



The Squadron A Fund

at

The New York Community Trust

Two Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

During the Blaine-Cleveland presidential campaign in the summer of 1884, a mounted political club was formed which made quite a hit in the pre-election parades. When the election was over and there was no reason for the club to continue, the members decided to form a very exclusive troop of cavalry. Eighteen enthusiastic horsemen gathered together for weekly drills (rides) in 1885 at Dickel's Riding Academy, 130 West 56th Street, and the New York Hussars (later named the First Hussars) came into being during that year.

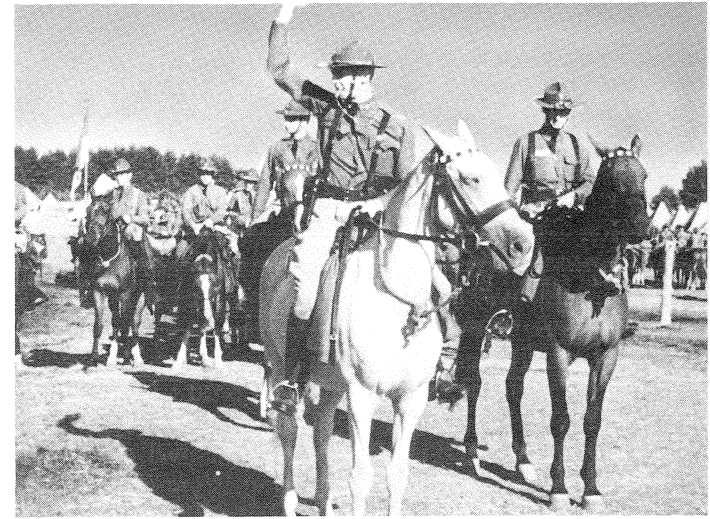
In 1888 twelve members entered the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden (then located at Madison Avenue and 26th Street), and thus began the Squadron's long association with the National Horse Show.

In the Fall of 1888, a young West Pointer named Charles F. Roe, who had served for 16 years in the cavalry, joined as Captain of what then became known as the "First Dragoons." Captain Roe (later Major General Roe) is truly the father of Squadron A, for it was under his leadership that 53 Troopers were mustered into the National Guard of New York state on April 2nd, 1889 as Troop A, NGSNY, the first cavalry arm of the State.

Because of the equestrian skills and the prestige of its members, the Squadron was often called out to act as escort for Presidents, Vice Presidents, Governors, and foreign dignitaries.

The Squadron first saw military service when a troop of volunteers was sent to Puerto Rico in 1898 to serve in the Spanish-American War. The entire Squadron was called into federal service in 1916 to patrol the Mexican Border, and was again mustered into service as the 105th Machine Gun Battalion of the 27th Division in World War I. Squadron A brought home three Congressional Medals of Honor, 17 French Legion of Honor awards, and 24 Croix de Guerre. Between the two World Wars, the Squadron became the Manhattan units of the 101st Cavalry NYNG and was famous for its appearances at parades and at ceremonial occasions, its polo matches, and its social events at the Armory on Madison Avenue at 94th Street.

Jeeps and armored cars replaced horses when the Squadron was federalized as a mechanized unit on January 27th, 1941. Its members became part of the crack 101st Cavalry Group, code name "Wingfoot," which fought gallantly in Germany and Austria. Members



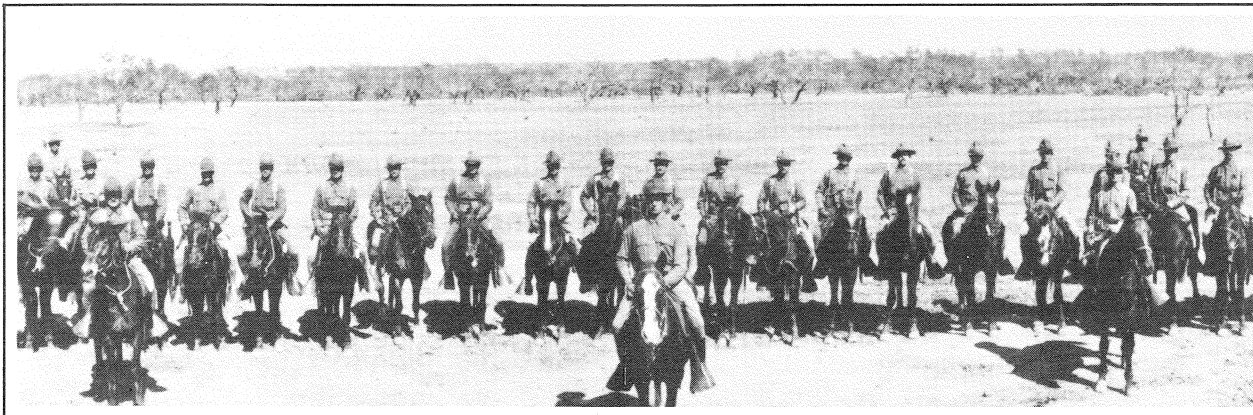
Squadron Commander at Head of Column in army maneuvers, 1939

of the Squadron earned a Congressional Medal of Honor, 32 Croix de Guerre, 5 French Legion of Honor awards, 5 O.B.E.'s, and 10 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

When the Armory on Madison Avenue was slated for demolition in 1965, the 101st Cavalry Units moved to Staten Island.

The heritage of Squadron A is carried on by the Association of Ex-Members of Squadron A (now known as Squadron A Association) with headquarters at 3 West 51st Street, where the Association maintains the Squadron A Room, an attractive dining room where the Squadron's memorabilia are displayed.

The Board of Governors of the Squadron A Association invites members and friends to contribute to the perpetuation of the spirit and traditions of Squadron A by making a donation to the Squadron A Fund at The New York Community Trust, a publicly supported community foundation, which provides centralized management for many charitable funds. All contributions are tax-deductible.



Squadron A at the Mexican Border in 1916.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

November 30, 1908

My dear Mr. Terry:

I wish I could be present at your anniversary dinner. As I can not, I wish to send you just these few words of hearty greeting and good will. I have a peculiar feeling for Troop A of the New York Volunteer Cavalry. I saw much of it while Governor, and it has furnished again and again the guard of honor for me—when I was inaugurated as Vice President, and inaugurated as President. I have also felt a peculiar pride in what the troop did in the Spanish War.

.... If ever there should be a war in which this country was engaged, and I was still in physical trim, I should certainly try to raise either a brigade, or, if I was permitted, a division, of cavalry, composed of regiments such as that I commanded at Santiago. In that event I should instantly endeavor to get all of your men that I could possibly get. From my own standpoint I can pay you no more practical compliment.

Sincerely yours,



WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

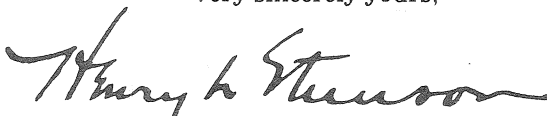
January 28, 1943

Dear Colonel Ordway:

I am very much touched by your letter inviting me to come to the meeting of the Squadron A veterans at the Army and Navy Club next Tuesday, February second.

... Squadron A was a wonderful organization and exercised a most wholesome influence and carried high the flag of soldierly duty on the part of the citizen during years when it was most needed. I remember it as one of the best and most interesting influences in my life.

Very sincerely yours,



Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War



The New York Community Trust is a publicly supported community foundation that provides centralized management for many charitable funds. The Squadron A Fund is managed by Community Funds, Inc., the corporate affiliate of The New York Community Trust.