

War of the Rebellion, Vol 1, Series L, pp. 492.

4th infantry

Headquarters, Fourth Infantry, Fort Dalles, Oreg. May 29 , 1861

Assistant Adjt. General, Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cali

Sir: The present would seem to be not an inappropriate time to invite the attention of the commanding general of the department to the very scattered positions of the Fourth Infantry and to respectfully request him, if not incompatible with the general interests of the service to make such changes therein as will bring them more immediately under the supervision of the regimental commander.

The regiment now occupies almost the entire length and no considerable portion of the breadth of the Department of the Pacific the companies being garrisoned at ten different posts and the commander with his headquarters at a post without even one of these companies with him. This post is the proper station of Maj. R.S. Garnett, Ninth Infantry, who is reported on the monthly return as "absent without leave" and who was assigned to it in August, 1859 and is supposed to be on his return to it at this time. Could the companies of the Fourth Infantry now serving in Oregon and at the Cascades be transferred to Puget Sound and those of the Ninth on the Sound be transferred to Oregon, I think it would be beneficial to the interests of the service and would give each regiment a more direct interest in the section in which it would be serving. Should it not be deemed advisable, however, to make this arrangement, it would gratify me to have my headquarters changed to a more central position with regard to the stations of the regiment, or to have one of the detached companies ordered to this post.

Robert C. Buchanan, Brevt. Lt. Col and Major Fourth Infantry, commanding

Fort Dalles, Oreg. May 30, 1861

Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen, district of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of special orders No. 6 of the District of Oregon and to report that in the present condition of this command I shall feel compelled to detain Captain Black's company until after the arrival of the other from Fort Walla Walla which will be about the middle of next week. I presume, unless Colonel Wright should forbid my doing so by the Monday's mail. The dragoon company having a detachment of twenty men at Warm Springs is too weak to furnish the necessary guard for the protection of the public property and post and attend also to the care of its horses.

Robert C. Buchanan

Brevt. Lt. Col Major 4th Infantry

commanding post.

Headquarters, District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash Ter June 1, 1861

Commanding officer, Fort Dalles, Oreg.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo in relation to the detention of Captain Black's company. I am instructed by the colonel commanding the district to say in reply that under the circumstances of the case you are authorized to detain Captain Black at the Dalles not later than Monday, the 10th instant. Very respectfully your obedient servant

Jno S. Mason

First Lieutenant, Third Artillery Act. Asst. Adj. Gen.

secessionists

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p 494.

General Orders No. 11, Hdqrs. Department of the Pacific, San
Francisco, May 31, 1861

Any vessel sailing under the secession flag, so called, which shall enter or attempt to enter any of the waters of the United States on this coast will immediately be captured by the troops stationed there. Any such vessel which shall fail to come to or surrender on being ~~dux~~ duly warned, or which shall attempt to escape, will be fired into and sunk, if necessary. By order of Brigadier General Sumner.
D.C. Buell, assistant adjutant general.

[P. 494]
troop movements

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

May 31, 1861

Col Wright, commanding district of Oregon, will send to this city) San Francisco if possible by the next steamer after the receipt of this order that company of infantry which he can best dispense with. He will also send a second company, if in his opinion it can be spared from the district. These troops will receive orders for their further destination on their arrival here.

Indianabuses

"War of Rebellion" Vol L, Series L, Part 1, p 494-5

Second Lieutenant, Sixth Infantry Commanding Detachment in the
Field, Edward Dillon, Fort Bragg, 'till May 31, 1861 to Capt C.S.
Lovell, sixth infantry, comdg fort Humboldt.

Reprt several parties of citizens now engaged in stealing or taking
by force Indian children from the district in which I am operating
against **Indians**, forty or fifty children through Long Valley in few

months sold both in and out of the country. say law cn't touch them.
Designed to produce retaliatory depredations on part of the Indians.

[Part I]

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Headquarters, June 3, 1861

Col. H.L. Scott, U.S. Army, New York

Concert with Col. William B. Franklin, Brevoort House and Colonel Tompkins, quar te master to arrest General A.S. Johnston on his arrival in New York, perhaps by sending by means of the pi ot boat.

Winfield Scott

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Headqua ters June 3, 1861

Commanding officer, Department of the West.

(Care Maj. S. Williams, Asst. Adj. Gen Saint Louis, Mo.)

The secretary of War directs that you arrest General A.S. Johnston if he returns from California by overland route.

Winfield Scott.

G. Wright, Colonel Ninth Infantry commanding to Maj. A.D. Buell,
asst. adjt. Gen Hdqrs, Dept of the Pacific, San Francisco, June 4, 1861

Major--I deem it my duty to invite the early attention of the
general commanding the department to the defenseless condition of the
posts and settlements on the Columbia River, as well as on the waters
of Puget Sound. At this moment a single hostile steamer could enter
the Columbia River and lay waste all the settlements to the Cascades
150 miles, as well as the large and flourishing city of Portland, twelve
miles up the Willamette River. Even this post and the ordnance
depot are not prepared for defense against heavy guns. I am fully
persuaded that no time should be lost; that a strong battery should
be constructed without delay at the mouth of the Columbia on Cape
Disappointment. Such a battery it is believed would effectually prevent
any hostile ship from attempting to cross that dangerous bar.

Point Defiance, twelve or fifteen miles north from Steilacoom, is in
a good position for a battery, and would guard the settlements on
the sound above that point. Should any sudden danger threaten
this coast, the presence of a naval force would be indispensably
necessary for our protection. At the moment we are destitute of heavy
guns, suitable for sea-coast defense. Some eight or nine months
since I made a requisition on the War Department for 15,000 stand
of small arms and equipments, as well as an ample supply of guns of
heavy caliber. But my requisitions and warnings have remained unheeded.
The sites which I have above recommended for planting batteries I had
surveyed by an engineer officer last fall and reserved for fortifications.
In an emergency it might be expedient to dismantle the Massachusetts. I
believe she has eight heavy guns as her present armament. I would most
respectfully invite the general to peruse my communication to the

headquarters of the Army dated about the 20th of October last, in which was fully set forth the present condition, wants and future prospects of the Department of Oregon.

Washington Territory Militia

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p 500

D.C. Buell, assistant adjutant general, 00 Headquarters Department
of the Pacific, San Francisco, June 5, 1861

Henry M. McGill, Esq.

Act. Governor, Territory of Washington, Olympia, Wash Ter.

Sir: The general commanding the department has received your
communication of the 23d ultimo requesting that a supply of arms may
be placed at the disposal of the Governor for arming the militia of
501 Washington Territory. The general directs me to say that
under existing circumstances he would not be authorized to act as you
propose, but that the arms are in readiness and can be promptly furnished
whenever an emergency arises rendering the issue necessary.

troop movements:

War of Rebellion, Series L, Vol L, part 1

p 502-503- Special Orders No. 97--D.C. Buell, assistant ~~0000~~ adjutant general, by order of Brigadier-General Sumner, Hdqrs Dept of the Pacific, San Francisco, June 7, 1861

2 Colonel Wright, commanding the District of Oregon, will send to this place with the greatest possible dispatch seven of the infantry companies which can best be spared from his command. They will receive orders for their further destination on arriving here...

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Buell to Col George Wright, San Francisco, June 7, 1861

..The general desires to leave entirely to your judgment the designation from the points from which these troops can best be spared. It is considered important, however, that they should be sent forward with the utmost dispatch ~~00h~~ without waiting for each other. If this unavoidable withdrawal of troops from your command should jeopardize its quiet, their place must probably in that emergency be supplied by volunteers, and on these points the general will be glad to have your views.

Secessionists and troop movements

War of Rebellion, Series I, Vol I, Part 1

p 506

E.V. Sumner, brig-gen U.S. Army Commanding, San Francisco, June 10, 1861

To Col Lorenzo Thomas, U.S. Army, assistant adjutant general, Washington D.C.

"...found it necessary to withdraw from Oregon a considerable part of the force stationed there to reinforce the troops in California and Nevada Territory.

The troops withdrawn are ~~com~~ three companies of artillery, and will be nine of infantry. There is no secession element in Oregon and nothing to apprehend there but the possibility of some Indian disturbances which seem to me of little consequence in comparison to preserving the integrity of the Union.

As I reported on the 25th of April 1, I believe there is a large majority of Union men in this State, but they are supine from confidence, while there is an active and zealous party of ~~secession~~ secessionists who will make all the mischief they can. I have checked them in the southern part of this State by placing a strong command at Los Angeles, and they are now trying to organize in Nevada Territory, but I am moving reinforcements rapidly to Fort Churchill, which will put down this movement. The leaders of this party claim to be acting by authority from the Montgomery government, which gives them

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some weight. ...I would respectfully and earnestly represent the great importance of organizing the civil government in Nevada Territory immediately. I believe if the Governor and other officials had been there this difficulty would not have arisen. There is no law or government there at all, and the Territory is a place of refuge for disorganizers and other unruly spirits...

June 10, 1861 Special Orders No. 7, Company F, Fourth Infantry will move without delay to Portland, Ore. prepared to embark on the next steamer for San Francisco. On arriving at San Francisco Captain Floyd Jones will report to the general commanding the department...

Special Orders No. 8 Ft. Vancouver, June 10, 1861 (p 509

I-Captain Went with his company (B Ninth Infantry) will move without delay from Fort Walla Walla to Fort Cascades, and relieve Captain Wallen, Fourth Infantry, in command of that post.

II-Captain Wallen, after being relieved by Captain Went will proceed with his company by first steamer to San Francisco and report to the general commanding the Department.

III Captain Archer with his company (I Ninth Infantry, will march without delay from Fort Colville and take post at Fort Walla Walla.

June 11, 1861-- Wright at Vancouver to Buell... Captain Mack with his company from Fort Dalles reached QeO here last evening...

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Special orders No. 9--June 11, 1861, Jno S. Mason, 1st Lt. 3rd artillery, acting as assistant adjutant general by order of Gen Wright.. Fort Vancouver, Wash...

I-Fort Cascades will be abandoned forthwith, and the public property of every description turned over to the proper departments at Fort Vancouver. Major Abbott and Lieutenant Mason will send their agents to the Cascades by the steamer tomorrow to receive the quartermaster's and

commi ary property f om Captain Wallen. Captain Wallen will after turning over the public property will proceed with the greatest dispatch and embark his company on the steamer Cortez, now at Portland, and comply with his previous orders.

II-Captain L, Ninth Infantry, under orders for Fort Walla Walla, will continue its march to Fort Dalles, descending the Columbia River by water. Company E, Ninth Infantry, under orders for Fort Dalles will continue its march without delay to Fort Vancouver where its commander will receive further orders.

III Captain Dent, Ninth Infantry, with his company (B) under orders for Fort Cascades, will continue his march to Fort Hoskins and relieve Captain Angur, Fourth Infantry, in command of that post. Captain Angur will proceed without delay with his company to Portland and will embark on the first steamer for San Francisco, where he will report to the department commander.

IV-Fort Yamhill will be abandoned. The chiefs of the staff departments at these headquarters will take immediate measures to receive and secure the public property. Captain Russell, Fourth Infantry, with his company (K) will move promptly to Portland and will embark on the first steamer for San Francisco.

V-Camp Pickett, on San Juan Island, and Fort Townsend, will be abandoned and the public property sent to Fort Steilacoom. Captain Pickett, with Company D, Ninth Infantry and Captain Hunt, with Company C, Fourth Infantry, will embark on the first steamer for San Francisco. Major Ketchum, Fourth Infantry, will proceed with this command and on his arrival at San Francisco will report to the department commander.

VI-Camp Chehalis will be abandoned. The public property that cannot be removed, together with the buildings, will be placed in charge of a responsible agent. The company at Camp Chehalis (A, Fourth Infantry),

will then move promptly to the mouth of the Columbia River and embark on the first steamer for San Francisco etc.

VII-The assistant quartermaster at Fort Steilacoom will employ the Massachusetts in removing the public property from the posts abandoned on the sound, and place the buildings in charge of responsible agents.

VIII-The officers of the Medical department at Forts Yamhill, Cascades, and Townsend and Camps Pickett and Chehalis will accompany their respective commands.

War of Rebellion: Vol 1, Series L; Headquarters District of Oregon
Fort Vancouver, Wash Ter June 10, 1861. Special orders No. 7
Company F. Fourth Infantry, will be moved without delay to Portland,
Oreg. prepared to embark on the next steamer for San Francisco. On
arriving at San Francisco Captain Floyd-Jones will report to the
general commanding the department. The quartermaster's department will
furnish the necessary transportation, Jno. S. Mason, 1st Lt. 3rd
Artillery, acting assistant general.

Special Orders Headquarters District of Oregon
Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter June 10, 1861
no. 8

I-Captain Dent with his company (B ninth Infantry) will move
without delay from Fort Walla Walla to Fort Cascades and relieve
Captain Wallen, Fourth Infantry, in command of that post.

II-Captain Wallen, after being relieved by Captain Dent, will proceed
with his company by first steamer to San Francisco and report to the
general commanding the department.

III-Captain Archer with his company (I Ninth infantry) will march
without delay from Fort Colville and take post at Fort Walla Walla. C

IV-The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary
transportation to insure the prompt execution of the movements above
ordered. Captain Dent's company will be sent down from Old Fort Walla
Walla by Water. By Order of Col. Wright. Jno. S. Mason, first Lt.
third artillery, acting assistant adjt. general.

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash^{ter}. June 11, 1861

Maj. D.C. Buell, Asst. Adj. Gen. Hqrs. Dept of the Pacific, San Francisco.

Major: Special orders No 93 of 31st ultimo reached me yesterday.

My orders transmitted to you by this mail will inform you of my action in the case. (See next post) The steamer is now at Portland and will probably leave on her return trip to San Francisco tomorrow evening. It is not possible to send down either of the companies by this steamer, but they will both be in readiness to embark on the next. Captain Black with his company from Fort Dalles reached here last evening. VO Very respectfully your obedient servant

G. Wright, colonel 9th infantry
commanding.

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash^{ter} June 11, 1861

Special orders No 9

I-Fort Cascades will be abandoned forthwith and the public property of every description will be turned over to the proper departments at Fort Vancouver. Major Babbitt and Lieutenant Mason will send their agents to the Cascades by the steamer tomorrow to receive the quartermaster's and commissary property from Captain Wallen. Captain Wallen after turning over his public property will proceed with the greatest dispatch and embark with his company on the steamer Cortez, now at Portland and comply with his previous orders.

II- Company I, Ninth infantry, under orders for Fort Walla Walla will continue its march to Fort Dalles, descending the Columbia River by water. Company E, Ninth infantry under orders for Fort Dalles, will continue its march without delay to Fort Vancouver where its commander will receive further orders.

III-Captain Dent, Ninth Infantry with his company (B) under orders for Fort Cascades, will continue his march to Fort H_oskins and relieve

Captain Augur, Fourth Infantry in command of that post. Captain Augur will proceed without delay with his company to Portland and embark upon the first steamer for San Francisco where he will report to the department commander.

IV-Fort Yamhill will be abandoned. The chiefs of staff department at these headquarters will take immediate measure to receive and secure to the public property. Captain Russell, Fourth Infantry and his company, K, will move promptly to Portland and embark on the first steamer to S.F. where he will report to the department commander.

V-Camp Pickett on San Juan island and Fort Townsend will be abandoned and the public property sent to Fort Steilacoom. Captain Pickett and company D Ninth Infantry and Captain Hunt with Company C Fourth infantry, will embark on the first steamer for S.F. Major Ketchum fourth infantry will proceed with this command and on his arrival at S.F. will report to the department commander.

VI-Camp Chehalis will be abandoned. The public property that cannot be removed together with the buildings will be placed in charge of a responsible agent. The company at Camp Chehalis, 4 Fourth Infantry, will move promptly to the mouth of the Columbia river and embark on the first steamer for San Francisco where the command will report to the department commander.

VII The assistant quartermaster at Fort Steilacoom will employ the Massachusetts in removing the public property from the posts abandoned on the sound and place the buildings in charge of a responsible agents.

VIII-The officers of the medical departments at Fort Yamhill, Cascades and Townsend and Camps Pickett and Chehalis will accompany their respective commands.

By Order of Col. Wright. Jno S. Mason 1st Lt. Third artillery acting assistant adjutant-general.

colville and take post at Fort Dalles. With the present reduced force in the district I believe I have made the best distribution possible. Captains Wallen and Floyd-Jones Fourth Infantry with their companies are now on the Cortez and I expect Lieutenant Fleming Ninth Infantry with Company E down this evening to embark on the same ship.

Trusting thamy orders and the distribution Ihave made of the troops may meet the approval of the general, I am sir, your very
o bedient servant

G. Wright

Colonel Ninth Infantry, commanding.

Abuses of Indians

War of Rebellion, Series L, Vol L, Pt 1, p 513

D.C. Buell, assistant adjutant-general to Capt. Charles E. S.

Jovell, Sixth Infantry, U.S. Army Commanding Fort Humboldt, June 13
from San Francisco

A report has been made to this office by Lieut Edward Dillon that parties of white men are engaged in stealing and carrying or selling into bondage the children of the Indians in the district in which he is operating. He states as a reliable report that as many as forty or fifty Indian children have been taken through Long Valley within the last four months and sold, both in and out of the country. The department commander directs that you use all means in your power to prevent such infamous practice.

Coast Defenses

513 Series L, Vol I, Pt 1.

D.C. Buell to "right, June 12, 1861

"I have submitted to the department commander your communication of the 4th instant relative to the defenseless condition of the coast of Oregon and Washington Territory. He directs me to say that although he appreciates the importance of the subject, yet the urgent necessity for troops at other points with a view both to your Indian and internal relations, renders it impossible to adopt the means which you recommend for coast defense. He directs me to say also that if you should find the safety of the frontier settlements in your district against Indian hostilities seriously jeopardized by the withdrawal of as many companies as were called for in Special Orders No 97 of the 7th, you may diminish the number to four...

Troop movements Muster recommended. Fort Simcoe

War of Rebellion, Series L, Vol I, Pt 1.

pp 514-515...Right to Maj D.C. Buell from Fort Vancouver, June 14, 1861
to Headquarters Dept of the Pacific, San Francisco.

...Since August last fifteen companies have been withdrawn from
this district, leaving now only thirteen, many of them much in want of
recruits, the companies of the Ninth Infantry on Puget Sound being
only about half full...I have been compelled to withdraw the troops entirely
from Forts Cascades, Yamhill and Townsend, as well as Camps Pickett
and Chehalis...

I shall send down by the Cortez Captain Wallen with his company (H)
Fourth Infantry, and Lieutenant Fleming, with Company E, Ninth
Infantry. The remaining six companies cannot possibly be sent before
the return of the Pacific...

The whole of the Fourth Infantry remaining in this district
having been ordered to San Francisco, I have deemed it proper to order
Major Ketchum, of that regiment to accompany the troops of his post
I did not deem it proper for me to interfere with the headquarters of
the Fourth, it having been located at Fort Dalles by orders from Army
headquarters

....at that we can do is afford general protection to the frontier
settlements. It will be borne in mind that the Ninth Infantry has
2 officers and 100 picked men on the escort for Lieutenant Mullan's
wa on-road expedition and an officer with some thirty men found as
escort for the Boundary Commission, and that there is an officer with some
twenty men from the Company of dragoons at Fort Dalles is at the
Warm Springs Reservation. Although quiet at this moment throughout
the district, yet, prudentially, I would recommend that the

district commander be authorized to muster into service of the
United States such number of troops as might be absolutely necessary.

More than two years since when Fort Simcoe was abandoned, an ordnance sergeant was left at that post in charge of the ordnance and quartermaster property. He is still there, and possibly has a little public property on hand. I would recommend that the sergeant, with his property, be brought to Fort Wallis and the sergeant then disposed of as the general may deem proper.

Fort Cascades, Wash Ter June 14, 1861 (P 515)

To Maj D.C. Buell..I have the honor to report that I have this day abandoned this post by instructions received from the headquarters District of Oregon, dated Fort Vancouver, Washington June 11, 1861. The public property was all duly turned over to the proper departments at Fort Vancouver. Inclosed is the post return to date. H.D. Wallen, Captain, Fourth Infantry, Commanding.