

WEEK IN REVIEW

JANUARY 1, 1904: Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 112th Medical Battalion is organized as the Medical Department, Ohio National Guard.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Just two days before the end of 1898, the 6th Ohio Volunteer Infantry set sail for Cuba from Charleston, S.C. The men experienced the New Year aboard a ship in the middle of the ocean. This description of the events is taken from *The Official History of the Ohio National Guard and Ohio Volunteers*, published in 1901. The 148th Infantry Regiment perpetuates the lineage of the 6th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

"General John C. Bates had been assigned to the Department of Santa Clara and Colonel McMaken's command was ordered to accompany him on the U.S. Transport Minnewaska, which sailed from Charleston, bearing General Bates and staff and the Sixth Ohio to the new scene of their activities. They left the port of Charleston, Dec. 30, 1898, and were out of sight of land before the expiration of that eventful year. The celebration of the event of the dawning of a new year under such circumstances was a novelty that few on board had ever experienced before. Amid the clanging of the ship's bells and the discharge of fireworks a new ringlet was woven into the hoary locks of Father Time as the transport plowed its way through midocean towards Cienfuegos. At midday on Jan. 2, 1899, the Minnewaska was off Santiago, and the first American flag seen since their departure was sighted floating above the turrets of Morro Castle. Upon the afternoon of the same day the boys feasted their eyes upon the wrecks of the Spanish fleet strewn along the Cuban shores and reflected upon the exciting scenes and important events of a few months previous. The transport entered the harbor of Cienfuegos and anchored off the city upon the afternoon of January 3rd. The next morning the regiment disembarked and marched through Cienfugeos to their camp four miles beyond."



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