

Commanders of the 31st Infantry Regiment (1916 to 1957)



Colonel Walter H. Gordon commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from August 1916 to June 1917 (10 months).

Colonel Gordon was born in Vermont in 1863; graduated from the US Military Academy in 1886; commanded the 6th Division in France during World War I; commanded the Infantry School from 1921 to 1923; retired as a major general; died in 1924; and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.



Colonel Frederick H. Sargent commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines and Siberia June 1917-October 1919 (28 months).

Colonel Sargent was born in Illinois in 1863; graduated from the US Military Academy in 1886; retired as a colonel; died in 1928; and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia. His son also graduated from the Military Academy.



Colonel Frederick W. Bugbee commanded the 31st Infantry in Siberia from October 1919 to April 1920 (7 months).

Colonel Bugbee was born in California in 1874; served as a private with the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry "The Rough Riders" during the Spanish-American War where he was wounded and decorated for Bravery at Kettle Hill; was commissioned from the ranks in 1901; served in France during World War I; was serving in the Office of the Chief of Infantry as a colonel in 1932 when he died; and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.



Colonel Ralph H. Van Deman commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from April 1920 to April 1923 (36 months).

Colonel Van Deman was born in 1865 in Ohio, graduated from Harvard, was commissioned as an Army Surgeon, served in the Spanish-American War and World War I, was one of the first nine officers to attend the Army War College, established the Intelligence Division of the Army Staff for which he is credited with being the father of modern U.S. Military Intelligence, commanded the 3rd Division at Fort Lewis, retired as a major general in 1929, advised the War Department on intelligence matters during World War II, and died in 1952. He is buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, California

Lieutenant Colonel Francis C. Endicott commanded the 31st Infantry Regiment in the Philippines from April to October 1923 (7 months).

Colonel Endicott was born in 1879 in Indiana; served in Cuba as a sergeant during the Spanish-American War; was commissioned from the ranks in 1901; earned a citation for bravery while serving with the 91st Division during World War I; served as interim commander of the 31st Infantry while awaiting Colonel Uline's arrival; retired as a colonel; died in 1964; and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

Colonel Willis Uline commanded the 31st Infantry Regiment in the Philippines from October 1923 to November 1925 (25 months).

Colonel Uline was born Missouri in 1865, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1890, was cited for bravery at San Juan Hill, Cuba in 1898, was seriously wounded on Mindanao in 1899 during the Philippine Insurrection. He retired as a Colonel, died in 1935, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

Lieutenant Colonel Clay M. Supplee commanded the 31st Infantry Regiment in the Philippines from November 1925 to February 1926 (3 months) while awaiting Colonel Berry's arrival.

Colonel Supplee was born in Maryland in 1879, served in the Spanish-American War, was commissioned from the ranks in 1901, served with the 1st Division during World War I, and retired as a colonel in 1932.

Colonel Daniel G. Berry commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from February 1926 to February 1928 (24 months).



Colonel Berry was born in Illinois in 1874, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1894, was commissioned in the Infantry, served in the Philippines during the Philippine Insurrection (1904-1906), served with General Pershing during the Mexican Expedition, commanded the 338th Infantry Regiment in France during World War I, retired in 1933 as a colonel, and died in California in 1942. One of his former junior officers remarked on learning of his death that "The Colonel was a fine soldier. He was a splendid commanding officer and all the junior officers of the regiment were fond of him. "

Colonel James H. Kimbrough commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from February 1928 to March 1930 (24 months).

Colonel Kimbrough was born in Georgia in 1869, graduated from Emory College, was commissioned in the 3rd Georgia Infantry during the Spanish-American War, received a temporary commission in 1899, served in World War I as a lieutenant colonel and colonel and was accepted into the Regular Army in 1920.

Colonel Earle W. Tanner commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from March to August 1930 (5 months).

Colonel Tanner was born in 1876 in New York; was commissioned in the Field Artillery in 1898; received a temporary commission as a captain in the Infantry in 1899; served in the Spanish-American War and World War I; retired as a colonel; and died in 1954. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Lieutenant Colonel Edward L. Hooper commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from August to December 1930 (4 months).

Colonel was born in Massachusetts in 1879, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1904, did not see overseas service during World War I, and retired as a colonel at Fort Lewis, Washington.



Colonel Gustave A. Wieser commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from December 1930 to January 1931 (1 month) when he died.

Colonel Wieser was born in Germany in 1874; was commissioned from the ranks in 1900 while serving as an artillery sergeant; served in the Philippines from 1911 to 1913; commanded the 3rd Infantry Regiment on the Mexican border in 1918; served as a temporary colonel during World War I; died while in active service in 1931; and is buried at the National Cemetery in San Francisco, California. He was among the Army's foremost advocates of a professional NCO corps and wrote on the topic in 1906.



Lieutenant Colonel George A. Lynch commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from February to June 1931 (5 months) while awaiting Colonel Gasser's arrival.

Colonel Lynch was born in Iowa in 1880; graduated from the US Military Academy in 1903; and served in World War I where he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal as a colonel; commanded US forces in China from 1935 to 1937; became the 5th Chief of Infantry in 1937; retired as a major general in 1941; died in 1962; and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery



Colonel Lorenzo D. Gasser commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines and Shanghai from June 1931 to March 1934 (33 months).

Colonel Gasser was born in 1876 in Ohio, was commissioned in the 2nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, served in the Spanish-American War and World War I, served as Deputy chief of Staff of the Army from 1939 to 1940, retired as a major general in 1940, was recalled to active service in 1941 to head the War Department Manpower Board, retired again in 1945, died in 1955, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Lieutenant Colonel Oliver S. Wood commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from March to June 1934 (3 months).

Colonel Wood was born in Arkansas in 1882, received a BA from the University of Arkansas, was commissioned from the US Military Academy in 1908, retired as a colonel, died in 1972, and is buried at Fort Smith, Arkansas. He was a co-author of Military Science and Tactics: Sophomore Course (Infantry, Vol II) for ROTC instruction in 1921.



Colonel Samuel T. Mackall commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from June 1934 to February 1936 (21 months).

Colonel Mackall was born in 1880 in Maryland, received an AB degree from St John's College, was commissioned in 1901 by direct appointment; served in the Philippine Insurrection; headed the intelligence staffs of the 26th Division and VI Corps in World War I; died in 1937 while heading the War Department's Military Intelligence Division as a colonel, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Six officers who served with him in the 31st Infantry, including his predecessor, were his pallbearers.



Colonel Charles S. Hamilton commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from February 1936 to February 1938 (24 months).

Colonel Hamilton was born in 1882 in Wisconsin; was commissioned from the ranks while a coast artillery sergeant; served on General Pershing's staff during the Mexican Expedition in 1916; served during World War I; retired as a colonel in Washington, DC; died in 1968. He was a member of the American Philatelic Society Hall of Fame.



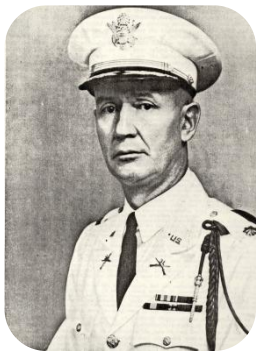
Colonel William A. Alfonte commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from February to October 1938 (8 months).

Colonel Alfonte was born in 1877 in Indiana, was commissioned from the ranks in 1901 and served with one of his predecessors, Colonel Samuel T. Mackall, on the staff of the 26th Division as a Signal officer during World War I. He retired as a colonel, died in 1961, and is buried in Fortville, Indiana.



Colonel Jesse C. Drain commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from October 1938 to July 1940 (21 months).

Colonel Drain was born in 1883 in Pennsylvania, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1907, served in World War I, Commanded the Panama Canal Mobile Force during World War II, retired in 1945 as a brigadier general on the War Department Manpower Board, died in 1974, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.



Lieutenant Colonel Constant L. Irwin commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from July to November 1940 (4 months) as interim commander while

awaiting the arrival of Colonel Jones. Afterward he served as General MacArthur's G-3.

Colonel Irwin was born in 1892, served in World War I and World War II, retired in 1944 as a brigadier general, died in 1977, and is buried at Colma, California.

Colonel Albert M. Jones commanded the 31st Infantry in the Philippines from November 1940 to December 1941 (12 months).



Colonel Jones was born in 1890 in Massachusetts, was commissioned by direct appointment in 1911, served during World War I, promoted to brigadier general just as the war began and commanded the 51st Division of the Philippine Army and later I Philippine Corps at Bataan where he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and 2 awards of the Silver Star. He went into captivity when the Bataan Force was surrendered in April 1942 and was the only general officer on the Death March. He was subsequently taken to the Hoten POW Camp in Manchuria. He retired in 1952 as a major general, and died in 1967 at Letterman Army Hospital, and is buried at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Francisco, California.

Colonel Charles Lowndes Steel commanded the 31st Infantry in combat in the Philippines from December 1941 to March 1942 (3 months). He became incapacitated with malaria and was relieved for medical reasons.

Colonel Steel was born in 1891 in Virginia, served in World War I; became Chief of Staff of Philippine II Corps on Bataan after leaving the 31st Infantry, went into captivity when Bataan was surrendered; survived the sinking of the hell ship Oryoku Maru; was taken to Mukden, Manchuria; retired as a brigadier general; died in 1959; and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia. His son and grandson (both deceased) also served as Army officers.



Lieutenant Colonel Jasper Ewing Brady IV commanded the 31st Infantry in combat in the Philippines from March to April 1942 (1 month) when he went into captivity with the regiment. He continued to exercise what little authority he could as a prisoner of War, compiling a roster of all men who served in the regiment from December 1941 to April 1942, including their rank, service number, home of record, next of kin address. The roster when and where members died or were wounded in action, and what awards, promotions, or disciplinary action was pending at the time of the regiment's surrender. He died aboard one of the Japanese hell ships departing the Philippines in 1944. His wife, Ann, received the

roster after the war and annotated the names of those who died in captivity.

Colonel Brady was born in 1897 in Michigan; was a first sergeant when commissioned from the ranks in 1918; and is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing at Manila American Cemetery, Philippines. His body was never recovered.

