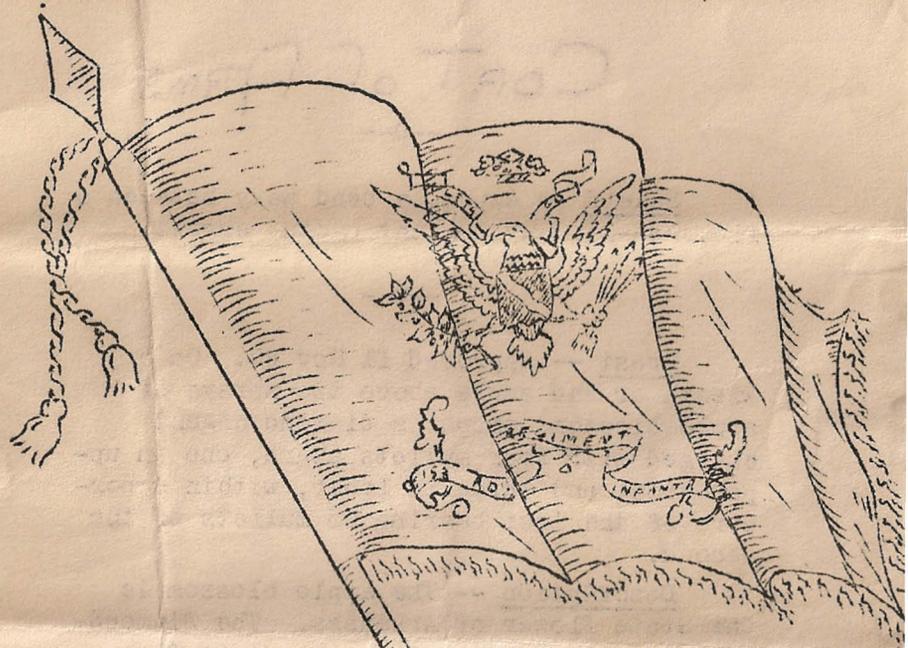


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The shield is blue for Infantry.

The wavy bend, representing the Arkansas River, refers to the peacetime geographic location of the regiment. The cactus symbolizes service on the Mexican border and the fleur-de-lis service in France during World War I.



153^D INFANTRY REGIMENT

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A Glance at its History and
Coat of Arms

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Colonel HOWARD F. SHAFER, Commanding

COAT OF ARMS

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Shield -- Azure, a bend wavy between a fleur-de-lis and a giant cactus argent.

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Crest -- Approved 11 Nov 29. On a wreath or and azure above two sprays of apple blossoms proper a diamond argent charged with four mullets azure, one in upper point and three in lower, within a bordure of the last bearing 25 mullets of the second.

Description -- The apple blossom is the State flower of Arkansas. The diamond-shaped device, taken from the State flag, signifies that Arkansas is the only diamond-bearing State in the Union; the 25 stars on the border show that it was the twenty-fifth State admitted to the Union; the three stars in the lower part typify the three countries to which the State has belonged; namely, Spain, France, and the United States, while the upper one commemorates the Southern Confederacy. The territory was originally a part of the Louisiana Purchase and the twists of the wreath are accordingly gold and blue.

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Motto -- "LET'S GO".

THE HISTORY, IN SUMMARY

The 153d Infantry, Arkansas National Guard, was organized in 1898 as the First Infantry, Arkansas State Guard. In 1907, the regiment was redesignated the First Infantry, Arkansas National Guard. The regiment remained in the service of the state until June 1917, when it was mustered into federal service for duty on the Mexican border. It served on the Mexican border during the disturbances of 1916-17 and was mustered out in February, 1917.

The regiment was again mustered into federal service for the World War and was redesignated the 153d Infantry of the 39th Division. The 153d Infantry served overseas during the World War but was not engaged in combat. It was disbanded at Camp Beauregard, La., in January, 1919.

The 153d Infantry is entitled to bear on its color a streamer denoting service in the World War with no inscription.

The regiment was inducted into federal service for the present War in December, 1940, and has been in such service to date. Over two years of the current service have been spent overseas in the Alaskan and Aleutian Theatre of Operations.

-- 27 February 1944
