Fort Simcoe, W.T. Sept. 6,1857

Aller, J.K., 2nd Lt. 9th Infyl

11 enclosures transmitting proceedings of a board of survey held at this post on the 15 August, 1857

Fort Simcoe, W.T. Sept. 6th [sic] 1857

Sir: I have the honor to inclose herewith the proceedings of of a board of survey which convened at this post on or about the 15th day of August, 1857

I an sir, very respectfully your obt servant ... Allen 2d Lieut 9th Infantry

o Byt. B.G. Newman S. Clarke
U.S. Army, San Francisco, California

Proceedings of a cord of survey which convened at Fort Simcoe W.T. on 25th day of August, 1857 by virtue of the following order Post Order No. 60, Fort Simcoe W.T. Aug 15, 1857

In consequence of continual complaints made to the commanding officer in regard to different articles of subsistence of late issue to the command by the acting commissary of subsistence a board of survey to consist of:

Capt. J.J. Archer, 9th infantry

Capt. H.M. Black, 9th infantry

Capt. J. W. Frazer 9th infantry

1st Lt. J. W. Carr

Asst. Surgeon A. Hegar, med dept...will assemble at the subsistence storehouse at 10 0'clock a.m. tomorrow and make a careful inspection of eacharticle of subsistence stores now in the hands of that officer for issue to thetroops. The board will report the present condition of the

stores and as far as possible their original quality and cost price if in either respect they are found to be inferior to the standard wuality issued in the U.S. Army the board will report if it can be attractated assertained to what such condition of the stores is to be ascribed and in case any articles are found to be entirely unfit of er issue to the troops or for issues according to the subsistence regulations the board will offer the recommendations as to the disposition to be made of them. The examination of the board must be thorough and its report minute and specific stating distinctly if it can be ascertained what offerer ought to be held responsible for the inferior condition or quality of the stores if a y such are found in the store house.

By Order of Major Garnett
Signed ... Alexander
2nd Lieut 9th infantry post adjutant

The board met in pursuance of the above order Present all the members.

The board proceeded to inspect each article of subsistence stores in the hands of the A.A.C. Jesse K. Allen 2nd lt. 9th infantry when after cereful examination the [sic] found them to be as follows:

Pork lst-Six half barrels packed according to brand in Boston, Mass. invoiced tothis post 12th of June, 1857 by 1st Lieut James van Voast 9th infantry a.a... Fort Dalles, O.T. at 11 1/4 cents per lab. Original quality good. Packing good. Present co dition good.

2d-Eighteen berrels packed according to brand partly New York partly at Jeffersonville, Is but brand more or less defaced. The quality of pork contained different from what the brands warrant d it to be This pork was invoiced by 1st Lt. James Van Voast 9th Fnfy a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T. August 3 1857 at 21 centsper 1b. Original quality inferior

and rusty gives according to experiment made by the board a loss of about 50 per cent in cooking. The board therefore considers this quality of pork unfit for issue to the troops and recommends it to be sold by the A.A. Comsy of this post.

3rd Three hundred and seventy pounds packed in sacks remained on hand at the com issary Dept of this post from last years expedition during which it was carried packed on mules. Ost price 11 1/4 cents per pound. Original quality good. Packing good as the occasion can admit present quality rancid, unfit for issue from age and want ofbrine recommended to be sold.

BACON-Fifteen thousand nine hundred and sixty six pounds. Invoiced at 20 1 /4 partly axxand and 21 cents partly and sent to this post by 1st Lieut James Van Voast 9th infantry a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles, O.T. since March 1st, 1857 and up to Augst the 6th 1857 Original quality could not be determined by the brand. Present condition of a soft rancid and unfit for issue except one hundred pounds. The board recommended the remaining fift on thousand eight hundred and sixty six pounds to be sold.

HAM-Eighteen hundred and seventy six pounds (1876 lbs) cost price 21 cents per pound. Original quality and present condition good.

FLOUR-One hundred and forty nine sacks ost price 9.50 per barrel.
Original quality and present condition good

CORNMEAL-Three barrels. ost price \$x4xcents 5 1/4 cents per 1b.

Original quality and present condition good.

H.BREAD-Thirteen hundred and forty-one pounds. Cost price 9 cents per 1b. Original quality sup osed good, present condition old and hard but as good as a an be expected due to conditions.

BEAMS-Fifty bushels-Cost price \$3.90 per bushel. Wuality and condition good.

RICE-- welve hundred and fifty seven pounds. Cost price 11 cents & 8 cents per pound. Wuslity and condition good.

COFFE-Twelve hundred and fifty three pounds. Invoiced by 1st Fieut

James Van Voast 9th Infy a.a.c.s. Fort Falles O.T. June 12th, 1857

at 15 1/2 cents per 100.1b. Original inferior present condition

many bad grains, 20 per cent under the standard in the opinion of the

board it has not since purchase. hey would recommend to issue

at 20 per cent discount.

2-One hundred and seventy onepounds. Invoiced by Lst. Lieut James
Van Voast 9th Infy a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T. August 3, 1857 at 15 1/2
cents per 1b. Original quality inferior, present condition containing
many bad grains 20 per cent below the standard. Not ... since purchased
as far as the board is able to determine they recommend its issue at 20
per cent discount.

Sugar 1-wenty five hundred and frenty four pounds. Invoiced by 1st Lt. James Van Voast 9th Infantry a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T. June 12,1857 at 12 1/2 cents per pound. Original quality and present condition good.

2-Thirty-two hundred and twelve pounds. Invoiced by 1st Lieut.

"emes Van Woast 9th infantry a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T. August 3

1857 at 15 1/4 cents per 1b. Criginal quality inferior. Present condition inferior but not sufficiently so as to authorize a change in issue.

VINEGARD- hree hundred and seven gallons of vinegar. Invoiced by 1st. Lieut James Van Voast 9th infry. a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T. August 13, 1857 at 40 cents per gallon. Original quality good. Present condition good. The board's opinion that it is not of that brand whichlid of which it bears is cider vinegard.... prepared vinegar.

SOAP -- Three hundred and fifty five pounds white. Invoiced by 1st Lieut James Van Vos t 9th infty a.a.c.s. Fort Dalles O.T.

by various trains between the 5th of June and 3rd of August 1857

at 8 cents per 1b original the board cannot pronounce on it. On its present condition having not received any information onxide as this he object this soap was was intended for with regard to its issue to the troops the board considers it unfit for issue. The color of the cloth their injures the hands of the... ... and persons using it and if the quality of soap used to effect a certain amount of washing is taken as a measure at appears far unferior to the ordinary standard of rosin soap (?) the board therefore recommended this soap tobe turned over to the quartermaster department of this post to be used by him as he may deem proper for various purposes.

2-three hundred and ninety five pounds brown soap invoiced by

1st Lieut James Van Voast 9th A.A.C.S. Fort Dalles O.T. by various

trains between the 5th of June and 3rd of August, 1857 at 8 cents per

pound brand chemically prepared olive soap believed to be very inferior

quality of rosin soap original very inferior. Present condition

corresponding to its original quality and character it has in the opinion

of the board not deteriorated since purchase. It is not compact but

crumbles at a light pressure or fall and more than that twice the

quantity is required to effect the same amount of washing as from

ordinary good resin soap. The board therefore recommends it to be

issued at 100 per cent discount.

CANDLS(?)-hree hundred and forty six pounds. Invoiced by 1st Lieut.

Sames Van Voast 9th Infantry Fort Dalles O.T. June 12th ,1857 partly

August 3, 1857 as sperm candles at 55 cents per pound. Original

quality and present condition he board found these candles invoiced as sperm candles not but to be a.... and as such pronouced them good.

SALT-Twenty two barrels. Quality and condition good. Price 1.50 per bushel.

DR. PEACHES-Five hundred and twenty seven pounds. "uality and

condition good. Cost 28 cents per pound.

DRIED APPIES-Three hundred ninety five pounds. "uality and condition good. Cost price 15 cents per pound.

POTATOES-Twenty six bushels. Quality and co dition go d. Cost price \$2.50 per bushel

MOLASSES-Sixty three gallons. "uality and condition good. Cost price egallon. In accordance to thefacts above stated the board can attach no blame to 2d Lieut 020 Jesse K. Allen 9th infantry a.a.c.s. of this post for the inferior quality and bad condition of my of the above so far specified articles of subsistence stores. It will be impossible for the board to state distinctly what officer ought to be held responsible for their inferior condition and quality since this board has no means to examine sufficiently into matters and transactions that occurred beyond this post.

In several of the above articles found of inferior quality the facts as far as ascertained by this board seem to indicate that the responsibility rests more or less with the purchasing officer. These articles are coffee 1st and 2nd 1ot; soap 1st and 2d 1ot but from the eason above given the board refrains from expressing another opinion in the case of 18 barrels of pork. The board report the same opinion adding the influence of age which in inferior articles are more rapid and extensive. With regard to 370 pounds of old pork no blame can be attached to either purchaser or transporting officer being the result of circumstances which could not be avoided. The board is unable to determine where the responsibility with regard to the bacon rests having no aata. [sic???] to that effect with regard to the candles the board is unable to determine how the discrepency between the invoice & articles sent occured.

he board having no further business before them adjourned.

Signed. A. Hegar asst. surgeon U.S. Army, recorder

Signed J.J. Archer

Captain 9th infantry, president.

H.M. Black, captain 9th infantry

J.W (or M) Frazer, captain, 9th infantry.

G.W. Carr

Headquarters Fort Simcoe W.T. 1st Lieut 9th infantry
August 18, 1857
The above is a true copy of the original.

Signed J.B.S. (?) Alexander 9th infty. Post adjutant

Fort imcoe, W.T. August 18,1857

The proceedings of the board of survey as above reported are approved and confirmed. Theacting commissary of subsistence will sell at public auction atthis place on the 15th proximo to the highes bidder the stores which were condemned to be sold by the board. He will cause timely notice of the sales to be given at the Dalles, Vaccouver, Cascades & Fortland.

He will send a copy of these proceedings to the acting com issary of subsistence at the Depot at Fort Dalles with a request that he will replace with good stores the deficiency in the supply for the winter thus caused by the action of the board. A copy will be also sent the Department headquarters for the information of the Department Commander and chief of the subsistence department of the Pacific Coast.

Signed R.S. Garnett
Major 9th Infantry
Gommanding Post.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58 Fort Steilacoom W.T. January 23,1858
Silas Casey, Lt. Col. 9th Infy. comy. post.
Communication with regard to the Indian Chief Leschi.

Fort Steilacoom Washington Ty.

January 23, 1858

Colonel:

I would most respectfully bring to the notice of the Secretary of War and also of the President the case of the Indian chief Leschi now in confinement at this post and under agnitence of death for murder. Most of the circumstances of the case have at various times been communicated to the Head Quarters of the Department of the Pacific but inasmuch as they may possibly not have been brought to the notice of the Secretary of War I will make a brief statement with regard to the matter, direct to the Department of War, inasmuch as prompt action is indesirable.

Leschi was one of the chiefs who was engaged in thewar which was conducted by myself against the Indians in the vicinity of Puget Sound during the winter and spring of 1856. Being defeated and driven from their strong holds the chief with several others and their people took refuge across the mountains; Leschi then surrendered himself to Colonel Wright (who commanded in that district) and had his promise of protection so far as he could extend it.

Colonel "right informed me of the fact of the surrender and in my reply to him is the follow ng sentence:"With regard to Leschi, Kitsap, Nelson and their people, I am of the opinion km that the Indians of the sound have been sufficiently punished and that they should be permitted to return. There is however a strong feeling against them with the people on this side and there might be danger of some one shooting them."

Leschi returned and communicated the fact to me, I advised him to keep away until the strong prejudice which existed against him in the mims of some persons had subsided. Whilst thus awaiting a change

of feeling with regard to him, he was tracherously taken by two Indians who falsely represented to him that I wished to see him. He was taken to Olympia and from there sent down to me for confinement on a committal from the 'ivil authority.

I have been informed that the Indians who treacherously delivered up their chief received a reward of five hundred dollars \$(500) Inasmuch as most of the Indians who had been engaged in killing persons (hot in battle) had been put to death, and that they appeared subdued, I thought it best for all that a peace should prevail and good feeling again established

Let it be borne in mind that Leschi was sent to me for confinement on the 16th of November, 1856, and that there had been no depredations committed by the Indians since the first week in March of the same year although many of them who had not been engaged in war have nevertheless been shot down by lawless men. The immediate cause of the war was from what I can learn the endeavor to force upon the Indians an unacceptable treaty. If the Chief Leschi is to be held responsible for the acts of his people during the war, it is certainly inaugurating a newpolicy in the government of the Republic which should receive the sanction of its chief executive of ficer before being acted upon.

I have had considerable experience in India warfare and I have never known an instance in which civil courts took cognizance of acts committed in war. War it ever done in Ilorida? I Believing then as I do now that the committeng the chief Leschi by the civil authority after he had surrendered himself to clonel Wright, the rights of war were violated yet my respect for that authority was such that I received him and put him in confinement. I left thepost in January, 1857 and returned in December thousand the same year. I found on my return that the Indian was still in the guard house under sentence of death for the murder of a Mr. Moses. I was informed that he was known convicted on the test-imony of one man and from the nature of the ground, it was very improbable

that the testimony could be true.

Lieut. Kautz, Dr. Tolmie and Mr. Tidd, the latter was with the party of Mr. Moses when he was killed, went to the ground and measured it. They havemade a map andfiled their affidavits in the matter. On examination I consider it almost physically impossible that the matterians testimony which maximum convicted him can be true. In fact it is notorious that the Indian who killedMoses is now on the reservation. Leschi was sentanced to be hung on the 22nd of anuary, 1358. I addressed to the governor the communication marked A. I received no reply, but

the governor came down a few days after and heard counsel in the matter. The argument has presented by the counsel why the execution should be stayed was to my mind conclusive. In fact I did not hear a contrary opinion, and I have since been told that the Governor went away from here fully resolved to grant a respite. However he did not from some cause interfere.

The knowledge that the hief Leischi was under sentence of death caused great excitement amongst the Indians over a large extent of territory, from the Straits of Fuca to the Columbia river, and across the Cascade range of mountains. They could not was understand how they could be made accountable to any other authority when the hief who acted underthe immediate order of their great Father had promised them protection. I found it difficult so to reply to their questions that the military could be exonerated from treachery toward them.

Many of the settlers fro this neighborhood told me, they could not remain on their claims should the execution take place. Notwithsstanding all this I resolved to throw no impediment in the way of the execution of the Indian. It was the act of the civil law and it was not the first time that I wax had exhibited my regard for its soverignity. I refused on a former occasion to acknowledge Martial Law in this Territory, athough proclaimed by its executive. The day upon which the execution was to take place the Sheriff of the County applied to me

for a guard. He was somewhat mistaken in my reply to him, which caused the communication from the Governor Marked B. My answer (marked C) explains just what I did say. On the morning of the 22nd of January the sheriff informed me that he had summoned about fifty (50) men among them I ascertained were nearly all of the employees of the Quarter Master. I told him that under the circumstances I did not wish to compromise the Military more than possible, but that I would have a guard held in readiness commanded by an officer to act promptly in case of necessity.

I gave orders to the Officer of the Day to turn the prisoner over to the sheriff on demand; the gallows was erected and I had no doubt but that the execution would be carried out. I afterwards learned that no demand for the prisoner had been made, that by thearrest of the sheriff on civil process, the execution had been delayed, until after the time ordered by the court.

I still hold the Indian in confinement and design doing so unless he in the meantime is released by a writ of habeas corpus when the court which meets the third Tuesday in March next acts in the matter. Believing humanity, good policy and above all justice requires it; I earnestly request that the executive would promptly if possible interpose and cause his release. I am informed by the prisoners (sic) counsel that he intends forwarding the le(damaged by preforation on original copy) documents connected with the case.

Your Obt. Servant
Silas asey
Lieut. Col. 9th Infy.
Comdy. Post.

Col S. Cooper,

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

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

Head Quarters Department of Oregon
Fort Vancouver, *.T.
November 2nd. 1858

Dir:

I have the honor to report that the state of the service as regards the disposition of the Indians in this department has not shanged since my last communication of the 29th ultimo. Nothing has been heard from Colville to confirm the rumors which were circulated on my arrival and I am inclined to believe they had but little foundation.

The Indians in this section of the country are entirely different from the great nomadic tribes of the plains who own and roam over vast regions in search of plunder & game and all of whose instincts are warlike. The tribes of Washington & Oregon territories with the exception of those residing near the Rocky Mountains are small in number each occupying a territory from which in many cases they obtain a meager subsistence. The sub dicisions of those Indians into tribes are very numerous. Those tribes residing on the Columbia river and its tributaries subsist principally upon fish, particularly the salmon whose annual migration up these rivers forms one of the great curisotieies of nature. Other tribes live on roots, berries and such wild fruits as the country affords & in times of great starvation they obtain from the moss of the country, which is very abundant, a glutenous subsistance that supports life. The same same improvidence which characterizes the Indian race elsewhere, is seen here, attended by the same results and it is not too much to predict that the red men of America will gradually disappear about the same time, from the different sections of the country.

From the different languages, interests and jealousies existing among so many different tribes, a coalition of all of them in one common cause is impossible, indeed the events of the past summer have

For the welfare of the Indians as well as the better security of the white settlers I would respectfully recommend that the Indians of this department be placed on reservations assigned to them by the government for their support, & subsistence. A system of instruction in cultivating the soil appliable to them should also be adopted with a proper provision of seeds & implements for their use.

Laws should also be passed defining their position & their rights upon these reservations which would be convenient to the military stations that all controversies between them and the settlers may be decided on the spot & that the Indians could have a market for his produce when desiring to dispose of it.

To secure the emigrant route to this department from the frontiers of Missiouri I shall establish a post in the spring in the vicinity of Fort Boise, on Snake river, some two hundred & thirty miles from Fort Walla Walla. At least from four companies should garrison this point, two of foot and two of mounted force. The road is a good one from Fort Walla Walla and it can be supplied from that point. I also respectfully recommend a post near Fort Hall on the same route but would advise that the garrison as well as the supplies be furnished from the Pepartment of Utah, for reasons of economy & supervision.

As soon as the season will permit I shall establish a varrison of at least four companies in the vicinity of Colville--to protect the interests of the citizens in that quarter and serve as a check upon the Indian tribes who were so lately hostile.

The establishment of the above mentioned posts is considered

subject to the revision of higher authority.

I enclose a copy of my instructions to the Rev. P.J. Debmet who it will be seen has proceeded to the Coeur d'Alene Mission by my direction to visit the Indians of that vicinity for the purpose of observing their disposition and to council them to observe most faithfully all the conditions they have promised to fulfill towards the Government and its citizens.

am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

Wm. "arney

Brigadier General, commanding

The Assistant Adjutant General

Head Guarters of the Army, New York City

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

395-W 1858. G. Wright. Colonel 9th Infantry File with 290 (290 x'ed out) C Howards copies of his communications to the Head Quarters Dept. of the Pacific reporting the latest information, and final proceedings of the Expedition against the Northern Indians. Rec. (AGO) Nov. 30, 1858.

Head Quarters Dept. of California San Francisco, Nov. 4,1858

Sir

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose letters from Col. G. Wright & Major Garnett rec'd by the mail of yesterday and referring to the Indian affairs with which I was lately charged.

I am sir very respy.

Your obt. servt.

N. A (?! Clarke

Byt. Brig. Gen.

Lieut. Col. L. Thomas,
Hd. Qrs. U.S. Army
New York.

Head Quarters Expedition Against Northern Indians Camp near Fort Walla Walla, W.T. Oct. 6,1858

Your communication of the 25th or (23) ulto revoking the command for me to halt at the Snake River was received in the morning at the 3d inst. I having the on the max previous day completed the crossing of my whole command and encamped at Fort Taylor.

I marched from Fort Taylor on the 4th, reached the Touchet river distant 26 miles, the same day, and yesterday arrived at this place (20 miles) at 12 M.

I had previous to my arrival made arrangements with Colonel Mansfield, the inspector general, to inspect my command/immediately on reaching here, accordingly I marched directly on to the parade, in open column of companies and presented them for inspection--- The ranks were

not broken until the inspection was over, the troops were in the exact order in which they arrived, it was in fact an "inspection in the field -- "Theccolonel expressed his satisfaction with the condition and appearance of the troops, after their long march.

Inclosed herewith is a"field return" prepared yesterday on the arrival here. By reference to my dispatch (No. 20) of the 24 ulto it will be noticed that I had the Yakama chief Owhi in irons; I desired to take this chief to Fort Dalles, and if mak met with the approval of the general, to send him to the Presidio of an Francisco . I had promised him his life, provided he did not try to escape. During the march he appeared perfectly satisfied and contented, and evinced no disposition to escape, but on the morning of the 3rd of Oct., when crossing the "u-Canon the guard was crossing at the foot bridge and Ow-hi who was on horseback was crossing at the fort with Lt. Morgan 3rd Artillery, the officer of the guard. Owhi made a dash through the bushes for the hills, but his career was short. Lieut. Morgan with his revolver soon brought him to a halt severely wounding both horse and prisoer, and the coup-de-grace wax given by Private Behn of Company E. 1st Pragoons, who was accidentally passing at the time. Ow-hi lingered for two hours and then expired.

I am awaiting further orders,

Very Respectfully

Your obt. servt.

G. Wright

Col. 9th Infy. comdy.

Major W.W. Mackall

Asst. Adj. Genl. Head Q. Dept of the Pacific Fort Vancouver, W.T.

worse still, and I am under the mask impression the most of them have been made in long time--with such boots our men would require twelve pairs annually on a cameaign.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

G. Wright, Col. 9th Infy. Commdy.

Major W.W. Mackall
Asst. Adjt. Genl.
Head Quarters Dept. of the Pacific
Fort Vancouver, W.T.

Head Quarters Expedition Against Northern Indians. Camp Near Fort Walla Walla, W.T.
Oct. 9, 1858

Sir:

On approaching this post on my return from my northern expedition kankka I sent word to Lt. Col. Steptoe to send messengers to the Walla Walla & Cayuse Indians to meet me here at the expiration of three days. They came in yesterday and today I held a council with them.

The Walla Wallas have a bad reputation in this valley, they steal, rob and occasionally murder and in addition they are in the habit of crossing the Snake River and joining the hostile Indians when the troops were in that country. They were at Col. Steptoe's battle, and them were opposed to me during the late campaign. I told them plainly of their crimes, and required all of the men who had been with the hostile Indians during the late campaign to step to the front; between thirty and forty came forward. I then brought out a Walla Walla warrior named Wis-cat, a notorious accoundred he was with Col. Steptoe just before his battle commenced, when the colonel was in a critical position end was inaxxxxx intrusted with a letter of great importance to the commanding officer of this post; he failed to deliver the letter although he came here, and

apparently in anticipation of the defeat and total destruction of Col. Steptoe's command, used every means in his command to induce all the Indians in this valley to make an attack on Fort Walla Walla. All these facts were proven and I hung him forthwith.

I next brought out the Walla Wallas charged with the murder of a white man on the Touchet. They pleaded guilty and were executed on the spot. Another Indian (a Walla Walla) who killed a white man on Wild Horse creek last spring was hung this morning.

I told the "alla Wallas that I would known no more of them although although more than thirty of them deserved it, that I would have pity on them this time, but that they must ... what I said to them and if again found with an enemy, or guilty of theft, murders or fobberies, that no mercy would be shown them.

The Cayuses also received some good advice which I think will benefit them.

At the council were also many of the Nez Perces and with other chiefs came an old and firm friend, Lawyer and also Looking Glass.

Looking Glass I had never seen before; twice I had been in this valley and held councils with the Nez Perce chiefs but Looking Glass had kept aloof, he had always sent a chief as he said to speak his mind--at my last council with the Ne-Perces in August last, when I made a treaty with them, I sent a copy of it to Looking Glass--The old chief apears d highly gratified and at this meeting made the strongest protestations of friendship.

I believe I have fretty thoroughly finished up all the business which the gneral desired me to attend to in this quarter, and I shall leave here tomorrow for my head quarters at Fort Dalles.

Your Obt. Servt.

G. Wright,

To Maj. W. W. Mackall, asst. adt.gen. Col. 9th infy. head qrs. Dept. of the Pacific Fort Vancouver.