

## 4<sup>th</sup> US Battles/Campaigns

Siege Of Yorktown  
Battle of Mechanicsville  
Gaines Mills  
Battle of Turkey Bridge  
Malvern Hill  
Battle Of Groveton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bull Run  
Antietam  
Shepherdstown  
Fredericksburg  
Chancellorsville  
Gettysburg  
Wilderness  
Spotsylvania Courthouse  
North Anna River  
Totopotomy Creek  
Pamunkey River  
Cold Harbor  
Bethesda Church  
Siege Of Petersburg

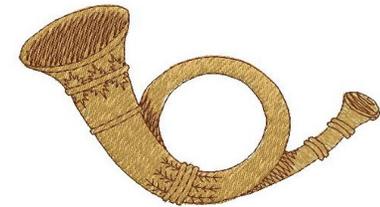


*A PROUD MEMBER OF THE  
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**4TH US INFANTRY REGIMENT  
COMPANY I  
1861-1865**



*Infantry Private.*

## Short History of the 4<sup>th</sup> US

Initially, the 4<sup>th</sup> US was formed in 1808 in response to a threatened Indian offensive. Under the command of General William Harrison, the 4<sup>th</sup> and local militia routed the Indians at Tippecanoe.

The 4<sup>th</sup> officially became a regiment of the US Army in the early days of 1812. In that war the 4<sup>th</sup> participated in the Siege of Detroit and the Battle of Plattsburgh. Afterwards, the regiment saw service during the Creek and Seminole campaigns.

In the Mexican War, the 4<sup>th</sup> fought in the Battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and Monterrey. It saw further fighting in the Siege of Vera Cruz, the Battle of Cerro Gordo, Molino del Rey and the storming of Chapultepec. It was here that a young officer of the 4<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Ulysses S. Grant, distinguished himself at the San Cosme Church and at the San Cosme Gate.

After the Mexican War, the 4<sup>th</sup> was transferred to keep watch on the Indians and settlers in the Pacific Northwest. Different companies occupied various forts such as Fort Yamhill, Fort Yuma, and Fort Steilacoom. Officers commanding the various companies and forts would make names for themselves in the coming Civil War. These would be men like Major Robert Buchanan, Captain Phil Sheridan, and Lieutenants George Crook and August Kautz. Except for some small skirmishes, things remained relatively quiet until the autumn of 1859 when the United States almost went to war with Great Britain over the San Juan Island or Pig Island Incident. However war was averted when much cooler heads prevailed.

When the Civil War broke out the 4<sup>th</sup> was given orders to return to the East Coast. The men of the 4<sup>th</sup> boarded ships at San Pedro Harbor at what was then the little town of Los Angeles, California. Upon the regiment's return the 4<sup>th</sup> served in the defenses of Washington until March of 1862 when it was assigned to General George Sykes'

Division of the V Corps (then under the command of Major General Nathaniel Banks).

The 4<sup>th</sup> took part in just about every major battle or campaign in the Eastern Theater: Gaines Mills, Malvern Hill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville.

At Gettysburg, the regiment fought on the second day of the battle in the now famous Wheatfield. They were attacked on the front and flanks by Wofford's Brigade of Georgians which had fought down the Wheatfield Road. The 4<sup>th</sup> took many casualties and had to leave the field along with the rest of the Regular Brigade which had a casualty rate of almost 40%. The orderly withdrawal demonstrated the cool professionalism of the Regular soldier prompting one General to say post-war...

*"At Bull Run the Regulars taught the army how to fight. At Gettysburg, the Regulars taught the army how to die."*

After Gettysburg, the regiment took part in the Army of the Potomac's dogging of the Confederates in their retreat back in to Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. In mid-August, the regiment was detached from duty and was sent to help patrol the streets of Manhattan in the aftermath of the Draft Riots. The 4<sup>th</sup> then did garrison duty at various posts in and around New York Harbor like Fort Jay (Governor's Island), Fort Wood (Bedloe's Island) and Fort Wadsworth.

In the spring of 1864 it was recalled to combat duty for Grant's Overland Campaign fighting in the battles of The Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House. At the Battle of Cold Harbor, the 4<sup>th</sup>, along with other units, were temporarily attached to Major General Thomas Crittenden's First Division of Major General Ambrose Burnside's IX Corps.

The regiment was returned to the V Corps and took part in the Battle of Bethesda Church and the Siege of Petersburg.

It was during the siege that General Grant noticed the regiment's ranks had been so depleted, that he removed them from combat. The remaining 100-plus men did garrison duty at City Point and then served as Grant's Headquarters Guard until the close of the war.

At the close of hostilities, the regiment was sent to Richmond where it was assigned provost duty. It served in that capacity until it was sent back to the defenses in NY Harbor in July.

## About Us

The 4<sup>th</sup> US Infantry Regiment, Company I, is one of the oldest continuing Civil War reenacting units within the hobby. It has its beginnings in 1979 and is a member of The United States Volunteers; the largest organization of its kind.

The unit is based in the Mid-Atlantic area and seeks those with an interest in reenacting and portraying the United States Regular Army soldier during the period of 1861-1865. Those with the ability to function as drummers and fifers are also welcome. We also encourage family participation in our camps in period attire.

The unit pays homage to the men and that period in our nation's history by:

- Participating in Civil War reenactments; large and small. It has been a part of many of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events and will continue to play a role in them...on the field and in the planning.
- Supporting the preservation of historical sites; large and small.
- Focuses on the living history aspect of the hobby; educating the general public by demonstrating the various aspects of the life of the common foot soldier of the Federal Army.

For more information please go to our website at [www.4thusregularinfantry.com](http://www.4thusregularinfantry.com).