



The Dispatch

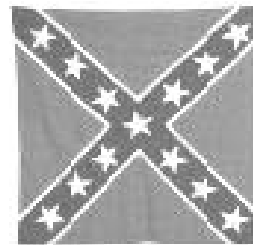
Newsletter of the

9th Texas Infantry Regiment

February, 2005

Volume 3, Issue 2

Fred Yokubaitis, Editor



From the Colonel

Gentlemen,

From all indications it looks like winter is over, thus I think it is safe to say that the busy SPRING schedule has started.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 6th Texas for a wonderful event at the Alamo. Twiggs surrender was both well organized and attended. Everyone who attended will always remember our "lunch" in the historic Menger Hotel; a reenactment within itself. I think the battalion would follow Sergeant Major Crisp anywhere. This may only be a one day event, but if you like having fun you should plan attending this event next year.

Spring Muster will be held in just a few weeks at Ft. Parker in Mexia. As the focus of this muster is the preparations for the upcoming Port Hudson event, at which we will portray the 165th NY Zouaves, I thought we would try something different. We will conduct muster as the 165th NY Zouaves! This will not be standard practice for muster, but I thought it would be nice to do something a little different this one time.

Besides muster, we have some old favorite events, as well as some new and interesting ones, on the horizon. By this I refer to the Port Jefferson event at the end of April. This event is being co-coordinated by our very own Mississippi Valley brigade and will portray an alternative, but realistic, history to the Red River Campaign. General Griffin assures me they are doing everything possible to make this a truly unique experience. Start making plans now to attend.

I'm also happy to announce that the Texas Rifles have decided to join the Red River Battalion. This group will be a valued asset, and I know we all look forward to many years of service together. Welcome Texas Rifles!

I remain, your most obedient servant,

Col. Fred Yokubaitis

Remember to check the RRB's Battalion Web Page:
www.9thtexas.tripod.com

Upcoming Events

(See inside for detailed information)

March 12-13, 2005 – Spring Battalion Muster

April 2-3, 2005 – Port Hudson, LA

April 30 – May 1, 2005 – Jefferson, TX

May 21, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

May 21-22, 2005 – Grapevine Main Street Days

June 4-5, 2005 – Texas Scottish Fest & Highland Games

June 11-12, 2005 – Tribbey, OK

June 25-26, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

July 4, 2005 – 4th of July at Old City Park

July 23, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

August 13, 2005 (9:00 A.M.) – Drill at Old City Park

September 10-11, 2005 – Fall Battalion Muster

October 1-2, 2005 – Corinth, MS

October 22-23, 2005 – Texian Market Days

** Important Reminders **

9th Texas Infantry Year 2005 Dues:

Year 2005 dues are now past due. Late payment deadline is March 13, 2005. After this date the new 2005 Battalion Roster will be created. Those who have not paid dues will not be included on the new roster. Dues are \$30.00. Checks should be made out to '9th Texas Infantry'. Submittal of payment and Enlistment/Waiver forms by mail may be sent to:

Tom Corll
4302 Aspen Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542

Leftover Ammo from the 140th Franklin Event:

The battalion quartermaster will bring all unused ammo to the Spring Muster. After Muster, any remaining ammo will be put into a battalion ammo fund.

165th Zouave Impression for Spring Muster:

The uniform for Spring Muster will be our 165th NY Zouave impression. Please see the event flier in this issue for additional information.

Recent Event Attendance

January 15, 2005 – Drill: 51 people

February 12, 2005 – Twiggs: 27 people

2005 Event Information

Battalion Spring Muster

March 12-13, 2005

Location TBA

(BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

Our Spring Muster will focus on preparing for the Port Hudson event. To make things interesting, our impression for muster will be The 165th NY Zouave or Western Federal. See the event flier in this issue for more information.

Siege of Port Hudson Reenactment

April 2-3, 2005

Port Hudson, LA

(Battalion Maximum Effort!)

This event will be hosted by the Mississippi Valley Brigade. We will portray The 165th NY Zouaves. The MVB will be in a full garrison camp for the weekend: including commissary, medical corps, and quartermaster department. See the event flier in this issue for more information.

Jefferson Reenactment / Living History

April 30-May 1, 2005

Jefferson, TX

(Battalion Effort)

This event will be hosted by The Mississippi Valley Brigade. Our impression will be Western Confederate. More information forthcoming.

Battalion Drill

May 21, 2005

Old City Park, Dallas, TX

The park schoolhouse will be open starting at 4:00 P.M. for those wishing to stay out Friday night (bedding recommended). There will be an Office & NCO meeting in the schoolhouse at 8:00 A.M. Drill to start promptly at 9:00 A.M. Light marching order for drill.

Grapevine Main Street Days

May 21-22, 2005

Grapevine, TX

(Recruiting Event)

We will need volunteers to help recruit for the weekend. More information forthcoming.

Texas Scottish Fest & Highland Games

June 4-5, 2005

UT Arlington Stadium, Arlington, TX

(Recruiting Event)

We will need volunteers to help recruit for the weekend. More information forthcoming.

Tribbey Reenactment, OK

June 11-12, 2005

Tribbey, OK

We will portray Western Confederates. Those gearing up Trans-Mississippi impressions for Corinth are highly suggested to use it. The land provides for a great event and the snow cone vender can't be beat. More information forthcoming.

Battalion Drill

June 25, 2005

Old City Park, Dallas, TX

The park schoolhouse will be open starting at 4:00 P.M. for those wishing to stay out Friday night (bedding recommended). There will be an Office & NCO meeting in the schoolhouse at 8:00 AM. Drill to start promptly at 9:00 A.M. Light marching order for drill.

4th of July at Old City Park

July 4, 2005

Old City Park, Dallas, TX

(Living History / Recruiting Event)

More information forthcoming.

Battalion Fall Muster

September 10-11, 2005

Ft. Parker / Groesbeck, TX

(BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

Our Fall Muster will be held at Ft. Parker. Muster will be dedicate to finalizing our preparation for the 143rd Battle of Corinth Reenactment. More information forthcoming.

143rd Battle of Corinth Reenactment

October 2-4, 2005

Corinth, MS

(BATTALION MAXIMUM EFFORT!)

This is the big Division event for the year. We will portray The 2nd Texas Infantry. More information forthcoming.

Texian Market Days

October 22-23, 2005

Richmond, TX

This event is hosted by our battalion members The Texas Rifles. More information forthcoming.

Red River Battalion Spring Muster

Fort Parker, Mexia, Texas

March 12 - 13, 2004

Schedule of Events

Friday, March 11, 2005

12:00 P.M. - on Arrival and setup
 8:00 P.M. Officer/NCO meeting

Saturday, March 12, 2005

6:30 A.M. Reveille
 6:45 Company formation / roll call
 7:00 Breakfast
 8:30 Battalion formation / Morning Reports due / Announcements
 8:45 Company drill
 10:15 Break
 10:30 Battalion drill
 12:00 P.M. Lunch
 1:00 Battle of Port Hudson presentation
 1:30 Battalion drill
 2:45 Break
 3:00 Uniform & equipment discussion
 3:30 Battalion Drill
 5:00 Retreat Formation
 5:15 Dinner
 7:00 Battalion meeting
 8:30 Battalion Fellowship

Sunday, March 13, 2005

6:30 A.M. Reveille
 6:45 Company formation / roll call
 7:00 Breakfast
 8:00 Church service
 8:45 Battalion formation / Morning Reports due
 9:00 Skirmish drill
 10:30 Battalion drill
 12:30 P.M. Final Formation / Announcements
 1:00 Strike camp

General Information:

The focus of Spring Muster will be preparing for the upcoming Port Hudson event. Muster is a maximum effort event for the Red River Battalion and attendance is highly encouraged. This will be a weekend long event, just like a reenactment. A Friday arrival time is suggested. Those that cannot make it out Friday night should be in camp by 7:30 A.M. Saturday morning and are to report directly to their 1st Sergeant. Those that cannot be there for both days are strongly encouraged to attend at least one day.

Late payments of year 2005 dues will be collected at muster. If you have not paid, please come prepared to do so. After this date the new 2005 Battalion Roster will be created. Those who have not paid dues will not be included on the new roster. This will also be the last opportunity to collect any of your unused ammo from the Franklin event. After Muster, any remaining ammo will be put into a battalion ammo fund.

Frazer Brothers and The Haversack Depot will be on site all weekend for your sutlery convenience. A period photographer will also be present at muster. Covington's Traveling Portraits will be available for sittings all weekend during inactive periods. The battalion will also be conducting a yard sale. This will be open for all members to sell any of their new and used reenactment items. Please see the *Announcements* section of this issue for more information on these offerings.

Scenario:

It is May of 1863. The 165th NY has recently disembarked from the Steamer *Iberville*, and has arrived in Baton Rouge. It will spend several weeks in the relative comfort of garrison camp before joining Major General Nathaniel P. Banks in the assault on Port Hudson

The scenario for muster will be the period of preparation of the 165th NY Infantry for the Port Hudson Campaign.

Agenda:

Instruction will include Manual of Arms, company drill, battalion drill, skirmish drill, uniform and equipment discussions, and a brief history of the 165th NY and The Battle of Port Hudson.

Uniform and Equipment:

The uniform for muster will be our 165th NY Zouave impression. In lieu of this, a generic Western Federal impression will be perfectly acceptable. Those without a Federal impression should feel free to wear their confederate impression. The purpose in doing this is not only to provide the mindset for Port Hudson, but to allow each company the opportunity to see who needs assistance with a Federal uniform before the Port Hudson event. Regardless, all members should attend muster. Do not let your uniform status deter you from attending!

Tentage:

The bivouac for muster will be a garrison camp. A-frame tents, tent flies, and shelter halves are all acceptable forms of shelter for the weekend.

Rations:

Everyone will need to provide their own meals during the weekend. Due to time constraints, please plan on staying in camp for Saturday’s lunch and plan something that can be prepared quickly.

Amenities:

Water, restrooms, and showers are available free of charge on site. Firewood is available in a limited quantity. Anyone with a supply of wood is encouraged to please bring extra. Hay is not available on site. If you want hay for bedding you will need to bring it and clear your area before you depart for the weekend. As always, all modern items should be kept to a minimum and should be concealed in your shelter, stored in your vehicle, or left at home.

Directions:

Directions from Waco:

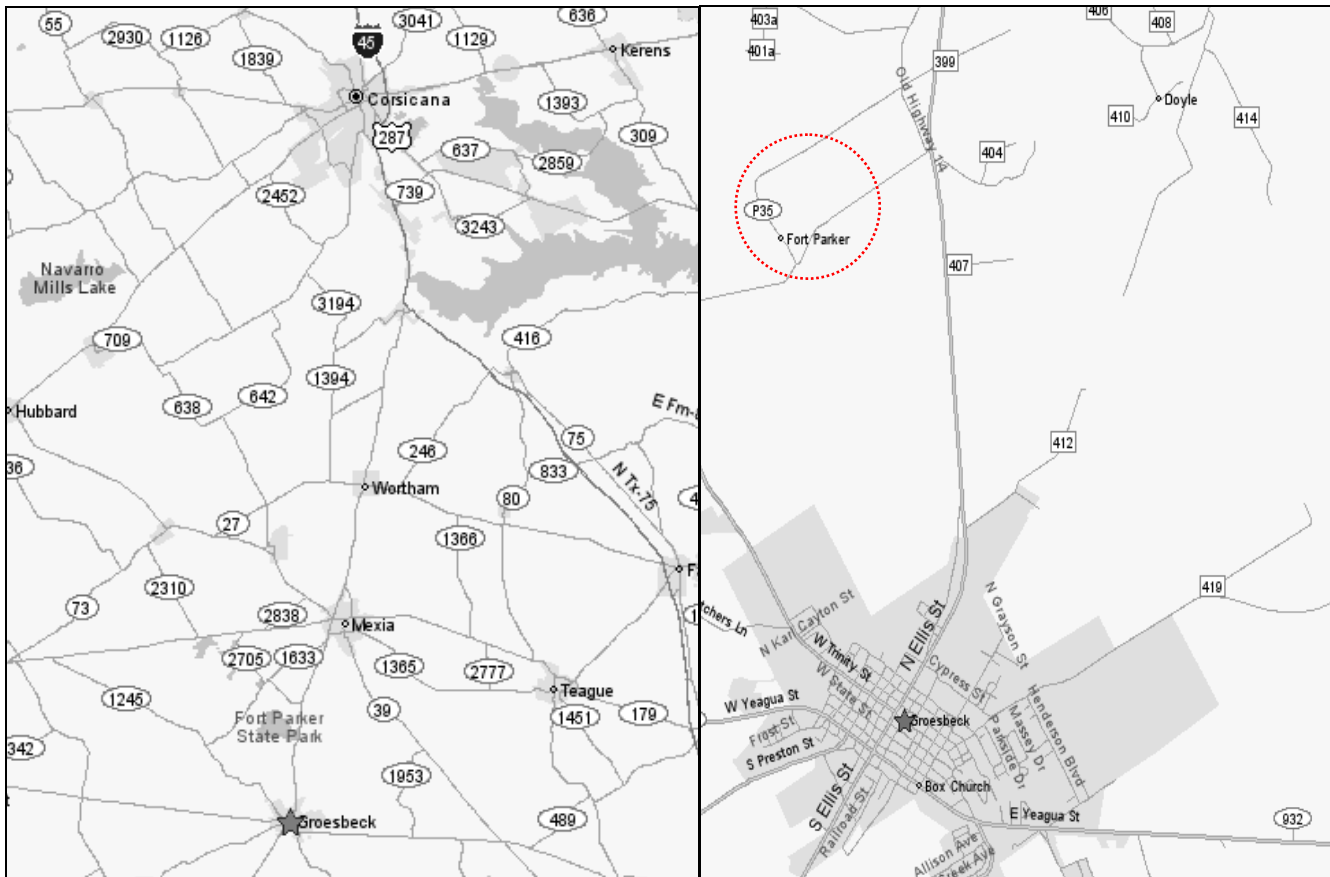
Take Hwy 31/ Hwy 84 east. Exit the Mexia/Fairfield cutoff (Hwy 84 east). Once in Mexia, turn right at the first traffic light (this will put you on Hwy 14 south). Leave Mexia and travel approximately seven miles. The entrance to Fort Parker is on the right on Park Rd 35. The fort is approximately 1-1/2 miles down Park Rd 35.

Directions from Dallas:

Take I-45 South to the Richland Chambers exit (Hwy 14) and go south. Continue south on Hwy 14 until you reach Mexia. Go through Mexia and travel approximately seven miles. The entrance to Fort Parker is on the right on Park Rd 35. The fort is approximately 1-1/2 miles down Park Rd 35.

Directions from Houston:

Take I-45 north to the Groesbeck Exit (Hwy 164) and go west 30 miles to Groesbeck. At the intersection of Hwy 164 and Hwy 14 turn right going north approximately 4 miles on Hwy 14. Take a left at Park Rd 35. The fort is approximately 1-1/2 miles down Park Rd 35.



The 142nd Anniversary of the Siege of Port Hudson

Port Hudson, Louisiana

April 2-3, 2005

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 1, 2005

12:00 P.M. Registration opens

Saturday, April 2, 2005

6:30 A.M. Reveille
 9:00 Flag Ceremony
 9:30 Depart for Tactical
 10:30 Tactical begins
 12:00 P.M. Lunch in the field
 1:00 Assault on the trench works
 5:00 Evening meal
 7:00 Minstrel Show
 10:00 Lights out

Sunday, April 3, 2005

7:30 A.M. Reveille
 10:00 Church service
 1:00 P.M. Assault on the trench works

General Information:

This will be a living history and reenactment of the Siege of Port Hudson and the assaults of the Union army, which occurred in the spring and summer of 1863. These two scenarios will take place on the actual battlefield of Port Hudson. The Red River Battalion will portray the 165th NY Zouaves at this event. Saturday will start with a "reenactor only" tactical in the woods and ravines of the battlefield. There will be no long memorial march this year before the tactical. Saturday's spectator battle scenarios will be the re-creation of the assaults of May 27th and June 14th, 1863. Sunday morning will start with a mid-morning church service for those who wish to participate. Sunday afternoon will feature the second assault on the Confederate breastworks. Living History demonstrations are encouraged throughout the weekend. We will also have an opportunity to do historical scenarios within the park. The park administration asks that reenactors maintain authenticity in their camps throughout the weekend. That means no modern camping items should be visible. This will allow for spectators and reenactors alike to view a scenario or campsite as it was.

There will be sutlers on site and will be set up convenient to the camps. There are no motels within at least ten miles of the Historic Site area. If you have dependents that need lodging, there are a number

of motels off of I-10 and I-12 in Baton Rouge. Out of town visitors should consider motels on the east and south sides of Baton Rouge. Late March is in the middle of spring in south Louisiana and with it there will be chances for rain, mosquitoes and snakes of all kinds. Be aware of this as you plan your trip. The terrain is heavily wooded and very hilly with large ravines and gulches.

Registration:

Pre-registration for this event is required. **Registration for all members of the Red River Battalion has been submitted by the battalion adjutant.** All civilian reenactors will need to register individually and directly with the event. Please send civilian registration to Keith Bauer, 5217 Janice Ave., Kenner, LA 70065; or e-mail it to KGB51@aol.com. Please include all names, addresses, and impressions, as well as the 165th NY as your affiliation. The registration deadline is March 1, 2005.

Event Guidelines, Safety & Authenticity:

1. All uniforms and accoutrements shall be of the correct 1863 period. No sneakers, cowboy boots, jeans, cowboy bandannas, zippers, wristwatches, modern eyeglasses or modern clothing will be allowed.
2. All soldiers will be expected to wear jackets into battle. Officers should have a rank distinguishable on their uniforms.
3. Weapons are to be of the 1863 period percussion type. Springfields and Enfields are acceptable. Hawkins, Zouaves and Henry Repeating rifles are expressly prohibited and will not be allowed on the field.
4. Officers and proper NCO's will be the only persons allowed to carry pistols.
5. Bayonets and ramrods may be carried onto the field of battle but at no time are they to be drawn or used.
6. The minimum age for carrying of arms into battle is 16 years old and the minimum age for a participant is 14 years old.
7. There is to be no night firing of weapons of any kind unless expressly permitted by Port Hudson State Historic Site.
8. All cartridges are to be made prior to the event. Paper is not to be loaded into the muzzle of weapons. Maximum musket or rifle charges will be 70 grams of FF or FFF powder. Cartridges will be carried in cartridge boxes only, not haversacks.
9. No hand-to-hand combat unless staged by overall commanders. Capturing opponent's Colors will not be tolerated.
10. All reenactor's vehicles are to be parked in a designated area. All vehicles will need to be removed from the camping area by 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, and will not be allowed to return until after Sunday's battle. All equipment packed into or out of the Confederate or Federal campsite will have to be done by hand from 8:00 A.M. on Saturday until 3:00 P.M. on Sunday. Vehicle access to the camp from 8 A.M. Sat. until 3 P.M. Sun. will NOT be allowed.

11. Identification badges will be issued. All reenactors are expected to have their ID on them at all times. Failure to identify oneself with the proper event identification is grounds for removal from the event. Anyone violating this rule will be removed by the State Park's enforcement officers.

Uniform and Equipment:

Our impression for this event is the 165th NY Zouaves. As the 165th NY was without a change of clothes, and living out of their knapsacks for several many weeks at this time, their uniform situation was not the best. Therefore, a mixture of Zouave and Western Federal uniform is perfectly acceptable. For those without any part of the Zouave uniform a generic Western Federal impression will be perfectly acceptable. Those without a Federal impression should feel free to wear their confederate impression without the Confederate depot issued coat. We will not separate men from the battalion at this event simply due to uniform situations. All members will be included in the ranks of the battalion.

Tentage:

The Mississippi Valley Brigade will be in garrison camp for the weekend. Therefore, our bivouac will be a garrison camp. A-frame tents, tent flies, and shelter halves are all acceptable forms of shelter for the weekend. As always, all modern items should be kept out of site; concealed in your shelter, stored in your vehicle, or left at home. Please refrain from bringing anything you don't really need.

Rations:

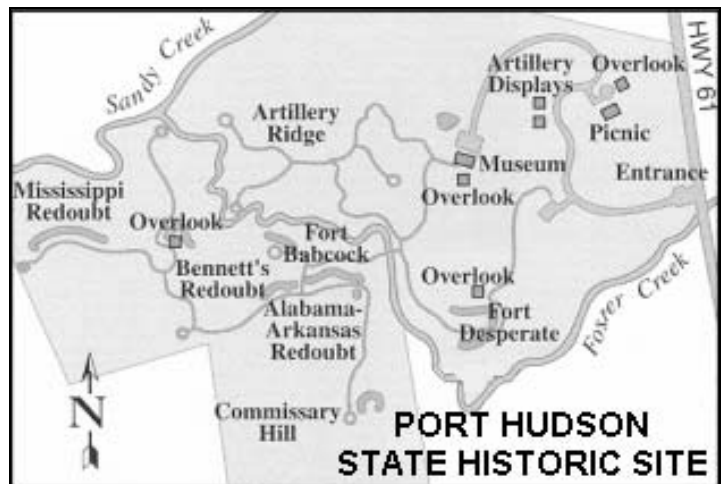
The Mississippi Valley Brigade will be offering meals at the event, and participation is strictly voluntary. Please see the *Announcements* section of this issue for more information. Those not participating in the brigade meals will need to provide their own food for the weekend. The event sponsors will provide a free meal Saturday night. Since we will be participating in the tactical Saturday afternoon, everyone will need to plan on eating out of their haversack for Saturday lunch.

Amenities:

Water, restrooms, firewood, and hay are available free of charge on site. The event sponsors will provide a free meal Saturday night, but history has shown that you might want to plan something extra just in case.

Directions:

Travel to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In Baton Rouge, take I-110 North toward the Baton Rouge Airport. Take I-110 past the airport to where it dead-ends at HWY-61. Exit right (Exit 8B) onto HWY-61 and go north towards Natchez. Take Hwy 61 approximately 13 miles to the Port Hudson State Historic Site (approximately 1-1/2 miles past the town of Port Hudson). The park will be on the left. Enter the site and proceed to registration. Those arriving after registration is closed should proceed directly to the RRB campsite.



Announcements

Battalion Re-enactors Yard Sale at Spring Muster

During our Spring Battalion Muster we will conduct a yard sale of new and used unwanted reenactment items. Any member wishing to participate may bring items to sell. Items should only be those that would meet our battalion standards and are still serviceable. No farby items, or pieces and parts of items. The main idea is to assist our new recruits with getting outfitted in an efficient manner.

Each item you wish to sell should be pre-tagged with a price and the name of the seller. All items will be placed in one area; probably a designated wall tent. A time will be given for only those NEW members with less than one year service in the battalion to go to the yard sale and have first pick. Another time will be given for ALL members of the battalion to purchase any remaining items. The battalion will collect the money and keep a ledger of who owned the item being sold. Capt. Corll will collect the money and ledger at the end of muster; divide up the money once he has returned home, and mail checks to individuals for the items sold. 10% of the sales will go to the battalion fund. Any person participating in the yard sale will agree to donate this percentage to the battalion fund.

So, go through your closets and find those items that you are willing to part with and help out our new recruits. This will help fill up our ranks faster, and make room for some of your future purchases!

Period Photographer Scheduled to be at Spring Muster

The RRB Battalion Staff is excited to announce that we will have a period photographer at our upcoming Spring Muster, as well as our Fall Muster. Covington's Traveling Portraits will be available for sittings all weekend during inactive periods. This is an excellent opportunity to have an image made in your Zouave uniform, and forego the long lines common at the big events. The portraits Covington's offer are taken using a period correct camera with an original 1860's Darlot lens. The chemicals and processes used for developing the portraits are the same used 145 years ago. Covington's offers 1/6th plate, 1/4 plate and 1/2 plate images in both Ambrotype (glass plate) and Ferrotypes (tin type), but due to supply problems it is possible that only Ambrotypes may be offered at the time of Spring Muster. The prices are \$25.00 for the 1/6th plate; \$35.00 for the 1/4 plate; and \$45.00 for the 1/2 plate. Prices are the same for both Ambrotype and Ferrotypes. Payment is required at the time of sitting. For more information please contact Mike Covington at (281) 391-2433.

Mississippi Valley Brigade Issued Rations at Port Hudson Event

The Mississippi Valley Brigade will be serving optional rations/meals at the upcoming Port Hudson event (April 2-3, 2005). The brigade is offering to serve breakfast and a very light mid-day meal on both Saturday and Sunday, and a Saturday evening meal. The breakfasts will be hot cereal and fruit one morning; eggs, meat, and bread the other morning. The Saturday evening meal will consist of beef chunks (1/4-1/2 pound of meat per man) with gravy, rice, beans, and cookies. No beverages will be provided, (i.e., bring your own coffee...).

Participation is voluntary and the price per person will be \$7.50. This price covers all meals. Participants should pay their money directly to the Brigade staff. Lt. Chuck Toney, the Brigade Commissary Officer, will be at the Spring Muster in for those wishing to pay him directly. In the event you will not be able to attend muster, please mail your check in the amount of \$7.50 to Lieutenant Toney. Payment must be received by Monday, 14 March. Submit payments to:

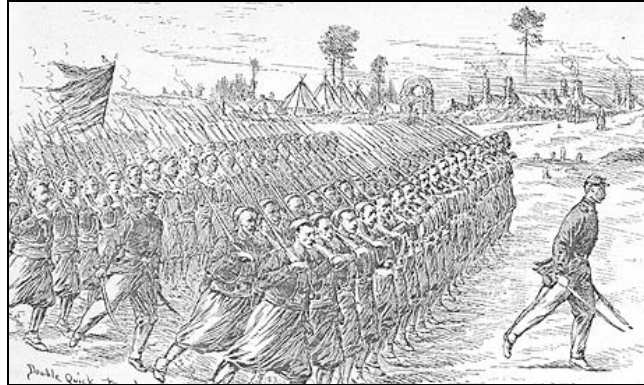
Chuck Toney
1012 Western Trail
Keller, TX 76248

Questions concerning this issuance should be directed to the MVB staff.

Articles

The 165th New York Regiment, Second Battalion Duryea's Zouaves; Smith's Zouaves Part 1: Facts and Figures

By 1st Sgt. Jeff Gibbs; Co. F, 9th Texas Infantry, RRB



Service Record

In 1862, Colonel Harmon D. Hull received authority to raise a regiment for a service of nine months. This term of service was soon changed to three years, and the regiment received its numerical designation of the 165th NY on November 29, 1862. At this time six companies were recruited; A, C, D, and E from New York City, B from New York and Jamaica, and F from New York City and Brooklyn. They were mustered into service during the months of August to December 1862. In March of 1864, Companies G, H, K, and I were organized from New York City and Long Island, but upon joining the battalion in the field they were at once consolidated with the six original companies. Originally they were mustered and drilled at Camp Washington on Staten Island.

The battalion was led by Lt. Col. Abel Smith Jr. when it left the state for New Orleans on December 2, 1862. Upon arrival it was assigned to the 3rd Brigade of Sherman's Division, Department of the Gulf. In March of 1863, it was assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division, 19th Corps. In July 1863 it was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, 19th Corps. In January 1864 it was assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, 19th Corps. In March of 1865 it would become the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, Army of the Shenandoah. In April 1865, it was involved in the defenses of Washington. In June 1865, it was assigned to the 3rd Division, Department of the South. On September 1, 1865, under Major William W. Stephenson, it was honorably discharged and mustered out at Charleston, S.C.

During its service the regiment lost by death: 1 officer and 36 enlisted killed in action; 1 officer and 15 enlisted by wounds received in action; 2 officers and 79 enlisted of disease and other causes; and 18 in the hands of the enemy. 70 men were reported missing and presumed captured. Approximate total casualties number 222-233 aggregate, depending on the source records.

The regiment's first payroll recorded 561 men on its roster. In March 1863, 409 recruits were added to make a total of 970 men on its roster. On September 1, 1865, 375 were mustered out.

Engagements (1863 – 1865)

North Pass and Ponchatoula, LA - March 24, 1863

Plains Store, LA - May 21, 1863

Siege of Port Hudson, LA – May – July, 1863

 First assault - May 27, 1863

 Assault - June 14, 1863

 Night assault with hand grenades - June 20, 30, 1863

 Surrender of Port Hudson - July 8, 1863

Expedition Sabine Pass, Gulf of Mexico, TX - September 8, 1863

Vermillion Bayou, LA - October 9, 1863

Carrion Crow Bayou, LA - October 15, 1863

Carrion Crow Bayou, LA - November 3-4, 1863

Vermillion Bayou, LA - November 11, 1863

Running Pontoon Train, Red River Expedition - March 19-27, 1864
 Battle of Sabine Crossroads, Mansfield, Pleasant Grove, LA - April 8, 1864
 Battle of Pleasant Hill, LA - April 9, 1864
 Battle of Monetis Bluff, Crane Hill, LA - April 23, 1864
 Battle of Mansura, LA - May 16, 1864
 Battle of Deep Bottom, VA - July 27, 1864
 Battle of Berryville, VA - September 3, 1864
 Battle of Fisher Hill, VA - September 19, 1864
 Battle of Cedar Creek, VA - October 19, 1864
 Fight with Mosby's Guerrillas, Shenandoah Valley, VA - October 25, 1864
 Provost Guard at Winchester, VA - September 1864-April 1865
 Grand Review at Washington, D.C. - May 23, 1865
 Savannah, GA and Charleston, S.C. - June 1865
 September mustered out at Fort Sumter, S.C.

Samples of General Orders

G.O. #1

Transport Merrimac, Jan 4, 1863

Make ready to leave ship with complete clean uniform. Turban will be neatly folded; sash worn tight around body at its full width, the blue edge showing at top and bottom; belt buckled over sash. Knapsacks packed with overcoat rolled on top; the woolen blanket folded (inside of the rubber one, black side out) square with the knapsack.

G.O. #8 Jan 12, 1863

Immediately after evening parade all turbans and white leggings will be taken off and not put on again till the next morning. They will be placed in the knapsack: at all times all effects of the men will be placed in the knapsack, the knapsack packed and strapped ready for marching. In case a Company is ordered to parade after dark...at first alarm will instantly roll their blankets and ponchos, sling knapsacks, and take their places in the ranks without confusion. Overcoats to be worn on all occasions after retreat.

G.O. #18 Feb. 27, 1863

Regiment will parade tomorrow in full uniform: white turbans, leggings, and white gloves; knapsacks packed with only woolen blankets and ponchos; haversacks and canteens to be worn.

G.O. #29 March 20, 1863

From after this date the enlisted men of the regiment will be required by their company commander to bathe at least once a week. One company each day will be excused from drill and will go to bath at 4pm.

Random Facts

- Considered themselves the "Second Duryea's Zouaves".
- Also known as Zous, Zou Zin, and Corps d' Afrique.
- Mustered in and out wearing full Zouave d' Afrique uniform, and used the Zouave uniform all three years of service.
- Considered the best-drilled regiment in the Department of the Gulf.
- Left New York City on December 18, 1862 on the steamer *Merrimac* for New Orleans.
- December 25, 1862, Christmas Day; Lt. Col. Abel Smith's diary; the men had quite a time playing a game of ball with the other troops here; Sergeant A.G. Mills and George E. Cogswell, of Co. B, played in this game, which was witnessed by 10,000 soldiers; reviewed by Colonel Fraser with 47th New York Volunteers.
- May 20th, 1863, embarked on Steamer *Iberville* for Baton Rouge
- May 21st, 1863, arrived at Baton Rouge. Orders to leave knapsacks: Gen Banks ordered all knapsacks and surplus baggage left behind. The men only had the Zouave d' Afrique clothes they were wearing; they also possessed their overcoats, rubber blankets, haversacks, and canteens. Besides this equipment, they had no tents of any kind, and for 50 days neither officer nor men had a change of clothing.
- September 2-6, 1863 Left Baton Rouge for Major General William B. Franklin's assault on the Sabine River to cut Texas off from rest of Confederacy. Seven transports with 1200 men of different regiments; *Pocahontas*, *Clifton*, *Sachem*, *Arizona*, *Granite City*, *Laurel Hill*, *Owasco*, and the *Crescent*. Of these the *Clifton* and *Sachem* were grounded and captured with the loss of 3 officers and 94 men. The 165th was on the *Pocahontas*, her draft was too great, and she turned around. George Chapman's diary says it was a badly planned exhibition, which had many loose screws.
- April 8th and 9th, 1864, Sabine Crossroads, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and Pleasant Grove, 77 men of the 165th were captured and taken prisoner to Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas and Camp Gross, Marshall, Texas.

The Regimental Mascot

Tommy was a New York dog that inspired the men of the 165th. He is described as a 'cur' that jumped on board the steamer Merrimac when she shoved off. He was simply a firm, compact fat little dog, with a sleek brown hide, who looked capable of undergoing considerable fatigue after a little training, but nothing about him to indicate the wonderful staying qualities and devotion afterward exhibited. He was devoted to the enlisted men, and never let an officer pet him; this was the cause of considerable amusement to the camp. He would drill each day with a different company and was always at the head. He was taken to Baton Rouge shortly before the end of Port Hudson with some casualties. Five months passed and the hope that Tommy would ever come back was lost, when one day, to the astonishment and delight of the men, he returned. He had found his way on a boat and crossed the country on foot to be reunited with his men in Franklin. He was present in all of the engagements, except the Sabine River Campaign. He displayed every sign of fear and anxiety, but never deserted his post. At Pleasant Hill he was wounded, when a bullet took off the end of his tail. Tommy is noted, as having good judgment and he would hide behind the biggest object during lively musketry business. He made half a dozen trips to sea, traveled hundreds of miles by foot, river, and rail. When the war ended, Tommy, along with his men of the 165th, was discharged with papers noting meritorious service and he was officially recognized. When he landed back in New York, he ran off wagging his tail.

*Part 2: The 165th NY Zouaves at the Battle of Port Hudson
(To be continued in the March issue of The Dispatch.)*

Our War – Our Game

By Pvt. Michael A. Corso; Co. I, 9th Texas Infantry, RRB



Fewer events in our history have had such an emotional effect on the heart of our nation as the American Civil War. 145 years after their emergence into our history their waves are still resonating across the pond long after the splash of the rock subsided. The horror of that war closely touches us all. For most of us it is only a drive of a couple hours to a visitor center of a National Battlefield Park for this war to become a reality. And even after 145 years, the emotions of this war are still reflected in the people who have both direct and indirect links to this time. Yes, you can get beat up for being a Yankee in many parts of the south.

Baseball carries this same emotion. The year 1918, for example, has been mentioned more times this year because of the Red Sox, and not because of W.W.I.; and it would not be wise to be a loud Yankee fan in Fenway Park. The game as we know it was born in the same tumultuous time as the birth of the civil war. It is no consequence that they still touch us today.

Our game is a copulation of the game of Rounders (British in origin), Cricket (also British), and Town Ball (developed in Massachusetts). In the year 1845 A.J. Spalding of New York organized the New York Knickerbockers Base Ball Nine. Being in such close proximity to New York, the game spread to cities such as Hoboken N.J., Philadelphia Pa., and others. Boston was last to come around, for they were still playing and promoting the Massachusetts Game of Town Ball. Town Ball closely resembled Rounders; the main difference being that is played on a square field with no boundaries. The New York game is played on a diamond with the traditional foul lines. Prior to the 1860's many variations of rules applied. So in 1857, the National Association of Base Ball Players (NABBP) was formed (the game was spelled Base Ball during this time). The clubs that formed this organization had meetings in New York with the sole intention to organize clubs, standardize rules, and yes, set into motion the politics of the modern game.

Henry Chadwick, a reporter for the New York Times, was one of the huge advocates of Base Ball, as well as a friend of A.J. Spalding. Chadwick and other reporters wanted to separate Base Ball from the other games for the reason of removing everything British. Chadwick stated, "This invigorating and manly pastime may now be termed the American Game of Ball,

for though of English origin, it has been so modified and improved of late years in this country, as almost to deprive it of any of its original features". It was Chadwick that put onto paper *The Beadles Dime Base Ball Player, A compendium of the elementary instructions of this American Game of Ball*. It is these rules that form the basic foundation of our game today.

Being located in the transportation hub of the United States, New York was the perfect city to help promote the game. The word of Base Ball spread quickly throughout the U.S. by the broad spectrum of travelers, both to and from the city. The spread of the game is also closely linked to the railroads. During the late 1850's the Philadelphia Athletic Club (now the Oakland A's) took their select nine on road trips to challenge other cities. Cincinnati, Memphis, New Orleans, Houston, and even Galveston had Base Ball Nine's prior to the war. But alas, it was The Civil War that did the most to help spread to word of the game, and in so doing linked the two events together.

The creation of the National Game was brought on by the situation the times presented; The America Civil War. Knowing there was not a "National Sport", Chadwick and others who were promoting the game fed on the wave of patriotism that was sweeping the nation. Ads, drawings, and game fields were decorated in red, white, and blue flags and bunting. When word came back of soldiers playing the game in large amounts during their time off from drill, everyone started to recognize it was becoming the National Game.

Being that an extremely large number of troops came from New York, soldiers playing the New York form of Base Ball are well documented. The 165th N.Y. Infantry, made up of men from Long Island, had in their ranks a Base Ball Nine that was at the top of their game. On Dec 25th 1862, while waiting on their steamer to be repaired at Hilton Head S.C., the men of the 165th played a select nine from the local Union regiments. The crowd that gathered was estimated as high as 40,000 people. Though believed to be an exaggeration of the numbers, it would take the Atlanta Braves to once again get a crowd this large for a game in the South. As soldiers were taken prisoner, and watched from picket lines, the game spread even more. Two prisons that stand out as having extensive Base Ball programs are Salisbury Prison in North Carolina, and Johnson Island in Sandusky, Ohio. The most famous period painting of the game comes from Salisbury Prison, and the only known photograph of the game was taken at the Federal post, Fort Garrison. The game was not only confined to the Northern troops in Bell Wiley's *The Life of Johnny Reb*, he states that Base Ball games were practically in every regiment. An incident that occurred in Texas was documented by a George Putnam a Union soldier, "Suddenly there came a scattering of fire of which the three fielders caught the brunt; the centerfielder was hit and captured and the left and right fielders managed to escape". The Northern soldiers repulsed the attack, "but we not only lost our centerfielder but, the only ball in Alexandria". If capturing a soldier and keeping the presence of mind to insure that you also get the ball isn't a yearning to play, I don't know what is.

The game, once termed Base Ball, is now known as Baseball, one word; just as the Civil War made us one country. It is fitting that a war that has left a mark on who we are as a nation, more than any other war in our history, would be the catalyst in the development of a sport that is uniquely ours. The term "National Pastime" cannot be earned by attendance or T.V. ratings, but by the people of the nation. Baseball was born and weaned in the hell of the American Civil War, giving the soldiers and civilians on both sides a little bit of sanity back in their lives. This is what makes it our National Pastime.

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