

Confidential.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,
August 5, 1907.

Circular to the Field Officers of our Infantry.

My Dear

Colonel

We beg to advise you that we have tabulated in reply to our circular of March 31 last 900 + votes, representing every regiment in the service, except the 2nd, 8th, 15th, 19th and 24th now in the Philippines. We have heard from more than one battalion in all other regiments except in the 23rd and 26th. The following propositions were voted upon as follows:

CHIEF OF INFANTRY.

In the affirmative 856, in the negative 5, for delay 26.
To be a member of the General Staff 856.
To rank as Major General 263. *700 ranked from General's list*
To rank as Brigadier General 593. *700 ranked from General's list*
For a term of four years 562. *700 ranked from General's list*
Selected by the President 447. Otherwise 115.

INCREASE OF INFANTRY.

Affirmative votes cast 867. Negative votes cast - none.
Of these 7 voted for an increase of 5 regiments, 33 voted for an increase of 6 regiments, 68 voted for an increase of 15 regiments and of these 47 voted for AT LEAST 15 regiments, 238 voted for an increase of 20 regiments, of these 91 voted for AT LEAST 20 regiments, 213 voted for an increase of 24 regiments, 3 voted for an increase of 25 regiments, 164 voted for an increase of 30 regiments, 47 voted for an increase of 33 regiments, and 57 voted for a substantial increase without designating the number of regiments.

The following propositions were suggested and received the votes of a number of officers, namely:-

- That Captains of Infantry shall be mounted.
- That details to the General Staff, Philippine Scouts, etc., shall create vacancies in the arm or corps for which chosen.
- That all Infantry equipment shall be selected exclusively by boards of Infantry Officers.
- That strength of Infantry companies during peace shall be substantially increased.

INCREASE OF PAY.

There is a striking unanimity of opinion that there should be an increase of pay for all grades.

There is a difference of opinion as to details of this increase and as to how it shall be obtained.

By the time this reaches you the younger officers of your regiment will have received from Captains Burnside and Miles, 14th Infantry, urgent appeals for organization and for information as to how our Infantry stands on the question of "mounted pay", which will be perpetuated and increased if the "Dick-Carron" or other bill providing a percentage increase in the pay of officers is passed.

The information requested regarding the attitude of our Infantry officers towards "mounted pay" and its perpetuation is to be sent to Colonel E.F. Glenn, at whose post one of the officers is now stationed.

It is evident that there should be no division in our ranks, also, that in so important a matter the assistance and counsel of older officers will give additional weight to whatever conclusion may be reached by our Juniors.

The "Army and Navy Journal" of July 27, 1907, tells of a conference held the preceding Thursday between the representatives of the War, Navy and Treasury Departments and from the description given it seems that these departments of the Government have agreed upon and accepted a bill under which "mounted pay" continues, and the difference between it and dis-mounted pay is increased.

We should stand and act together if we are to expect anything from the War Department or from Congress. The question of "increase of pay" touches the younger officers most vitally, and the injustice of "mounted pay", as now existing, and especially its proposed increase is most galling to them, but the whole question is one upon which we should and must be united. The Junior Officers will doubtless try to induce the War Department to amend the "mounted pay" clause before the bill goes to Congress if they can secure sufficient backing from the regiments, and undoubtedly the bill should be so amended. Failing such an amendment in one of its most important features, shall the bill be fought or the amendment of it be fought in Congress? In the discussions and consultations bearing upon this important matter in all of its phases, and there are many, it is urged that our field officers assist and that we stand by our Juniors and succeed or fail as a unit.

Expressions of personal views and a description of action is especially requested which should be sent immediately to Colonel Glenn as time is limited and the matter is urgent.

The Infantry Association has advised the undersigned that it desires to receive and act upon the information received by us. As shown above it has been compiled up to date and is ready to submit.

Meantime we have asked for assurance from the Association that each and everything the majority of our Infantry has voted for shall be asked for and worked for with the determined and united effort of the Association.

We have also urgently recommended that the Association appoint a committee to take charge of further work in behalf of our Infantry, and to aid in carrying out the expressed wishes of the majority. Such committee to work in connection with, and under the general direction of the Association itself.

To secure our necessities or to accomplish anything further we need and must have funds. As these are to be sent to and disbursed by the Infantry Association "to increase the efficiency of the Infantry" and largely to defray the expenses of educating the people as to our necessities, further remarks in regard thereto are unnecessary. It is recommended that each and every officer subscribe the sum of five (5) dollars for the purpose named and that it be sent immediately to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Infantry Association at Washington, D.C. This amount, it is hoped, will suffice to cover expenses for an extended period, but it should be accompanied by an agreement to send such further funds as may be found necessary for the designated object.

It is requested that you inform Colonel Glenn at once as follows:-

(a) The action taken by your command with your own opinion upon the subject of "mounted pay" as herein above suggested.

(b) As to the willingness of yourself and command to intrust the securing of Infantry necessities to the committee as suggested herein above.

(c) As to the willingness of yourself and command to abide by the will of the majority in all matters effecting the Infantry.

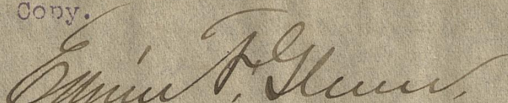
WILL YOU FILL OUT, SIGN AND SEND IN WITH YOUR REPLY THE ENCLOSED?

Very respectfully,

C. J. Crane,
Edwin P. Glenn

Lieut. Colonels U. S. Army.

A True Copy.


Lieut. Colonel 23rd Infantry.

Service of Field Staff and Band, and Companies "A" "B" "C" "D" "E" "F" "G" and "H" 17th Infantry, from date of first sailing for foreign service June 14th 1896, to June 30th 1907.

Companies "I" "K" and "L" 17th Infantry, from organization September 1898, to June 30th 1907.

Company "M" 17th Infantry, from organization January 1st 1899, to June 30th 1907.

	Change of Station.	Miles involved.	Times on Foreign Service.			Times in Continental limits of U.S.		
			Yrs.	Mo.	Days.	Yrs.	Mo.	Days.
F.S. & Band.	9	47048.	6	1	21	3	10	26
Company "A"	10	47770.	6	5	12	2	7	5
" " "B"	9	43055.	6	2	22	2	9	25
" " "C"	10	47556.	6	5	18	2	7	5
" " "D"	10	47365.	6	5	22	2	6	19
" " "E"	9	47448.	6	1	21	2	10	26
" " "F"	8	47743.	6	1	21	2	10	26
" " "G"	8	47635.	6	2	21	2	0	26
" " "H"	9	47765.	6	2	7	2	10	10
" " "I"	6	42371.	5	3	22	3	6	3
" " "K"	6	41701.	5	3	8	3	6	22
" " "L"	6	39061.	5	0	22	2	3	2
" " "M"	6	40670.	5	3	22	2	2	8

Note:- The above does not include distances traveled changing stations in the field on Campaigns, Expeditions etc.
Changes of stations between towns in Luzon not included.

Fort M. C. Brown Ga.
Aug 30. 07.

Dear Cotton:

I have finally
gone over the returns of
17 traps with the results
shown by me above.
I sent Glenn 8 copies.
I put it prompt sailing
Jan 14th 98. With you I can
see no reason for going
back to Apr 1st 98.

Well I am expecting to
start on the 3rd via Tampa
unless an extension of 10
days I have asked for be
granted in that case will
start from New Port News
on trainport Sept 16th

It is so fearfully hot
here all this month that
the chance to Comaques

will hardly be noticed as
far as weather is concerned.

They had a quiet day here
yesterday with great interest
shown by the Command.

Being mostly recruits,
that is young soldiers of
not more than a year I
think they took rather more
interest than older men.

The ball game was the best
I have seen. A score of 4 to 5
between four - two companies
against two - two.

There is nothing in the
camp so far as news items
are concerned. This is the
dull season in army affairs.

I shall be glad to see
you all again soon.

Truly yours

J. H. D. D. D.

I enclose report sent by Glenn.
Perhaps you have seen it.

See next page

I presume the question of mounted
and dismounted pay has
been brought to your attention.

I hope nothing too has been done
by that portion of regiment
in Cuba to bring that too
much to the front. As the
question of pay has been acted
upon by Part. 3 Senators
and must the approval of
prominent members of
Congress & Senators we
would better let the matter
of difference of pay between
Mt. & dis Mt. officers go.

A pay increase bill will
go through if too many de-
tails and minor matters
are not thrust into the
question. The increase of
of pay is very important
and is now in good hands
and I believe should be allowed.

to not there without any
interference by us.

Yrs
W

WAR DEPARTMENT.

J. Van Orsdel
W. McPherson *Colonel*

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.



Co. 1st L. Smith
Adjutant 1st Regt
Camaguey
Cuba

