

Extracts from William Henchey's annotated diary as published by the Iron Co Historical Society concerning troop movements at Pilot Knob. [Extracted by Walt Busch 1-13-2003]

Whether Henchey was a spy or not, he was certainly interested in troop movements. Besides these entries for Pilot Knob troops, Confederates COULD have gleaned information from such "innocent" entries as that he painted a picture of a soldier from a particular unit on a certain day. It would certainly remind him what units were where if he were indeed a spy and reporting to a spy master. The problem with the annotated diary is that some of the annotation has been written, but not separated from the original text. As such some entries may be the result of the editors' research and not truly expressive of Henchey's interest in troops.

- May 7, 1861 At Camp Jackson, Lindell's Grove. Introduced Mr. Gregory & Mr. Emerson (of Ironton) to Officers.
- May 10, 1861 At Camp Jackson, tried to get Gregory away from there before surrender. Present at surrender.
- May 21, 1861 Emerson to arrest some of Lyon's Supporters. Some shooting in Ironton.
- May 22, 1861 Arcadia, Big Creek Farm – 100 Soldiers Rob homes in Arcadia

- June 22, 1861 New squad of "Sour Kraut" soldiers at Knob

- July 12, 1861 800 soldiers at Knob
- July 13, 1861 Federal troops camped ½ mile west of Knob (Camp Blood), Talked with Lt. Blood
- July 20, 1861 150 Soldiers left Knob went South to fight in the state
- July 22, 1861 20 men with rifles came in from the county to join the troops at the Knob
- July 28, 1861 Pickets & guards on roads between Big Creek & Arcadia
- July 29, 1861 Hecker's Regiment (Union) marching and looting through area.
- July 30, 1861 Cannons planted by Feds bearing down on Seminary (From Fort Hovey)
- July 31, 1861 Union soldiers begging for food in the area.

- Aug 2, 1861 Heckers 17th Illinois Regiment pitch tents near Russell Home
- Aug 4, 1861 Groups from Hecker's move south at night and also during day. Engineer corps making breastworks and batteries.
- Aug 5, 1861 Sixth Missouri move camp from Knob to South bank of Stout's Creek near Arcadia
24 Illinois at Ironton Courthouse, also 7th Iowa there
2nd Iowa at Knob
- Aug 6, 1861 Pickets stationed 4 miles out on Greenville Rd.
- Aug 7, 1861 Hecker's men on Big Creek and Arcadia Road.
- Aug 10, 1861 Col. Bland in command. Soldier accused by Hinchey of telling 4 blacks to run for freedom while under Union protection. Provost brought into case.
- Aug 11, 1861 Gen. Grant at Ironton. Hinchey stopped by guerrillas on road and refuses to give them information about Union troop movements.
- Aug 12, 1861 Grant gives him pass to Potosi

- Sep 5, 1861 1st Nebraska at Knob. Col Thayer at Knob
- Sep 6, 1861 Made Sketch of Nebraska Camp for Harper's Weekly
- Sep 8, 1861 Worked on Capt. [Wm] Fletcher's and Col. Bland's art pieces
- Sep 15, 1861 Sixth MO goes to St. Louis. All pickets in.
- Sep 16, 1861 Makes sketch of Knob & Trenches of Neb Regiment.
Indiana Cavalry out scouting today.
- Sep 22, 1861 1st Nebraska at DeSoto
- Sep 27, 1861 1st Nebraska at Jefferson City. "Determined to follow" to find runaway slave
- Sep 28, 1861 Jefferson City, 10,000 men in tents nearby.

- Oct 2, 1861 Col. Carlin had HQ at Villarsky Hotel
- Oct 18, 1861 No one allowed outside of picket line.
- Oct 21, 1861 Col. Boyd is new commander. Battle of Fredericktown.

Feb 20, 1862 33rd Regiment marched south to Greenville

Mar 23, 1862 All troops gone except small group at Fort and at Knob

April 30, 1862 Col. Bell at Knob

Dec 1862 17th MO (Hickers) at Russell Home
24th MO – South side of courthouse

Dec 1862 2nd Iowa camped at Knob
7th Iowa in front of courthouse
Engineer corps mounting cannons for defense

Apr 1, 1863 Painted portrait of Lt. Lucy 3rd MO Cavalry

Apr 2, 1863 Witnessed Corporal Lowery attempt to rape woman in Arcadia. Later witness against Lowery in St. Louis.

Apr 23, 1863 Gen. Davidson declares Fort Hovey/Curtis untenable and abandons it (as Marmaduke's Forces begin to threaten area. Later it is used again).

Apr 27, 1863 Gen. Vandever [sic—Vandiver correct] goes to Fredericktown.

July 11, 1863 Col. Livingston at Knob

July 15, 1863 1st Nebraska at Knob

Nov 9, 1863 Adjutant of 1st MO Infantry at Arcadia for painting [assume whole unit in the area]

Mar 10, 1864 Col. Herbert now commanding.

Mar 16, 1864 Inspector Gen. Mercer inspects troops at the Knob.