The 8th Cavalry Regiment was constituted July 20, 1866, in the Regular Army. Organized Sept. 21, 1866, at Angel Island, CA, and assigned to 15th Cavalry Division December 1917 through May 1918, the unit was then assigned to 1st Cavalry Division Sept. 13, 1921. The distinctive insignia consists of the principal charges and motto of the coat of arms. The eight mullets show the regimental number and cavalry tradition of the pierced mullet to the rowel of a spur. This is further indicated by the horse.