

Indianapolis, Ind. June 17, 1864

Hon E.M. Stanton, Secretary of War: Governor Morton requests me to give publicity on Monday to the documents of the secret reasonable order, as a warning to the people of its nature.

I have purposely kept them secret, the better to undermine their operations and to enable the Government to have proof ample, if they should conclude to make simultaneous arrests of the leaders in the various Western States. I was a week at Louisville, and find the condition of affairs so precarious that I do not feel authorized to do anything that can precipitate disturbance in the rear of our armies.

It is a question in my mind whether if published it should not be done by the Government, so that it concludes not to rearrest Vallandigham it may with its clemency show that it has knowledge of the whole conspiracy.

The documents referred to are the secret forms of all the degrees of February 22, and the new work recently issued, also the constitution of the supreme councils of the United States, of State grand councils, and county temples, also address of grand commander communicating to the order Vallandigham's views and wishes.

The publishing office of the order for the United States are here, and its seizure would disclose other papers. An official of the order in their full confidence, but in my employ, will attend the session of the supreme council at Chicago July 4, it having adjourned from New York, February 22.

Vallandigham last night, at Dayton, defied arrest, declared the person and property of all instigators to be hostages for his security, and he would urge "eye for eye and tooth for tooth, so help him the every living Jehovah!"

I speak judiciously in saying that this matter is worthy the grave consideration of the President, his Cabinet, and the General-in-Chief, and that the contingency of grave domestic issues is possible.

Governors Bramlette and Morton, and Generals Rosecrans and Heintzelman, have concurred in the policy of secrecy, with a view of contemporaneous arrests. The last named left for his headquarters last night, and will mail my last report of June 6 which he was prevented from doing earlier by condition of affairs at Cincinnati during Morgan's raid.

I address you without intermediate channels as more direct and believing that I should not act in a matter that may possibly be of serious moment without the full knowledge and sanction of the Government.

Henry B. Carrington

Brigadier-General, commanding district.

(for reply see Series I, Vol XXXIV, Part IV, p. 451.)



Archer: (Time of his release from prison) Andersonville

War of Rebellion, Series II, Vol VII, p 377

General Orders No. 45

Headquarters, Andersonville, Ga., June 17, 1864

In obedience to orders from the Adjutant and Inspector-General's Office the undersigned assumes command at this post. All returns and reports will be made accordingly.

Capt. W.S. Winder, assistant adjutant general; Lieut R.W. Brown, aide-de camp; Lieut S.B. Davis, assistant adjutant and inspector general

Jno. H. Winder,  
Brigadier-General

Andersonville, June 18, 1862

General B. Bragg:

The force here is 2,867 present and absent, all reserves but 371; 1,462 for duty. Our force ought to be doubled. I shall see General Cobb to-morrow about more reserves and will write by mail.

JNO. H. Winder, brigadier-general.

Office of Superintendent of Prisons

Depot of Prisoners of War

Near Sandusky, Ohio, June 19, 1864.

Capt. A.N. Mead, Acting Assistant General:

Sir: I have the honor to submit ~~the~~ the following report of the condition of this prison and prisoners for the week ending today.

Prisoners' quarters, mess rooms, and kitchens, in very good order; grounds clean; sanitary condition continues good. Whole number of prisoners 2,154; number in hospital 48; deaths since last report, 1.

Very respectfully etc. E.A. Scovill, Major 128th Regt Ohio Vol. Infantry Superintendent of Prison.

HdQRS. U.S. Forces at Johnson's Island and Sandusky, Johnson's Island, Ohio, June 19, 1864

Approved except as to the condition of prison barracks, which have received some additional damage by holes being cut in them for light and ventilation.

This point was alluded to in my indorsement to the superintendent's report on the 12th instant. Have called the superintendent's attention to the necessity of restraining these acts and regulating whatever need be done to secure light and ventilation.

Respectfully forwarded to Col. William Hoffman, Third Infantry, Commissary-General of Prisoners.

Charles W. Hill

Colonel, commanding.

Andersonville: Consolidated return for C.S. military prison, Camp Senator, Andersonville, Ga, for week ending June 19, 1864  
date

June 13 received recaptured total rec. in prison quarters in hospital  
..... 19,517 1,165

grand total 20,682; died 30; in hospital 19,517 total on hand 20,652

Received on other dates in June included 1,108 from Richmond, 61 from Mobile, 1,069 from Richmond, 44 from Atlanta; 3 from Charleston 424 from Lynchburg 824 from Selma 49 from Petersburg; 1 sent to Macon.

Deaths: June 03 14, daily through June 19: 53, 47, 58, 58, 56, 31, 49/

Escapes ran 9, 1, 6, 1, 5, 5. recaptured 1, 8, 4 and 4.

Grand total built up from 20,652 at date, June 13 to 23,943 on June 19.

in hospital ran from 1,165 on June 13 to 1,271 on June 19.

(Certified by H. Wirz, captain, commanding prison. Approved W.S.

Winder, captain and assistant adjutant general.



(Retaliation) Archer for date proximo to release)

June 20, 1864, Col Hoffman, Commissary of Prisoners: Colonel: You will turn over to Major Strong of General Foster's staff five rebel officers, prisoners of war, of rank corresponding to that of U.S. officers exposed by General Sam Jones to the fire of our batteries in Charleston.

H.W. Halleck, major-general  
and chief of staff.

Chief Surgeon's Office, Andersonville Ga. June 20, 1864

Captain Hammond:

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the sanitary condition of C.S. prison at Andersonville, Ga.

Your inspection of the prison has no doubt convinced you of the too crowded condition of the prisoners within the stockade, which combined with the absence of barrack accommodation, is a prolific source of disease.

The arrangements for enforcing ~~the~~ of proper regulations for cleanliness of the camp are in progress. The hospital, up to the 22d ultimo, was located within the stockade, where it was impossible to provide the ~~sick~~ sick with the necessary comforts. The supply of tents has never been adequate to accommodate the number of sick. The present site of the hospital affords a fine shade and a good supply of water for drinking and cleanliness.

The area is a parallelogram whose sides are 260 feet by 340 feet. ~~There~~ There are 209 tents of all kinds, the majority of which are small picket tents and tent-flies ill adapted to hospital purposes. The capacity consistent with comfort does not exceed 800 men, but in consequence of an inadequate supply they have been compelled to



to accommodate 1,020 men of the worst cases. They are now so crowded as to render it necessary to refuse admission to many cases who cannot be treated with success in the kind of quarters occupied by inmates of the prison. Delay in obtaining ~~medical~~ medical supplies frequently arises ~~in~~ in consequence of the requisitions being required to be sent to the medical director of hospitals at Atlanta for approval whilst the supplies are drawn from Macon Ga, only sixty miles distant. The supply of medicines is not at all times equal to the demand...

..in hospital 1,022, in quarters 2,665; deaths 40 for total of 23,911 men (daily)

There are in all twelve medical officers, seven of whom attend sick call and five on duty at hospital; of this number five are employed by contract... )Measles and whooping cough prevailing)

Isaiah H. White,  
Chief of surgeons.

Headquarters of the Army, June 21, 1864

Colonel Hoffman, Commissary of Prisoners: Colonel: In addition to the five general officers, as directed yesterday, you will turn over to Major Strong for transportation to the Department of the South forty-five officers, rebel prisoners of war, H.W. Halleck: Major general and chief of staff.

(June 21, 1864) for Halleck to Foster in regard to confinement of Union Officers in that part of Charleston, S.C. exposed to the fire of Foster's batteries and directing retaliatory measures etc. see series I, Vol XXXV, Part II, p. 143.)

Washington D.C., June 21, 1864

Lieut Col. M. Burke, commanding Fort Lafayette, N.Y.

Send Maj. Gen. Frank Gardner, a prisoner of war at Fort Lafayette under a safe guard to Fort Delaware. Allow him to have communication with no person on the way. Reply

W. Hoffman,

Commissary-General of Prisoners.

Washington, June 21, 1864

Col. C.W. Hill, Commanding Johnson's Island, Sandusky, Ohio

Forward immediately to Fort Delaware, under safe guard, Brig. Gen. J.J. Archer, a prisoner of war in your charge. Let him have communication with no person by the way. Report when he will leave.

W. Hoffman

Commissionary-General of Prisoners.

Andersonville, June 21, 1864

General S. Cooper:

Do earnestly urge upon the Secretary the necessity of immediately establishing another prison. Want of provisions is a serious matter, and there are too many prisoners for one point. Union Springs, Ala.

Is represented as a suitable place.

J.H. Winder, brigadier-general

Macon, June 21, 1864

General B. Bragg:

General Jones being absent, I proceeded on receipt of your telegram of 15th instant to inspect prison depot at Andersonville.

Number of prisoners at depot on 20th instant was 23,951. The guard, commanded at present by Col. J.H. Fannin, First Georgia Reserves,



consist of four regiments State reserves, a detachment from Fifty-fifth Georgia Volunteers, and Dyke's Florida battery, the aggregate effective strength being 1,588.

The reserve troops are poorly instructed and without discipline.

The prison is surrounded by a stockade seventeen feet high and covers an area of sixteen acres and a half, only twelve acres of which are occupied. It is crowded and filthy, and insecure. An addition now being made will give ample room.

Rations issued to prisoners the same in quality and quantity as those issued to the guard. Average rate of mortality during present month has been thirty-six per diem. The guard should be strengthened by the addition of at least 1,500 men. Additional surgeons and 150 hospital tents immediately needed.

W.M. Hammond, Captain and Assistant  
adjutant-general.

(June 22, 1864--For Foster to Halleck inclosing list of Union officers placed under fire in Charleston, S.C. see series I, Vol XXXV, Part II, p. 144.)

Military Prison Johnson's Island, June 22,  
1864

Maj. Gen. N.P. Banks, New Orleans, La.

By letters received from New Orleans we learn that several officers surrendered at Port Hudson with others were recently sent from New Orleans to Pascagoula for exchange.

Supposing that no special reason exists for the delivery of a part of that does not apply to all of the Port Hudson prisoners, we beg leave in their behalf to call your attention to the case.



The day after the surrender you will remember that you voluntarily paroled the rank and file, and expressed regret that your orders forbade an extension of like favor to the officers. But, in consideration of what you were pleased to term a most gallant defense, you assured us that your influence would be used to procure for us a speedy exchange or liberation on parole.

When we left New Orleans the 4th of October last newspapers announced the fact, and members of your staff informed us we were going North ~~free~~ for exchange. Unfortunately for the interests of humanity the Federal and Confederate commissioners let their official differences of opinion degenerate into a personal quarrel, and a very ill natured correspondence grew out of it. While these gentlemen were struggling for ~~epistolary~~ epistolary notoriety prisoners on both sides suffered, many of them sickened and died. It has so chanced that the fortunes of war within the past few months has placed a number of your officers and men in possession of General E. Kirby Smith.

Now as we were surrendered to you, and in that sense may logically be considered the prisoners of your department, can you not procure our delivery for the return of an equivalent of your own recently captured officers?

Such exchanges were carried on at City Point up to the opening of the Virginia campaign in May. Why may not the same thing be done in the extreme South? We appeal to you to effect the exchange, not doubting that General Smith will readily concur in it as many now being here belong to his department.

There are about 200 of us here at present. The risks of camp pestilence and death dealing bullets on the field every soldier makes up his mind to encounter, but no one on taking service on either side contemplates



the horrible torture of perpetual imprisonment if unfortunately captured. Such a condition of things must shock the moral sense of Christendom.

Will you not lend your aid and influence to mitigate this great evil? Inclosed we send you a letter to General Kirby E. Smith. It may be sent to him or any other Confederate officer acting as exchange agent. We are, very respectfully, your obedient servants

W.R. Miles, colonel Miles  
Legion

I.G.W. Steedman, colonel, first regiment, Alabama Volunteers

Wm. N.R. Beal, brigadier-general Provisional Army C.S.

Ben W. Johnson, Colonel Fifteenth Arkansas Regiment.

Andersonville

Camp Sumpter, Andersonville, Ga. June 22, 1864

General S. Cooper, adjutant and inspector general:

.... We want at least two more details, and cannot find any one for this purpose. ..we have this morning 24,193 prisoners of war and increasing almost daily, larger than an army corps, and only 1,178 reserves (as raw as troops can be) for guard for all purposes.

We have this morning discovered a tunnel under the pickets, 14 feet deep and from 90 to 100 feet long. This work will show the desperation of the prisoners, and the breaking out of these prisoners would be more disastrous than a defeat of the army. I ....Jno H. Winder,  
Brigadier General.



Headquarters Post, Andersonville, Ga. June 22, 1864  
 General Orders No. 49 Capt. W.S. Reed, having reported for duty in accordance with orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, is assigned to duty as provost-marshal, and will assume command of the provost guard. BY order of General Winder.

W.S. Winder

Assistant Adjutant-General

June 23, 1862 -- For roll of Confederate prisoners of war to be sent from Fort Delaware to Hilton Head, S.C. see Series I, Vol XXXV, part II, P. 147.

Camp Sumpter, Andersonville, Ga. June 24, 1864

General S. Cooper, adjutant and inspector General Richmond, Va.

General: The pressing necessities of this post and the great irregularity of the mails have induced me to send Lieut Davis with this letter... The state of affairs at this post is in a critical condition. We have here largely over 24,000 prisoners of war and 1,205 very raw troops (Georgia Reserves) with the measles prevailing, badly armed and worse disciplined to guard them the prisoners render more desperate from the necessarily uncomfortably condition in which they are placed.

With the present force a raid on the post would almost of necessity be successful, as the prisoners would occupy the attention of the most troops. I do ~~not~~ conscientiously think the force should be added reinforced and I respectfully ask that it be done with the least possible delay.



There has been, and I am satisfied that there is now going on, a correspondence in the prisons with disaffected ~~xxx~~ persons outside and I have every reason to believe that just before my arrival an agent of General Sherman had been here tampering with the prisoners.

From the information I have been able to collect since I have been here I am satisfied that there is a portion of the population around here who ought to be looked after, and who actively sympathize with the prisoners.

In order to enable me to watch and counteract the influence I respectfully ask that Capt. D.W. Vowles with a detailed man by the name of Weatherford on the police at Richmond and two other well selected detectives be ordered to report to me immediately. It is difficult for those at a distance to realize the great responsibility of the command of this post and the great danger of a successful outbreak among the prisoners.

Twenty-five thousand men, by the mere force of numbers, can accomplish a great deal. If successful, the result to the country would be much more disastrous than a defeat of the armies; it would result in the total ruin and devastation of this whole section of country.

Every house would be burned, violence to women, destruction of crops, carrying off negroes, horses, mules and wagons. It is almost impossible to estimate the extent of such a disaster. ...

Another prison should be immediately established as recommended in my former letter, and that no more prisoners be sent to this post. The force is becoming too ponderous, and, indeed, it is not possible with my present means to extend the post fast enough to meet the demands. Within the last four days we have discovered two extensive tunnels reaching outside the stockade, showing great industry and determination on the part of the prisoners, your etc. Jno H. Winder, brigadier general



Jno H. Winder.. P.S. We have just discovered a tunnel reaching 130 feet outside the stockade.

Washington City D.C. June 25, 1864

Col William Hoffman, commissary-general of prisoners:

Sir: There is satisfactory evidence that Lieutenant Pavey, Captain Driscoll, Lieutenant Duchesney and Lieutenant Markbreit have been placed in close confinement (in cells) in Libby Prison in alleged retaliation for the confinement of certain rebel officers in Northern ~~prisons~~ ~~prisons~~ of which we have no specific information; and the Secretary of War directs that a like number of rebel officers be confined in a similar manner at Fort Delaware and that notice of that fact be given to the rebel authorities. You will please see this order executed.

E.A. Hitchcock, Maj. Gen of V ls. Commissioner for Exchange of Prisoners.

Office Commissary-General of Prisoners

Washington, D.C., June 27, 1864

Brig. Gen. A. Schoepf, commanding, Fort Delaware, Del.

General: By direction of the Secretary of War you will please place in close confinement, in a cell, the following named officers, now held as prisoners of war at Fort Delaware, viz: Capt James ~~REYNOLDS~~ B. Brown, Company K, Fourth Tennessee; First Lieut R.J. Brailsford, Company E, First Texas (Legion) First Lieut R.H.C. Bailey, Company A, Foster's cavalry; First Lieut A.W. Dozier, Company F, Sixth South Carolina Cavalry.

These officers are to be thus confined in retaliation for similar confinement of four Federal officers in Libby Prison and it will continue until those officers are treated like other prisoners of war.

Should any of the above-named rebel officers be too unwell to be placed in close confinement, please select others of the same rank to fill their places.

I am etc.

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

Fort Delaware, June 28, 1864

Col. W. Hoffman, U.S. Army, Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington D.C.

Colonel: I have the honor to report that to-day I inspected this fort and find it as follows in reference to the prisoners of war. Total number 9,162 composed of officers 1,345, enlisted men ~~7,713~~ 7,713, political prisoners 104. Number in hospital 556; officers 36, men 520

The hospital is in most excellent condition under the charge of Asst. Surg. H R. Silliman, U.S. Army.

The last monthly report shows miasmatic disease largely predominating and most fatal. This excess is to be attributed partly to the previous service of the prisoners and in part to the situation of the fort, the prevailing winds blowing from a miasmatic region.

The number of deaths has been proportionately large. This is owing ~~largely~~ probably to nostalgia, as the sick have every attention and comfort. Since the deprivation of tea and coffee disease seems to have increased and the sick not prospered as well.



A daily issue of coffee (morning issue) to all prisoners at this post I think advisable. A daily morning issue of tea or coffee, as the surgeon may think best to the sick is a necessity. The hospital fund at the end of May was \$2,347. Since 1st of June the reduced ration has been issued and is supposed to be sufficient, but whether or not there has been a necessary increase in the purchase of extra articles can only be ascertained at the end of the present month.

...the privies here are a nuisance and a source of complaint. They are not set far back enough for the excrescence to be removed by the tide, consequently the odor from it is most foul. It is proposed to remedy this defect by washing out the privies by water from a hose forced up from the ditch by a force pump.

...a large number of cases of itch are reported but are now diminishing. as the men are forced to bathe at least once a week.

Some tendency to scurvy exists. This is probably owing to there not having been any issue of ~~xxx~~ potatoes or other anti-scorbutic vegetable for three or four weeks. The recent orders have been strictly obeyed in the ration issue. Potatoes of good quality not being procurable nothing has been substituted for them. I recommend ...onions or other vegetables in sufficient quantity.

C.T. Alexander, surgeon, U.S. Army.

General Orders No. 57      Camp Sumpter, Andersonville, Ga., June 30, 1864

A gang of evil-disposed persons among the prisoners of war at this post having banded themselves together for the purpose of assaulting, murdering and robbing their fellow prisoners and having already committed all these deeds, it becomes necessary to adopt measures to protect the lives and property of the prisoners against the acts of these men, and in order that this may be accomplished, the well-disposed prisoners may and they are authorized to establish a court among themselves for the trial and punishment of all such offenders.

II-On such trials the charges will be distinctly made with specifications setting forth time and place, a copy of which will be furnished the accused.

III-The whole proceedings will be properly kept in writing, all the testimony fairly written out as nearly in the words of the witnesses as possible.

IV-The proceedings, findings and sentence in each case will be sent to the commanding officer for record, and if found in order and proper, the sentence will be ordered for execution.

By order of Brig. Gen John H. Winder

W.S. Winder, assistant adjutant  
general

Sanitary report of C.S.  
prison hospital, Andersonville, Ga., for the quarter ending June 30,  
1864

There is nothing in the topography of the country that can be said to have influenced the health of the command, except perhaps in the immediate camp through which passes a stream of water, the margins of which are low and swampy and have recently been drained with a view of reclaiming it



sufficiently for camping purposes, the result of which has been to expose to the rays of the summer sun a large surface covered with decomposing vegetable matter, a condition favorable to the production of malarial diseases. This surface is now being covered with dry sand.

With this exception the land is high and well drained, the soil light and sandy. The prisoners, being from the United States have been influenced perhaps as much by the climate as any other agency.

The prison was built to accommodate 10,000 prisoners in which have unavoidably been placed over 26,000, causing them to become so crowded as to prevent a proper circulation and due allowance of atmospheric air.

With this crowded condition there is an absence of barracks or tents, the only protection from the weather being little huts made of boughs, blankets and small picket-tents used in the U.S. Army.

Within the last few days the stockade has been increased ten acres relieving the crowded condition heretofore existing. Barracks are also being constructed

The diet of the prisoners is the same as that issued to Confederate soldiers in the field, viz one pound beef or ~~porridg~~ one-third pound bacon, one and one-fourth pound meal with an occasional issue of beans and rice.

The number of medical officers on duty at the prison is inadequate to perform the required duties. There are over 26,000 prisoners with only thirteen medical officers. Of this number, five attend the hospital where there are 1,134 sick.

The chief cause of disease and mortality is long confinement in prison,



which, in connection with the diet, having produced scurvy among them, has so lowered their vitality as to render them unable to ~~resist~~ resist disease, ~~which~~

The hospital, in the early part of the quarter being situated within the stockade, it was impossible to supply the sick with the necessary comforts; hospital bedding, diet etc. being stolen from the hospital by the prisoners.

In the latter part of the month of May authority was granted to move the hospital without the stockade. ..

Isaiah H. White,  
Chief surgeon at post.



[Series II, p. 390]

Johnson's Island--Archer..

War of Rebellion, Series I, Vol VII, p. 391

Washington, June 21, 1864

Col. C.W. Hill, commanding Johnson's Island, Sandusky, Ohio

Forward immediately to Fort Delaware, under safe guard, Brig. Gen J.J. Archer, a prisoner of war in your charge. Let him have communication with no person by the way. Report when he will ~~be~~ leave.

W. Hoffman,  
Commissioner General of  
Prisoners.



[P. 436]

Johnson's Island

( Proximo time Archer )

Series II, Vol. VII Office Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington D.C.,  
July 2, 1864, Maj. Gen. N.P. Banks, Comdg. Dept. of the Gulf, Headquarters  
New Orleans, La.

General: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the  
2d ultimo addressed to the Adjutant-General transmitting rolls of  
prisoners of war captured by the forces under your command at the times and  
places specified and sent North in June, 1863, and transmitting also a letter  
from Maj. Gen. R. Taylor of the C.S. Army, together with other papers in  
reference to the reported close confinement ~~of~~ in irons and murder of  
officers of colored troops and the maltreatment of colored troops. On ex-  
amining ~~the~~ our records I find that all the enlisted men named on your  
list except two were delivered at City Point on the 6th of July, 1863,

to Capt. W.H. Hatch, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army  
C.S. whose receipt is on file in this office. The officers named on the  
list forwarded were on board the steam-boat "Apple Leaf" en route to Port  
Delaware with a number of other officers, prisoners of war, who on the 10th  
of June rose upon the guard, took possession of the boat and compelled  
the officers of the boat to land them on the Virginia shore.

All the officers named made their except one

Capt. E.W. Fuller, gun boat Queen of the West, who  
afterward died at Johnson's Island on the 25th  
of July, 1863. General Taylor's letter, with the

accompanying papers have been submitted for the information of the Secretary  
of War. I return herewith the two lists with my certificate  
of the facts above stated. I am etc. W. Hoffman,  
Colonel Third Infantry and Commissary-General of Prisoners