

THE MESSENGER

5th MISSOURI INFANTRY, COMPANY A
Rt 3, Box 130
Warrensburg, MO 64093
816-747-5728

VOL 2, Number 7 ++++++ JULY 1991

CONTENTS: Drill, minutes, schedules, etc. Our news-of-the-month is back & we have some Tid-bits from camp & field. Plus, info on Cole Camp.

PERSONNEL: Welcome to Nick Davis of Columbia & Ed Tillman of Brookfield. Ed showed up at the Warrensburg Geneological Society with some original artifacts, & David K. brought him out. James Delcour has renewed as an associate (seems he likes wearing dark blue).

EVENTS: Thanks for assistance at the Adams Reunion to Sgt Conner, Corp Riggs, Pvts D. Roberts, Goldsberry, Kesinger; plus Kathryn - this was a \$100 fundraiser for us! Same day, Larry Shanks worked the Calhoun Pottery show.

WILSON'S CREEK: This is your LAST CHANCE to sign up. We have 30 muskets registered, plus non-combatants & musicians. This will be the closest major event EVER, and you've not experienced reenacting until you've been in a big event. Nothing's more impressive than seeing a column of troops ten times longer than you've ever seen before. It's only \$7.50, plus your share of the food.

MCWRA NEWS: A move is afoot to set unit size standards for new units to come off probation. The standard for infantry will be to field 15 MCWRA members under arms at an undecided number of events. I support this.

FUND RAISING: Our bake sale on June 29th was moderately successful. The tickets for the raffle were ready June 10th & 40 were sold at Shoal Creek, 55 more on the 29th. First prize is a Navy Colt (.36 cal), second is choice between a print of Robert E. Lee (given us at Higginsville last year) or the Time-Life book Brother Against Brother. Let's get those tickets sold at \$1 each. George is in charge of distribution, return stubs & money to Bill. Call either of us for tickets to sell - drawing at Cole Camp!

RECRUITING: Just because we've come a long way doesn't mean that we can slow down on recruiting efforts. In recruiting, follow these steps:

1. Give Bill the name & address of potential recruits so he can send them a package.
2. Follow up to your personal contacts a couple of weeks after getting Bill the name, to see if he has any questions about reenacting.
3. As a sponsor, keep in touch with your recruits. Even if they don't attend meetings, they need to know that we haven't forgotten about them. Encourage them to come out & arrange loaner gear.
4. At events & living history presentations, don't let people stand around without talking to them. If they hang around for a while, they're hot prospects - get them a package & get their names!

NEXT MEETING: Sedalia, Tuesday, July 30th, Farm & Home Savings, 4th & Osage, 7:30 PM. No drill.

FIFTH MISSOURI INFANTRY, COMPANY A (CSA)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD June 29, 1991

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President at 5:15 PM at the Johnson County Historical Society, Warrensburg. In attendance were veterans Koffman, Wayne, Conner, Geo. Ballman, Kinsey, Kisner, D. Roberts, Powell, Bears, Thomas & Daleen; Recruits Tucker, & Faught; non-combatants Horton & Bears; associates Kesinger & Delcour. Guest was Joy Young, Administrator for the Historical Society.

Recruit Bob Roberts, having been a member of the company in excess of 90 days & meeting all other criteria, was accepted as a Veteran

The minutes as published in the last Messenger were accepted. The secretary briefed on a letter from Steve Yoakum reporting the outcome of the Columbia filming.

The Treasurer reported a bank & cash balance of \$403.72, including \$40 from raffle tickets sold at Shoal Creek & the \$100 for the Adams reunion. An additional \$55 for raffle & \$48.79 from today's bake sale are on hand. Expenses were raffle preparation & tent repairs. It was agreed that a second water barrel should be purchased. The freeze on non-administrative purchases was continued.

The event schedule was discussed: Don Roberts, Jeff & Dave Kesinger will assist at the Warsaw flagpole dedication July 8. Cole Camp worker needs were discussed & will be included in the Messenger, as will Wilson Creek impression information. Bill promised about 8 people for Lone Jack encampment & mentioned the Warrensburg fall festival status. Keith brought up the need to do some honors at Higginsville cemetery; this was generally agreeable if a good date can be found.

Bill brought up recruiting efforts. He requests that people who contact a good potential recruit need to get the name into the 1st Sgt so follow-up information can be sent. After a couple of weeks, contact the recruit to check his reaction to the recruiting package. Sponsors need to keep in contact with the recruits they're responsible for. It was suggested that the general policy on younger recruits be explained in the Messenger: they will not be allowed to take the field if they have not attended drill & proved themselves safe & competent.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 30th, 7:30 PM in Sedalia, either at Farm & Home or Bob's office: details to be published in the Messenger.

The meeting concluded at about 8:45 PM.

DRILL FACTS, by the 1st Sgt

Platoon Drill: We're large enough to operate as platoons, so we need to know how to do platoon movements. The two main things we need to do is get into a column of platoons and then back into a company line of battle.

1. BY PLATOON INTO LINE: This puts us into a column of platoons, each in line of battle. The first platoon executes it just like Company Into line. In the Second Platoon, the corporal at the right end of the platoon continues marching straight ahead and the rest of the platoon moves up on HIS left. Then, the guide will shift to the left so the the left guides of each platoon are aligned behind each other. Unless otherwise directed, the platoons should be far enough apart so the second platoon can wheel or oblique back to line of battle. (SOC 161)

2. BY PLATOON, RIGHT (or left) WHEEL (from company front): This puts us into a column of platoons, each in line of battle, similar to the previous command. However, it's executed from line of battle (company front). The First Platoon will guide on either the 1st Sgt (left wheel) or the corporal on the platoon's left (right wheel). The Second Platoon will guide on the corporal on its right (left wheel) or the Company Left Guide (normally 2nd Sgt) for a right wheel. (SOC 171)

3. LEFT INTO LINE, WHEEL: This command wheels both platoons into company front, facing to the left. Both wheel simultaneously, and guide as above. (SOC 178)

4. BY PLATOON, LEFT (or right) WHEEL (from a column of platoons): This command turns a column of platoons going one way into a column of platoons going another way. In this case, each platoon turns precisely where the previous one did, marking time if necessary to keep from running over anyone. Guide as above. (SOC 183)

5. BREAK INTO PLATOONS: The first platoon will continue marching straight ahead while the second marks time. Then, the second platoon will do a RIGHT OBLIQUE to get into line behind the first. You're now in a column of platoons again. (SOC 265)

6. FORM COMPANY: The first platoon does a right oblique while the second continues to march. Then, the first platoon marks time (facing ahead) until the second catches up. (SOC 273)

NOTE: There will be other, common commands given to each platoon by its individual commander when marching or executing maneuvers by platoon. I omitted them in this article for brevity. I also omitted commands of execution (MARCH) - you still don't do anything until you get this command.

T I D - B I T S : Jeff Tucker saw the elephant at Shoal Creek, serving well both days. Ed Tillman showed up just before the battle, got a quick course of instruction along with some borrowed goods, then went out & fought in his stocking feet (made me nervous as hell, too)! Too bad the battle terminated early due to unsafe actions by the Feds (8th KS) - they wouldn't budge from positions as set in the scenario, & action was just getting a little too close! The event's organization was weak and there was almost no publicity; Saturday saw more soldiers than spectators. Lunch on Saturday was issued at noon - raw beans: we did a lot of business at McDrano's. Saturday supper was served by the Colonel - Sanders, not Beck.

We did a little demo skirmish at the Adams reunion & almost had some accidents, both involved with firing in close quarters. Remember, safety above all!

Loren Roush went to the event at Brownsville, Nebraska & enjoyed it.

We had 12 men & 2 ladies dressed at the Old Courthouse on June 29th. This time last year we had to scratch to get that many for a major battle! 'Barefoot' Faught showed up wearing shoes, & he showed the effects of a drill Corp Yoakum held on the 18th.

POLICY THOUGHTS from the 1st Sgt: A recruit won't be allowed to participate in a battle unless he's drilled with the company at the event, or his sponsor has drilled him extensively and swears to his safety and knowledge of basic drill. If you're a recruit planning on attending Wilson's Creek & haven't drilled, don't think we'll let you slide. This is a safety issue, since the worst chance of accidents is at large events where everyone is het up. See your sponsor or come to Cole Camp. I'll be happy to drill you at my farm - just call me first. **SPONSORS:** take care of your recruits!

RECORD YOUR WEAPONS: After seeing some of the problems at Weston this year, it's been suggested that the Company maintain a master list of weapons used by our members at events. It's been started, but we need YOUR input: Type, maker, serial number. For example:
Colt .44 Revolver, Navy Arms, 12345
Enfield 3 band, Euroarms, 54321
.50 Hawken, Thompson Center, 00987
We'll run the list so we have it at events in case anything turns up missing or a dispute occurs.

Symbols: * means battle, Bold Face MCWRA sanctioned or max effort, ALL CAPS 5th Mo Max effort, \$ - 5th Mo local commitment, ? - Participation questionable.

\$ July 6. Warsaw. 2 CS & 2 US to help dedicate flagpole near dam. Evening only, see Bill.

* JULY 13-14, COLE CAMP: MCWRA MAX. OUR EVENT, see EVENT DETAILS.

July 18 & 26, near Columbia. Presentation to diabetic children's camp. Contact Steve.

July 20, Joplin. CANCELLED

* AUG 9-11, WILSON'S CREEK. 130th Anniversary national event. See EVENT DETAILS.

Aug 17-18, Lone Jack. Annual commemoration, LH. Possible skirmish, recruiting opportunity. Contact Bill if you'll attend.

Sep 7-8, Salbatha, KS (50 mi W of St Joe). LH, skirmish. Limited space.

\$ Sep 14, Warrensburg. Fall Festival LH, demo.

* Sep 21-22, Lexington, 130th Anniversary battle, state sponsored. See EVENT DETAILS.

* Sep 28-29, St Charles. Annual battle. Will use Goldenrod showboat for dinner/dance.

Sep 28-29, Kansas City. Wornall House camp, LH.

Sep 28-29, Amsterdam, MO. Camp & LH.

* Oct 5-6, Roscoe. Battle & LH.

Oct 19-20, Arkansas Post NM (50 mi SE Pine Bluff). LH.

* Oct 26-27, Charleston, MO. MCWRA MAX, 130th Anniversary battle of Belmont, original site. See EVENT DETAILS.

Possible 1992 events:

March: Elkhorn Tavern 130th
Late April: Butler
May 3: LH at Jeff City
Late July: Glasgow
Mid-August: Lone Jack 130th
Mid-Sept: Pilot Knob
Early Dec: Prairie Grove 130th
Others Interested: Windsor, Nevada, Warsaw?
National Event (?): Iuka, MS

EVENT ROSTER

CHECK YOUR STATUS. LET BILL KKNOW IF YOU'RE GOING TO ANY REMAINING EVENTS & YOU DON'T HAVE A 'Y'

NAME	RANK	TAC	DRL	WES	CCP	WLC	LEX	ROS	BEL
KOFFMAN	CPT	N\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
WAYNE	1SG	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	?	Y
CONNER	QSG	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
RIGGS	CPL	N\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
YOAKUM	CPL	?\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	?	o	Y
AGEE	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BALLMAN, GE	PVT	Y\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	.	Y
BALLMAN, GR	PVT	Y\$	.	Y	o	Y\$	o	o	Y
BEARS	PVT	.	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
CHASTAIN	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	.	.	.
CUNNINGHAM	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DAVIS	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+	.	.	.
DALEEN	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	.	Y
FAUGHT	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+	Y	.	.
GRIFFIN	rec	-	-	-	.	.	.	.	.
GOLDSBERRY	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
HAWKINS, III	rec	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
HAWKINS, B	mus	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
HAWKINS, R	rec	-	-	-	.	Y\$	.	.	.
ISAM	rec	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	.	.
KEOWN	rec	.	.	.	Y	.	.	.	.
KINSEY	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	o\$	o	o	o
KISNER	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
MELOT	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
POWELL	PVT	.	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	.	.
PRICE	rec	-	-	-	Y	.	.	.	.
RIGGS, C	MUS	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROBERTS, B	PVT	Y	.	x	.	Y	.	.	.
ROBERTS, D	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
ROBERTSON	PVT	Y\$	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	o	Y
ROUSH	PVT	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
SHANKS	PVT	o	x	Y	.	Y\$	Y	Y	.
SHERRER	PVT	o	Y	x	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	o
THOMAS	PVT	N\$	.	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	.	Y
TILLMAN	rec	-	-	-	Y	.	.	.	.
TUCKER	rec	-	-	-	Y	Y\$+	Y	Y	.
VICK, A	rec	-	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.
VICK, R	rec	-	Y	x	.	.	.	.	.
VISSMAN	PVT	.	.	.	o	.	.	.	.
WELLER	rec	.	x\$	.	.	.	.	.	.
WOODY	rec	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
(nr committed)		7	21	20	26	28	20	12	12

NAME	RANK	TAC	DRL	WES	CCP	WLC	LEX	ROS	BEL
AGEE, B	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BALLMAN, K	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BEARS, DEB	civ	.	.	.	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	.
HORTON	civ	o	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	Y
McCLINTOCK	civ	.	.	.	Y	Y\$+	Y	.	Y
RIGGS, J	civ	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROBERTSON, D	civ	.	x	.	Y	Y	Y	o	Y
ROUSH, M	civ	.	Y	Y	Y	Y\$	Y	Y	.
ROWE	civ	.	Y	x	o	Y\$	Y	?	o
SHANKS, B	civ	.	.	Y	.	Y\$	.	.	.
THOMPSON	civ	.	x	.	.	.	.	.	.
WAYNE, S	civ	.	Y	.	.	.	.	.	.

COLE CAMP UPDATE: The Battle of Cole Camp is looking very solid. By last count, the usual large disparities will exist in both infantry and cavalry, but artillery should be equal. We'll do a generic battle Saturday AM & Sunday afternoon, with the historic battle on Saturday afternoon. Read the Cole Camp insert for schedule & history. Also, come early & be prepared to help with registration, leading people to their camps, etc. Anyone who'll be available early please let Bill know. Right now, he's planning on setting up Thursday evening! As you arrive, you'll be assigned a duty, which will rotate to keep people out of the sun.

MAILING LIST UPDATE:

ADDITIONS: Nick Davis, 1508 Fir Place, Apt A, Columbia, MO 65201. 314-442-5574. {S-Yoakum}

Ed Tillman, 524 N. Livingston, Brookfield, MO 64628. 816-258-7169 {S-Robertson}

James Delcour (associate). Rt 3, Box 421, Warrensburg, MO 64093. 747-2651.

CHANGE: Kirk Powell has moved to Pleasant Hill, but can still be reached through the PROGRESS. His home phone is 816-987-2939.

BEE CREEK VIDEO: This is said to be pretty good. For a copy, contact Cadillac Video Productions, Rt 1, Box 224, Spring Hill, KS 66083; 913-884-7255. Cost at Bee Creek was \$18.

BELMONT: This should be a great event, and the deadline for preregistration is fast approaching. Read the EVENT DETAILS & plan on attending!

KEY: Y is Yes (will or did attend), ? is questionable, o = No, . means no commitment received. N means said Y, but did not attend. TAC=tactical, DRL=drill, WES=weston, CCP=Cole Camp, WLC=Wilson Creek, LEX=Lexington, ROS=Roscoe, BEL=Belmont

EVENT DETAILS

COLE CAMP, July 13-14. MCWRA & 5th Mo MAX. See the info included in this Messenger. We'll need help to handle registration desk Friday night.

WILSON'S CREEK, August 9-11. The BIG EVENT for 1991. We'll need our blue shirts for our State Guard impression, but should have a generic reb available for 2 of the battles. They'll furnish basic amenities only, no food or powder. We will bring food as a unit, and everyone who attends will be asked to contribute a pro-rated share. Since there are 4 battles, bring lots of powder. We preregistered 25 men, 5 ladies (& will send in 5 supplementals); anyone else will cost \$7.50. More details on fights in later issues.

LEXINGTON, September 20-21. Will be an excellent event. We'll camp close to Anderson House, but arrive early to prevent delays such as we had at Weston - no vehicles into camp! Saturday skirmish through town, Sunday battle, absolutely first class candlelight on Sat PM. Usual foodstuffs, state DNR amenities, even some indoor plumbing. Just up the road, too!

BELMONT, Mississippi County, Oct 25-27. MCWRA MAX. Looks like best of the year as far as amenities, etc. All meals prepared, shuttle across river to Columbus KY. Masked Ball SAT nite, Battles Sat & Sun, candlelight tours & night fire demo. Sat afternoon tea & fashion show for ladies. To get there: I-70 to St Louis, I-55 past Sikeston to Mo 80, Mo 80 east to site. About 170 miles from St Louis. OUR DEADLINE: Aug 15!

BATTLE OF COLE CAMP

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES (revised)

FRIDAY, JULY 12: Show up early to help with final chores. Camps open to arriving reenactors at noon. Food available on site. Free beer at registration tent.

SATURDAY, JULY 13:

6:00 AM reveille, issue breakfast & lunch rations.

8:00 AM vehicles out, commanders meeting, camp authenticity inspections.

8:30 AM camps open, drill & Living history demos.

11:00 AM Reenact generic battle. All arms involved

12:30 PM. Lunch (camps still open)

Afternoon: cavalry obstacle course.

Infantry/artillery/medical/engineer demos & drill, etc.

4:00 PM 130th Anniversary reenactment - Battle of Cole Camp, including treatment of wounded.

6:00 PM prepared dinner

8:00 PM dance at on-site beer garden.

SUNDAY, JULY 14

7:00 AM reveille, issue breakfast rations.

9:00 AM, commanders' meeting, inspections, drill.

10:00 AM church service, camps open

11:30 AM lunch

1:30 PM Generic battle reenactment

3:00 PM Break camps

NOTE: We will be expected to handle ration issue, powder issue, etc. Special details will be set up to help at issue time. This means early reveille on Saturday & Sunday to sack & distribute breakfast rations.

We'll need help on registration Friday noon to 3:00 AM, plus assigned details for manning our recruiting table whenever we're in camp; this, plus normal camp duties. Plan to WORK at this event!

BATTLE OF COLE CAMP
SYNOPSIS

While Benton County was predominantly pro-Southern, a significant German population in the northeast part of the county supported the Union. After the Camp Jackson & Booneville affairs, a 'Col' Cook raised a force of Home Guards, which first assembled on Jun 11, 1861. He raised about 700 men, but due to a lack of muskets & space to drill & camp, sent about half home by June 16. Meanwhile, Capt Walter O'Kane had organized a State Guard force in Warsaw. He had about 350 men, included 100 on horseback.

On June 16, 1861, Benton County Sherrif Batholomew Keown (to be portrayed by our own JIM KEOWN) rode to Cole Camp to serve a warrant on the Home Guard leaders. While they declined to be arrested, Keown was able to get a good idea of the camp layout and report it to the State Guard in Warsaw. The camp was set up in 2 large barns a bit east of Cole Camp. The northerly barn was on the Heisterberg farm; the other was about 500 yards south on the Harms farm; about 125 men were quartered in and around each, and another 50 plus men were quartered in corn cribs near the Heisterberg barn.

On the night of Jun 18, it appears that the Home Guardsmen had a bit of a party. Stories indicate that the men in the Harms barn were drunk. Meanwhile, the State Guard had moved out along the road from Warsaw to Cole Camp, catching an informer en route and shooting him. They arrived at first light on June 19, slipped past the pickets, and found the group in the Heisterberg barn asleep with their arms stacked outside. The State Guard attacked the barn, firing a volley into the half-asleep Unionists, killing about 20 men. The Home Guard group sleeping in the corn cribs rallied & enfiladed the State Guard, driving them back. This group had little ammunition, so couldn't press their attack; meanwhile, the survivors from the barn escaped.

The State Guard now launched a second assault on the virtually empty barn. Another group of Home Guard in a grove of trees southeast of the barn fell into line, but were hit by the State Guard horsemen & driven back into the trees, where the horsemen couldn't follow. The men from the other barn were called to arms & formed a battle line, but never got into the action; a volley may have been fired by the State Guard to discourage any further action.

After 20-30 minutes, the Home Guard withdrew. The State Guard did not follow up on their victory. Home Guard casualties are estimated at 35 killed, 60 wounded, 30 captured (of about 350 effectives); their commander fled at the outset of the battle. The State Guard lost about 7 killed and 25 wounded. One factor that helped contribute to the surprise is that the State Guard was carrying Union colors. The State Guard searched the Heisterberg house & the wounded were treated - then the State Guard went back to Warsaw, having cleared the road for Gov. Jackson to get to his main forces in the southwest part of the state & lead them to victory at Carthage.

We've asked Federal & Confederate artillery crews to portray the men shot down in the Heisterberg barn. Federal infantry units will portray those camped in the corncribs, those who escaped from the barn, etc. Fed cavalry will portray the bunch at the Harms barn (watch the fight, take a late volley, & skedaddle).

IMPRESSIONS: For this battle, we think the Home Guard had mixed military & civilian arms, very few uniforms. The State Guard forces (that's us!) consisted of the Warsaw Blues & Warsaw Grays - no info on how armed, but apparently had some sort of uniforms. The generic battle is standard impression, militray arms preferred.

Recommended Reading: Bitter Ground, The Civil War in Missouri's Golden Valley, by Kathleen Miles White (Clinton Democrat).

FIFTH MISSOURI INFANTRY, CO A

Rt 3, Box 130
Warrensburg, MO 64093
816-747-5728

June 10, 1991

Unit Leader: 5th MO Inf, Co A

You have preregistered the following for Cole Camp:

24 men
5 civilians
2 horses (negative Coggins required)
0 artillery pieces

If you find that you will have any significant variation from those numbers, please let me know immediately. I can generally be reached before 9:00 AM and after dusk, but you can leave a revised count on my answering machine at any time.

Based on preregistration to date, we are planning on 400+ people (300 combatants). We'll acquire food, straw, hay, etc. based on those numbers. We should have enough porta-johns, but handicapped size for the ladies are unavailable in this area. The site is inaccessible to motor homes (they can camp about 1/2 mile & 2 hills away); pop-ups & modern tents can be accommodated. Motel Milish may have a problem - there's only one motel in Cole Camp & I can't speak to its quality. Otherwise, the nearest motels are about 1/2 hour away in Sedalia or Warsaw.

The primary access is on a gravelled track through hilly fields. It should be no problem unless weather is very wet (we're making contingency plans). The access point is marked by a large but fancy (hard to read) sign, about a mile east of Cole Camp on Mo 52 - we hope to get some advance warning signs up. While we believe that cavalry & artillery should have no trouble getting into the site, we do have an alternate access that's a lot flatter. This will also be the reenactor exit, to cut congestion entering the highway when we break camp Sunday.

Registration will be along the gravelled track well before you reach any critical point for turning around. People not registered on site don't eat. Powder will be issued to units based on their registered attendance. Registration will be open all night (at least until John Beck arrives), and provisions will be made for handling those who arrive during the day. No one takes the field without a safety inspection & a signed release!

We expect about a dozen sutlers in addition to the modern concessions and beer garden supplied by the town. The sutlers will be centrally located, but slightly closer to the Reb camp because of view line constraints. There will be a craft show associated with the event, but out of sight of the camps. The camps are decent locations, near trees & shade & not too badly sloped, generally out of sight of each other over a hill, but not so far away that we can't visit. The generic battle or battles will have an awful lot of room for maneuver, some cover for surprises; We'll have 2 generic & 1 historic battle, so let's make the historic one FIRST RATE.

Cole Camp is just east of US 65, about 100 miles north of Springfield or 35 miles south of I-70 (half way between Sedalia & Warsaw).

Thanks for an accurate count - we'll see you at the battle!

Bill Wayne, 1st Sgt, 5th Mo Inf