

War of the Rebellion, Vol. 1, Series L, Pt. II. Wash. D.C. 1897

(Gen. Wright)

p. 290- 91

....For six long years my home was among those hardy pioneers  
)People of Washington Territory and State of Oregon) engaged  
most of the time in battling our savage foes. I left them at  
peace, prosperous and happy, and I pray they may continue on.

G. Wright

Brigadier General U.S. Army Commanding  
from Headquarters Department of the Pacific, San Francisco,  
January 19, 1863.  
To His Excellency William Pickering Governor of Washington Territory  
at San Francisco, Cali. Jan, 19, 1863.

War of the Rebellion, Vol. 1, Series L, Pt. 2, Wash. D.C. 1897

(Visalia)

p. 304

Special Orders No. 33

Hdqs. Department of the Pacific

San Francisco, Cal. Feb. 6, 1863

3. Lieut. Col. William Jones, Second Cavalry, California  
Volunteers, is assigned to the command of Camp Babbit near Visalia,  
Cal. By order of Brigadier General Wright.

Richard C. Drum

Assistant Adjutant General



Visalia  
p. 341

Camp Babbitt, Visalia, March  
7, 1863

Col. R. C. Drum:

Asst. Adj. Gen. Department of the Pacific, San Francisco.

Sir: On the night of the 5th instant some thirty or more members of this command left camp shortly after tattoo roll-call and proceeded to the town of Visalia, and while there completely destroyed the office p. 342 of the Equal Rights Expositor, breaking the doors and windows of the building, breaking the press and throwing the type, paper, ink etc. in the street. The patrol was marched into town as soon as possible, but the damage was done before they could reach the scene. Last night at the request of Mr. H. G. McLean, publisher of the Visalia Delta, I furnished a guard for the protection of his office, which he (Mr. McLean) feared might be destroyed by the secessionists. I was somewhat apprehensive that a disturbance would take place this afternoon, therefore I have caused the town to be patrolled by a strong force, by whom three soldiers and one citizen were arrested; the former for being in town without leave, and the latter for exciting riot by cheering for Jeff Davis.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant

John M. O'Neill

Major, Second Cavalry California Volunteers, Commanding

(Visalia)

Headquarters Department of the Pacific

p. 360.

San Francisco, Cal. March 23, 1863

Special Orders

No. 77

..

..

..

..

6-The detachment of Company E, Second Cavalry California  
Volunteers at Benicia, will proceed to Camp Babbitt, Visalia, Cal  
whence it will be sent by the first favorable opportunity to  
Camp Independence

By order of Brigadier General Wright

Richd. C. Drum

Assistant Adjutant General.

p. 364

---

San Francisco, March 25, 1863

Captain McAllister

Benicia, Cal:

Send one mountain howitzer to Visalia with detachment of Company  
E. Second Cavalry; also necessary ammunition.

By order:

R.C. Drum

Assistant Adjutant General



Part II

War of the Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. L. Pt. Wash. D.C. 1897

Olney

p. 381

Headquarters Humboldt Military District

Fort Humboldt, Cal. April 3, 1863

Lieut. Col. J.N. Olney

Second Infty. California Vols. Comdg. at Fort Gaston, Cal.

War of Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. L. Pt. 2, Wash. D.C., 1897.

(Boise Mines- Regulators, Nez Perces)

P. 388

Headquarters Superintendent of Indian Affairs

Olympia, Wash. Ter, April 9, 1863

General Benjamin Alvord

Commandant, Fort Vancouver:

Sir: I have just received information through Mr. Simms, one of the members of the Territorial council, just from Walla Walla, that a company of men calling themselves Regulators has been organized at or near the Boise mines to fight the Indians. I suppose there is no doubt of its truth. I therefore respectfully call your attention to the matter if you have not already been advised of the facts in the case as I fear that they may molest friendly Indians as well as hostile. Can anything be done to hasten the forwarding of troops destined for that region? I do not doubt that you will do all that is in your power to meet the emergency.

Respectfully yours

C.H. Hale

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.



War of Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. L. Pt. 2, Wash. D.C., 1897

Steamers...Mail...Communications

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. April 11, 1863

Lieut. Col. R. C. Drum

Asst. Adjt. Gen. Hdqrs. Dept. of the Pacific, San Francisco.

Sir: I have to recommend that hereafter your communications ~~to~~ be sent by mail, the overland stage beginning now to make ~~so~~ very good time. It would be well, however, to remember that when the steamer starts on the 7th, 17th and 27th of each month, you can, if you should happen to desire it, communicate with me in four days though by mail it will be about seven in the summer time. The mail leaves Sacramento daily for Portland.

I am etc.

Benj. Alvord

Brigadier General U.S. Volunteers Commanding District.

War of Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. L, Pt. II. Wash. D.C., 1897.

(Lugenbeel -Fort Boise)

p. 417

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

April 30, 1863

Special Orders No. 40.

I-Pursuant to instructions from headquarters Department of the Pacific dated 1st instant, Bvt. Maj. J. Lugenbeel, Ninth Infantry, will command the expedition which will establish a military post Boise. Companies D.G. and I, First Infantry, Washington Territory Volunteers are placed under his command.

II-Captain Mason's Company (H) First Washington Territory Infantry now at Fort Walla Walla will join the command of Major Lugenbeel at such place as the latter may designate. It is expected that this company will return to Fort Walla Walla before winter.

By order of Brigadier-General Alvord.

Frederick Mears

First Lieut. Ninth Infantry U.S. Army Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen.



(Fort Walla Walla Fort Boise)

p. 447

Headquarters Department of the Pacific

San Francisco, Cal. May 19, 1863

Brig. Gen. Benjamin A. Ford, U.S. Volunteers

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

General: The general commanding the department instructs me to say that in the event of finding it impracticable to procure forage in sufficient quantities for the cavalry designed to garrison Fort Boise during the coming winter, you will late in the fall withdraw such portion of that force as you may deem necessary to winter at Fort Walla Walla. This movement should it take place, will require a larger supply of forage at Walla Walla. To meet it, measures must be taken to secure the necessary amount during the summer months.

Considering Forts Walla Walla and Boise the most important posts in your district, it is the general's desire that the headquarters of the Washington Territory Volunteers should be established at the first and the headquarters of the Oregon cavalry at the latter.

Very r. etc.

R.C. Drum

Assistant Adjutant General.

(Visalia..San Bernardino Secession)

p. 448

San Bernardino, Cal. May 13, 1863

Maj. C.E. Bennett

First Cavalry, California Volunteers, Camp Drum:

Sir: Since my last I have made some other discoveries in regard to the secesh movement. In the first place, they have been holding meetings at Mr. Wixom's but I can't find out for what purpose, definitely, but I think I will in a few days. Johnny McGaw (the man I employed as spy) found a camp in Mill Creek Canyon and one in San Jacinto Valley. The one in San Jacinto he saw seventeen men. They said they were going to Texas in a short time. Johnny saw but four men in the camp in Mill Creek, but from the size of the trail he thinks there are more. I hear of other parties but don't know sure of their existence, but will as soon as Johnny can go round and prospect the different localities.

The town is full of rough-looking strangers. They nearly all say they are from Visalia. They are here for no good purpose, sure. I am on track of other information and if I succeed I will know all. It takes money but I am willing to spend it. In my next I am in hopes to be able to know all. One thing I came near forgetting. The White boys left on the 11th for Texas. They will cross the Colorado at La Paz; will then take Aubrey trail to the Pims Villages, and then go through the Papago country to Sonora, or will strike the Gila sixty miles above Fort Yuma and go to Carborca the way Crab and party went. I find this out from an intimate friend of theirs, a lady. They will join a party at La Paz to pass through the Indian country. I will keep you advised as things progress. I remain, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant

D.R. Dickey.



Camels

P 451

Headquarters Camp Drum, Cal, May  
21, 1863

Lieut. Col. R.C. Drum Assistant Adjutant General U.S. Army

Sir: I inclose herewith letters, in relation to camels; private of the Second Cavalry at this post without authority (footnote says omitted) and , for transmittal through your headquarters to the Secretary of War, recommending this post to be called Fort Drum . Better express the honor intended to the individual after whom it was named and be in accordance with military phraseology. I trust it will receive the general's approval Colonel Forman is in Los Angeles visiting; I therefore send my papers direct.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant

Clarence E. Bennett

Major First Cavalry California Volunteers  
Commanding

P 452

Headquarters Camp Drum, Cal.  
May 21, 1863

General L. Thomas

Adjutant General U.S. Army Washington D.C.

Sir: I would very respectfully recommend for the consideration of the honorable Secretary of War that the word fort be substituted for the word camp in the name of this post, making it Fort Drum, it being a permanent post with barracks, quarters, magazine depot etc. to this coast what Fort Leavenworth and Fort Snelling are to those sections and would be in accordance with customs..  
Clarence E. Bennett..



p. 451

Headquarters, Camp Drum, Cal. May 21, 1863

Lieut. Col. R. C. Drum

Asst. Adj. Gen. U. S. Army Hdqrs. Dept. of the Pacific

Sir: In regard to the employment of camels at this post I would respectfully state that inasmuch as they have been kept at this post for a long time on forage when in San Bernardino and various places within 100 miles of here they could have been subsisted without the expenditure of one cent for forage, previous to my writing dated April 23, 1863 I proposed to Captain Morris and advised him to write to Colonel Babbitt in regard to the employment of camels in carrying the Mojave express. I would respectfully recommend that the camels now here, some thirty-six, be immediately sent to Fort Mojave and placed under the exclusive control of Capt. J. Ives Fitch, Fourth Infantry California Volunteers, commanding Fort Mojave, in whose judgment I have great reliance. This being a depot, a large number of horses and mules here belonging to the Government, besides the large amount of stock belonging to the residents here and in this vicinity, there being very little grass here now and in a little time the plains for miles and miles here will be perfectly bare. The government employes here not being favorably disposed toward camels, will, I think, be deemed a satisfactory explanation of the recommendation for a change to Mojave to promote the interests of the service. With a view to their being sent there, I talked to Captain Fitch in regard to their treatment, care and exercise to properly prepare them for successful service. Like any other animal they must be perfected



by a thorough and systematic course of training and good care, to make quick time on long trips. P. 452 ~~and~~ All this Capt. Fitch thoroughly understands and fully appreciates and believes as I do, that he can make them serviceable to the Government. My suggestions to Captain Fitch were to put the best camels at once on the express to Camp Drum from Mojave and as soon as he got others broke and able to endure the fatigue to put No. 1 express on this end of the Yuma road and replace them by set No. 2 and shove No. 1 toward Tucson and so on until the camels were all in service, the length of the trip toward Tucson depending somewhat on the camels, some being much more powerful than others, and broken which can be easily be determined by their endurance from Mojave to Camp Drum as reported by Captain Fitch; to have some energetic officer whose conduct was characterized by sobriety and integrity, between here and Tucson to see that the camels were properly cared for, and are not abused. I have noticed that government employees regard service with camels extremely unpleasant. In appearance camels are extremely ugly in gait and very rough, in herding inclined to wander, and with their long strides they make haste slowly keeping their herders on the go; they offer no facilities for stealing. Their successful employment will require good judgment, energy and constant care. Of their success with proper care and training I have no doubt. Captain Fitch will employ none of his company. I would respectfully recommend that Captain Fitch be furnished with all the information in the possession of the department in regard to care and service of camels and the service they have rendered in this country.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant

Clarence E. Bennett

Major First Cavalry California Volunteers commdg.



War of Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. L, Pt. 2, Wash. D.C. 1897  
(Fort Boise--Lugenbeel).

p.465

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. May 29, 1863

Bvt. Maj. P. Lugenebeel

Ninth Infantry, Comdg. Boise Expedition, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

Major: You have received special orders Nos. 33, 40 and 56 from these headquarters directing you to proceed to establish a military post in the vicinity of Fort Boise. The selection of the site is left entirely to your discretion, being satisfied that you will pay due regard to salubrity, military defense and the protection of the frontier. You are possessed fully of my views as to the necessity of great economy in the building of the temporary quarters for five companies which should be erected at that post. I have to enjoin great vigilance in guarding your animals, not alone against the depredations of the wily Snake Indians, but also against the enterprises of white thieves and robbers who may infest your path.

Very respectfully your obedient servant

Benj. Alvord,

Brigadier General U.S. Volunteers Commanding district.



"War of Rebellion, Series I, Vol. L, Pt. 2

(Owen's River. Post Tejon)

P. 480

Headquarters Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal. June 11, 1863

Capt. M. A. McLaughlin

Second Cavalry California Volunteers, Comdg. Camp Independence, Owen's River Valley, Cal.

Sir: The department commander desires you, as soon after the receipt of this communication as practicable, to take all the Indians who have come in to the Tejon Reservation and turn them over to the representative of the Indian Department on that Reservation. The Indians will be fed meat and barley while at your post and en route to the reservation. After their arrival at the latter they will be provided for by the Indian Department.

Very Respectfully, your etc.

R. C. Drum

Assistant Adjutant General

War of Rebellion, Series I, Vol .L, Pt. 2.

Camp Babbitt. Fort Tejon.

(P. 491)

Camp Independence, Owen's River Valley, Cal. June 24, 1863

Col. R.C. Drum, U.S. Army. Assistant Adjutant General, S.F.

Colonel: I would most respectfully state that while at Camp Babbitt near Visalia, Cal., I had frequently urged the officers there in command to represent to the general commanding the department the necessity of a military force at or near Fort Tejon. Since my arrival in Owen's River Valley I have examined the matter more thoroughly and feel convinced that those who are acquainted with its geographical position and the topography of the surrounding country will not hesitate to state that it is the key to both Owen's and Tulare Valleys. Had it been so occupied last winter the outlaws and rebels would not have dared to congregate at Tulare Lake from whence they issued to commit their depredations upon the defenseless Union citizens who inhabit that portion of the country, for the road through to the south would have been shut up to them, and ~~they~~ had they passed by Keysville and Walker's pass they would have been either cut off or forced into a pathless desert. The Indians, too, finding themselves between two fires, would not have been so apt to have renewed hostilities. Forage and escorts could there be procured for trains passing from San Pedro to Stockton, or from San Pedro to Owen's Valley. It is almost a matter of impossibility for any force from Little Lake, Owen's Valley, to pass the desert to Elizabeth Lake without ample forage, as there is nothing upon the route upon which animals can subsist, and being almost always without barley in Owen's Valley, valuable trains might become an easy prey to hostile bands of Indians, or worse, hordes of desperadoes who infest that section of the country. I sincerely hope that the suggestions which I have had the honor to make will not be looked upon by the general commanding the department



in the light of one wishing to intrude upon his precious time, or who, from the many acts of kindness of which he has been p. 492 the grateful recipient would arrogate to himself even the thought that his opinion had any right to any consideration outside of the military routine in which he is engaged.

(I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully your obedient servant,

M.A. McLaughlin

Captain, Second Cavalry California Volunteers,  
commanding.

Visalia, Millerton.

P. 497

Near Visalia (Camp Babbit) Tulare County, Cal. June 27, 1863

Col. R.C. Drum, asst. adjt. Gen. Dept. of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal.

Sir: I have the honor to represent that unofficial information has come to my knowledge of the disloyal practices of the people of the town of Millerton, the county seat of Fresno county, sixty miles north of this camp. I am informed that there is not a loyal man in that place. I am also informed by reliable Union men that upon the receipt of the news that the rebel army under Lee had crossed into Maryland and Pennsylvania they celebrated the occasion by a public demonstration in which all joined (of both ~~sexes~~ sexes) by firing a Confederate salute and other demonstrations expressive of their joy at the defeat of the Federal arms (or what they term a Federal defeat) and the successes of Jeff Davis, cheering for them and groaning for the United States Government and its officers. They went so far as to use violence to a young man (who is loyal) who happened to be there from King's River on business. They also have been in the habit of insulting while on their way to and from San Francisco (they being compelled to stop at this place over night) by disloyal acts and conversation. This county is the resort of bad men. The people boast that they have neither a common school nor a church in the county. What makes the case still more aggravating is the fact that a majority of the people in the town of Millerton, being eastern people. In view of these facts I would suggest for the general commanding the propriety of reoccupying Fort Miller with a company or detachment of cavalry. The fort is now occupied by the families of disloyal men, with one exception, using the buildings as dwelling houses. In my opinion the presence of a cavalry company would have a moral influence upon their conduct toward the Government and its officers. I would also in



this connection suggest the propriety of reoccupying Fort Tejon with a company of cavalry. It is also located in the midst of a disloyal people ; also near hostile Indians, they having recently robbed and murdered several persons in Kelso Canon and in Kern River Valley, which is within supporting distance of Fort Tejon. Had this post been occupied last spring it could have operated against the Indians on Upper Kern River and Owen's River much easier than from this post. It would also have prevented the organization of the band of robbers and thieves who left this and adjoining counties after stealing many thousands dollars worth of property from Union men while passing through the country, and having in their possession several government animals and other property stolen by deserters, several of which formed this band. Many of this band of thieves and desperadoes have found their way into Texas, while others, one of whom lately killed and wounded another near Fort Mojave, are depredating in the lower country. I judge from the amount of forage p 498 ordered to be purchased at this and Camp Independence, that it is designed to keep four companies at the two posts. It would, in my judgment, have a better influence upon the country and also upon the hostile tribes of Indians in the adjacent country to station one company at Fort Miller, one at this camp, one at Fort Tejon and one at Camp Independence. By this arrangement a line of posts would be formed from Mariposa County to New San Pedro extending through those secession counties bordering upon the Indian country, which would be in supporting distance of each other, requiring no additional force from that contemplated at this and Camp Independence, and requiring but little if any additional expenses, as ~~as~~ those posts are owned by the United States, and are in very (good) state of preservation, unless it should be the natural leakage of four instead of two quartermasters.

I could urge many reasons why those additional posts should be occupied; but not desiring to trouble the department with further suggestions, I beg leave to suggest the above for your consideration. Wm. Jones



Partial list of abstract of Army for June 30, 1863

P. 505

General Headquarters 15 officers 1 man, present and absent agg. 17

California 46 officers, 1,018 men, grand total 1,553 , 174 pieces art. 8 field

District of Oregon (Alvord) 63 officers, 893 men, grand total 1,283

District of Humboldt (Lippitt) 20 officers, 190 men, grand total 387

District of Utah (Connor) 47 officers, 857 men, 1,226 grand total

District Southern California (Forman) 41 officers, 1,043 men.

(Grand total includes aggregate present and absent.

California includes: San Francisco, the Presidio, Fort Point, Alcatraz Island, Benecia/ Barracks and Arsenal, Fort Crook, Camp Union and Camp Baker, Oregon.

Department of the Pacific, Brig. Gen George Wright, U.S. Army commanding .

District of Oregon.

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. Maj. Andrew W. Bowman.

9th United States Company A.

Vancouver Arsenal, Wash. Ter. Capt. Theodore J. Ekerson, detachment of Ordnance, U.S. Army.

Fort Colville, Wash. Ter. Maj. Calvin H. Rumrill, 1st Wash. Territory Companies B and C.

Fort Walla Walla, Wash. Ter. Col. Justus Steinberger, 1st Washington Territory, Company A.

Camp Lapwai, Wash. Ter. Maj. Sewall Truax. 1st Oregon Cavalry Company F.

First Washington Territory Company E.

Fort Dalles, Oregon. Capt. William V. Spencer. 1st Oregon Cavalry Company B. 1st Washington Territory Company F.

Camp Babbitt, Visalia, Calif. Lieut. Col. William Jones, 2d Calif. Cavalry Company I.

Capt. William M. Winder, Alcatraz Island Cal.

Col. Henry M. Black, Benecia Barracks, Cal. (others not copied)