

THE TYRANTS' FOE

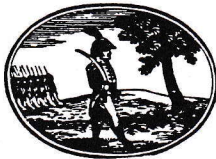


"TO THE TYRANTS NEVER YIELD"

ISSUE NO. 43

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS RIFLES

JANUARY 1993



COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

December 20, 1862
W. Scott Swenson, Commanding
First Trans-Mississippi Regt.

Please accept this report of the action with the enemy near the town of Fayetteville, Arkansas on the 5th and 6th of this month. Brevet Major Eastland commanded the Regiment at this time, yourself having been called away on other duty.

It was learned on the afternoon of December 4 that Federal forces were in the area. Our column, not yet on the field, continued to arrive throughout the night until by the next morning when the Regiment numbered nearly one-hundred and seventy in the ranks. As the senior officer present, I met with Brigadier General _____ and received from him the orders of the day and reconnoitered the area. I then endeavored to form the Regiment, as it was in much disarray from the forced march it had made. Major Eastland and Lt. Hunt, Acting Regimental Adjutant, soon arrived at which time I briefed them and turned the Regiment over to their able hands.

We encountered the enemy in a clearing at the foot of a hill shortly after midday. A fast-falling snow obscured our vision for a time and quickly blanketed the ground. The Federals sent forward two small battalions which we drove back. During the battle, Captain Mc Addo's company was directed by Acting Sergeant Major Schroeder to a position from where he was able to deliver a hot fire into the exposed right flank of the Federals. All who fell within my view performed their duty well.

After the fighting. Major Eastland marched us back to the hamlet of Prairie Grove where we bivouacked for the night. Snow, mixed with sleet, continued to fall throughout the day well into the early hours the next morning. The Confederate Guard occupied a school house and invited us to a "Christmas social" where we shared their fellowship and renewed our faith in the Lord and prayed for him to bring this war to a swift and successful conclusion. Goodwill abounded on this cold night as a group of village women shared a warm pot of stew with us. Refreshed--both in body and in spirit--we passed the night the best we could.

On the morning of the 6th, it was learned that we had merely encountered the Federal vanguard on the previous day and that the main body of the enemy was now close at hand. The Regiment was formed for battle and marched off to confront the enemy. Our company was greatly diminished in number as most of the men were on detached duty and serving elsewhere during this

campaign. Hence, Major Eastland assigned to my command a unit of Missourians who, along with my own men, fought well. We were ordered out in front of the Regiment several times to act as skirmishers. The fire was hot and the enemy pushed us back, causing us to fall back on the Regiment for support where we rejoined the line. After nearly an hour of constant firing, the Federals brought up their reserves and we, being outnumbered, were forced to break off the fight and withdraw from the area.

I would be remiss without asking you to take notice of the men in the ranks who performed their duty to a man. I also owe First Sergeant Bain and Sergeant Goman thanks for their assistance. Corporal Erwin Bullock was detached to serve as Regimental guide.

Since the engagement we have gone into winter quarters and are preparing for the upcoming campaign.

Your Obt. Servant,
Richard B. Winders
Commdg. Co. D, 32nd Arkansas Infantry.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



PLEASE LET YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR KNOW WHICH EVENTS YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. THIS INFORMATION IS VITAL FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.

*REGIMENTAL MUSTER: February 5-7, 1993 at Ft. Washita, OK. See related article in this issue.

*MURFREESBORO: March 5-7, 1993 near Murfreesboro, TN. See related article in this issue.

PORT HUDSON: March 27-28, 1993 at Port Hudson, LA. More details to come.

*PLEASANT HILL: April 3-4, 1993 at Pleasant Hill, LA. More details to come.

GLORIETTA PASS: July 1993 in New Mexico. More details to come.

INVASION OF THE NORTH: Fall 1993 in Indiana or Kentucky. A Tactical. More details to come.

THE RED RIVER CAMPAIGN: April 1994 in NW Louisiana. A week long recreation of armies on the march culminating with the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. More details to come.

NOTE: An "*" indicates a TEXAS RIFLES MAXIMUM EFFORT EVENT which all members should strive to attend. At the other events, attendance by TR members may be lower, and you may be on your own.

Regimental Camp of Instruction Scheduled For Feb. 5-7 at Fort Washita, OK.

The First Trans-Mississippi Regiment will hold a camp of instruction (including a School of the Officer and a School of the NCO) at Ft. Washita, Oklahoma on February 5-7, 1993. This will be a garrison event with an emphasis on improving our military effectiveness. There will be a social on Saturday night, so bring your own refreshments and musicians bring your instruments. Troops will be housed in barracks. Period mattress ticks (sacks) are encouraged as there are not enough bunks to go around. Wood/canvas cots are acceptable. Straw for ticks will be provided. All bedding should be period.

This event will stress officer and NCO training and instruction and the companies will work on firings from the kneeling and prone positions; skirmish and battalion drill; inspection with bedrolls and knapsacks; stacking arms; loading competitions (blanks); intra-regiment skirmishing and more.

Civilian impressions are welcome. Women will have available one of the rooms in the barracks to be used at night as Ladies' sleeping quarters. Those ladies planning to stay in these quarters should not bring any furniture other than a cot and chair, as there will not be much room. Another option for the ladies is to sleep in civilian camp tents outside the barracks. Camp wear for the ladies is required as the facilities do not make formal wear or ball gowns practicable and some chores will be likely asked of the ladies. All men are encouraged to quarter with their company.

Ft. Washita is located on Highway 199 East of Madill, Oklahoma. Soldiers should bring full winter campaign gear and any personal articles that might be found in garrison. Tables and chairs are fine but will probably have to be left out on the porch at night. Soldiers should also bring candle lanterns, musket cleaning patches and oil, knapsacks or bedrolls and the contents they plan to carry in them on campaign. Officers and NCOs should bring writing materials as well. The first meeting of NCOs and Officers will begin at approximately 8:00 P.M. on Friday night.

You can order a mattress tick for \$19.50 + \$3.50 P&H from the Regimental Quartermaster P.O. Box 553 Hatboro, PA 19040.

In the event of a severe ice storm, you should check with your company commander for any changes in plans.

MURFREESBORO

This event is put on by reenactors (the same ones that did Franklin in '89) and from all indications it should be the largest and best event since the 125th anniversary. The reenactment starts with a battle on Friday and all troops are urged to arrive by 1:00 P.M. on Friday. There is a \$3.00 registration fee for each participant. If you haven't done so already, please send your fee to Jeff Hunt ASAP, or bring it to Ft. Washita.

The Texas Rifles will be portraying Company K of the 10th Texas Dismounted Cavalry Regiment. This unit had been dismounted and equipped as infantry well in advance of Murfreesboro so NO cavalry uniforms, weapons or equipment will be used in our impression. At Winedale, members were assigned identities from the muster roll of Company K for use in first person impressions. If you were not at Winedale, please contact Vicki Betts ASAP so you can be assigned a name for this event. Elsewhere in this issue is a muster roll of Company K.

There were not enough people present at Winedale who were willing to commit to the bus trip, so the regional directors were charged with beating the bushes to drum up enough support to

make the bus trip a reality. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, not enough bus riders were found. **THUS EVERYONE WILL NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL TO THIS EVENT.** Please contact your Regional Director if you need a ride or if you have room for another rider in your vehicle.

This should be a great event and remember it will also represent our first opportunity to defend the Best of the Best Award that we won at Perryville.

Winedale Report

By Jamie Bain and Vince Draa

At our annual muster at Winedale January 9-10, Kay Kuykendall, Bruce Winders, Jeff Hunt and Jamie Bain were elected Civilian Coordinator, Captain, First Lieutenant and First Sergeant, respectively. Dwight Hall was appointed chaplain. Outgoing Civilian Coordinator Vicki Betts received TWO engraved silver dishes as tokens of appreciation and Tom Heard captured the coveted "cootie comb" award in the loading and firing competition. The team of Ray Siegmund, Bill Eates, Andy McElhannon and James Lampkin won the stacking competition and also received cootie combs.

Brian Ford, Stephanie Bain and Valerie Hasely were voted in as new members and Larry Richardson and James Lampkin returned to the ranks from furlough for health reasons. New recruits attending Winedale were Mike Barry, Elaine Haardt, Eric Kneupper, Robert Stirpay and Mark Taylor.

During Saturday's business meeting, annual dues were increased to \$18 for individual members and \$27 for families. Of the 47 members attending, 44 paid their dues at Winedale and several other members have since sent their dues to Jeff Hunt. Letters were sent to the 52 members who did not attend Winedale to inform them of the new dues structure and to remind them that only members who are current on their dues will continue to receive newsletters.

Drill Bits

By Jamie Bain

The Texas Rifles received a great honor at Perryville last October when we were named Best of the Best in our battalion. In 1993 we're going to have to be even better because now we've got someone coming after us. Our comrades, the Confederate Guard, have issued a challenge that they will surpass us on the drill field. At Winedale, Captain Winders reminded us that there is no such thing as coasting, or resting on our laurels. If we are not improving, then we are getting rustier.

This year we intend to get back to basics. It's easy to skip drill with the excuse that we already know this stuff. But when you stop practicing even the simplest things is when you begin to forget how to do them well, and eventually how to do them at all.

Sometimes it may seem that we concentrate on drill and small details too much. It can be argued that Real Confederate soldiers may not have been that precise with the details of drill. But we must remember that we get together to drill only between 6 to 8 times a year. Real Confederate soldiers went through training periods when they drilled 3 or 4 times a day; and not only when they first enlisted, but also while in winter camp. So for them drill became second nature. They might not have always performed them with "parade ground" snap and polish; but I'm sure that even when their drill was "sloppy", that they did it right. When reenactors get "sloppy", they don't look like veterans; they just look like they don't know what they're doing. The only way we can begin to approach the level of expertise at drill that they achieved through massive experience is by pounding on the details.

THE TEXAS RIFLES MASTHEAD

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Dave Stieghan 3007 Fairfax Dr. Tyler, TX 75701 (903) 566-2815



10th Texas Dismounted Cavalry

Present At Murfreesboro: Assigned

Rank	Name	Protrayed By . . .
1st Lieutenant	Wilson N. Muzzall	Bruce Winders
2nd Lieutenant	Martin Van Buren Clary	Jeff Hunt
1st Sergeant	Benjamin F. Dunn	Jamie Bain
2nd Sergeant	T. J. Murray	Gil Vollmering
3rd Sergeant	James Flowers Pool	Phil Ulbrich
Corporal	J. D. W. Spear	Ray Siegmund
Corporal	Hiram L. Henderson	Eric Cleveland
Corporal	Joseph M. Jarman	Chris Strzelecki
Private	John W. Allen	Bill Bates
Private	Samuel Birdwell	Mark Bryan
Private	P. A. Chambliss	Dennis Hubbard
Private	Richard Coker	Lee Chesney
Private	William T. Coker	Vince Draa
Private	Calvin Downey	Cal Hill
Private	William Riley Glenn	Mike Berry
Private	John A. Harrison	Bob Huey
Private	John J. Jarman	Jack Bell
Private	John R. Jordan	Harold Johnson
Private	Albert T. McDonald	Andy McElhannon
Private	David W. Peck	Brian Ford
Private	James E. Reeves	Gill Eastland
Private	J. M. Slinmer	Otto Haardt
Private	Edward H. Smith	Bob Wettlemann
Private	Levi L. Speer	Tom Heard
Private	Joshua C. Turner	Jerry Keller
Private	James S. White	Don Dratchenberg
Private	Edward Wooten	Dan Morgan
4th Sergeant [Pvt.]	Henry Pool	Ed Grandie
5th Sergeant [Pvt.]	C. P. Splawn	Don Frazier
Corporal	William M. Simmons	Erwin Bullock

Absent : Assigned

Private	George P. Allen	Larry McNay
Private	Edward Chambliss	Mike Moore
Private	Sam Houston Hicks	Scott Henning
Private	J. Wilson Hitt	Dave Redding
Private	Lundy M. McClung	Chuck Prack
Private	James C. Miller	Mark Texel
Private	John A. Watford	David Hill
Private	R. A. Watford	Will Evans

Absent: Unassigned

Captain	Quinton K. Gibson
2nd Lieutenant	Richard M. Felton
Private	U. H. Pucket

Discharged: Unassigned

Private	John T. Hicks
Private	John W. Splawn
Private	Andrew J. Adams

Lieutenants: 2	Sergeants: 3	Corporals: 3	Privates: 30	[38]
Total # in the Ranks: 29		Corporal as Regt. Guide: 1		

Texas Rifles on Regimental Staff & Other

Lieut. Col.	Scott Swenson	1
Regt. Qm. Sergt.	Marvin Schroeder	2
Sergt. Major	Dave Stieghan	3
General Guide	Erwin Bullock	4
Independ. Contractor	Tim Frazier	5
Independ. Contractor	Mack Frazier	6
Surgeon	Bob Williams	7
Surgeon/Civilian	Mike Enger	8
Chaplin	Dwight Hall	9
Brig. A. A. G.	Kevin Young	10

Other Possibilities

Mark Wong
Mark Texel
Justin McKinnis

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 2

The following responsibilities and duties are assigned to the various Non Commissioned Officers of the Texas Rifles.

1. Every sergeant must know and be able to instruct School of the Soldier, School of the Company, and Drill for Skirmishers. In addition, each must be familiar with general regulations pertaining to their office.
2. Every corporal must know and be able to instruct School of the Soldier and be familiar with the general regulations pertaining to their office. In addition--due to the necessities our particular form of service--each corporal must be prepared to assume the duties of sergeants on short notice: hence, all corporals are strongly urged to learn School of the Company and Drill for Skirmishers.
3. The First Sergeant is responsible for the following:
 - (a) He is designated Orderly Sergeant and will thus be charged with keeping all pertinent company records. These will include accurate list of those present at all events. To this end, he will cause the roll to be called at least three times a day.
 - (b) He is responsible for overseeing details necessary for the general welfare of the company while on the march or in camp.
 - (c) He is in charge of the company in the absence of company officers.
 - (d) It is within his power to delegate certain authorities to other sergeants and corporals in order to assist him in the discharge of his duties.
 - (e) He will drill the company upon order of the Captain.
 - (f) He should be prepared to act as Brevet 2nd Lieutenant in the case an additional company officer may be needed or an absent company officer must be replaced.
4. The Second Sergeant is responsible for the following:
 - (a) He will be designated Ordnance Sergeant and will thus be charged with the general upkeep of all ordnances in the possession of the company.
 - (b) He will--with the consent of the First Sergeant--issue cartridges to the company and oversee the cleaning of muskets after firing.
 - (c) He is responsible for any other duties assigned to him by company officers or the First Sergeant.
 - (d) He will drill the company upon order by the Captain.
 - (e) He is to assume the roll and the duties of the First Sergeant should that officer be absent.

5. The Third Sergeant is responsible for the following:
- (a) He is designated Quartermaster Sergeant and is responsible for locating and securing straw, water, firewood, and rations (when provided) for the company in the field.
 - (b) He will--with the consent of the First Sergeant--oversee fatigue details.
 - (c) He will drill the company upon order of the Captain.
 - (c) He is to assume the role and duties of Second Sergeant should that officer be absent.
6. Corporals are responsible for the following:
- (a) They are responsible for the general welfare of the men in their squads.
 - (b) They will oversee fatigue details.
 - (c) They will assist in the training of their squads.
 - (d) They will be available for any duty with may be assigned to them by the Captain, Orderly Sergeant, Ordinance Sergeant, or Quartermaster Sergeant.
 - (e) They will drill the platoons upon order of the Captain.
 - (d) They are to be prepared to assume the role and duties of sergeants should those officers be absent.
7. Non Commissioned Officers are charge with keeping the moral of the company.
8. Non Commissioned Officers urged to excel in the performance of their duties in order to set good examples for all to follow.

By Order of Captain R. B. Winders
Commanding, Texas Rifles

Headquarters, Texas Rifles
Johnson Creek, 16th Jan., 1993

GENERAL ORDERS,
No. 3

All Non Commissioned Officers and Senior Privates are to be able to perform as well as instruct the School of the Soldier. To this end, each is to obtain and study a copy of Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics. The Captain stresses the importance of the paying attention to the precise "motions" laid down the Manuel of Arms as this is the means of achieving perfection and standardization in drill.

By Order of Captain R. B. Winders
Commanding, Texas Rifles

DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. Fort Washita Regimental Muster
February 5-7, 1993**

Featuring:

Regimental Drill

Intra-Regiment Skirmish and Competition

Sleep in Barracks

- 2. 130th Anniversary of the Battle of Murfreesboro
March 5-7, 1993**

Featuring:

3 Days of Battle

**An opportunity to defend our Best of the Best
Award**

- 3. Siege of Port Hudson
March 27-28, 1993**

Featuring:

Living and fighting in the original trenches

Desperate Federal Assaults on the Works