

## ARMY LINEAGE SERIES

### FIELD ARTILLERY

#### Part 2

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## CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

UNITED STATES ARMY  
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### 83rd FIELD ARTILLERY

#### HERALDIC ITEMS

#### COAT OF ARMS

**Shield:** Party per chevron or and gules, a chevronel azure between in sinister chief a Cheyenne war bonnet and in base a grizzly bear passant both proper. On a canton tenne a dragon passant of the first.

**Crest:** On a wreath of the colors, or and gules, a bison statant argent.

**Motto:** Flagrante Bello (During Hostilities).

**Symbolism:** The shield is yellow for cavalry and red for artillery. The blue chevronel denotes the regiment's short period of service overseas during World War I. The Cheyenne war bonnet refers to the birthplace of the organization in Wyoming. The bear, from the crest of the state of California, commemorates service in the 8th Division at Camp Fremont, California. The canton represents the regiment's formation as the 25th Cavalry by transfer of men from the 1st Cavalry (formerly the 1st Regiment of Dragoons) in 1917.

The crest also symbolizes the birthplace of the regiment.

#### DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA

The distinctive unit insignia is the shield and motto of the coat of arms.

#### LINEAGE AND HONORS

#### LINEAGE

Constituted 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as the 25th Cavalry. Organized 5 June 1917 at Fort D.A. Russell, Wyoming. Converted and redesignated 1 November 1917 as the 83rd Field Artillery. Assigned 17 December 1917 to the 8th Division. Relieved 5 September 1919 from assignment to the 8th Division. Inactivated (less 1st Battalion) 7 January 1922 at Camp Benning, Georgia. Disbanded (less 1st Battalion) 28 February 1927 (1st Battalion concurrently reorganized and redesignated as the 83rd Field Artillery Battalion). Regiment (less 1st Battalion) reconstituted 17 March 1930 in the Regular Army and assigned to the 8th Division (83rd Field

Artillery Battalion concurrently reorganized and redesignated as the 1st Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery). Relieved 1 October 1933 from assignment to the 8th Division and assigned to the 4th Division (2d Battalion concurrently activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina). Relieved 16 October 1939 from assignment to the 4th Division. Assigned 1 June 1940 to the 4th Division and activated (less 1st and 2d Battalions) at Fort Benning, Georgia. Relieved 20 July 1940 from assignment to the 4th Division and assigned to the 8th Division.

Reorganized and redesignated 9 January 1941 as the 83rd Field Artillery Battalion. Relieved 1 June 1941 from assignment to the 8th Division. Reorganized and redesignated 21 October 1942 as the 83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion. Assigned 6 July 1945 to the 9th Armored Division. Inactivated 7 October 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. Redesignated 1 August 1946 as the 83rd Field Artillery Battalion; concurrently, relieved from assignment to the 9th Armored Division and activated at Fort Benning, Georgia. Inactivated 23 November 1948 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Activated 11 February 1950 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Inactivated 1 June 1958 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 July 1959 as the 83rd Artillery, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System. Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 83rd Field Artillery.

### **CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT**

#### **World War I**

Streamer without inscription

#### **World War II**

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

#### **Vietnam**

Counteroffensive, Phase II

Counteroffensive, Phase III

Tet Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase IV

Counteroffensive, Phase V

Counteroffensive, Phase VI

Tet 69/Counteroffensive

Summer–Fall 1969

Winter–Spring 1970

Sanctuary Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase VII

### **DECORATIONS**

Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action in the Ardennes (83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion cited; DA GO 43, 1950)

## **1st BATTALION, 83rd FIELD ARTILLERY**

### **LINEAGE**

Constituted 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as Troops A and B, 25th Cavalry. Organized 5 June 1917 at Fort D.A. Russell, Wyoming. Consolidated, converted, redesignated 1 November 1917 as Battery A, 83rd Field Artillery. (83rd Field Artillery assigned 17 December 1917 to the 8th Division; relieved 5 September 1919 from assignment to the 8th Division.) Reorganized and redesignated 28 February 1927 as Battery A, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated 17 March 1930 as Battery A, 83rd Field Artillery, an element of the 8th Division. (83rd Field Artillery relieved 1 October 1933 from assignment to the 8th Division and assigned to the 4th Division; relieved 16 October 1939 from assignment to the 4th Division; assigned 1 June 1940 to the 4th Division; relieved 20 July 1940 from assignment to the 4th Division and assigned to the 8th Division.)

Reorganized and redesignated 9 January 1941 as Battery A, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion. (83rd Field Artillery Battalion relieved 1 June 1941 from assignment to the 8th Division.) Reorganized and redesignated 21 October 1942 as Battery A, 83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion. (83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion assigned 6 July 1945 to the 9th Armored Division.) Inactivated 7 October 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. Redesignated 1 August 1946 as Battery A, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion, and activated at Fort Benning, Georgia (83rd Field Artillery Battalion concurrently relieved from assignment to the 9th Armored Division). Inactivated 23 November 1948 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Activated 11 February 1950 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 June 1958 as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Howitzer Battalion, 83rd Artillery (organic elements concurrently constituted and activated). Redesignated 5 May 1964 as the 1st Battalion, 83rd Artillery. Inactivated 7 June 1971 at Fort Lewis, Washington. Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 1st Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery. Assigned 13 September 1972 to the 8th Infantry Division and activated in Germany. Inactivated 1 April 1984 in Germany and relieved from assignment to the 8th Infantry Division.

### **CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT**

#### **World War I**

Streamer without inscription

#### **World War II**

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

#### **Vietnam**

Counteroffensive, Phase II

Counteroffensive, Phase III

Tet Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase IV

Counteroffensive, Phase V

Counteroffensive, Phase VI

Tet 69/Counteroffensive

Summer–Fall 1969  
Winter–Spring 1970  
Sanctuary Counteroffensive  
Counteroffensive, Phase VII

## **DECORATIONS**

\*Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action in the Ardennes (83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion cited; DA GO 43, 1950)

\*Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1971 (1st Battalion, 83rd Artillery, cited; DA GO 6, 1974)

\*Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1966-1968 (1st Battalion, 83rd Artillery, cited; DA GO 51, 1971)

Battery C additionally entitled to: Presidential Unit Citation (Army); Streamer embroidered DONG AP BIA MOUNTAIN (Battery C, 1st Battalion, 83rd Artillery, cited; DA GO 16, 1972)

## **2nd BATTALION, 83rd FIELD ARTILLERY**

### **LINEAGE**

Constituted 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as Troops C and D, 25th Cavalry. Organized 5 June 1917 at Fort D.A. Russell, Wyoming. Consolidated, converted, and redesignated 1 November 1917 as Battery B, 83rd Field Artillery. (83rd Field Artillery assigned 17 December 1917 to the 8th Division; relieved 5 September 1919 from assignment to the 8th Division.) Reorganized and redesignated 28 February 1927 as Battery B, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion. Reorganized and redesignated 17 March 1930 as Battery B, 83rd Field Artillery, an element of the 8<sup>th</sup> Division. Inactivated 5 June 1930 at Fort Benning, Georgia. (83rd Field Artillery relieved 1 October 1933 from assignment to the 8th Division and assigned to the 4th Division.) Activated 1 December 1934 at Fort Benning, Georgia. (83rd Field Artillery relieved 16 October 1939 from assignment to the 4th Division; assigned 1 June 1940 to the 4th Division; relieved 20 July 1940 from assignment to the 4<sup>th</sup> Division and assigned to the 8th Division.)

Reorganized and redesignated 9 January 1941 as Battery B, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion. (83rd Field Artillery Battalion relieved 1 June 1941 from assignment to the 8th Division.) Reorganized and redesignated 21 October 1942 as Battery B, 83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion. (83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion assigned 6 July 1945 to the 9th Armored Division.) Inactivated 7 October 1941 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. Redesignated 1 August 1946 as Battery B, 83rd Field Artillery Battalion, and activated at Fort Benning, Georgia (83rd Field Artillery Battalion concurrently relieved from assignment to the 9th Armored Division). Inactivated 23 November 1948 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Activated 11 February 1950 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 June 1958 as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Howitzer Battalion, 83rd Artillery (organic elements concurrently constituted and activated). Redesignated 24 March 1964 as the 2nd Battalion, 83rd Artillery. Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 2nd Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery. Inactivated 16 July 1988 in Germany.

### **CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT**

#### **World War I**

\*Streamer without inscription

#### **World War II**

\*Normandy

\*Northern France

\*Rhineland

\*Ardennes-Alsace

\*Central Europe

### **DECORATIONS**

\*Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action in the Ardennes (83rd Armored Field Artillery Battalion cited; DA GO 43, 1950)

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Eighty-third Field Artillery Battalion. San Angelo, Texas: Newsfoto Publishing Co., 1946.

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Ott, David Ewing. Field Artillery, 1934-1973. Vietnam Studies. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1975. Contains information about the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery.

Rumbough, J.W. "Test march of the 1st Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery (5-ton Tractor Drawn 75mm Gun Battalion)." Field Artillery Journal 11 (1921):539-55.

"Training exercise an 'all-hands' affair." Field Artillery Journal 46 (November-December 1978):17. Pertains to Battery A, 1st Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery.

Also see bibliography of the 8th Infantry Division (1917-58) in John B. Wilson, Armies, Corps, Divisions and Separate Brigades. Army Lineage Series, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1999.