SAMPLE TELEGRAMS FOUND ON MICROFILM IN INTERPRETIVE CENTER LIBRARY

Telegrams Found in Immanuel Lutheran Church of Pilot Knob Records,
partial transcriptions and editing notes by Walt Busch.
The book found and owned by the church contains about one year’s set of both sent and received telegrams.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Saint Louis Mo Novber 4th 1862
Brig Genl Gray
Send Captain “Leepers” Company here by Rail, and direct him to report to me on his arrival in Saint Louis.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

Saint Louis Mo Novber 5th 1862
Brig Genl Gray
Has Captain Leeper started with his Company for Saint Louis? about how many men has he?

JW Davidson
Brig General

Patterson Mo, November
Brig Genl Gray
I will send down for my men no news.

SH Boyd, Col.

Patterson Mo Novbr 4th 1862
Brig Genl Gray
How about the Court Martial? in my opinion, will be best, to hold it at Pilot Knob, it will be __________ please see about it, hour horse has ______ & in left _______ and I am afraid it shall loose his Service.

F W Reeder, Major

Sulphur Springs Mo Nov 5/1862
General Gray
I just received your message, I was at Saint Louis on Special business, came down this morning __ _____ leave here without being __________. I have very large Company 30 or 40000 Rations.

George H. Steward
Q.M. 1st Infantry MSM
Saint Louis Mo November

Brig Genl Gray
I only desire sufficient Stores for the Troops guarding the end of the Rail Road to be kept at Sulphur Springs. You Quarter Master could leave his Commissary Sergt to issue for him; all Rations not required for issue this month could be sent to Pilot Knob Mo, one half of the guard can draw from Pilot Knob, the other from Sulphur Springs.

T.J. Haines
Col. and

Patterson Mo Novbr 6th 1862

General Gray
Please ascertain wether Captain Flemmings and Liuet Mc______ Charges are at your Posts.

F.W. Reeder, Major

Saint Louis MO Novbr 8, 1862

Genl Gray.
Which of the Ohio Regiments is the best, has the best Officers and men and seems to have the best discipline.

JW. Davidson
Brigadier General

Saint Louis Mo. Novbr 8, 1862

Genl Gray
Reply at once if you can about Ohio Regiments, of Osterhouse’s Division. Which is the best of the two, as regards of appearance & discipline.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

Saint Louis Mo Novbr 8th 1862

Brig Genl Gray
Have a room prepared for me at “Murrays” at the same place, where I was at the Knob before. I will be down tomorrow about one o’clock P.M.

JW Davidson
Brig General
Saint Louis Mo November 9 62

Brig Genl Gray
I will not be down until Monday at 12 o’clock ____ Say to Col. Hassendenbel that I want his whole Division, Cavalry, Infantry and Artillery in line at one o’clock of that Day.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

B       Brig Genl Gray

Saint Louis Mo Novbr 9 1862

Genl Gray
The Sick must be taken care of at the Post & the Surgeon held responsible for the care.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

J W Davidson J J

Saint Louis Mo Novbr 9 1862

Brig Genl Gray
Will you have rooms engaged at Mrs. Childs for General Davidson and one Staff Officer to arrive tomorrow.

Jno S Woodson Jr
Lieut of ______

Saint Louis Mo Novbr 9 1862

Brig Genl Gray
They have sent me eight or nine flat cars, no Pox cars, what shall I do, come or not come. answer immediately.

Geo. H. Steward, QM 1st Infty

Sulphur Springs Mo Nov 9 1862

Genl Gray

Patterson Mo Novbr 10th 1862.

Genl Gray
Arrest all Officers of Davidsons Division and order their return; they have no permission from me.

L H Boyd
Col Commanding
Patterson Mo November 11th 1862

Genl Gray
You will arrest and send to this Post under guard Capt Flemming of the 13th Regiment Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, no leave of absence having been given him.

F. W. Reeder
Major ________________

J  FW Reeder

__________________________________________________________________________

Sulphur Springs Mo Nov 11/1862

Col. John B. Gray
I have 13 thirteen Rebel Prisoners in arrest what shall I do with them. I will prefer charges against them.

Charles _________
Capt. Co. G. 1st Infantry MSM

__________________________________________________________________________

Saint Louis MO Nov 12/1862.

Brig. Genl John B. Gray
Genl. Bentons aide has permission to come to Saint Louis.

By order of Brig. Gen. Davidson
Robt Elliot
Lt _________

__________________________________________________________________________

Saint Louis Mo November 14 1862

Col, John B. Gray
I have not been able today to investigate the forwardwing of stores to Saint Louis from Sulphur Springs, will send the Sergeant on Sunday or Monday, and let you know all I discover horses, Mules and Wagons I hear were sold.

TJ Haynes
Col. & Chief Comss.

__________________________________________________________________________

Saint Louis Mo Nov 15/1862

Genl Gray
Send over the 13 Ill Cavalry tomorrow _________ with the wagons drawn from your Regiment, if theirs have not arrived, keep the _____ Ills Company as my escort until I come down.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

Henry Gray ____________
Saint Louis Mo Nov 16 1862

Genl Gray
I will de down tomorrow. will you please have me a room at the Hotel where General Steel stopped.

JW Davidson
Brigadier General

H H Henry H H

Saint Louis Mo Novbr 17th 1862

Adjutant ___ Eylers
I missed Col Haynes and General Davidson last night and the train this morning. General Davidson & Co. have gone down this morning. I will be back tomorrow.

John B. Gray
BB

Pilot Knob Jan 6 63

Gen Davidson
Van Buren

The Envelope containing key to cypher was given to Sergt. commdg. Escort to mail ambulances. I have sent for him and will let you know as soon as I can hear from it.

John B. Gray
Col. Commdg. Post

[ Stock of supplies at Fort Davidson]

Pilot Knob, MO Jan 19, 1863

Captain Dyer
AAG, St Louis [M M Wo?]

Four thirty two pdr. guns, and three twenty four pdr Howitzers all but one of the former at Fort Curtis [at Arcadia, MO]. Four hundred rounds assorted and round shot for the former. Four hundred and fifty rounds asstd. shell sph. [spherical?] case and cannister for the latter. Thirty seven thousand Buck and Ball cartridges Cal. sixty nine. Seventy three thousand elongated ball cartridges Cal. fifty eight besides small quantities of other calibres. One hundred revolvers assorted with three or four thousand cartirdges, one hundred and fifty muskets and carbines, different kinds. This is a rough statement, a detailed report would shew a few more or less. Is this what you want. I do not include in the above the ammunition for my four companies stationed here.

John B. Gray
Col. Comdg Post
[MUTINY]  

Patterson MO Jan 22/ 63

General Gray

The artillery men came in last night and decline serving me. They return with the [wagon] train today as they say under agreement or orders from you. The train brought no forage for this place. I move up the St. Francois today about 15 miles to cross and get forage leaving a small force here. I am ordered by Genl. Carr to scout South East of this place. Two hundered and Forty Texan Rangers and Tim Reeves Company are on South back of Black River. Cooper and Ellisons guerillas are in the neighborhood of Bloomfield and Greenville.

James Lindsay  
Col Comd’g Post

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Pilot Knob Jan 22/ 63

Col Lindsay  
Patterson

I am sorry about the cowardly scoundrels I sent you as artillery men. Genl. Curtis has sent for them to all come to St. Louis so I shall be rid of them.

Each of the six mule teams were loaded light say one thousand pounds to each wagon with forage for your post. Surely they could not have eit it up. If Gen. Carr directs your movements of course I will not attempt to advise. I will tell you of any move which I make.

John B. Gray  
Col. Comd’g Post

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[WANTED POSTERS]  

Rolla Mo Feby 20/63

Commander of Post

Three men have deserted my Company and are supposed to be in the train with Gen. Benton and will probably leave him a little before he arrives at the Knob. Try to arrest them.


Robert B. Smtih age 21, height 5 feet 9 inches, complexion light, eyes blue, hair light, face shaved has light beard. Hat Dress Coat Rifle + accoutrements.

Thos B. George
Capt. Co F  
23rd Iowa Infty.

[SMALLPOX OUTBREAK]  
Middlebrook MO March 9/ 63

Gen. Gray

The Small Pox Patients are one half mile west of Iron Mountain Depot in two tents separated at some distance from each other. I forward for Post Hospital at Ironton today forty four (44) patients.

W. Dickinson  
Surg. MSM Med. Director

[Requesting the aid of Africa-Americans: Slaves were supposed to still be returned to their masters at this time, but many Union commanders took it upon themselves to provide shelter to them, hence the name Contrabands, and also use them as a labor force for the military. That attitude prevailed in the area of Pilot Knob and is one of the reasons why approximately 8 percent of the Union combatants in the Battle of Pilot Knob were African-American].

Middlebrook MO March 9/ 63

Col. John B. Gray

If you can send me (2) two intelligent and highly relighable [sic] contrabands for servants I wish you would do so.

C. H. Dyer  
AAG

[MORE MUTINY]  
Pilot Knob, MO March 18/03

Capt. Fillebourne  
AAG  
Hedqrgts, St Louis Dist

Stanges Battery consisting of 4 pieces 2 twelve pound Howitzers and 2 six pdr guns is here and only twenty four men for duty. Between 50 and 60 in the Guard House for mutiny. Everything ready to move but the men. I will go down and see them and will report if I can get them to obey.

John B. Gray  
Col. Comdg.
Barnesville was an extreme outpost with little known about it. It is an earthen redoubt built by the military and is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Barnesville MO March 10/63
Brig. Genl. John B. Gray
Post Commandant

Have just arrived here all right came through from Lesterville today was detained by high water on Black River and very bad roads.

A. Erskine
Capt. Comdg 2nd Batt 13th Ill. Cavalry

Pilot Knob, MO March 14/63
Captain Erskine
Barnesville

I wish you to inform Col. Hartman upon his arrival at your post that I have today received information Said to be reliable that Tim Reeves with 151 men is amassing himself in the District of Country between Black and Current rivers by conscripting the people for the Confederacy. Tell him to strengthen his post at Barnesville so as to have at least one hundred men for duty at that point and keep a sharp look out in the aforementioned directions being ready at a moments notice for any movement of cooperation which I may direct. I am sending two more companies to Patterson, making four in all at that point.

John B. Gray
Col Comdg. Post

Barnesville, MO March 16/63
Col. J. B. Gray

All quiet down here expect Co. “B” and Co. “H” tomorrow.

Theo. Hartman
Lt. Col. Comdg.
Barnesville, March 16, 1863

Col. Gray
Comdg Post

There is some eight or ten thousand (8 or 10000) bushels of corn, within 8 miles of this Post. Bad weather will soon set in and I would like to keep a good part of that forage on hand for all emergencies. Would the Col. Cmmdg please send out ten (10) wagons with oats and hay once a week and make a Detail from his Command to escort the train from here and back again. This would materially strengthen this post.

Theo Hartmann
Lieut. Col. Commanding.

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Barnesville MO March 16/63

Col. J. B. Gray

Two rebel soldiers have given themselves up to one of my pickets. I will send them under guard to Pilot Knob tomorrow morning. They received information on their way thither that Tim Reeves is about Brush Creek. Cos. ‘B’ and ‘H’ have reported here already.

Theo Hartman
Lieut Col. Comdg. Post

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Barnesville MO March 18/63

Col J. B. Gray

A scout which I had sent out towards Van Buren yesterday has just returned. They stopped over an hour at Current River. They report the Telegraph wire in fine condition all the way except 3 or 4 places where the wire is down. Guerrilla parties were reported to them to invest brush Creek and Jacks Fork.

Theo Hartman
Lt. Col. Comdg. Post

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Barnesville MO March 19/63

Col. John B. Gray
Commanding

Have heard nothing yet from Captain Leeper, a soldier coming from Lesterville informs [sic] me that he had already returned. In what direction did you send out Lt. Collins. Could you not send me 100 men of the EMM [Enrolled Missouri Militia] under command of Lt. Col. Walker of 32nd Regiment?
Theo Hartmann
Lt Col Comg Post