

Order No. 2, Headquarters, 8th Military Department

16 December 1848 Newspaper Article

Original Document Source:

The Corpus Christi Star. (Corpus Christi, Tex.), Vol. 1, No. 14, Ed. 1, Saturday, December 16, 1848
Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, The University of Texas at Austin

Digital Document Source:

University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal of Texas History
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph80208/>

Transcription of Order:

09 Nov 2014 by Bruce L. Wiland, Austin, Texas, wiland@att.net

Original spellings were maintained during the transcription so it may contain misspelled words.

Notes in brackets [] were added by the transcriber to clarify or supplement information.

Corrections to errors in the transcription should be sent to corrections@bosquehc.org.

This PDF document was obtained from the Bosque County Historical Commission.

www.bosquehc.org

ORDER No.2.

Headquarters, 8th Military Department
Galveston, Texas, Nov. 7, 1848.

The following points now occupied by companies of volunteer service, will be occupied as follows by the four companies of the 2nd Dragoons now in the Department:

One company at Conner's Station, on Richland Creek, east of the Brazos.

One company at Ross' Station, on the Bosque River, west of the Brazos.

One company at McCulloch's Station, six miles east of the Colorado, and about fifty miles above Austin.

One company on the Medina River, at a point ten or fifteen miles above Castroville.

- I. The Headquarters of the Regiment will be established at either of the above points to be selected by the commanding officer. Lt. Col. Fauntleroy will proceed with as little delay as possible with the four companies, from which point they will be detached to their different stations.
- II. Capt. Eastman, with his company 1st Infantry, will proceed to, and take post at the German town of Fredericksburg, on the Pierdenales [sic], a branch of the Colorado, and about eighty miles north-east of San Antonio.

The two companies, 1st Infantry, Beubanks and Scotts, now en route for San Antonio, will proceed to Austin and there await further orders.

- III. Every effort will be made by the different commanding officers to cultivate a friendly understanding with the different tribes of Indians near their respective posts. Great discretion and vigilance must be used in preventing any depredations by either the inhabitants or Indians upon each other.

The Indians will be required to remain north and west of a line connecting the different posts above established -- except on friendly visits to the posts for the purpose of trade.

- IV. Capt. Blake will muster out of service the different companies of volunteers without delay, going if necessary to their different posts.

By order of Maj. Gen. Twiggs:

W. T. H. BROOKS, A. A. Gen.

ORDER No. 2.

Headquarters, 8th Military Department,
Galveston, Texas, Nov. 7, 1848.

The following points now occupied by companies of volunteer service, will be occupied as follows by the four companies of the 2nd Dragoons now in the Department:

One company at Conner's Station, on Richland Creek, east of the Brazos.

One company at Ross' Station, on the Boscha river, west of the Brazos.

One company at McCulloch's Station, six miles east of the Colorado, and about fifty miles above Austin.

One company on the Medina River, at a point ten or fifteen miles above Castrovilla.

I. The Headquarters of the Regiment will be established at either of the above points to be selected by the commanding officer. Lt. Col. Fauntleroy will proceed with as little delay as possible with the four companies, from which point they will be detached to their different stations.

II. Capt. Eastman, with his company 1st Infantry, will proceed to, and take post at the German town of Fredericksburg, on the Pierdenales, a branch of the Colorado, and about eighty miles north-east of San Antonio.

The two companies, 1st Infantry, Beubanks and Scotts, now en route for San Antonio, will proceed to Austin and there await further orders.

III. Every effort will be made by the different commanding officers to cultivate a friendly understanding with the different tribes of Indians near their respective posts. Great discretion and vigilance must be used in preventing any depredations by either the inhabitants or Indians upon each other.

The Indians will be required to remain north and west of a line connecting the different posts above established--except on friendly visits to the posts for the purpose of trade.

IV. Capt. Blake will muster out of service the different companies of volunteers without delay, going if necessary to their different posts.

By order of Maj. Gen. Twigg:

W. T. H. BROOKS, A. A. A. Gen.

After the execution of the above order No. 2, which we publish, and without the employment of other troops, the Indian frontier of our State will not have adequate protection. A rough glance along the line will best illustrate this, beginning on the right, as indicated in the order, the establishment of a military post at the point now occupied by Capt. Conner will leave open and exposed to the incursions of the Kickapoos, Wisutas and other tribes, all settlements from the station to Coffee's Bend, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles, on Red River. These settlements are continuous, but in their infancy, and call for the fostering hand of the general government, and until within the last two years have been harassed, attacked and exhausted by Indian depredations. For some time past they have enjoyed security, and this beautiful and valuable portion of Texas is beginning to develop its resources. It would be lamentable if a mistaken policy or a parsimonious hand should check or cut off the prosperity which now exists with this industrious and energetic population.

The execution of the order with vigilance and activity, will cover the settlements from Conner's to McCulloch's station, near the east bank of the Colorado. A company of infantry to be stationed at Fredericksburg, can give a nominal protection only, except to the inhabitants in its immediate vicinity. The flourishing settlement on the Llano, containing from three hundred to five hundred souls, and at this time protected by a company of mounted volunteers, commanded by Capt. Highsmith, will be thrown back upon its own resources, and left at an isolated spot to struggle with a thousand apprehensions, to say nothing of their real dangers. This settlement is forty-five miles above Fredericksburg. A wide scope of country containing sparse settlements on each, the Colorado, Onion Creek, Rio Blanco, San Marcus, Guadalupe, Cibolo, Coletto, San Antonio, etc., is, by this arrangement, left open to marauding parties. It is a stock raising country and presents inducements to predatory bands; recent tragic scenes, fresh in the memory of all, have been acted here. The portion of the country here spoken of needs guarding. We would next invoke aid for the very exposed inhabitants of Puehe Vandenburg and Dohnis villages, which would be without any practical substantial advantage to be drawn from a small command to be stationed twenty miles above Castrovilla. We will at present only advert to the trade with Mexico by the Presidio and Lorado routes, remarking that it will require the notice and the assistance of military forces.

Our fellow citizens of San Patricio and Corpus Christi have high claims to the notice and help of the Government. At both places they are going armed for purposes of self defence. And after having been bruised and scathed by the brunt of two wars, are now equally the prey of Indians, Mexicans and renegado whites. It is high time they were redeemed from this condition, and a good company of mounted men would, emphatically, give them "aid and comfort." Even now Mustangers, Indians, and other nameless parties, pay them unceremonious visits. The Oso, Agua Dulce, Santa Gertrudas, San Fernando, etc.; invite the settler, if lawless men were driven from their lurking places. We respectfully, and in the kindest spirit, ask the attention of military men, in charge of the state frontier, to these and other collateral points.

The above comments are from the Western Texan, published at San Antonio. The proximity of the editor to many of the points alluded to should render him good authority. But with regard to Corpus Christi, we must inform him, that although we are entitled to a company of rangers or dragoons, we are not the sort of people to put up with the "unceremonious visits" of which he speaks.