

At War's End: Coast conditions: Indians, posts etc. Maps

War of Rebellion

Series I, Vol L, Pt II, pp 1290-

Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal. Dec.

8, 1865 Major-General H. W. Halleck, commanding

Command of the Military Division of the Pacific comprising the
Departments of California and the Columbia)

to ~~Kianta~~ Lieutenant-General Grant, Commanding Armies of the
United States, Washington, D.C.

General

In compliance-- I inclose maps of the Departments of
California and the Columbia on which are marked the several posts
at present occupied by troops of this military division. Remarks for
explanation

Coast defenses-- "I shall keep some kind of ~~garrisons~~, however small
they may be... I shall therefore keep garrisons in the several
forts in the Bay of San Francisco and at the mouth of the Columbia
River.

There is at the present time a company of artillery at San
Diego for the purpose of enforcing our neutrality laws.
When the Mexican difficulty shall be solved there will be no necessity
for a garrison at that place.

At Wilmington, Los Angeles County, a very large and expensive
~~depot and~~ depot and barracks have been established. I can perceive no
good reason for the enormous expense which have been incurred at that
place; but as the establishment exists, it will probably be best to
keep it until some other base for supplying troops in Arizona is
determined on.

Until the boundary question in regard to San Juan Island is definitely

settled it will be necessary to keep a garrison at that place. A company of artillery is now stationed there. There is also a small garrison at Fort Steilacoom.

Ports Townsend and Bellingham are without garrisons. The territory bordering Puget Sound is now so thickly settled by the whites that no danger is apprehended from Indian depredations, except in canoes from the British Possessions on the north. These parties usually land at places distant from an military post, commit their robberies and murders and are off in their canoes before their presence is known. To prevent these there should be a small naval steamer kept cruising in the straits and sound.

I see no use of military posts on these waters except at points where permanent fortifications are to be established. Probably the points to be so defended are Port Discovery, Point Defiance, Deception Passage, and perhaps Admiralty (p 1291) Head. Should a Navy Yard be established in these waters perhaps it may be necessary to fortify some other points for its defenses. It is important that the proper localities for these purposes be selected and reserved or purchased without delay. The value of these lands and the difficulty of purchasing the sites are rapidly increasing, and in a few years they can be secured only at enormous cost.

Moreover, all expenses incurred for military posts in that vicinity should be made on sites which are to be permanently occupied. Those at Steilacoom, Fort Bellingham, and probably Port Townsend should be abandoned as useless expense..

Indian frontier

In regard to the protection of the Indian frontier on the east, the policy should be to keep the troops in advance, retain them in rear of the white settlements, and to make the posts as temporary

and cheap as possible.

These should be maintained as depots of supplies for expeditions against the Indians and the temporary camps which may be established in their country. As these camps will be continually changing, they should be of the most temporary character. Tents and huts constructed by the troops will usually be sufficient.

Department of the Columbia

The most northerly post on this frontier line is Fort Colville; next is Fort Lapwai, near Lewiston. Probably it will be necessary to establish an intermediate ~~camp~~ temporary post in the vicinity of Coeur d'Alene Lake or Mission, and perhaps another pretty well up the Salmon River and betwixt the Lapwai Mountains and Fort Boise. The latter post will serve as a center of operations to Fort Hall on the east and to near the southern boundary of Idaho Territory.

Camp Lyon serves as a temporary protection to the mining operations on Owyhee River, but it will probably be necessary to establish a post near the headwaters of that river, say somewhere near the northern boundary of Nevada or near Pete's Butte, so as to connect with Fort Ruben and the settlements on Humboldt River.

All Indians west of this line should be removed or placed in reservations so as to prevent their ~~bad~~ marauding expeditions upon the white settlements. Much of this can be accomplished in the course of the coming year.

There is a belt of rather poor country extending from Fort Klamath to the Owyhee River over which the Indians pass on their robbing expeditions into Southern Oregon and Northern California and to receive and purchase horses stolen by the local tribes.

In order to check these depredations Camp Polk, Watson, Currey, Wright and Alvord were ~~also~~ established in Oregon and Fort Bidwell and Camps McDermit, Summit Lake, Snake Creek and Dunsmuir in California.

These are all of a very temporary character and when the more advanced line is completed most of them can be dispensed with.

Forts Lamhill and Walla Walla can probably be dispensed with very soon, and Fort Dalles immediately, p 1292

It is not possible to conceive any military necessity for the enormous expenditures at Fort Dalles.

Fort Vancouver serves as the depot for the supply of the Department of the Columbia, and the military establishment at The Dalles seems more like a private speculation than a public necessity.

Also covered
California
Arizona

Troops
p 1293.

urgent necessity of cavalry.

We have no mounted troops in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Nevada and in California and Arizona only the California volunteers, who regard their term of enlistment as having expired and wish to be mustered out.

...You will bear in mind that when your orders for mustering out the volunteers are completely carried out, the only forces in this entire division will be the Second Artillery and Ninth and Fourteenth Infantry.

The Ninth is only a small regiment. The artillery will be required to garrison the forts on the coast, and the Ninth Infantry in the interior of California and Nevada.

That leaves only one battalion of the Fourteenth Infantry

the Department of the Columbia and two battalions for Arizona.

The hostile character of the Indians in the latter Territory requires more posts and larger garrisons than in Oregon, Washington and Idaho; but circumstances may render it necessary to reenforce the troops in the latter department.

With the present forces in the division it would be difficult to do this without seriously exposing other districts to Indian depredations.

A regiment of cavalry would do much to relieve this embarrassment.

Irvin McDowell, major general commanding dept.

pps 1288-89-90

Headquarters Dept of San Francisco, Dec. 6, 1865

Lieut Col Robert N. Scott, etc. Asst. adjt Gen Mil Div
of the Pacific, San Francisco

Sir: I have to report that in compliance with General Orders No. 10 from division headquarters, "to immediately muster out of service such volunteers as could be dispensed with from my command," the following corps were ordered to be mustered out:

The Sixth California Volunteer Infantry, the Eighth California Infantry, six companies of the Fourth California Volunteer Infantry; the three companies of Nevada Infantry, the two companies of Nevada cavalry serving in the department; the battalion of four companies Native California Cavalry.

Of these the field and staff and seven companies of the Sixth Regiment have been mustered out (October 25 and 31) Two of the companies of the Sixth were at Summit Lake beyond the Sierra Nevada on the road to Idaho.

A small company of the Ninth U.S. Infantry (regulars) is on the march to relieve them and when last year from Wash was beyond the Sierras.

Another of the companies of the Sixth Regiment was at Camp Lincoln near the Indian reservation on Smith River; a company of the Ninth has gone up to relieve it, but the storms were so heavy that the steamer could not bring the volunteers back.

...we have lost one of our best officers, Lieutenant Colonel McDowell. McDermitt, the district commander and several men. In a recent engagement on the route from Nevada to Idaho an entire band of the hostile Bannocks were almost totally annihilated, 120 having been killed. To withdraw troops from these distant posts this winter and to abandon the campaign in Arizona, concerning which so much expectation has been excited and on which so many interests and so many lives depend, would be very disastrous to the country, and I trust it may not be done...

etc. Irvin McDowell.

p 1272

June 20 00 30, 1865 stats showed:

District of Oregon 56 officers, 1,019 men, 1,397 total aggregate; 1,902 aggregate present and absent. 27 heavy artillery, 26 field pieces.

~~Order 100~~

r

total 270 officers, 5,551 men, 7,188 aggregate present; 8,972 aggregate ~~Ops~~ present and absent; 267 heavy pieces of artillery; 45 field pieces.

District of Oregon: June 30, 1865

Col. Reuben F. Maury

Capt Philip A. Owen at Fort Vancouver.

Maj Lyman Missell, San Juan Island with 9th U.S. Company C.

Capt William S. Powell, Fort Walla Walla, 1st Oregon, Companies D and E.

Capt. Clark P. Crandall, Fort Steilacoom, 1st Oregon Company U

Capt. Ferdinand O. McCown, Fort Colville, 1st Oregon, Company L

Capt. William Kelly, Fort Clamath, 1st Oregon Cavalry, Company U; 1st Oregon, Company I

Capt. Henry C. Small, Camp Watson, Oreg. X 1st Oregon Cavalry, company G and 1st Oregon, Company H.

Capt. George A. Glasure, Fort Dalles, 1st Oregon Company K; 1st Washington Territory, Company H.

~~Footnote~~ Capt. William H. Thompson. Fort Boise, Idaho Ter. 1st Oreg. Cavalry (four companies), enroute from Fort Vancouver and Fort Dalles; 1st Oregon Companies U and V; enroute from Fort Hoskins, Oreg. 1st Oregon Territory Company I.

Capt. Lyman S. Scott, Fort Yamhill, Oreg. Fourth California, Company D.

Fort Stevens, Oreg. Capt. Gaston D'Artois, 8th California, Company B.

Major William H. Jordan, Cape Disappointment, 8th California, Company A and 9th United States, Company A
Capt. William J. Matthews, Fort Lapwai, Idaho, 1st Oregon Cavalry, Company F

(War of the Rebellion Series I, Vol I, in 2 parts, Part II, Wash .D.C. '97.

(Ranging off reservation right.)

Relander, Click

p. 83

Headquarters, District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. August 20, 1862

Commanding Officer

Fort Walla Walla, Wash. Ter.:

Colonel: The general commanding the district made known to you verbally when you were here, his wishes that you should aid the p.84 Indian Department in requiring the Indians to reside on the Umatilla Reservation, so as not to interfere with the white settlers, and he approves entirely (as before communicated) of your prompt action in reference to the Indians at the Grande Ronde. Of course, proper discretion will always be exercised in reference to the visits at the right season of the Indians to places outside of their reservation for the purpose of fishing, hunting, and digging roots--that privilege being especially reserved for them by treaty. Herewith I enclose to you a copy of instructions issued today to the officer commanding the detachment at the Umatilla Agency, directing him to obey your instructions whenever you shall think proper to give him any orders. I also inclose a description of the boundaries of the Umatilla Reservation as given in the treaty concluded June 9, 1855, and ratified by the Senate on the 8th of March, 1859 (not found)

I am, very respectfully your obedient servant,

Federick Moars

First Lieutenant Ninth Infy. U.S. Army Act. Asst.
Adjt. Gen.

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. Aug 20, '62

Commanding Officer, Umatilla Reservation:

Sir: The general commanding the district desires me to say that whenever

the commanding officer at Fort Walla Walla shall think it desirable to give you any instructions, you are hereby directed to obey them. Besides, the protection of the agency the chief object of your being placed there is to assist the Indian Department in requiring the Indians to reside upon the reservation so as not to disturb any settlement by the whites outside the reservation. Of course, proper discretion will always be exercised in reference to the visits at the right season of the Indians to places outside their reservation for the purpose of fishing, hunting and digging roots--that privilege being especially (reserved) for them by treaty.

I am sir, very respectfully your obedient servant

Frederick Mearns.

First Lieut. Ninth Infy. U.S. Army Act. Asst. Adj. Gen.

[p. 83]

Headquarters Department of the Pacific
San Francisco, Cal. Aug 20, 1862

Brig. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas. Adjutant General U.S. Army. Wash, D.C.

General: On the 29th of April last I assigned Bvt. Maj. Pinkney Lugenbeel, Ninth Infantry, to duty according to his brevet rank, subject to the approval of the War Department. I telegraphed to you on the same day asking the Department to approve the assignment, but I have as yet received no answer. Major Lugenbeel is stationed at Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. at which point volunteer troops have been assembled under ordered officers of rank of major, but without any of the necessary knowledge or experience for commanding that important post. Under these circumstances I made the assignment of Major Lugenbeel, an officer of long service and of great administrative ability and if not inconsistent with the rules of the Department, I would again ask for approval.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant
G. Wright. Brigadier General U.S. Army
Commanding.

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Adjutant General's Office

October 2, 1862

Brig. Gen. G. Wright U.S. Volunteers, San Francisco, Calif.

Assignments to brevet rank as in case of Major Lugenbeel are not now sanctioned. Your action in case of Mullan's escort is approved.

L. Thomas Adjutant-general.

Click Melander,

(Fort Umpqua, Ore.)

p- 86

Salem, Oregon, August 22, 1862

Brigadier-General Alvord.

Commanding District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

General: I enclose herewith please find a communication received at this office from J.W. Drew, esq. relative to the reoccupation of Fort Umpqua by U.S. Troops. Upon receipt of this letter I did not deem the subject matter of sufficient importance to call your attention to it. By recent advices, however, from the Coast reservation, I learn that many of the Indians are leaving the reserve and wandering toward their former country down the coast. Sub-agent Brooks, who has without the aid of troops to restrain these Indians and keep them where they belong. In view of these facts I have respectfully to request that a detachment of troops be permanently stationed at Fort Umpqua. The Indians are at present prevented from leaving the reservation in greater numbers by the presence of a small detachment of troops temporarily stationed there.

I am etc.

Wm. H. Rector

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Ore.

P. 87. Fort Umpqua, Ore. July 29, 1862. Hon W.H.Rector.

Sir: The commanding general of the Department of the Pacific has withdrawn from this military post the detachment of California volunteers who have recently occupied it, and I am informed that an order for the abandonment of the post has been issued. I presume that you consider the occupancy of Fort Umpqua quite as indispensable for the protection of the interests of the Indian Department as is Fort Hoskins or Fort Yamhill, and I call your attention to what I conceive

to be a very unwise policy of the commanding general of the Department of the Pacific, in the hope that you will exercise your influence with that officer, or with the district commander (General Alvord) to have this post reoccupied with U.S troops. A full company may not be needed here, but a detachment of troops is most certainly required to be kept here for the present. Quarters, barracks and supplies of subsistence are here in abundance ; indeed there are good comfortable quarters for two full companies and subsistence sufficient to last two companies for six months. You are aware that the post is located within eight miles of the southern boundary of the Coast reservation.

I am etc.

Joseph W. Drew.

(Dreamer)

p. 92

Headquarters District of Oregon.

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter Aug. 28, 1862

William H. Rector, Supt. of Indian Affairs, Salem, Oreg.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the reception of your letter of the 22nd instant on the subject of the reoccupation of Fort Umpqua and inclosing a letter of J.W. Drew, esq. on that subject. You will remember that I explained to you when here that Umpqua and Rogue River valleys were not in the district of Oregon, and thus General Wright at San Francisco is the proper authority to whom your application should have been addressed. When I was at Fort Umpqua on the 14th of April last, Mr. E.P. Drew, who was formerly Indian agent, said that the detachment of troops there was of no use; that there was no danger of the Indians returning via that route down the coast. Those who had returned had been treated so sternly by Mr. Ticknor, at Port Orford, that there was little likelihood of a repetition of the movement. I quoted his language often afterward as recommending

the evacuation of Fort Umpqua.

You say, "The Indians are at present prevented from leaving the reservations in greater numbers by the presence of a small detachment of troops temporarily stationed there." This is very satisfactory, for the truth is the post was entirely evacuated two months since.

The scout Captain Currey to the Grande Ronde Valley resulted in a very satisfactory manner. In self-defense Captain Currey was compelled on the 14th instant to fire on the Indians, and the Dreamer and three others were killed. The effect will be very salutary on all our Indian affairs in that vicinity. I inclose herewith a copy of my instructions (See page 83) on the 20th instant to Colonel Steinberger, commanding p 93

officer at Fort Walla Walla in reference to his aiding your department in keeping the Indians from settling outside the reservation. Similar instructions went to the officer commanding the detachment at the Umatilla Reservation.

I am sir etc.

Benj. Alvord.

Brigadier-General U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District.

P.S.—A gentleman from Fort Umpqua who left when the troops left there, said that Mr. E.P. Drew asserted that he would make a two-company post of that ere long.

P. 95. Headquarters, Dept. of the Pacific, S.F. sept. 1, 1862
Capt. George B. Currey, first Oregon Cavalary volunteers.

Through Brig. Gen. Alvord, commanding, District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash Ter.) Sir—The general commanding the department has perused with much interest your report of operations in Grande Ronde Valley (See Part 1, P. 164) and desires me to express his satisfaction at and approval of the handsome manner in which the duties assigned you were executed. R.C. Drum, Assistant Adjutant Gen.

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Columbia Navigation. Boats.

Click Relander

p. 96... Headquarters, District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.
Sept. 1, 1862.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Wash. D.C.

Sir: I desire to commend to your attention the importance of having built for the Columbia River an iron-clad vessel of the character of the Monitor. If it is true that your Department is having one built in San Francisco, I trust that you will certainly have another constructed for this quarter. It should not draw more than twelve or fourteen feet of water. Not a dollar has ever been expended for fortifications either permanent or temporary, on this river. They will be the work of time, and no doubt will not be neglected. In the meantime one or two monitors here would be an urgent necessity on the breaking out of foreign war. One on Puget Sound as well as one in this river, would be desirable. There is near us at Esquimault Harbor, on Vancouver Island, a naval depot of the British Government, where several war vessels are always located. On account of the excellence of the harbor, admitting vessels of the larger draft, the climate very salubrious and inviting, being much assimilated to that of England, there is no doubt that the day will come when Esquimault Harbor will be the favorite post of the Pacific Squadron of the British Navy. These considerations cannot be overlooked in all the preparations we may make for a period of foreign war. This region is the most remote, the most exposed and therefore in some respects the most vulnerable to the increasing importance of Oregon and Washington Territory, where the frequent discovery of new gold fields is leading to constant accessions to the population and to the Commerce of the Columbia river. These discoveries will make the country more inviting to the enemy and doubtless impose additional motives for the Government to provide adequate defenses. I do not know that you need any further action of Congress to secure the object mentioned in this communication. But if it is needed, I desire

respectfully to urge upon your Department the propriety of obtaining such action at the earliest opportunity.

I remain etc.

Benj. Alvord

Brigadier General, U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District.

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(Nez Perce Reservation.)

p. 98. Office, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Olympia, Wash. Ter.
Sept. 3, 1862.

General Alvord, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

Sir: I am in receipt of information from Charles Hutchins, esq. Indian agent lately in charge of the Nez Perce Indians that the officer in command of the troops now stationed on the reservation has declined repeatedly to furnish the agent with the aid required by him to protect the Indians under his charge, according to treaty stipulations and to preserve the faith of the Government.

The present agent, J.W. Anderson, esq., has also written to me on the same subject, and informs me that he has had an interview with Major. Hinearson on the subject, who informs him as he had previously informed the former agent, that under the instructions which he had received from you, he did not consider himself authorized to interfere with any parties who might be either trespassing upon the agricultural or other grazing lands of the Indians or engaged in introducing intoxicating drinks at numerous points along the various streams, roads and by ways within the bounds of the reservation. I feel satisfied that your instructions in these respects must have been misunderstood and I have respectfully to ask that you will without delay issue such orders and give such instructions as will secure the speedy removal of every trespasser upon the agricultural and grazing lands of these Indians, and the enforcement of the intercourse act outside of Lewiston and the mining towns, these having been excepted from the strict provisions of the treaty by consent of the Indians themselves. Inclosed is a copy of amendment (Not forwarded as an enclosure) to the intercourse act, passed at the late session of Congress, to which your attention is respectfully asked. I have also inclosed a copy of the notice which has been posted at various points on the reservation besides being

published in nearly all the papers of the Territory. The importance of energetic and speedy action in the premises I doubt not will be apparent to you in view of the proposal to make a new treaty with these Indians.

If the Government does not keep faith under the present treaty but permits them to be robbed and murdered with impunity, what inducement is there for them to trust in the future?

What evidence can we furnish of our intention to comply with our solemn engagements? I am so thoroughly convinced of the necessity and importance of immediate and energetic action that I have further to ask that you would consider the propriety of strengthening the command by the addition of another company. Without some positive and speedy action in the premises there is reason to fear the enactment of a similar tragedy to that which has just occurred in Minnesota. There are traitors to the Government in that region who are only waiting a fit opportunity to create insurrection and raise the rebel standard. If your views in regard to duty do not correspond with those which I have herein expressed, or if a sufficient force to carry out the intentions of the treaty and the law cannot be furnished, I have to ask of you the speedy removal of the troops now there from the bounds of the reservation, feeling assured that their continuance as at present will have a most demoralizing effect. I have forwarded copies of the correspondence of Agents Hutchins and Anderson to the Department at Washington, that it may be seen upon whose shoulders these continued and outrageous violations rest.

I remain sir, your obedient servant

C. H. Hale

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

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(indorsement)

September 7, 1862

Mr. Hale called on me today and promises to write today to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, recalling all their complaints. He will say that he is perfectly satisfied with the instructions heretofore issued to Major Rinearson, commanding the troops at Camp Lapwai, near Lewiston, Wash. Ter.

Benj. Alvord.

Brigadier General Commanding District.

p. 103

Headquarters, District of Oregon
Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. Sept. 7, 1862.

Maj. J.S. Rinearson.

Commanding Officer, Camp Lapwai, near Lewiston, Idaho Ter.

Sir: The object of this communication is again to enforce upon you the necessity of protecting the Indians from the aggressions of the whites. I am today informed by C.H. Hale, esq. superintendent of Indian affairs for Washington Territory, that the Nez Perce Indians have given their consent to the occupation of Lewiston and the other mining towns by the whites, but outside those towns it is especially desirable to enforce the provisions of the treaties and the United States laws intended for the protection of Indians in the Indian country. I desire you to afford to the Indian Department every assistance in your power for that purpose. In cases in which white men have squatted on the agricultural and grazing lands belonging to the reservation, contrary to the wishes of the Indians and the express prohibition of the p 104

agent they should be removed. I desire you not to hesitate to break up any grogshops established in places which are evidently an encroachment upon the Indians and intended for the

for the sale of liquor to the Indians. When the letter was sent to you from these headquarters on the 30th ultimo, in answer to your letter of the 10th ultimo, I was not aware that the grogshops spoken of were in places regarded as an encroachment on the Indians. I am satisfied that the military authorities, upon the request of the Indian agent, will be justified in removing or destroying any fences, houses, or improvements which constitute aggressions upon the Indians. You may also be asked to assist the civil authorities or the Indian Department in the arrest of men who have committed crimes and offenses against the Indians. You will, of course, be expected to exercise a sound discretion in such cases, as I do not wish the military exercise a sound discretion in such cases, as I do not wish the military power used for any purpose of oppression. In any offense against the Indian intercourse act the military forces may in all practicable cases be employed to assist the Indian Department. See Section 23 of act of 30th of June, 1834. They can be removed by your orders to Walla Walla where they can be committed for trial before civil authority. If a U.S. commissioner resides on the reservation who has authority to commit, your action should be, so far as possible, in obedience to his mandate, or of the marshal or acting marshal of the Territory. As stated in my instructions of the 18th of July, I have a personal interest in the Nez Perce Indians, whose friendship for the whites has for years been so conspicuous and I shall therefore be much gratified if you can give them efficient aid and protection. Pray emit no fair opportunity of showing your wishes and intentions toward them. In any event which may possibly occur rendering a reinforcement desirable, you must apply to Col. J. Steinberger, commanding officer at Walla Walla for such aid, who has been instructed to furnish it. If he should himself at any time repair to your camp you will exhibit to him this letter, and also my instructions of 18th of July to the Indian Agent if you choose to do so. I am etc. Benj. Alvord. Brig. Gen, U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District. (Please send me, from time to time, reports in detail of your proceedings.)

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(Secessionists)
p.107-

General Headquarters, State of California , Adjutant General's
Office. Sacramento, Sept. 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. W.H. Halleck , General in Chief:

General: I have the honor on behalf of state authorities and the loyal
citizens of California to present (briefly) a statement of the condition
of affairs here. It is represented ^{and} ~~that~~ generally believed that there
is a secret organization in this State numbering from 20,000 to
30,000 men, leagued together for the overthrow of our Government,
and whose purpose it is if an opportunity should favor the scheme to
carry the State out of the Union. These men openly boast that their
sympathies are with the traitors of the South, and they are continually
defaming the Government from which they receive protection and whose
benefits they enjoy. They take pride in preaching their traitorous
sentiments among loyal men, which they have hitherto done with impunity
and do much to discourage enlistments. Loyal citizens have now no
protection from the insidts of these men, many of whom are wealthy and
influential , and U.S. soldiers have been shotdown in the streets of
our towns for protesting ~~and~~ against the free use of disloyal sentiments
in their presence and the probabilities are that the deserving
will go unwhipped of justice. The actions of this league are positive and
there is no immunity to loyal men in our community from insult and
wrong.

The power of our Government should be manifested at once here and the
union feeling of the masses fostered. If this is not done and our
armies should meet with any considerable reserves serious trouble
will be inaugurated on this coast. The loyal citizens of this State
are now organizing into military companies and are making daily

applications for arms and equipments. They are preparing to give their services to p 108

the State or National Government, but the State cannot equip them. Will the General Government aid us in this emergency? Will the General Government aid us to maintain the Constitution and assert the power of our Government? Will they give us arms and equipments to put into the hands of loyal men whose services can be commanded for any and every emergency? There are arms at the Benicia Arsenal which would be of great service to the State at this time. Now, general, if say 10,000 stand of muskets and accouterments of their equivalents in such other arms as might be required can be issued, I will guarantee that in three months we will have upon rolls of organized companies the name of a loyal citizen for every musket issued, who shall be preparing for service. Cannot this be done? This will be handed you by Brigadier General Ellis, to whom you are very respectfully referred for a corroboration of the statements contained herein. I do most respectfully urge you, general, to give this subject early consideration and action. The arms will be duly receipted for and returned after the war if you should so determine.

I am etc. Wm. C. Kibbe, Adjutant Gen. State of Calif.

Alcatraz Island, Cal. Sept. 10, 1862

Lieut. Col. R.C. Drum. Assistant Adjutant General Dept. of the Pacific, San Francisco.

Colonel: In view of the existing difficulties at home and the threatening aspect of our foreign affairs, I deem it my duty as the commander of this most important post, to call the attention of the commanding general to the condition of its defenses. At present the caponiere at the entrance of the fortification, defending the approach from the wharf, is occupied by the guard and prisoners; the latter being so numerous they entirely fill the casemate on the right

of the entrance, rendering it necessary that the guard should occupy the corresponding one on the left. For this reason the howitzers intended for the defense of this approach have never been mounted, nor can they be until some other arrangement is made for the care of the prisoners. I would therefore urge the immediate erection of a building suitable for this purpose. I have already called the attention of Lieut. Elliot, the engineer in charge, to this difficulty, and he has promised to apply for the necessary authority to erect a building but I would respectfully suggest that the delay involved in procuring this authority should, if practicable, be avoided, as this point is for several reasons the most vulnerable of the island. The only subsistence store-house is a small wooden building hastily constructed last summer by order of General Sumner, not large enough to contain a full supply for three months for the present garrison, the balance (of this supply) being stored outside the wall of the fortification, and in the event of any threatened danger this last building must necessarily be immediately destroyed. I would therefore earnestly suggest the immediate construction of suitable store houses capable of containing supplies for a garrison of 600 men for six months. Lieutenant Elliott has forwarded to Washington a proposition for supplying the post with water by means of pipes laid under water from the city of San Francisco. This plan may be successful, but I believe it open to serious objections, the most evident being the ease with which a besieging force might cut off the supply of water; moreover the delay necessary in obtaining authority from Washington should, in my opinion be avoided if possible. I therefore request that authority be granted for boring an artesian well. In the event of hostilities from any quarter the works now recommended will be absolutely necessary for a successful defense of the post, and I now therefore respectfully request that the commanding general will take them into immediate consideration. I am etc. William A. Winder, Capt. Third Art. Commanding.