

Johnson's Island, religion

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII

Sandusky City, Ohio, August 22, 1862

His Excellency Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War

Sir: We have near Sandusky, on an island called Johnson's Island a military prison where a certain number of Catholics are confined as prisoners of war. These poor misguided men would bear with resignation their well-deserved punishment if they only were allowed the consolation of a priest.

As far as bodily comfort is concerned they are treated with a care which does no or to a noble people. Couldn't the same comfort be granted to their souls? It cannot be, and I am sure, the intention of the Government which is now fighting for liberty to enslave the conscience of anybody. Prompted by these high considerations I humbly beg of Your Excellency to grant to the Catholic priests of Sandusky the permission of procuring to those poor men the consolations of their religion. The prison is under the command of Major Pierson.

Hoping a favorable answer, I am, of Your Excellency, the most humble and most obedient servant

I Molon

Catholic Priest of Sandusky and
appointed Chaplain of the 123^d Ohio Regiment.

Prisoner exchange (Procedure--situation)

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII, p 419

Office Commissary-General of Prisoners, Indianapolis, August 22,
1862

Maj. W. S. Pierson, Commanding Depot of Prisoners of War, Sandusky,
Ohio

Major: Col. W. A. Quarles of the Forty-second Tennessee Regiment, a
prisoner of war at the Sandusky depot will be exchanged for Col. P.
Kinney, Fifty-sixth Ohio Volunteers, and to this end you will grant to
Colonel Quarles a parole by which he will be bound to proceed via Saint
Louis to Vicksburg, Miss. and then report himself in person on or before
the 15th of September next to Capt. H. M. Lazelle, Eighth Infantry, U. S.
Army agent for delivery of prisoners of war or whoever may be doing this
duty. In the parole in addition to the ordinary restrictions you will
require the colonel to pledge himself that he will in no way directly
or indirectly by word or act give countenance or encouragement to
resistance to the authority of the United States, or do anything in any
way prejudicial to its interest.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Hoffman

Colonel Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners.

Belle Isle, prison

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII.

LaFayette Onondaga County, N.Y., August 25, 1862

His Excellency Governor Morgan: Dear Sir: Permit the war committee of the town of LaFayette to call your attention to the deplorable condition of our soldiers at Richmond confined on Belle Isle who at the time of the exchange of prisoners three weeks since were not able to walk to Aiken's Landing.

It is well known that the exposures on the island and the want of food caused much sickness and such prostration in many cases as to render it impossible for the prisoners--many of them--to march the distance required. Does not common humanity require that something should be done for their relief?

In arranging for the exchange was no provision made to bring away the sick and feeble? ...We believe that it is unparalleled in the history of civilized warfare that men who have fought nobly for their country and have been taken prisoners on the field of battle should be overlooked or uncared for in an exchange of prisoners, and should be left shelterless on an island, exposed to the vertical rays of the sun and scarcely food enough to keep them alive simply because of the expense or trouble of providing a conveyance for them...The object of this communication is to call your attention to the facts etc....

H.G. Andrews, E. Park, L. Baker,

Town War Committee of LaFayette.

Prisoners: Escape: Situation

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII p 486-488 (copied in part only)

Proceedings of a court of inquiry which convened at Alton, Ill, pursuant to the order Special Orders 207, War department Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, August 26, 1862

XV -By direction of the President a court of inquiry will assemble at Alton, Ill. the 3d day of September, 1862, to inquire into the circumstances of the escape of thirty-six prisoners of war from the military prison of Alton on or about the 25th day of July 1st... by order of the Secty of War, E.D. Cawensend, assistant adjutant-general...

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...there being no further evidence...the court find the following to be facts: That for some weeks prior to the escape of the prisoners of war ...a complete organization existed among them to escape, carried out in the most secret manner and with wonderful determination and fortitude. Ascending to the top of one of the brick ovens, crawling through a place scarcely large enough to admit a man, they first out through the brick archway of an oven, then through the masonry bed to the depth of at least eight feet, placing the debris in the vacant space around the oven or else carrying the pieces and scattering and concealing them elsewhere. Hence at a distance of three feet underground, with a spade and knives they burrowed in ground full of limestone and rock pebbles a distance of fifty feet an excavation of about 18 inches diameter, packing the removed earth and stones to the depth of about two feet on top of and behind the other ovens, securely concealed from view by the shed that covered the others. They then cut through the solid limestone wall underground and awaiting a dark and cloudy night made their escape one by one.

Johnson's Island.. Prisoner tricks...Guerrillas Situation

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII

Indianapolis, Ind. Aug. 26, 1862

Col. W. Hoffman, commissary-General of Prisoners

Colonel: I have the honor to report that 1,238 prisoners were forwarded on Saturday with Captain Lazelle, U.S. Army ; 773 on Sunday in charge of Captain Richardson, volunteers; 333 on Monday to Sandusky in charge of Lieutenant Lupton, volunteers.

I forwarded to Sandusky all prisoners that were on the miscellaneous rolls. Many of them were prisoners of war, isolated cases that had been sent here at different times and some who had arrived with the guerrillas.

I ascertained yesterday that some eight or ten guerrillas had succeeded in imposing upon me and being transferred to Cairo by answering to the names of dead men in some of the organized regiments. The rolls not being accurate it was an imposition easily practiced.

I could not prepare the rolls to forward the guerrillas on Sunday as directed. After all are forwarded as per roll there will be a few who are not on the rolls. Shall they be forwarded to Sandusky? ..

H.W. Freedley, Captain U.S. Army

prisoner exchange..situation..Maryland..Specific troops from Maryland
for story situation

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII, p 437

General Orders No. 118, War Dept. Adjt General's Office
Washington August 27, 1862

The following partial list of officers of the U.S. service who have
been exchanged as prisoners of war for prisoners taken in arms
against the United States is published for information of all concerned:

Brig. Gen J.F. Reynolds, U.S. volunteers for Brig. Gen Lloyd
Tilghman

Brig Gen. G.A. McCall U.S. volunteers for General S.B. Buckner.

Col. John R. Kenly, First Maryland Volunteers for Col ~~xxxxxx~~

~~xxx~~ Adolphus Heinman

Prisoner of War exchange (Procedure) (Situation)

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII

Office Commissary-General of Prisoners, Sandusky, Ohio, August 27,
1862

General E. Thomas, Adjutant-General U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

General: I have the honor to report that I have today directed the release of Col. W.A. Quarles, Forty-second Tennessee; Lieut. Col W.T. Avery, First Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi; Major J.R. Kavanaugh, Ninth Louisiana and Maj. J.S. Brown, Forty-sixth Tennessee, in exchange for Col. R. Kinney, Fifty-sixth Ohio Volunteers; Lieut. Col A.Y. Johnson, Second (Twenty-eighth) Kentucky Infantry, and Majors W.A. Coffee and F.W. Helveti, First Kentucky Cavalry.

Colonel Quarles has given his parole to report to the Confederate officer appointed to receive Confederate prisoners of war at or near Vicksburg on the 12th of September next, and the other Confederate officers are paroled to report at the same place on the 16th of September, on which day the exchange will be completed

Very respectfully, your obedient servant

W. Hoffman, Colonel Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners.

Prisoner Exchange Situation. Confederate Oath etc.

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII.

Benton Barracks, Mo. August 27, 1862

His Excellency E.M. Stanton:

Sir: We are among the paroled prisoners at these barracks who are awaiting their exchange. A roll of all of them is now being made out at these headquarters to be forwarded to Washington for exchange. We are included in those rolls, hence we transmit this writing to you in order that you may know our exact situation, hoping to receive justice from you. Our situation is as follows:

We were members of what was then the Thirteenth Regiment of Missouri Volunteers, commanded by Col. E. Peabody, taken prisoners at the surrender of Lexington, September 20, 1861 under Colonel Mulligan. We were held as prisoners two days and then released by taking an oath to---

Never take up arms again against the Southern Confederacy or the State of Missouri during the present war, under penalty of death if again taken.

Our officers were detained. We went to our homes and were afterwards ordered to repair to Saint Joseph to be discharged and on the 26th day of October, 1861 were mustered out of service and discharges given us. We were mustered out by Lieutenant Burnett, U.S. Army, according to Special Orders No. 304 Western Department.

Shortly afterwards an order was issued by Colonel Peabody for all to report to him immediately for service, stating that the regiment had been reinstated under Special orders 29, and all exchanged and all who did not return would be considered and treated as deserters.

Under that order we returned, some by force of arms. At the battle of Shiloh some of our regiment were taken prisoners again by the enemy, and six of them being recognized as having been taken at Lexington by General Price were shot. One member of Company E, aged sixtythree was made to dig his own grave and was then shot over it. General Price told one of the men that that was the way he would serve all who were at Lexington.

A few exchanges were distributed among some of the companies before the battle which did more harm than good. Member of Company I was slightly wounded on the morning of the 6th of April and when found after the battle had his head crushed and broken and one of those exchange papers pinned on his coat, that being the cause of death. Five others were treated the same way.

We then took steps to ascertain to a certainty whether we really had ever been exchanged as had been represented to us or not. After numerous and uncessing efforts we at length ascertained that a large portion of the regiment had not been exchanged. Having made our case known to the general commanding we were ordered by him to report here immediately as we supposed to again be discharged as exchanges do not help us in the least as they do not recognize those that have been given to our regiment. The majority of us were not sworn in again after we were discharged. We have been innocently and unknowingly violating our oath given at Lexington to General Price and have been serving in the field from last March until the 1st of August when we left Corinth for this place. We arrived here on the 4th instant.

James P. Newhard, first sergt. comdg. Company D, 4th Battalion, paroled prisoners.

Hdqrs. Twenty-Fifth Missouri Volunteers, Pilot Knob, Mo. September 18, 1862 These men reported to duty under Special Orders No. 29 Adjutant-

General's Office, Washington, February 26, 1862, which has since been determined by the War Department to have been illegal. I do not want any of these men to return to this regiment unless they do so willingly and will consent to do their duty.

Chester Harding Jr.

Colonel, Twenty-fifth Missouri Volunteers

Johnson's Island. Spy

War of Rebellion , Series II, Vol. VII

Officer Commissary-General of Prisoners, Detroit, Michigan, Aug. 29, 1862
Cap. W.M. Lazelle, U.S. Army, agent for delivery of prisoners of war,
Vicksburg, Miss.

Capt. Dr. J.F. Dixon , surgeon, Fifth Tennessee Cavalry , was unconditionally released from the Mandusky depot under General Orders No. 60, on the 23rd of June and was subsequently arrested within our lines under circumstances which subjected him to the charge of being a spy and he was sent to Camp Chase. From that camp he was improperly sent by the commanding officer with prisoners of war to be exchanged.

I have telegraphed to have him detained at Cairo, but should this fail you will hold him under the charge of being a spy not subject to exchange and remand him under guard to the Mandusky depot. Should any prisoners of war held by the Confederate Army be offered to you by their agent for the exchange you will receive them, giving the necessary receipts and order them to Camp Chase.

W. Hoffman, Colonel, Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners.

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Hoffman to Maj W.S. Pierson

(incompletely copied)...

Col. Quarles will be permitted to go via Saint Louis and Cairo and Major Brown via Louisville and Cairo by the river, unless authorized by the commander of the district of Kentucky to go via Paris, Tenn.

The other officers will go directly to Cairo and thence by the river to Vicksburg. Let the parole be full to avoid detriment to the United States.

etc.

Office Commissary General of Prisoners, Sandusky, Ohio, August 27, 1863
Maj. W.S. Pierson, commanding Depot of Prisoners of War, Sandusky, Ohio
Major: The Confederate prisoners of war now at the Sandusky depot will as soon as practicable be transferred via Cairo, Ill to Vicksburg, Miss. for exchange. They will be prepared to leave at 6 o'clock on Friday morning, 29th, and will be accompanied by a guard of one company. All will be provided with three days' rations.

You will have duplicate rolls of the prisoners prepared which will embrace all present, all on parole, and all who may be left behind sick or otherwise, with appropriate remarks accounting for the absentees. You will see that these rolls are complete and accurately made up and will put your certificate to this effect on the back of them.

They will be placed in the hands of the officer commanding the guard, who will deliver them and the prisoners on his arrival at Vicksburg

to Capt. H.M. Lazelle, Eighth Infantry, U.S. Army, agent for the delivery of prisoners of war, to whom he will report for further orders. You will also place in the hands of the commander of the guard all moneys belonging to prisoners that may be in your possession with a certified account showing the amount due each individual, which money and the account will be delivered to Captain. Lazelle.

You will instruct the commander of the guard to be very careful that none of his charge escape by the way and that they are not interfered with in any way at stopping places on the route.

On his arrival at Cairo he will report to the commanding officer and request that the company may be relieved from its duties as guard to prisoners by a detail from that post. On being relieved he will turn over to the officer who relieves him his instructions and all papers and moneys with which he may be intrusted and take receipts therefor. He will then return to the station.

Direct your quartermaster to provide the necessary transportation taking that route which will require the fewest changes of cars.

Those prisoners who wish to take the oath of allegiance will be permitted to do so and will then be discharged.

IMPORTANT (SITUATION ABOVE)

Duplicate rolls of all so discharged will be prepared and certified to by yourself, one copy to be sent by the Adjutant-General at Washington and the other to the commissary-general of prisoners at Detroit.

Such prisoners will receive any money in your hands belonging to them. Those who belong to Tennessee regiments will be furnished with transportation to Nashville, Tenn. on their giving their parole to report to Governor Johnson. Very respectfully etc. W. Hoffman.

Ship Island

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII

Headquarters Department of the Gulf, New Orleans, August 30, 1862

Lieut-Colonel Hesseltine, commanding forces at Ship Island

Sir: You will release the Spanish prisoner named Mina now in confinement at Ship Island and forward him by first opportunity to report himself at these headquarters.

You will also furnish as soon as possible a list of all the prisoners now confined on Ship Island with as full an account of the cause of their detention as is possible for you to make out.

This is a matter of necessity and should be attended to as soon as possible, and such a list must hereafter be returned to these headquarters on the 1st and 15th of each month.

By order of Major-General Butler, R.S. Davis, captain and acting assistant adjutant-general.

Baltimore, police duties

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII p. 475

General Orders No. 30, Hdqrs. Eighth Army Corps, Middle Department,
Baltimore, September 1, 1862

W.A. Van Nostrand, city marshal of Baltimore, is this day appointed civil provost-marshal for the Eighth Army Corps, Middle Department subject only to the orders of the commanding general.

As provost-marshal he will have charge of all political prisoners arrested or confined until disposed of by order of the commanding general to whom the marshal will report daily all prisoners arrested, with the charges and specifications against them.

As many persons have been arrested and confined upon frivolous charges and others upon rumor of suspicion, no citizen or other person not a soldier within the limits of this department will hereafter be arrested or confined upon charges of disloyalty or treasonable practices unless the charges and specifications shall have first been submitted in writing to the provost-marshal setting forth in what respect and at what time he may have been disloyal or guilty of treasonable practices, and the truth of which attested under the solemnity of an oath by the person preferring them, and no such accused person or prisoner in this department will be held by any provost-marshal, civil or military, or commandant of post under the control of the commanding general until after the charges as above described and attested shall have been transmitted to him for his action and orders in the case.

The military and civil provost-marshals shall actively and vigilantly co-operate in preserving peace and order of the city under special instructions to be given from time to time by the commanding general. The

duties of the first will in general be limited to the military stationed in and about Baltimore , and of the second to civil persons, but both will aid each other when necessary in the discharge of the duties required of them.

John E. Wool, major-general
commanding.

Prisoners; Execution (details) Situations

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII, p 481

Headquarters Northeast Missouri Division, Macon City, Mo., Sept 2, 1862

Major Caldwell: You will dispose of the prisoners as below directed in each case. The execution will be ~~made~~ shooting to death, and I desire that it may be done publicly and with due form and solemnity inasmuch as I wish the necessary effects produced without being compelled again to order an execution:

1-John Gastree, to be shot to death on Friday, the 5th of September, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Mexico, Mo.

2-William W. McFarland, to be shot to death on Friday, the 5th of September, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Mexico, Mo.

To be taken to the execution ground and the following order then read to him:

In consideration of the noble stand taken for the right by our brother, Captain McFarland of the Ninth Missouri State Militia, the commanding general is pleased to order that your life be spared and your sentence commuted to confinement during the war. This is a tribute to the patriotism and sense of duty of your brother, and not out of consideration for a man who has not only committed the crime of unlawfully and in violation of all the rules of civilized war taken up arms against his Government, but who has added to that crime the fearful offense of blackening with perjury a soul already stained with crime which no right minded man can view except with horror and disgust. Let the awful example before you teach you the lesson you evidently so much need and show by your earnest repentance of your crimes that you are again worthy to be called brother by an honest man.

Lewis Merrill

Brigadier-General, Commanding Northeast Missouri Division

3.-Solomon Donaldson, to be shot to ~~dx~~ death on Friday, the 5th of September, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Mexico, Mo.

Lewis Merrill, etc.

Johnson Island, naval prisoners

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII

Officer Commissary-General of Prisoners, Alton, Ill., September 3, 1862

Major: When I was at Sandusky I omitted to say anything of the Confederate naval prisoners at the depot, and to guard against misunderstanding I think it well to say that they are included among those to be exchanged and if they did not go with them sent to Cairo you will send them under a guard immediately to report to the commanding officer to join some party en route to Vicksburg

Very Respectfully, your obedient servant

W. Hoffman

Colonel Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners

Johnson's Island

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII p 492

Chicago, Ill., September 5, 1862

Colonel Hoffman:

Colonel: I have the honor to report that when the prisoners of war from Sandusky passed through Indianapolis en route to Cairo on or about the 2d instant they were permitted to visit the hotels of the city without guard and permitted to make improper purchases.

They delayed at that point about four hours in changing cars. It was reported to me that many had been permitted to purchase liquor to an immoderate amount; also pistols.

Very respectfully etc. H. W. Freedley,
captain U.S. Army.

Johnson's Island. Religion

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol. VII

Officer Commissary-General of Prisoners, Detroit, Mich. September 8, 1862

Major W.S. Pierson, commanding Depot of Prisoners of War, Sandusky,
Ohio

Major: Rev. E. Molon of the Catholic Church has asked permission to visit those belonging to his church among the prisoners at the depot and if there are any prisoners who desire it you may permit him to visit and to preach to them on Sundays; and in case of sickness at special request he may visit them on other days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant

W. Hoffman

Colonel Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners.