



Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

Richard Dillon, Camp Commander

Defending our Monuments



Confederate California?

September Issue - 2017, Volume 20, Issue 8

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Camp Meeting – Special Picnic for General Humphreys Birthday, Saturday, August 26, at Belmont Plantation in Greenville, MS, starts at 10 AM to when everyone leaves**
-

CAMP COMMANDER

Richard Dillon
rlid846@gmail.com

EDITOR

Larry McCluney - (662) 453-7212
confederate@suddenlink.net

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Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp #1625, SCV
website: www.humphreys1625.com

Cover

Belmont Plantation is our feature cover for August.

Camp News:

Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

Compatriots,

Those of you that did not attend the picnic at Belmont Plantation really missed a treat. The food was terrific, the weather was pleasant, and the fellowship was fantastic.

I was pleasantly surprised by the large turnout of Camp members present. Perhaps we should have more meetings of this type.

We were honored to have our Division Commander, Jeff Barnes and his lovely wife, and our Division 1st Lieutenant Commander, Connor Bond, as our guests.

But, the highlight of the day was a guided tour of the Belmont Plantation House, with our OCR Chapter President, Sandra Stillman, as our tour guide. Believe me, Sandra is most knowledgeable about, not only the house, its construction, its furnishings, and its history, but the history of the original owners, the Worthingtons, as well.

If you are ever near the Plantation you owe it to yourself to stop by and let Sandra give you the "Grand Tour." I hope to see each of you at our September meeting.



Camp Meeting Minutes, August 2017

Adjutant's Report – Larry McCluney

We did not have a Camp meeting at our regular designated time this month, but we did have a Camp Picnic on Saturday August 26 to observe General Humphreys Birthday. Over 30 people attended the gathering which featured great food, fellowship, and a tour of Belmont Plantation. The MS Division Commander, Jeff Barnes and Lt. Commander Connor Bond attended as well. Many thanks goes out to Sandra Stillman who did the tours of the house and to the OCR for making the event a great success.

Our September meeting will feature Steve Cole from Memphis who will present a feature on the Battle of Collierville, TN. He will have a power point presentation on September 7. Also please remember dues. We have an extension on them and September 30th is the last day to pay without a late fee. Lets get them in ASAP and avoid the late fee. Please send dues to:

Larry McCluney
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

Make checks of 50.00 to SCV.

Mississippi Division News **Fall Muster**

The War Between the States comes to the Last Home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, the weekend of October 20-22, 2017. You can experience the sights, sounds and smells of the 1860's, as you witness the epic struggle that shaped the Nation. Come and Join Us!

You and your unit are invited to participate in this year's Fall Muster Event. We are in need of all branches of service, (North and South) for this weekend engagement. In this day and time, we must fight even harder to maintain history. You cannot ask for a better opportunity then this. Please help preserve history.

I hope your reenacting schedule allows you to attend this event. Beauvoir needs you! Artillery will be limited to first, eight (8) full scale guns to register. Please pass this on to others who may be interested. Please complete and return the attached pre-registration form. This will help us with the planning of the weekend to hopefully make this the best Fall Muster Ever!

Beauvoir's annual Trader Village will be September 6 through September 11 this year! Take a step back in time and come out to shop our Village of Artisans' hand-crafted candles, soaps, baskets and many more goods. Food vendors will be on site, as well as living historians.

General Admission, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily

Trader Village is currently accepting applications from vendors specializing in handmade, vintage, antique and repurposed items. Food vendors and artists are also invited to showcase their talents. Trader Village vendor applications can be found on www.visitbeauvoir.org under the "Tours & Events" tab. Only 5 more weeks!!



Mississippi Division Heritage Defense Chairman

Compatriots,

While the SCV cannot engage in partisan politics, our Charge requires us to engage in issue related politics, such as issues pertaining to our heritage, as so many of our members are already doing on the community level.

Brigade Commanders or their designees please have your camps compile and forward to you each member's email, snail mail and phone number, along with voting precinct and county.

Camps should also compile lists of state legislators in their area, including party affiliation and best guess as to whether they can be influenced by us, and send that information to the Heritage Defense Committee as we get ready to defend the flag, and probably the monuments too this coming legislative session. This as an ongoing process to be updated periodically and passed on to the new Brigade Commander when terms expire, as we know we will be fighting not only the state flag, but other heritage issues from now on.

We need to do what we can on the local level, but in some areas it is beyond our control. It is through a statewide effort, working on the governor, Lt. governor and legislature where we can do the most good.

I will have an announcement no later than early next week about the new Constitutional Initiative effort that will include additional language beyond I58, requiring our state supported institutions, agencies, and political subdivisions (cities and counties) to fly the State flag.

Once we have that hammer back in our hands we can be a reliable and leading voice to counter the drumbeat that is only just beginning. See the stories from just the last two days. More will come. If you have not been contacted by your Brigade Commander about participating in the Committee's work, but would like to, please contact me directly.

<http://www.sunherald.com/news/local/counties/harrison-county/article164451312.html>

<http://www.wlox.com/story/36016433/archie-manning-says-he-supports-changing-mississippi-state-flag>

YOS,

Greg Stewart

Heritage Defense Chair

gregstewart@cableone.net

228-234-0220

[cedarhfarm@
yahoo.com](mailto:cedarhfarm@yahoo.com)

Step back in time and visit Civil War era Union and Confederate Soldier encampments, skirmishes and full battles. On **Friday Sept. 29th at 12:15 pm** there will be a short skirmish perfect for middle – high school field trips. There will be a main battle on **Sat. Sept. 30th at 2:00pm** and **Sun. Oct. 1st at 2:00pm**, complete with infantry, artillery and cavalry.

You can walk through and visit the soldiers in their civil war era camps and see what it would have been like to live back in those days. The skirmish on Friday is set for after lunch so that younger elementary school kids can head out before the loud noises and the big battles on both Sat. and Sun. are set to be out at the very back of the farm so anyone with very little kids that do not want to be around the loud noise can stay up front and just enjoy the normal pumpkin patch activities. We welcome you and your family to come visit The Pumpkin Patch and see the fall colors at the farm. Take a tractor drawn hayride out to the pumpkin patch and let the kids pick their own, right out of the patch.

Future Site of ***The National Confederate Museum*** ***at Historic Elm Springs***



Columbia, Tennessee

TheConfederateMuseum.com
 HistoricElmSpringsCSA

The 2nd Annual
Cedar Hill Farm

Heritage Festival and
Civil War Days!

September 29-30, October 1 ~ Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Civil War Reenactment!

Ladies Tea - Grand Ball

Living History - Civil War Camp

Infantry - Artillery - Cavalry

All included with regular admission!



For a schedule of events and directions visit

www.scvcamp1452.com

For ticket information - www.gocedarhillfarm.com

BRICKS FOR BEAUVOIR



The plans are for a brick plaza around the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Each brick would cost \$50.00 and would have the name of a Confederate ancestor of members of the SCV who give to the effort. "The Bricks for Beauvoir" Project is spearheaded by Larry McCluney, Past Commander of the Mississippi Division. Thirteen columns, in a crescent, will represent the 13 States of the Confederacy and will fly the flag of each respective State. The project is drawing near the end. It is projected the project will be

complete by Fall Muster. By all reckoning there are 153 more spaces left in the archway

State Flag

The fight to remove our state flag continues with a new battle front opening every day it seems. A new city follows suit with the heritage haters and removes our state's flag from a position of honor in city and county offices. It is like they have all drunk the same "Kool Aid" and have this vision that with out the battle flag as a part of our state flag all other problems will melt away. Some cities and counties in our great State have rebuked the haters and have voted to continue to fly our state flag. The haters of our heritage never give up. After a failure, they not only double down on that strategy but develop a new and innovative ways to destroy the symbols of our heritage. A case study of this strategy is the war against our flag of the great state of Mississippi. You all know the efforts of the past to force removal of our present state flag. Popular votes, court cases, arm twisting of legislatures and proposed constitutional amendments are all examples that have so far failed. These efforts have all been opposed by the majority of the people of the state but a very vocal minority continue to carry the fight against our heritage. Their lack of victories has left, our left leaning cities and universities to lower our beautiful state flag. Now with a very important event to our state, the bicentennial of our statehood, will come a new effort to change our state flag, a flag to celebrate the bicentennial. This flag will fill the empty flag poles around the state and there will be resolutions celebrating our bicentennial and the flag developed to celebrate the occasion. Along with this fell good movement, there will be a continued effort to change our state flag in the legislature. One of the "hate the flag" strategies is to over the year of our bicentennial to gather momentum to have this flag to replace our current flag. My position is as always no compromise no surrender. Contact your Representative and Senator in Jackson and voice your opinion on our state flag. The speaker of the house will continue his effort to erase our proud heritage. The Clarion Ledger, in an attempt to fuel the fire decided to ask for proposed flag designs



2013 Mississippi Code

Title 55 - PARKS AND RECREATION

Chapter 15 - COMMEMORATIVE PARKS AND MONUMENTS

ALTERATION OF HISTORICAL MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

§ 55-15-81 - Alteration of historical monuments and memorials prohibited; sanctions

Universal Citation: [MS Code § 55-15-81 \(2013\)](#)

(1) None of the following items, structures or areas may be relocated, removed, disturbed, altered, renamed or rededicated: Any Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, War Between the States, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War, War in Iraq or Native American Wars statues, monuments, memorials or nameplates (plaques), which have been erected on public property of the state or any of its political subdivisions, such as local, municipal or county owned public areas, and any statues, monuments, memorials, nameplates (plaques), schools, streets, bridges, buildings, parks preserves, reserves or other public items, structure or areas of the state or any of its political subdivisions, such as, local, municipal or county owned public areas, which have been dedicated in memory of, or named for, any historical military figure, historical military event, military organization or military unit.

(2) No person may prevent the public body responsible for maintaining any of the items, structures or areas described above from taking proper measures and exercising proper means for the protection, preservation, care, repair or restoration of those items, structures or areas. The governing body may move the memorial to a more suitable location if it is determined that the location is more appropriate to displaying the monument.

(3) This section shall not apply to items, structures or areas located on property owned or acquired by the Mississippi Transportation Commission which may interfere with the construction, maintenance or operation of public transportation facilities.

Thanks to Commander Chuck Bond for the above.

National SCV

SCV Magazine Update

For the past several years, but especially over the past 2 years, the SCV has had countless correspondence "lost" through the U. S. Postal Service, specifically, but not limited to, our magazine. The headquarters has filed reports with the USPS, as well as hundreds of our members, and we've placed numerous notifications in our magazine addressing this issue. This has become almost epidemic with magazines damaged beyond recognition or members not receiving magazines for years. Over the past 6 months, the SCV has sent out boxes of magazines to whole camps whose members haven't received their magazines. Headquarters routinely sends members replacement magazines and this is a substantial cost to the organization. Over the past year, we have made modifications to the dust cover of the magazine and this has made a moderate improvement for some members. However, over the past two editions of the Confederate Veteran, a significant amount of members are not receiving it. In response to this, the SCV is experimenting with packaging to determine if it makes a difference in this issue.

Those members who have had no issues receiving their magazines see no reason to adapt to the changing situation, but those members who have had significant issues are beyond frustrated. Our headquarters wastes too much resources on providing replacement magazines, so this is a business decision for the good of our organization.

Our magazine is an important method by which many of our members receive official communications from the SCV leadership. Many of our members don't have email or Facebook, so the Confederate Veteran is essential for these members. It is our responsibility as an organization to adapt to our environment, regardless of how we feel about it. To ignore reality and continue business as usual is not a trait of a successful organization. We will continue to assess problems and adapt as required for the good of our organization.

We ask that members who have damaged or missing correspondence continue reporting these issues to the USPS inspectors. It is a federal crime to tamper with mail. We need to use all resources available to fix these problems. Regardless, we have a fiduciary responsibility to do all we can to ensure that our members receive the benefits of membership they pay for.

Thank you and continue to fulfill the Charge!

Mike Landree

Executive Director



Attention Adjutants and Camp members who would like their annual dues covered by the things you were going to buy anyway:

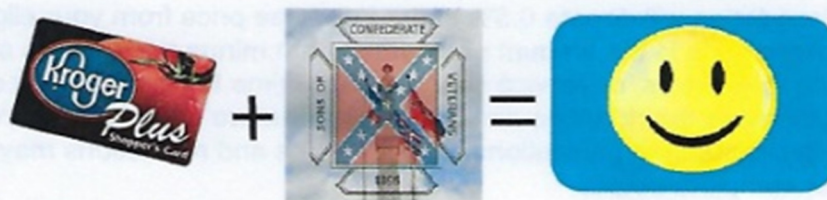
Kroger Community Rewards

Do you shop at Kroger? You can now give a percentage of what you spend on groceries directly to your SCV Camp or Beauvoir when you use your Kroger Plus Card. No cost to you. Big benefit for the Camp and our activities. (This doesn't interfere in any way with your gas points, etc.)

Go to Krogercommunityrewards.com and create an account using your actual Kroger rewards card number. Follow the directions below. It's really easy and every little bit helps of take care of our shelter babies. Thank you!

TO USE THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:

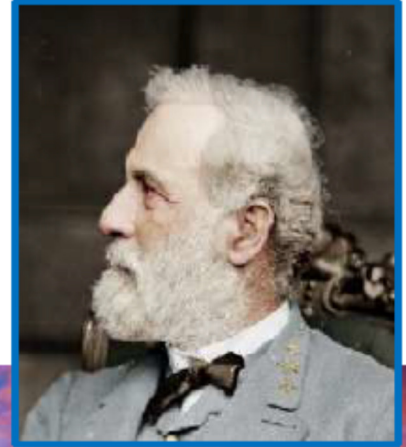
- Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
- Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with your organization after you sign up.
- If a member does not yet have a Kroger Plus card, please let them know that they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.
- Click on Sign In/Register
- Most participants are new online customers, so they must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box.
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
- Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter the NPO number(of your camp or Beauvoir's) from list and click on confirm.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.
- REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your group until after your member(s) register their card(s).
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call [800-576-4377](tel:800-576-4377), select option 4 to get your Kroger Plus card number.
- Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count.



- Kudos to Camp #265 for finding this program. Several camps in Tennessee do enough business at Krogers to pay their members annual dues. Imagine what can do for retention!

AMERICAN WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

"The truth is this: The march of Providence is so slow and our desires so impatient; the work of progress so immense and our means of aiding it so feeble; the life of humanity so long, that of the individual so brief that we often see only the ebb of the advancing wave and are thus discouraged. It is history that teaches us to hope. Robert E. Lee."



A much used photograph of sunset from the Union position on Little Round Top, with the statue of Gen. Gouverneur Warren. (Photo © Appalachianviews/Dreamstime.) This scene, so magnificent, would mean nothing without the memorial. The image produces its own raft of questions and draws the student deeper into the fundamentals of what was happening. Where is it? Who caused it and what was the outcome? How did this man come to be on this spot at this time? What were the outcomes on history's tale of the epoch? Most importantly, why did this happen? Was it necessary? Remove the statues and you remove all the questions. Remove the questions and you remove the history and educational connections. You silence voices that still otherwise speak to us down 150 years of history. We want to hear their stories, we want to see the people who made their mark on history and the landscape; we want to decide for ourselves who we honour for their place in our shared history. I do not want your politically correct or incorrect version of history, I want history as it is and as our ancestors saw fit to leave it for us to see-Editor.

P

resident Dwight D. Eisenhower always kept a picture of General Lee in his office. The President enacted, in a joint resolution, approved by Congress 7 September 1957, a *Civil War Centennial Commission* to coordinate the nationwide observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the war. President Eisenhower asked all agencies of all governments, Federal, State, local and their officials to encourage, foster and participate in a Centennial

observance. In its long history nothing has captivated people as much as the War Between the States. Yet it divides as much today, some 150 years later as it did at the time or at the centenary. Perhaps the sheer magnitude of the bitter conflict that witnessed some 3 million young men, half the country's male population between 15 and 40, embroiled in the embattled forces of North and South to fight for who knows what? Frankly, most didn't know what they were fighting for, it certainly wasn't to free slaves, if we believe Lincoln it was to preserve the Union. We are told we must not ask questions and just accept this as basic fact. The Union enlisted soldier or sailor had no idea why they were fighting other than to put down a 'rebellion.' Later, revenge and self-defence became prime motivators, particularly for the Southerner fighting for his State and home. Yes the Southerner, male or female knew why they were fighting, largely on their own soil, to preserve democracy, freedom and 'States' Rights.' Newspapers and politicians told the reader or voter what they should believe; in this sense our mind is still manipulated by news media and politicians. We have looked at the war's casualty figures in past issues of this journal but some 20% of those who served never returned home. However it is fair to say that, after Fort Sumter and 1st Manassas, the South did know why they were fighting, to preserve a way of life dependant on agriculture, that it included slavery is anathema. One thing is clear, both sides were fighting for history itself and the right to be written into the pages of the most august annals of the time, to proudly stand immortalised in monuments of stone or bronze for all time and for all to see. Yet now, there are those who would have us hide or tear down one half of this history, bury the truth in ignorance and bigotry.

General Lee had a great love for the coloured folk of his Southlands. Defiantly, with arms folded, ironically a coloured man removes his statue. A sad and poignant moment and a slur on American history and education-Editor.

It doesn't pay to put too much reliance on statistics

for they are derived from poorly kept records and highly questionable sources. One thing is certain, the combined casualty rate is much higher than all other US wars through to Korea. Ensuring continued debate and research, all of the issues raised then are still with us, questions still unanswered. Of the many preserved battlefields, at least 21 battle sites are administered by the excellent *National Park Service* and consists of some 50 thousand acres in 11 States. Additional battlefields such as *Saylor's Creek* and *New Market* have been preserved by supportive State governments and private organisations, yet some still disappear under car parks, housing subdivisions and supermarkets. Every plaque, headstone, monument, mausoleum and museum serves to enshrine their moment in history. For this reason they are sacrosanct, by merely visiting these places you are undertaking a pilgrimage and are transformed to a time and event that shook history out of its complacency. To tear down monuments is tantamount to sacrilege. Only by seeing the actual battlefields are you



able to truly appreciate the war and its many causes and outcomes. The immensity of what took place, the impact on survivors and indeed the impact on those of us who seek the answers 150 years later...still weigh heavily.

Each memorial on each battlefield conveys its own unique story, for this reason none must be removed, to do so removes a vital key to the war and obliterates the epoch that particular monument draws to our attention. The war didn't so much as break apart a recently united country but more accurately defined the rights of each United State and States' Rights as enshrined in the Constitution, it shines a light on American courage and fortitude. While some say the first shots were fired at *Fort Sumter* it should be remembered that *Fort Sumter* was located in the heart of *Charleston*, a southern port in a Southern State. Others argue the first shots fired at *Harper's Ferry*, putting down the murderous *John Brown* rebellion, were the first shots of the war. Ironically the first person *John Brown* killed in that battle was a free African American going about his business at the local railway station.

As for *Sumter*, the Union had no right holding the fort in light of the democratically forged secession that gave Southern States both independence and freedom and control of all its assets, civil and military. Republicans didn't oppose slavery in States where it existed, not even in those states in the North. They merely wanted it banned in US Western territories or new States created in those territories for political gain. (See page 16.) This would preserve, for all time the existence of slavery in the 15 States where it already existed. Yet many in the South wanted to see slavery slowly and economically removed, with government assistance in the form of subsidies. However the Republican government was in no mood to offer subsidies to ease a financial transition. Here lies the bitter truth of war, not to free slaves but to not render subsidies or help ease the enormous financial pain felt at the loss, to assist in the move to a free economy. The cost of war far exceeded anything these subsidies would have amounted to.

The South suffered incredibly and to help overcome the grief at the loss of loved ones, monuments became a focal point and in several locations, such as towns or battlefields, were to host the erection of numerous monuments to the war's participants. Some are magnificent, all are imbued with the years of suffering. These monuments are today the 'holy grails' of the war. To tamper, trample or destroy, is to invite repercussions beyond the tempest of 1861-65 now witnessed in 2017 in Virginia.

We can debate causes of the war ad-infini'tum, the first shots rang out in small towns both North and South and are not recorded, where people were shot protesting for or against secession. Incredibly, after 34 hours of shelling *Fort Sumter* with 4 thousand rounds, *Major Anderson* surrendered his garrison without loss of life, it was noon 14th April. The following day *Lincoln* declared war on rebellious territories and called for 75 thousand volunteers by 20 May. A total of 11 States had joined the Confederacy and the bloodiest war in American history was underway. The truth as to what caused the war is perhaps more due to overconfidence in military might and the lack of interest in exploring peaceful ways to resolve the many disputes, incentives or economic packages to overcome the amount of capitol already locked into the obnoxious slave industry by both North and South. Most Northerners demanded swift action, cries of "On to Richmond" was the battle cry. It would prove easier to utter than the action of it. From that day, monuments became our focal point and several locations, towns or battlefields hosted the erection of monuments to participants of the war. Sadly, and it would dismay *President Eisenhower* today, they are also the target of vandals and uncaring, ignorant fools. In this, *General Grant*, *General Lee*, *President Eisenhower* and even *President Lincoln* I am sure, would stand united. If they could, they too would stand arms folded in grim defiance as if to bar the way; they would form a human shield around our hallowed memorials on hallowed grounds that no one should defile our most sacred of places-The Bugle International Editor.

"General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America; he was a poised and inspiring leader, true to the high trust reposed in him by millions of his fellow citizens; he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle. Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his faith in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man, and unsullied as I read the pages of our history-Dwight D. Eisenhower President"

This story was written before the civil unrest in Virginia-Editor.

Sources:

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, "Dwight D. Eisenhower, Records as President, 1953-1961; White House Central Files, President's Personal File Series, Box 743, Folder: PPF 29-S Lee, General Robert E."

<https://www.npca.org/articles/246-sharing-the-real-civil-war#sm.000017sadze4lcn9ytu2a84g0janm>

<https://npca.s3.amazonaws.com/images/6872/35b814ed-8d05-402d-90a5-ae7288971067-banner.jpg?1445969193>



REPUBLIC OF CALIFORNIA.

Editor Robert Taylor QSM



With a shoreline bedecked with huge cannon balls this is Alcatraz fortress as it looked just after the war. Obviously the fortress was being decommissioned and readying for its long-term role as a prison.

H

olly Godbey researched and published a story in *"War History Online"* about the war in America reaching as far as the *Pacific Coast*. It's an area not much discussed in terms of so called *Civil War* studies and yet seems it could have played a more significant role in determining the war's outcome, it certainly played a major part in providing many interesting and famous participants. The author outlines the spread of war across North America to the Western seaboard. The conflict continued right across the *Pacific Ocean* and indeed around the world carried by Confederate ships such as the raiders *CCS Shenandoah* and *CSS Alabama*. However land battles also mark this theatre of war and in the story we learn of other parts of North America that would like to have joined the Confederacy.

T

he area then in conflict with the Union, is now currently *California, Oregon, Nevada, Washington, Utah, and Idaho*. While there were no grand land conflicts that pitted Union and Confederate forces against each other, as occurred in Virginia, there were untold incidents involving vigilante groups or militia bent on suppressing secessionists. Skirmishes were typically bestial and bloody affairs with most of the action caused by the Union trying to force down any secessionist sympathies. They used force to stop perceived Confederate plots and drive out *Native Americans* living in the area. Yes the poor indigenous peoples continued to be persecuted by Federal forces in spite of the war, in fact this encouraged some American Indians to join the Confederacy and many achieved notoriety for bravery and devotion to duty far from their tribal lands.

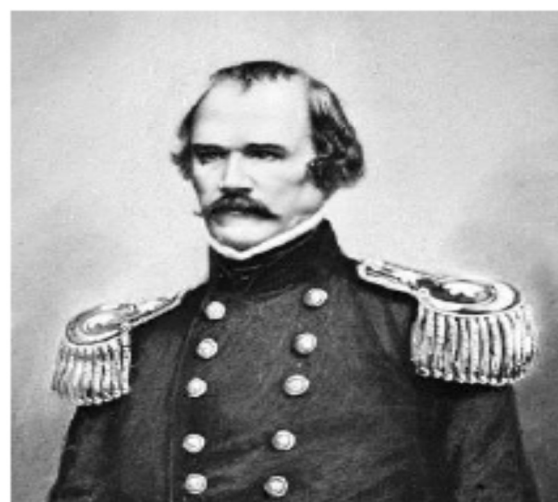
W

hile Confederate ships operated in the Pacific, they intentionally didn't engage with any Union war ships in the area, the *Alabama* met her demise when she took on a warship. Raiders were not warships in the conventional style and more designed for raiding commerce, however *CSS Shenandoah*, is known for firing the last shot of the war in the *Bering Sea* and on board were many Australians who embraced the Confederate cause and of course prize money. What many Americans don't know is that the American War Between the States almost erupted in *Melbourne, in Australia's State of Victoria*. Fort guns were run out and trained on the Confederate ship and the *Shenandoah* prepared to return fire. However while the military may have wished it, the public did not and the Confederate sailors were treated as heroes and feted at a grand ball in Ballarat. The Sesqui-centenary of which was marked by *Australian Round Table* members in 2015. The military had to bow to public sympathies leaving the prime instigator, the *American Consulate*, in a rage. Branded as *"Privateers"* they were not pirates in that they sailed under the Confederate flag and wore Confederate navy uniforms.



The Shenandoah beats a heavy gale, sails billow with the full strength of the wind. She carried the war right across the Pacific and around the world. (Painting by Patrick O'Brien via Marine Artists.)

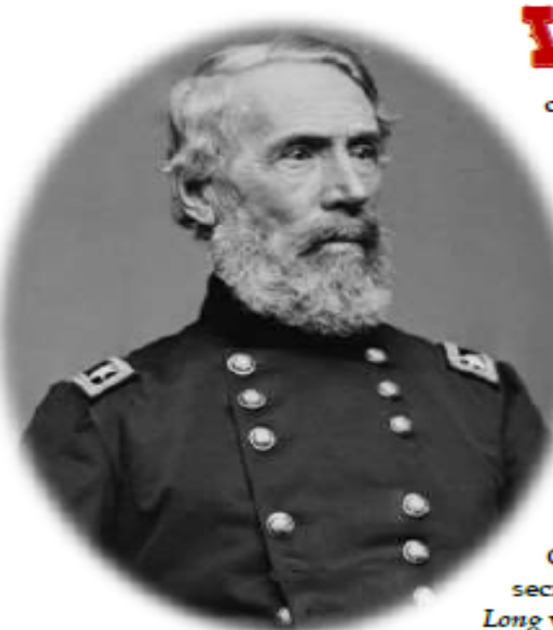
Although no significant land battles occurred in the Western Theatre of America, it still played a significant role in the war. Events started badly after *Lincoln's* first election. Confederate sympathizers in *California* decided they would join with *Oregon* and form their own country, to be called "*The Pacific Republic.*" Colonel Albert Sidney Johnston (Brevet Brigadier General) commanded all U.S. federal troops in the *Department of the Pacific* and found himself in charge of negotiating this operation. Here is where poor diplomacy, that was to so plague the South throughout the war, stepped up to disrupt a significant meeting between the Confederacy and Johnston, in fact things got a little out of hand. Johnston was enraged on hearing the Confederacy may try to seize forts in *California*. He caused somewhat of a scene, telling them he would fight them until he bled his last drop and they should tell their friends. Needless to say, the Confederacy withdrew support and didn't offer help with secession for the planned *Pacific Republic*.



Brig Gen Albert Sidney Johnston

It was a poor act of diplomacy on the part of the South, a missed golden opportunity that could have stretched the Union army and may even have affected the outcome of the war; such is history. Of interest is that Johnston strongly believed in Southern rights to secede but regretted that it was occurring. *Holly's* story is essential to understanding the complexity of the times and adds another chapter for us to better appreciate this war. At *Bernicia, Headquarters of the Department of the Pacific*, had Colonel Johnston been more diplomatic and flexible, *California* and *Oregon* could have cut off links with the United States, created their own country and a huge problem for the North; as they had Southern allegiance it would create another battle front for *Lincoln's* overstretched and poorly manned army. More importantly the South could have been supplied overland by camels, mules or wagon trains from an area very difficult for the North to blockade.

In 1860, as tensions escalated in the East, pro-Union Californians protested the perceived pro-Southern bias of the *San Francisco Roman Catholic* archdiocese's weekly newspaper, "*The Monitor*," by dumping its presses into *San Francisco Bay*. Then in February 1861, because he'd declared loyalty to his *State of Georgia*, Brigadier General David E. Twiggs was dismissed from the army for treason by outgoing U.S. President James Buchanan, and on 12 March 1861, Edwin Vose Sumner was nominated by the newly inaugurated Lincoln to replace Twiggs as one of only three Brigadier Generals in the regular army. In this way Sumner became the first new Union General created by the secession crisis.



Brig. Gen Edwin Vose Sumner

While the South was somewhat complacent, the North continued to worry over the possibility of Johnston's *Pacific Republic* and the real threats it would bring to the overall conduct of the war, including of course the planned blockade; they immediately replaced Johnston with Brig. Gen. Edwin Vose Sumner who was despatched west via *Panama* in March 1861. A chagrined Johnston resigned from the Union army 9th of April and after Sumner arrived 25th April handed over command and moved with his family to *Los Angeles*. He would later join the Confederacy and die in combat but not before proving himself an able and loyal combatant. Plans for a *Pacific Republic* slowly faded. Because of his posting to relieve Johnston, Sumner took no part in the 1861 disastrous campaigns of the war but interestingly, when Sumner left for *California*, his son-in-law Armistead Lindsay Long resigned his commission and enlisted with the Confederate Army, eventually becoming Robert E. Lee's military secretary and an artillery Brigadier General. Armistead Lindsay Long was author of the 1886 book *Memoirs of Robert E. Lee*. You see how history is interconnected?

General Twiggs had been a United States soldier during the *War of 1812* and the *Mexican War*. When he accepted a commission as *Major General* in the Confederate States 22 May 1861 he became the oldest Confederate General in the war. Twiggs was assigned to command the *Confederate Department of Louisiana* (comprising that state along with the southern half of *Mississippi* and *Alabama*) but being past the age of 70 was in poor health. He resigned his commission before assuming active duty and was succeeded by Maj. Gen. Mansfield Lovell in the command of *New Orleans* and retired 11 October 1861. Twiggs died of pneumonia in *Augusta, Georgia* 15 July 1862 and is buried in *Twiggs Cemetery* at "Good Hope" Plantation in *Richmond County, Georgia*.

General David E. Twiggs was to become the oldest General in the Confederate army.

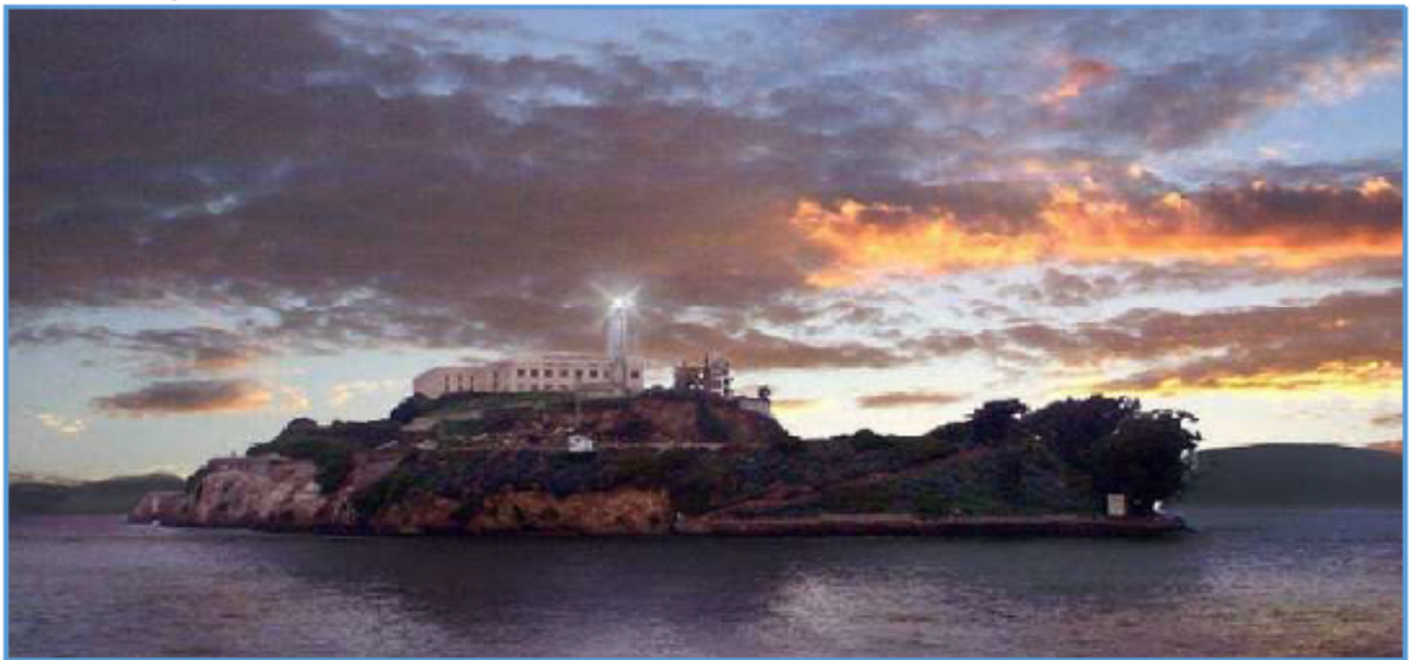


Despite Sumner's placement, the Union still remained anxious about the possible formation of a new country by *California* and *Oregon*, or that the area may yet join the Confederacy, particularly when *Arizona* had done so. It was 28 March 1861 that the newly formed *Arizona Territory* voted to separate from *New Mexico Territory* and join the Confederacy. Separatist movements in *California* were by no means discrete, a significant portion of

the population wanted to secede from the Union and had formed their own militias, adopting their own flag and holding many public displays.

Following the attack on *Fort Sumter* patriotic fervour swept all the way to *California* and spurred men into joining *Volunteer Regiments*, mostly they came from pro-Union counties in the north of the State. When the *Democratic Party* split over the war, *Republican* supporters of *Lincoln* took control of the state in the September elections. *Volunteer Regiments* were sent to occupy pro-secessionist *Southern California* and *Tulare County*, leaving them generally powerless during the war. However some Southerners, fleeing tyranny, travelled east to join the Confederate army, to do so they had to evade Union patrols and hostile *Apaches*. *Johnston* would travel with *Lewis Armistead* and others across *New Mexico Territory* to *Texas* and become commander of the Confederacy's western armies. *Johnston* died at the *Battle of Shiloh* and *Armistead* died at *Gettysburg*. Meanwhile those who remained in the state attempted to outfit a '*Privateer*' (*Confederate Raider*) to prey on coastal shipping, and late in the war two groups of partisan rangers were formed but not successful.

The Union moved three companies to *Los Angeles* to crush any public sentiment, no easy task in those days without trains. Once under way the process became a persecution including the dispersal of the militias, discovering suspected secessionist sympathizers and cutting off all communications with the Confederacy. It was a form of dictatorship equal to that of many brutal regimes of today. We may never know how many died or the real extent of that brutality but it consumed much manpower and as we know Union force against the will of the people was not only the prime mantra of the war, it was ultimately successful in the destruction of *Southern Independence*.



Alcatraz today, its natural beauty belies the horrors that lay within for so many until recent times. Now a popular tourist attraction-Editor.

At the outbreak of war the North was very short of navy ships and couldn't spare many to sail around *Cape Horn* to the *Pacific Coast*. They had ships guarding *Panama City* to protect gold shipments, and some patrolling the coast between *Panama* and *British Columbia*. What ships they had there were based in *San Francisco Bay*. It was the primary origin point for shipments of gold and silver from the *West Coast*, and the Union built or improvised forts as needed. One was *Fort Alcatraz*, which acted as a prison for secessionists. It is the same famous *Alcatraz* penitentiary that still receives droves of visitors today only under much more humane treatment it is a popular tourist attraction.

With California populace largely in favour of secession they adopted their own flag known as "Bear Flags," the banner of the earlier "Bear Flag Revolt" had been flown for several months by secessionists in *Los Angeles* and *San Bernardino* counties. The most notable legacy of the "California Republic" was the adoption of this flag as the basis of the modern State Flag of California. The flag has a star, a grizzly bear and coloured stripe with the words "California Republic." It was the



same design and creation of the original *Bear Flag* used in California's revolt of 1836 led by *Juan Alvarado* and *Isaac Graham*. The flag is often credited to a *Peter Storm*. The flags were made about one week before the storming of *Sonoma*, when *William Todd* and his companions claim to have made theirs, apparently based on *Storm's* first designs. In 1878, at the request of the *Los Angeles Evening Express*, *William Todd* wrote an account of the "Bear Flag" used at the storming of *Sonoma*, perhaps the first to be raised. Incidentally *William L. Todd* (1818–1879) was the cousin of *Mary Todd Lincoln* wife of the future American president *Abraham Lincoln* who would cause the flag to be raised by Confederate sympathisers.



In this way California's main involvement in the war included sending gold east, recruiting volunteer combat units replacing regular forces, maintaining and building numerous camps and fortifications, suppressing secessionist activity and securing the *New Mexico Territory* against the Confederacy. The State of California didn't send its units east, but many citizens travelled east to join the Union army. California's volunteers conducted numerous operations against the native peoples within the state and in the other Western territories of the Department of the Pacific and New Mexico.

Patrick Neary of the *Emmet Guard* prior to it becoming *Emmet Rifles*.
The uniform would later change to a dark blue tunic-Editor.

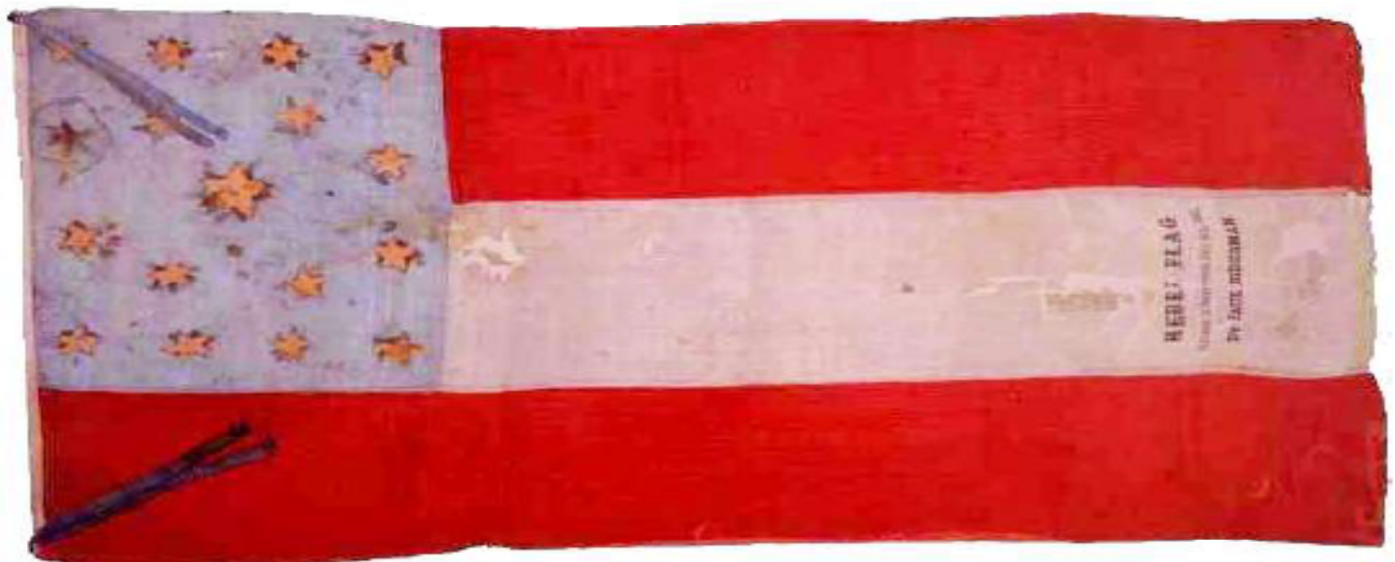
Following the Gold Rush, California had been settled primarily by Midwestern and Southern farmers, miners and businessmen. Democrats dominated the state from its foundation, Southern Democrats were largely sympathetic to secession a majority were in Southern California and *Tulare County* and in large numbers in *San Joaquin*, *Santa Clara*, *Monterey* and *San Francisco* counties. California was home to powerful businessmen who played a significant role in Californian politics through their control of mines, shipping, finance, and the *Republican Party* but remained a minority party until the secession crisis. While *California Militia* had been disbanded new pro-Union Militia were sworn in across the State under the supervision of County Sheriffs and Judges. Many of these units saw no action but some were to form the companies of the earliest

California Volunteer Regiments. Others like the *Petaluma Guard* and *Emmet Rifles* in *Sonoma County* suppressed a secessionist disturbance in *Healdsburg* in 1862. Notable as the only successfully formed pro-Southern militia

unit, the *Los Angeles Mounted Rifles* was organized 7 March 1861, in *Los Angeles County*. It included more than a few *Californios* in its leadership and its ranks, including the County Sheriff.

Emmet Rifles was comprised mainly men of Irish birth who were citizens and therefore had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States. The company gave every indication of becoming a loyal and efficient organization. Early in 1862, the name of the company was changed from *Emmet Guard* to *Emmet Rifles, Company F* by a majority vote of the company itself. With a bond of \$1,000 arms and accoutrements were received 27 October 1862. In June 1863, *Captain Baylis* informed *General Kibbe* that Secessionists practically surrounded *Petaluma*, and asked for the upgrade of arms to a more modern design. He deemed it necessary to have his unit well-armed fearing an outbreak from Southern sympathizers. On 22 September 1863, the *Emmet Rifles* were ordered to report to the Sheriff of *Sonoma County* in pursuance of *Special Order No. 27*. It seems the greed of land confiscation, as occurred in Missouri, stirred the pot in the county and numerous writs were issued resulting in skirmishes with local farmers about to be displaced. A report by *Captain P. B. Hewlitt* *Commanding Officer*, 30 September 1862, testifies to the success of the expedition and praised *Captain Baylis* and his men for their conduct in the performance of their duty averting a civil war. "The women, children and effects of Mr. Miller were removed from the premises and we returned to camp. On the following day we preceded to another portion of the ranch, and removed two families. A great deal of excitement prevailed here and violence was resorted to by a few men and the women, but no firearms were used. We preceded, from day to day, to execute the writs, until Sunday the twenty-eighth inst., when, having executed all the writs mentioned in the Order, we returned to Santa Rosa, and encamped for the night. On Monday, the twenty-ninth, having been dismissed by the Sheriff, we returned to Petaluma, and resumed our usual avocations-P. B Hewlitt *Captain Emmett Rifles*."

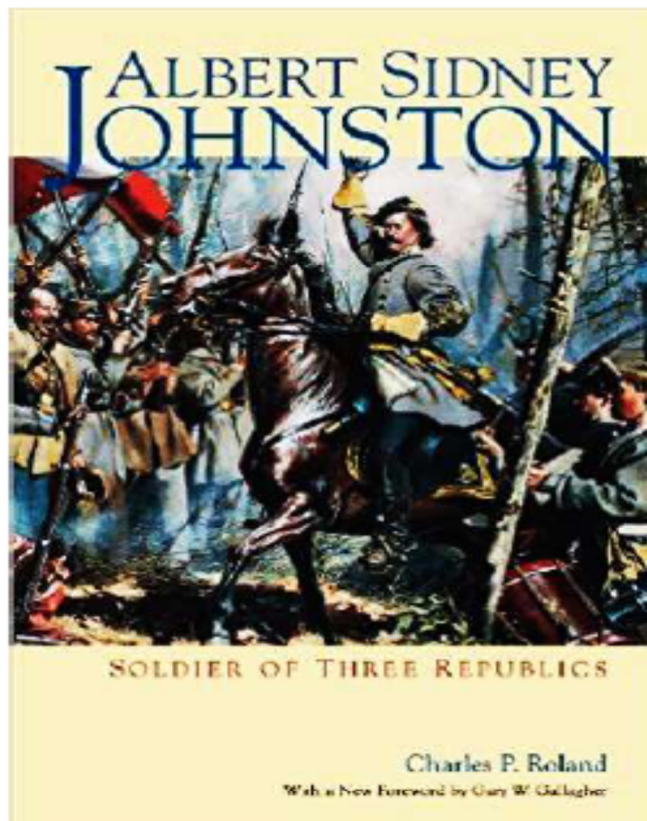
The only capture of a Confederate flag in California during the war took place 4 July 1861, in *Sacramento*. During *Independence Day* celebrations, secessionist *Major George P. Gilliss*, an engineer and *Mexican War* veteran, celebrated *Independence Day* from Britain as well as the Southern States from the Union. He unfurled a Confederate flag of his own design and proceeded to march down the street to both the applause and jeers of onlookers. *Jack Biderman* and *Curtis Clark*, enraged by *Gilliss'* actions, accosted him and "captured" the flag. The flag was based on the *First National Flag* of the Confederacy, the *Stars and Bars* however, the canton contains seventeen stars rather than the Confederate's seven. Because the flag was captured by *Jack Biderman*, it is often also referred to as the "*Biderman Flag*."



I mentioned earlier that there were plans to seize ships on the West Coast to use as raiders against Union commerce. In 1863, a respected and leading businessman *Asbury Harpending* travelled secretly to *Richmond* to obtain a letter of marque authorising the use of a raider for the Confederacy. He joined with other California members of the "*Knights of the Golden Circle*" in *San Francisco* to outfit a schooner *J. M. Chapman* as a

Confederate raider. They intended raiding ships on the Pacific coast carrying gold and silver shipments, seize their cargoes and deliver them to the Confederacy. Their attempt detected, they were seized by revenue officers and San Francisco police on *USS Cyane* during the night of their intended departure. The conspirators were tried and found guilty of treason. *Asbury Harpending* and the other leaders were each sentenced to ten years in prison and confined at *Alcatraz*. A few months later *President Lincoln* issued an amnesty proclamation granting full pardon to all political prisoners upon condition they take and keep the oath of allegiance. *Harpending* was given his freedom in February 1864.

On 16 November 1863, *Thomas Egerton Hogg* and five other Irish Confederate sympathizers boarded the *Joseph L. Gerrity*, a Union schooner loaded with cotton, in *Matamoros, Mexico*. On November 26, they seized the ship without harming the crew and abandoned them on the *Yucatán Peninsular*. The crew sailed to *Belize* in *British Honduras* where, with forged documents that gave the ship the new name *Eureka*, they sold the ship's cargo. By this time, the ship's real crew had alerted British authorities; *Hogg* and one other man escaped into *Nicaragua* and across the *Isthmus of Panama* but British authorities captured three others later in *Liverpool*, charging them with piracy. Word of *Hogg's* audacity and success reached *Confederate Navy Secretary Stephen Mallory* who in May 1864, instructed *Hogg* to seize a Union steamship, either the *Salvador* or the *Guatemala*, and use it for raiding commerce of Union shipping along the West Coast and whalers in the Pacific. On 10 November that year *Hogg's* party boarded the *Salvador* in *Panama City* to carry out the plan, but Union officials had received word of the plot and a party from *USS Lancaster* arrested *Hogg* and his men. *Hogg* was sentenced by a military commission to be hanged for violating the rules of war, but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Union General *Irvin McDowell*. *Hogg* began serving his sentence at *Alcatraz* and was transferred to *San Quentin* in August 1865. On 7 May 1866 he was released from prison by another order issued by *General McDowell*.



To prevent any further attempts to seize Pacific coast shipping, *General McDowell* ordered each passenger on board American merchant steamers to surrender all weapons when boarding the ship and every passenger and his baggage was to be searched. All officers were armed for the protection of their ships. While *California* wasn't the scene of any major conflicts it was the source of many great participants in the war who had a truly remarkable influence on it and left their exploits marked indelibly on American War Between the States history.

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Larry McCluney, Editor
1412 North Park Dr
Greenwood, MS 38930

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