the 48th Infantry Division, at St. Augustine

(48th Infantry Division reorganized and redesignated 1 November 1955 as the 48th Armored Division)

Consolidated 15 April 1959 with the 215th Antiaircraft Artillery Detachment (organized and Federally recognized 19 February 1951 at St. Augustine), reorganized and redesignated as Battery B, 1st Automatic Weapons Battalion, 265th Artillery, a non-divisional unit

Converted and redesignated 20 January 1968 as the 253d Signal Company

Converted, reorganized, and redesignated 3 January 1972 as 255th Engineer Company

Converted, reorganized, and redesignated 1 October 1979 as 156th Medical Company

Reorganized, and redesignated 1 September 1995 as Company A, 1170th Medical Battalion

Reorganized, and redesignated 1 March 1996 as Company A, 161st Medical Battalion

Ordered into active Federal service 27 January 2003 at St Augustine; released from active Federal service 13 June 2004 and reverted to state control

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 2007 as 256th Medical Company, and location concurrently changed to Starke

Ordered into active Federal service 1 September 2008 at Starke; released from active Federal service 5 October 2009 and reverted to state control

Location changed 1 November 2013 to Gainesville

256th MEDICAL COMPANY (ST. AUGUSTINE GUARDS)

ANNEX

Organized 9 February 1833 as the St. Augustine Guards under command of Major Benjamin Putnam and Captain Kingsley B. Gibbs, at St. Augustine

Ordered into active Federal service 14 November 1835 at St. Augustine; released from active Federal service 20 February 1836 and reverted to state control

Reorganized 19 February 1841 as the St. Augustine City Guards under command of Captain Francis L. Dancy

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

Indian Wars
Seminoles

World War II
New Guinea (with arrowhead)
Southern Philippines


War on Terrorism
Iraq:
Liberation of Iraq
Transition of Iraq
Iraqi Surge
National Resolution

DECORATIONS

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered IRAQ 2008-2009

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered 17 OCTOBER 1944 TO 4 JULY 1945

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:


CHARLES R. BOWERY, JR.
Chief of Military History

15 SEP 2025