

[I, L, I, p. 815]

Headquarters

Fort Yuma, January 23, 1862

Col. James H. Carleton, Commanding Southern District, Los Angeles.

Colonel: I have the honor to report to you that Fort Yuma is now an island. The river at this point commenced rising on the 20th instant and at 1 o'clock this morning reached its highest point.

The rise yesterday afternoon was so sudden that in three hours it rose from its already high stage nearly six feet overflowing its banks and carrying everything before it. Colorado City is entirely washed away; Mr. Hooper's dwelling house and Captain

Johnson's are the only buildings left standing on that side of the river.....the whole country is submerged between here and Pilot Knob and impassable for anything but boats.....the Gila river extends as far as the sandhills on the right and to the foot-hills on the left ...we are no perfectly safe from any attack from any enemy being surrounded by water.

Edwin A. Rigg

Major First California Volunteer Infantry, commanding

[I, L, F]
P. 927]

Oroville, Butte County, Cal.

December 23, 1861 .

W.H. Seward:

Sir: As a loyal citizen it is my duty to inform you that there is a company called the Home Guards numbering 200 men, well armed, organized in this town for a false purpose, giving parties and raising money from the loyal citizens as they say to equip the company when in reality it is for the purpose of getting funds to start to the South about the middle of February or beginning of March. Having been a member of said company and learning their intentions I conceive it my duty to inform you of the event and place the necessary stop at once. You can refer to the postmaster of this place who well knows these facts.

It is their intention of going by the Calhoun pass. They have got agents out in the different counties raising men. It is their intention of equipping 2,500 men and the manner they have taken to get funds they will have ample means to accomplish their base purpose unless put a stop to at once by the strong arm of government.....

William Danford

N.B. Since the arrest of Dan Showalter and party they intend striking for the Arkansas line or Missouri.

W.D.

[I, L, I, p. 829]

prices:

Fort Walla Walla, Jan 28, 1862

To "right:

investigate ability of this portion of country to furnish supplies needed for Walla Walla post

no supplies with farmers or dealers. All of grain grown last year in ground or will be by spring consumed. Flour worth \$20 a barrel, oats 6 to 7 cents and scarce; hay none on hand; barley not to be had; bacon 30 cents a pound, none on hand, little being made, lard equally scarce; beef, 15 cents a pound and none in country fit to eat; beats none to be had at any price; potatoes \$1 a bushel, difficult to obtain, few in country; wood \$30 a cord.

Large amount of snow this winter will make coming season productive

Purchased a little coffee a few days since at 37 cents a pound.

Will need supplies by April 1.

Unprecedented severity of winter and influx of strangers has destroyed and consumed nearly everything in the country. Nearly all cattle have or will die before spring. Men who had 300 to 400 at beginning of winter now have 50 or 60 living. Fresh meat scarce until spring. Beef consumed at garrison by this time would not be eaten by the poorer class in San Francisco. It must be worse in a month and I doubt very much if it can be had at all.

H. Lee

Lieut Colonel commanding post.

volunteers, recruits

p 848 War rebellion, Series L, Vol L, pt 1

San Francisco Feb 6, 1862

Maj R.C. Drum, assistant adjutant general, headquarters dept of Pacific
San Francisco.

Wrote from Port Townsend Jan 1..reporting on careful canvass of
Washington territory west of Cascade mountains with view of raising
and organizing the First Regiment of Washington Territory Volunteer
Infantry.

obstacles..convinced that during following four months to
fill the companies will exhaust the extreme capacity of the territory.
Severity of winter rendered it impossible to visit other portions of the
District of Oregon. Conferred at Olympia with members of Territorial
Legislature informed me on conditions. Believe only practical measure
for recruit is organize in this city and State (San Francisco)

Arrived on 28th, favorably impressed with prospect of procuring
four companies, two more from interior. Already selected some
company officers. Ask to make headquarters temporarily instead of Fort
Vancouver, asks, depot for 100 recruits

Justus Steinberger, Col

U.S. Volunteers.

Feb 8, 62, "Wrote to Maj D.C. Drum, Regt. Gen L. Thomas at "ash
D.C. Adjutant-general U.S. Army.

Refers to gold drawing men when it is considered that a regiment of
cavalry is now being raised in Oregon it cannot be expected that a
regiment of infantry for home service can be raised from a sparse
population. Colonel Cornelius, under instructions from your office
dated 24th September 1861 authorized to raise a regiment of
mounted troops, asks on Jan 8 for arms, clothing etc. for six
companies immediately and shall require same for four companies in course of next two months.

[I, L, I, p. 858]

General Orders, Headquarters Dist.

Southern California, L.A. Feb 11, 1862

General Orders No 3-

I-The infantry companies which may be required to take the field in this district unless otherwise especially ordered will always march with knapsacks on. Each soldier will carry one greatcoat, one blanket, one forage cap, one woolen shirt, one pair of drawers, one pair stockings, one towel, two handkerchiefs, one fine and one coarse comb, one sewing kit, one piece of soap, one toothbrush.

II-Each soldier will wear his uniform hat without trimmings, one blouse, one pair trousers, one pair stockings, one woolen shirt, one pair drawers and may wear a cravat in lieu of the leather stock.

III-Each soldier whether of cavalry or infantry will have one canteen, one haversack and one tin cup. In his haversack he will carry one fork, spoon and plate. He will wear a good seath knife.

IV-Each company whether of cavalry or infantry will have only enough mess pans and camp kettles (in nests) for absolute requirements; also a few short-handled frying pans, some large tin plates for the baking of bread, three large tin pans in which to mix bread, one or two strong coffee mills, a six gallon keg for vinegar, a ~~few~~ few pounds of black grained pepper, four axes, four camp hatchets, six spades, six shovels.

V-Officers will not take mess chests or trunks or mattresses on the march. It is suggested that each mess of officers of not less than three be provided with ~~yeo v~~ ~~champ~~ champagne baskets covered with painted canvas for their mess furniture. These can be packed upon a mule. Their necessary clothing can be carried in a small hand valise or pair of saddle bags.

VI-The companies of the First California Volunteer Infantry will drill with knapsacks on and with personal effects packed agreeably to the above orders.... Ben C. Cutler, First Lt. First Cal. Vol Inft. Adt. asst. adjt. gen.

[I, L, I, R 860]

Roads. Oregon State and "ash Territory Indians and Mines

February--1862--petition addressed to Brig Gen George Wright, U.S. Army commanding dept of Pacific.

the undersigned residents of the state of Oregon and territory of Washington east of the Cascades..believe there is a good natural wagon road between Dalles City and the Salmon River mines via the emigrant road to Burnt River crossing Snake River near the mouth of Burnt river and following up Payette River to a low divide between it and the Salmon; and thus greatly lessening the old present traveled route and passing over grass water..we are prevented from using this by hostility of Indians upon Payette River which we believe can be neutralized by the establishment of a military post upon said river. also protect incoming trade emigration.

H.P. Isaacs, H. N. H. Gates, J.H. Dean and 25 others.

all new discoveries are on south fork of Salmon

Stramboat co will use influence to prevent this road being traveled, they want to carry everything by steamboat to Lewiston

~~Bygone Indians~~ The Snake Indians on Payette are the worst of the bad, they murdered the Ward family in '54 and others. No small party ventures to travel their country.

Severe winter, stock suffered for last 40 days temperature has been 5 to 20 below, many lives lost. Moderating. Isaacs.

[I, L, I, p. 863]

U.S. Engineer Office

San Francisco, Cal. Feb. 13, 1862

Marked (Confidential)

Brig. Gen. G. Wright, U.S. Army, Comdg. Department of the Pacific, S.F.

General: Your letter of yesterday finds me still unprepared to make a full report upon the points which have been examined, selected and are to be recommended for the defenses of the harbor, but the following imperfect report will probably suffice to give to the governor and the military committee of the Legislature an idea of what should be done to guard against the approaches to the city.

At the Golden Gate it is proposed in addition to the present defenses to place twenty guns in a temporary battery on the beach between the wharf and the fort at Fort Point, to construct the platforms of the 10 gun battery on the hill and to mount ten 42 pounders there on, immediately; to occupy the cove at Lime Point opposite Fort Point with a battery of twenty heavy guns, some of them to be used for hot shot. These would give fifty efficient guns more on the entrance into the harbor at the Gate and including those at the fort at Fort Point already mounted and to be mounted would give a total of 181 guns bearing on the pass.

In connection with Alcatraz island, forming the second line of defense within the harbor it is recommended to construct a battery on Black Point or Point San Jose of at least twenty heavy guns and one of ten guns on Blunt's Point on Angel Island. These thirty guns in connection with those on Alcatraz Island (77) would give 107 guns on that line.

As an enemy would seek, if possible to avoid this second line and to pass through Raccoon Strait toward the navy yard and Benecia it would be well to establish batteries on the point of Angel Island called Stewart's Point. There a battery of twenty or thirty guns would be of great advantage and finally to prevent the occupation of the anchorage between the island of Yerba Buena and the city which is at too great a distance from Alcatraz to be reached from that point,

guns should be placed in position on Ye ba Buena island to command the anchorage and to protect the city. With these defenses it is supposed that until the permanent fort on Lime Point can be constructed the harbor may be made quite defensive against a large fleet.

To guard against the possibility of a fleet forcing its way up Racoon Strait and aiming a blow at the navy yard and the arsenal at Benecit....to guard against such an attempt Point San Pablo and Point San Pedro have been examined and found good positions for batteries. They are within proper distances of each other and command the entrance of San Pablo Bay where the navy yard is constructed and from whence it is supposed there will always be some ships to cooperate with the batteries.

..It becomes now important to examine the approaches to the city by land. Nature seems to have a strong barrier for the protection of this great city in locating the chain of mountains called the San Bruno across a great portion of the peninsula between the Bay of San Francisco and the Pacific Ocean. Commencing at Point San Bruno and extending to the San Pedro road where the San Jose road intersects it, is a continuous chain of impassable mountains with the exception of a narrow roadway lately cut out of the rock side which is called San Bruno turnpike.

This road is susceptible of being defended by sharp shooters and a few field pieces until they reach Visitation Point a distance of about two miles. On this point batteries should be erected to guard against the enemy's occupying the Gaudalupe Valley. On the other extremity of these mountains as has already been mentioned the two main avenues or roads, the San Pedro and San Jose, connect and passing around the spurs of mountains on the west reach the city through the extensive valley called the Rancho Rincon de las Salinas. It would become very important to establish batteries at and near the junction of those

roads. Good positions for that purpose have been observed on the spurs of the mountains near the Abbey House where the road passes. As the San Mateo Valley intervenes between this road and the Pacific ocean it will be necessary to establish batteries near the Laguna de la Merced to prevent the position from being turned by an approach on the seashore.

The next important point to be protected by batteries will be on the west end of the Black Hill near what is called Shear's Five Mile house.

From the Abbey House to Shear's two roads are constructed the one diverging from the other until they converge again and unite at a point called Alemany's. From what has just been said of the Black Hills it becomes evident that the city must be defended at these important points by a series of batteries so placed as to command the main avenues leading to it and at the same time overlooking the three principal and extensive valleys extending from the bay to the Pacific Coast within the chain of the San Bruno mountains.

In the general plan of defenses for Fort Point and the Presidio there are two heights in the rear of the fort which it is proposed to occupy by permanent redoubts; the absence of sufficient appropriations has thus far prevented their construction but it is probable that some means will be appropriated this session of Congress for an early commencement upon them. These redoubts are intended to prevent an approach on Fort Point by troops landing in the vicinity of Point Lobos and are in consequence very much needed in the defense of that position. It is believed, general, that the system of defense herein proposed to guard against the enemy's approach on the city of San Francisco will prove the most effective and that the advantages that can be taken of the positions indicated will be conducive of the greatest results with the smallest means of both men and materials.

..R.E. De Russy

Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers.

volunteers. Oregon, Cavalry, Cornelius

War of Rebellion, Series L, Vol L, pt 1, pps 885-86

Headquarters First Regiment Cavalry Oregon 8th Vols. Portland Oregon.

Feb. 20, 1862

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

Reporting progress of raising a regiment of volunteer
cavalry in this state..

Lieut Col Maury in the southern portion of the
state has raised two full companies which are now in camp near
Jacksonville. he is confident of raising two more by 1st May.

B.F. Harding mustering officer in charge of the central
part of the state has raised one full company which is now at Salem,
Oregon. Mr. Harding, as elsewhere advised, ~~has~~ resigned.

p 886

In charge of the northern part of the state I have organized
three companies, one at The Dalles of forty men which for the want of
funds, and difficulty of procuring supplies for them as recruits I ordered
to be mustered in with a first lieutenant in command, and ordered him
to report to commanding officer at Fort Dalles where his company
is performing garrison duty. I pursued the same course
with the company recruited at this place who reported at Fort Vancouver.

The other company is stationed at Camp Barlow near Oregon
City. These companies are recruiting steadily. full by 1st May.

by which time I think the regiment will consist of eight companies.

Major Drew is now at San Francisco with requisitions upon
commander of Pac for clothing, arms and garrison equipage.

So soon as weather permits, establish camp in central portion
of the state, assemble all companies except those raised
in Southern Oregon which will remain under Lieutenant Col Maury, at
~~Camp Jackson~~ near Jacksonville. Object will be for drill and

mines north and east of this place bringing a large immigration from California country drained of supplies..

T.R. Cornelius, Colonel First Regiment
Cavalry Oregon Volunteers.

Feb 24, 1862, G. Wright to Cornelius

Received instructions given to you on the 24th of Sept last to include only four companies. Under authority thus conferred on me you will please perfect the organization of six companies of your regiment according to plan. The remaining four will not be organized until further orders. The music for your regiment will be confined to two buglers for each company. The organization of bands for volunteer regiments is suspended for the present.

Oregon-Calif.

Newspapers--treason

Headquarters, Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, Feb. 24, 1862
S.H. Parker, Esq. Postmaster at San Francisco and acting postmaster
for the Pacific Coast, San Francisco.

Sir: There is a paper published at Jacksonville, Oreg. called the
Southern Oregon Gazette, incendiary in its character, abusive of the
Government of the United States and treason, open or lurking in the
leading articles. Under these circumstances I deem it my duty to request
that you will give orders prohibiting the transmission of the above
named paper in the United States mails or there being received at any
post office for distribution.

G. Wright

Brig. Gen. U.S. Army, commanding

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Headquarters, Department of the Pacific
San Francisco, February 28, 1862

Lt. Col. Albermarle Cady, U.S. Army

Commanding, District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash.

Colonel: There are several newspapers published within this department
which are filled with abuse of the President and Government ~~which are~~
~~filled with~~ of the United States. It is quite enough that these libelers
should be permitted to print their traitorous sheets without receiving
the aid of the U.S. Mails to send them abroad. I will thank you to
scrutinize the papers published within your district and if you find
them disloyal and treasonable send me copies and I will have their
circulation through the mails and post-offices prohibited.

G. Wright.

Brig. Gen. U.S. Army commanding.

[I, L, I]
Secession

p 895-96

Headquarters Dept of the Pacific San Francisco Calif Feb. 24, 1862

S.H. Parker, postmaster at San Francisco and acting postal agent for the Pacific Coast.

There is a paper published at Jacksonville, Oreg. called the Southern Oregon Gazette, incendiary in its character, abusive of the p 896 Government of the United States, an treason, open or lurking in its leading articles. Under these circumstances I deem it my duty to request that you give orders prohibiting the transmission of the above named paper in the United States mails or their being received at any post office for distribution. G. Wright Major Gen U.S. Army commanding

Inclosur 2

to "right I have the honor to inform you that your order in relation to the Southern Oregon Gazette, a treasonable newspaper printed at Jacksonville Oreg/ has been received and the postmasters and mail contractors in the vicinity of its publication have been notified to prevent its transmission through the U.S. Mails.

S.H. Parker, postmaster.

Headquarters, Dept. of the Pacific

San Francisco March 1, 1862

Brig. Gen. L. Thomas: Adjutant General U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

General; When the order was received by Brig. Gen. Sumner to send all the regular troops in this department East, excepting four companies of artillery, instructions were immediately sent for the escort of 100 men of the Ninth infantry, with Lieut. John Mullan, on the Fort Benton and "alla" wagon road to be withdrawn and join their companies.

The order reached Lieutenant Mullan in the Bitter Root Valley but too late for the detachment to cross the mountains. The order is still in force and the escort will be withdrawn as soon as the road over the mountains is passable.

The Ninth Infantry now requires some 300 recruits and although active measures are being taken to enlist men, yet we have thus far progressed but slowly, the volunteer serving having absorbed the large mass of men disposed to join the Army for service on the coast. Under these circumstances it is submitted to the consideration of the

General in Chief whether it would not be advisable to suspend the operations on the wagon road until a more favorable opportunity. The great excitement throughout the entire country caused by the late discovery of the gold mines in the north has drawn off a large number of men who might otherwise join the army. However should any real danger threaten this coast whether from enemies without or traitors within a large force of men, loyal and true to their country's flag, would be found ready to rush to arms.

G. Wright

Brig. General, U.S. Army
commanding.

Wilton

Volunteers

War of Rebellion, Series L, Vol L, pt 1 p 910

Headquarters Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, March 6, 1862

Brig Gen L. Thomas

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

General: Enclosed herewith is a copy of a communication addressed to these headquarters by Col J. S. Steinberger, First Infantry, Washington Territory Volunteers (See March 1, p 900)

Col Steinberger is indefatigable in his exertions to fill his regiment; his success here has been very fair; he has now upward of 100 good men under instruction at Alcatraz Island. His officers have been selected with great care and judgment. Since Colonel Steinberger's communication of the 1st instant, he has been informed by Lieutenant-Colonel Wilton that his health will not permit him to accept the position offered him..

Very respectfully, your obedient servant

G. Wright

Brigadier-General, U.S. Army

p 900-

From San Francisco, March 1, 1862

have given authority for one company to be raised in Alameda, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz (counties) in this state.

From the companies authorized to be raised, one on Puget Sound, Washington Territory by R.V. Peabody, and two east of the Cascade Mountains by I.W. Cannady and F. Moore, I have received no intelligence since my last communication with your headquarters.

The depot for recruits directed by the commanding general at Fort Alcatraz has been established and subordinate to the commanding officer at that post is in charge of First Lieut W.F. Mason, mustered into service with the first detachment of forty men. ..

As permitted by the general commanding, Maj. C.H. Rumrill has been mustered into service and is now on duty at these headquarters.

Lieut Col James Tilton, appointed since my last communication, I have requested to repair to this city to be mustered into service and assist in the organization of the regiment..

The plan...to receive the recruits as they are presented by the different captains, have them examined by the medical officer, mustered into service, and then at once sent to the depot.

They are there formed into skeleton companies, each set of company officers credited with their own men enlisted, and awaiting the completion of company organization

It is an express stipulation in all the authorizations given in this State that the minimum standard of eighty men be reached by the 1st day of April next. The men of company organizations not completed by that time become forfeited to the Government and may be assigned as the interests of the regiment demand.... Application is made by numerous persons in different parts of the State for authority to raise men in this regiment and unless the next mail steamer from the north brings intelligence that would show prospects of procuring men in the District of Oregon beyond the requirements of the three companies now forming there, it is my intention to provide here for the remaining two and one-half companies.... Justus Steinberger, colonel commanding.

Special Orders No . 22 Hdqrs. Humboldt Military District, Fort Humboldt
March 7 6, 1862

1-Three new military posts will be immediately established in the district, one at Neil's ranch on the right bank of Van Dusen's Fork about 28 miles east of Hydenville; one at Bremer's ranch on the right bank of Mad River, opposite the Blue Slide and the third on the right bank of Redwood Creek, about one mile below ~~Minor's~~ Minor's ranch subject to the approval of the War Department.

The first of these posts will be named Fort Baker, the second Fort De Lyon and the third Fort Anderson.

2-Fort Baker will be garrisoned by Company A, third infantry, California Volunteers commanded by Captain Ketcham; Fort Lyon by Company K, Second Infantry, California Volunteers, under command of Captain Heffernan and Fort Anderson by Company F, Second Infantry, California Volunteers, Lieut. Flynn commanding. The three companies will proceed to their respective destinations on the 10th of March at an early hour in the morning.

By order of Col F.J. Lippitt.

John Hanna, Jr.

Acting assistant adjutant-general.

Headquarters, Humboldt Military District
Fort Humboldt, March 8, 1862

Capt. Thomas E. Ketcham

Comdg. Company A Third Infantry, California Volunteers;

Captain; You are charged by the colonel commanding the military district of Humboldt with the establishment of a new post on the northerly side of Van Dusen's Fork at Neil's ranch about twenty-eight miles eastward of Hydesville, to be called subject to the approval of the proper authority, Fort Baker. Your command is designed specially for the protection of the district of country lying between Van Dusen's Fork and Eel River from the north of Van Dusen's to the coast on the south and Mad River on the North, and your military operations will be confined to that district. This is not intended to prevent a temporary crossing of either of these rivers whenever you may have strong reason to believe that some important object may be subversed by so doing.

By Order of Col. Lippitt,
John Hanna, Jr. Act adt. gen

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Captain C.D. Douglas, Comdg. Company F Second Infantry, California Volunteers;

You are charged by the Colonel colonel:---a new post on the northerly side of Redwood Creek about a mile below Minor's ranch to be called subject to the approval of the proper authority, Fort Anderson. Your command is designed specially for the protection of the district of country lying between Redwood Creek on the south and Klamath River on the north and your military operations will be confined to that district. This is not intended etc..

Capt. Charles Heffernan, comdg. company K Second Infantry Calif. Vol.
..You are charged..with establishment of a new post on the northerly side of Mad River at Bremer's ranch opposite the Blue Slide about twenty miles to the eastward of Arcata to be called.....Fort Lyon.

The ground selected for the post consisting of eight acres or more will be pointed out to you by Mr. Bremer. Your command is designed....lying between Mad River and Redwood Creek and your operations will be confined to that district. ...

On the first of every month one half of the men of your command will take the field under the company officer for the purpose of capturing and bringing in all the Indians that can be found, whether men, women or children. The detachment will be kept fifteen days in the field and on its return the remaining half of all the effective men at the post will be sent out, also under the command of a company officer and will return at the end of the month. In other words it is intended that one-half of your entire effective force will be kept constantly in the field.

As great celerity of movement will be required the mules should be packed very lightly, not exceeding it is recommended 150 pounds for each mule. Fresh mules will be sent with each expedition. The purpose for which the military force is to be employed is not to make war upon the Indians nor to punish them for any murders or depredations hitherto committed but to bring them in and place them permanently on some reservation where they can be protected against all outrages from hostile whites. The end in view therefore ..a friendly one. You will avail yourself of every opportunity to impress the truth upon all the Indians with whom you can communicate directly or indirectly and to assure them that at the moment the surrender at your post or any other in the district, they will have entire protection for themselves and families. You will make and publish an order prohibiting any man of your command from killing or wounding an Indian unless in self-defense, in action or by orders of a superior officer. For any disobedience to this order you will cause the offender to be arrested and sent to Fort Humboldt for trial by a court martial which has the power in such case to sentence the guilty man to death. John Hanna, Jr. Lt Second Infantry, California Volunteers, Acting assistant adjutant gen. Humboldt military district.

Headquarters Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal. March 12, 1862
Commanding Navy-Yard Mare Island, Calif.

Captain: A reconnaissance has been made by the chief engineer of the army on this coast, and a plan for defensive works submitted to the guard the approaches to this city either by land or water. To guard against the possibility of a hostile fleet passing our first and second lines and forcing its way up Raccoon Straits and aiming a blow at the navy-yard and the arsenal at Benicia, it is proposed to erect batteries on points San Pablo and San Pedro to command the entrance of San Pablo Bay. We have no difficulty in throwing up the batteries, but one great embarrassment is the want of heavy guns. I can get none from the east and have to rely upon the resources of this country. Under the circumstances I shall be glad to ascertain from you if there are any heavy guns and suitable ammunition at the navy yard which we could obtain for the batteries. I propose to issue instructions to Captain McAllister, chief of the ordnance department on this coast, to take immediate steps to obtain materials and establish a foundry for casting guns and projectiles.

G. Wright

Brigadier-General, U.S. Army, commanding