

Headquarters of the Second Division

Although the Fifth Brigade of the Second Division was encamped at Fort Crockett in Galveston, the command headquarters for the Second Division continued to be located at the unnamed camp at Texas City. General Frederick Funston commanded the troops that sailed for Mexico, having assumed command of the Second Division following General Carter's departure and reassignment. Major General Franklin Bell, who had served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army (1906 - 1910), succeeded Funston as Commander.



4th Artillery after 1915 hurricane

It was not a settlement of the insurrection in Mexico that caused the abrupt closing of the Texas City Army Camp in the Fall of 1915, but a destructive hurricane. Many of the soldiers, seeking refuge from the storm, marched to La Marque and found shelter in stores, boxcars, barns, and in private homes. Others spent a sleepless night in the cold storage plant on 9th Street. Twelve soldiers, who had taken refuge from the storm in the three-story Thompson building, located on 6th

Street, were killed when the roof collapsed. The tent city of the Army Encampment was blown away, and many of the permanent buildings were heavily damaged.

While the camp was temporarily rebuilt with new tentage and the soldiers were recruited to help with the clean up of the town, the troops were soon transferred to other military locations, including some troops being sent to the Rio Grande Border to help General John J. Pershing in his pursuit of Pancho Villa.

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