

THE HOWLING DAWG

Recapping the events of JUNE 2017



16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G
"The Jackson Rifles"

THERE IS A SUMMER PLACE

16TH GA Summer Drill at Skunk Hollow



The tents of the 16th nestled in the hollow (Photo by Beth Colvin)

For the second year, the 16th GA/51th PVV held its summer drill and encampment on the north Georgia property of our gracious hosts, Tom and Carol Sprague. We thank them again for this great kindness and all their exceeding hospitality. As they say, "good time was had by all" who attended. The photos are courtesy of Beth Colvin, Kenny Stancil, & Heidi Edge ...

16TH GA Summer Drill at Skunk Hollow



16TH GA Summer Drill at Skunk Hollow



"...when a man dies by your side, you don't expect the man who replaces him to survive either, you don't even want to learn his name. And now, when you march into the guns, you accept that this time it might be you, as if it's already decided, God has made his mark on those who will not come back." - Gone for Soldiers by Jeff Shaara, Chapter 29

THE 16TH GEORGIA CO. G – “The Jackson Rifles”

Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201

Rev. Joey Young – Hon. Member - 678-978-7213

Capt. Wm. “Rebel” Bradberry, Commanding – 404-242-7213

1st Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755

2nd Lt. Charles Whitehead – 478-986-8943

Color Sgt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796

Adjutant: 5th Corp. "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531

Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin – 478-214-0687

1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739

2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague – 478-320-8748

1st Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151

2nd Corp. Tommy Shover - 478-230-3483

3rd Corp. Avery Allen - 478-662-3732

4th Corp. Cody Sprague – 478-542-1802

Lead Chaplain – Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798

Hon. Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-808-8848

Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878

Musician – Drew Edge – 478-365--1897

Musician – Chance Sprague – 706-491-9755

Musician - Aaron Bradford – 302-668-8029

Musician - Oliver Lummus – 302-668-8029

Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-318-7266

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". And @ scv2218.com, thanks to Al McGalliard.



SCHEDULE OF 2017 EVENTS

JULY 20 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING – LTC. EDWARD SHELOR

AUGUST 17 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - DONNA FAULKNER BARRON

SEPTEMBER 16-17 – HURRICANE SHOALS RE-ENACTMENT *(Registration now open)*

SEPTEMBER 21 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING – JOHNNY MACK NICKLES

OCTOBER 6-8 – ANDERSONVILLE, GA - HISTORIC FAIR & BATTLES

OCTOBER 19 – SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING – EARL COLVIN

NOVEMBER 18 – GRISWOLDVILLE BATTLEFIELD COMMEMORATION

SPEAKER: GA DIV. SCV COMMANDER SCOTT GILBERT

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THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER



The Camp met at Chevy's Pizza (115 West Clinton Street just past the courthouse).

Our June meeting featured Rachel Holland of the 53rd GA, who gave an outstanding presentation about Civil War Nurses. On July 20th Lt. Edward Shelor will make a return visit to speak on the topic of "George Washington". August 17th is a meeting date of great interest. Our speaker on that occasion will be Donna Faulkner Barron, daughter of Roy Faulkner, the man responsible for the completion of Stone Mountain's iconic Confederate

Memorial. Looking ahead to September we will enjoy a revisit by artifacts expert extraordinaire, Johnny Mack Nickles (SCV Camp 18) and on October 19th, Compatriot Earl Colvin will bring what promises to be a vital and mighty interesting program on the 45th GA, Co. F men from our own Jones County area. Our November 2017 Camp meeting will be held on the Griswoldville Battlefield during our annual memorial service. The guest speaker for that date, Saturday, November 18, 2017, will be State SCV Commander Scott Gilbert. We do not meet in December. Our 2017 guest speaker openings for Camp 2218 meeting programs are filled. Please apply to Adjutant Dobson if interested in booking 2018 dates.



The picture above shows the induction of new Camp 2218 member, Greg Ruffenbach (Photo By: Beth Colvin)



Our own (16th GA, Co. G) Anthony "AJ" Odom at Army National Guard basic training, Ft. Jackson, Columbia, SC

PRAYER REQUESTS

You may not recognize many of the names on this page, but does that really matter? They represent real people - genuine needs. Just because you do not know them personally nor the nature of their circumstance does not mean that you cannot bow your heart and head for a moment and ask God to meet their needs according to His will ...

James Boyd

Rev. Joey Young and family Ethan & Crystal Bloodworth
Ed & Val Elliott Judi Powers Kasey W. Larson Marsha Herrin
Tim Fowler Matt Whitehead & family Tom Adkins Ben (Cooter) Jones
Roy and Dana Myers Will Butler Pat Griffeth Steve & Ricky Smith &
families Chris & Shelby Faulkner Bill Cameron Alan Farley Barbara Garnto
Mrs. & Mrs. Burns Gale Red Will Butler Richard Durham Mike Cook
Edna Fowler Kim Beck Frank Williams (surgery July 26)
Chuck & Diana Layman U.S.A. Israel Law Enforcement, Paramedics &
Firefighters Political Leaders, Judges, Missionaries, Ministers Travelers The lonely
Our enemies ... Me & You, that we may boldly witness.

And, *please*, do let me know of others.

(For privacy, in some cases, I do not publish the details but will share if you contact me.)



As so many know our dear brother – long time 16th GA member - and retired 1st Sgt. has been stricken with cancer. Much-appreciated funds were collected at Old Clinton War Days and sent to him. This is so deeply appreciated. If anyone would still like to contribute, they can send it to him directly at:

**James Boyd 15 Meredith Drive Murrayville, Georgia
30564 - 706-344-7588**

**AS OF 7/9/17 HE HAD BEEN MOVED TO A REHAD FACILITY IN
GAINSVILLE, GA AND HAS NO DIRECT PHONE NUMBER THERE.
CALL SARINA AT THE NUMBER ABOVE. (image courtesy of Val Elliott)**

TRUMP'S FIRST PRESIDENTIAL PAY CHECK

"The \$78,333.32 that President Donald Trump donated from his first paycheck as President will help fund restoration projects at Antietam National Battlefield. Interior Department Secretary Ryan Zinke announced Wednesday 7/5 that the portion of the salary, which Trump in April announced he was donating to the National Park Service, will support restorations at the National Park Service protected area in Sharpsburg, Maryland, which commemorates the Battle of Antietam." (CNN)

Also, President Donald Trump was met Thursday in Poland by cheering crowd. "Fox & Friends" approvingly noted the enthusiastic response to President Trump's speech, including chants of "USA." Trump praised the Polish spirit after summing up the nation's horrific experience in World War II as "trouble" and "tough," as crowds cheered and chanted in approval. A crowd shot broadcast by CNN, as the network awaited the president's speech, clearly showed Polish crowd members waving a Confederate battle flag. (Dixie Heritage Newsletter)

150 YEARS AGO

June 17, 1867: Currently, surgery is a dangerous event, with from 40 to 50 percent of patients dying from post-operative infections. All sorts of skin-penetrating afflictions are killing people left and right. Dr. Joseph Lister, in 1865, read Louis Pasteur's report that living microorganisms cause matter to ferment and eventually rot. In August of that year, I reported when Lister began using various chemicals to sterilize instruments and wounds with striking success. Between 1864 and 1866, he lost 46 percent of his surgical patients. Today, for the first time, he is doing a full surgical procedure in sterile conditions and will be publishing his results. Beginning today, his loss percentage drops to 15 %. By 1877 he will drop the death rate to 5 percent and 3 percent by 1900. His published papers will change medicine across Europe, the United States, and wherever modern medicine is practiced. Many persons living 150 years from this date would not be here if not for the efforts of Dr. Lister. When the great Louis Pasteur will be publicly honored at age 70, by his medical peers, he will turn his head towards Lister saying: "the future belongs to him who has done the most for suffering humanity."

June 22, 1867: In Georgia, and the South, the parameters of voter registration have widened a bit by this ruling by the US Attorney General who states that: "All are entitled to register and vote, except those who heretofore held office under the Federal or State Government, and afterwards engaged in the rebellion. Having been in the Confederate army does not disqualify, unless you had previously held a State or Federal office which required you to swear to support the Constitution of the United States. And having held that office and taken such an oath, does not disqualify you unless you subsequently, in some way, aided the rebellion." Prior to this, all who served the Confederacy have been disqualified.

June 25, 1867: In Ohio, Lucien B. Smith of Kent, files a patent for the first barbed wire. The existing fencing wire is brittle and cows like to rub themselves on it causing either the wire to break or the fence posts to loosen. The wire with barbs makes an uncomfortable rubbing post and much more effective fencing. Fencing with the new product is much cheaper and works much better than any other fencing option of the day. Soon there will be many other patents filed for similar products, but the original rights will prevail Thanks to Larry Upthegrove

IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY

"Keep us in your prayers as I know so many of you do. The little girl my wife was carrying didn't make it. The LORD took her to Heaven where she is safe with Him. Because of His great plan of salvation, and because we are both saved, we will see her again one day! Bro. Joey Young (June 22, 2017)

Were Confederate Officers Traitors? By Walter Williams

My "Rewriting American History" column of a fortnight ago, about the dismantling of Confederate monuments, generated considerable mail. Some argued there should not be statues honoring traitors such as Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, who fought against the Union. Victors of wars get to write the history, and the history they write often does not reflect the facts. Let's look at some of the facts and ask: Did the South have a right to secede from the Union? If it did, we can't label Confederate generals as traitors. Article 1 of the Treaty of Paris (1783), which ended the war between the Colonies and Great Britain, held "New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, to be free sovereign and Independent States." Representatives of these states came together in Philadelphia in 1787 to write a constitution and form a union. During the ratification debates, Virginia's delegates said, "The powers granted under the Constitution being derived from the people of the United States may be resumed by them whensoever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression." The ratification documents of New York and Rhode Island expressed similar sentiments. At the Constitutional Convention, a proposal was made to allow the federal government to suppress a seceding state. James Madison, the "Father of the Constitution," rejected it. The minutes from the debate paraphrased his opinion: "A union of the states containing such an ingredient (would) provide for its own destruction. The use of force against a state would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound." America's first secessionist movement started in New England after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Many were infuriated by what they saw as an unconstitutional act by President Thomas Jefferson. The movement was led by Timothy Pickering of Massachusetts, George Washington's secretary of war and secretary of state. He later became a congressman and senator. "The principles of our Revolution point to the remedy - a separation," Pickering wrote to George Cabot in 1803, for "the people of the East cannot reconcile their habits, views, and interests with those of the South and West." His Senate colleague James Hillhouse of Connecticut agreed, saying, "The Eastern states must and will dissolve the union and form a separate government." This call for secession was shared by other prominent Americans, such as John Quincy Adams, Elbridge Gerry, Fisher Ames, Josiah Quincy III and Joseph Story. The call failed to garner support at the 1814-15 Hartford Convention. The U.S. Constitution would have never been ratified -- and a union never created -- if the people of those 13 "free sovereign and Independent States" did not believe that they had the right to secede. Even on the eve of the War of 1861, unionist politicians saw secession as a right that states had. Rep. Jacob M. Kunkel of Maryland said, "Any attempt to preserve the union between the states of this Confederacy by force would be impractical and destructive of republican liberty." The Northern Democratic and Republican parties favored allowing the South to secede in peace. Northern newspapers editorialized in favor of the South's right to secede. New-York Tribune (Feb. 5, 1860): "If tyranny and despotism justified the Revolution of 1776, then we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Millions of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861." The Detroit Free Press (Feb. 19, 1861): "An attempt to subjugate the seceded States, even if successful, could produce nothing but evil -- evil unmitigated in character and appalling in extent." The New-York Times (March 21, 1861): "There is a growing sentiment throughout the North in favor of letting the Gulf States go." Confederate generals were fighting for independence from the Union just as George Washington and other generals fought for independence from Great Britain. Those who'd label Gen. Robert E. Lee as a traitor might also label George Washington as a traitor. I'm sure Great Britain's King George III would have agreed. *Forwarded by James W. King-- Camp 141*

Shot Towers

The Jackson Ferry Shot Tower is 75-foot tall shot tower located in Wythe County, Virginia.

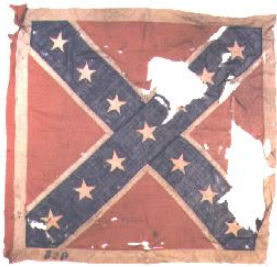
It is one of only a few remaining shot towers in the United States. It was built by Thomas Jackson and is the centerpiece of the Shot Tower Historical State Park. Construction began on the tower shortly after the American Revolutionary War and was completed in 1807. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 1, 1969. Shot Towers were often referred to as Shot Factories during the industry's heyday. Today they stand as testaments to ingenious yet antiquated technology.

The purpose of the shot tower was to produce lead shot to be used in firearms. Firewood and lead were taken to the top of the tower, where a furnace was fired to melt the lead. The molten lead was then poured through a sieve, which would form individual drops of lead of a specific size. Different sieves were used to produce shot of varying size. The molten drops would then free-fall 150 feet, during which they would become spherical in shape, and cool enough to become rigid. A large kettle full of water at the bottom would finish the cooling process, and provide a soft enough landing to keep the shot from deforming. The finished shot was then sold to hunters, traders and merchants. An advertisement in the August 30, 1791 edition of the Virginia Chronicle detailing the manufacturing of shot at the Shot Factory in Southwest Virginia may suggest that the tower dates back to before 1800. Welshman William Herbert, an expert ore smelter, and his extended family were living in Bristol, England when he accepted the offer to come to the Virginia wilderness and make the mines profitable. He designed the "shot tower" much like the one he was familiar with in Bristol, built in 1753 by William Watts, his former employer. William Watts later patented the method used to drip the molten lead from a considerable height into the body of water below, a process "for making small shot perfectly globular in form and without dimples, notches and imperfections which other shot hereto manufactured usually have on their surface". The deed of this land was recorded in William Herbert's name on March 28, 1767. Herbert also purchased land in the nearby counties Russell and Washington. Herbert had a patent for land between Dungannon and Gray's Island on Clinch River. Richard Staunton settled very early on Staunton's Creek in Scott Co., Va. and it was for him the stream was named. In the early 1750s, Richard was living with his father Thomas Staunton at present day Poplar Camp in Wythe County, Virginia Thomas Staunton sold his land to Capt. William Herbert and moved to North Carolina. William Herbert came to America by request of Colonel John Chiswell for the purpose of developing the ore rich mines discovered by Chiswell and financed for development by Chiswell, John Robinson and William Byrd III. The mining and ammunitions business became very successful. The pioneer fort, Fort Chiswell was built not only for the protection of the local citizens but also to protect the financial interests of Chiswell's group. Citizens complained and thus the mining operation was deemed to be in violation of a treaty with the Cherokee Indians. The Commonwealth of Virginia ordering a cease of lead production until the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

The Shot Tower is sometimes erroneously credited to Thomas Jackson; perhaps he restored or rebuilt it. There was clearly a shot tower built and used there well before Thomas Jackson came to America. (Wikipedia)



KEEP AT YOUR WORK



"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;" - 2 Corinthians 4:8

We received the heartrending news in June that the Nash Farm event, planned for October 2017, would not be held. Apparently the choke hold of the current political climate doomed these efforts. We are used to seeing persecutions and event defeats in other places: New Orleans, Memphis, Virginia... but not so close to home. And especially in light of the gallant fight that was waged to save it. Yet, we fight on, each on his own private battlefield and in cooperation with others. Our War is for our heritage which we have an honest right to. We will not be dissuaded. I often think of how disheartening it must have been for our ancestors in late 1864 and especially after the Battles of Franklin, Jonesboro or Griswoldville. Yet, the Southern Army would fight on until submitting to unrelenting and overwhelming odds. Defeat is not dishonor. I have often said that our Confederate ancestors became more heroes in defeat than any Yankee soldier did in victory. Stand strong, be resolved not to let anything short of the grave stop you. Jwd

The Lord has given to every man his work. It is every man's business to do his work, and the devil's business to hinder him if he can. Be sure as God has given you a work to do, Satan will try to hinder you if he can. He may throw you from it; he may present other things more promising; he may allure you by worldly prospects; He may assault with slander, torment you with false accusations, set you at work defending your character, employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, officials to accuse you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Ananias and Caiaphas, all combined against you, and Judas standing by, ready to sell you for thirty pieces of silver; and you may wonder why all these things come upon you. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil, to draw you off from your work and hinder your obedience to God? Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars; do not stop to stone the devil's dog; do not fool away your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work. Let liars lie, let sectarians quarrel, let corporations resolve, let editors publish, let the devil do his worst; but see to it that nothing hinder you from fulfilling the work that God has given you. He has not sent you to make money. He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you defend your character. He has never set you at work to contradict that which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things, you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself, and not for the Lord. Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wronged, insulted, slandered, wounded, and rejected; you may be abused by foes, forsaken by friends, and despised and rejected of men; but see to it with steadfast determination, with unfaltering zeal, that you pursue the great purpose of your life and object of your being until at last you can say,

"I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do."

Pulpit Helps, August, 1992, p. 8

THE BLACK ANKLE FIGHT

Full History of Stoneman's Attack of Macon

Yesterday was the Anniversary - The Federals Wanted to Get to Andersonville to Release 80,000 Prisoners and Destroy Granaries.

Thirty-three years ago last Friday General Stoneman made his memorable raid and attack of the city of Macon; was repulsed while on his retreat, was met at Sunshine Church, in Jones County, eighteen miles from Macon, by General Iverson's Brigade of cavalry and taken prisoner. This battle cannot be classed equally with the numerous battles of the war, where marshaled hosts contended against hosts; blood and carnage the universal result: nevertheless, in comparison with the numbers engaged it was no less effective in its achievement in protecting a city from vandalism and saving the large amount of ordnance material manufactured by the Macon arsenal and also the large quantity of army stores deposited here. Its defenders were hurriedly gathered together, placed in line of battle and with the determination of heroes to defend the city or die in their tracks.

Until the last of July Macon had escaped the attacks of the Federal raiding Corps. While Sherman was pouring storms of shot and shell into Atlanta, the surrounding country was frequently overrun with raids extending into Alabama and eastward beyond Covington, Georgia, destroying railroad property and plundering the unprotected families in town and throughout the country. In fact, raids were the order of the day. On the afternoon of the 29th of July General Cobb received information of the approach of a large body of cavalry on the Clinton road leading to Macon. All of the militia at this place were at once ordered under arms and positions assigned them. Fortunately on the night of the 29th a battalion of 600 Tennesseans under the command of Major John W. Nisbet had arrived from Andersonville on their way to Atlanta and also a regiment of militia destined for the same place. These corps of troops were detained in Macon several days for its defense and to their accidental arrival at that time, which swelled the little army of defenders of the city; may be attributed the retreat of Stoneman from Macon.

Early on the morning of the 30th, Governor Brown being in Macon had distributed and broadcast the following proclamation:

HEADQUARTERS - Macon, July 30th, 1864 - To the Citizens of Macon: The enemy is now in sight of your houses. We lack force. I appeal to every man citizen or refugee who has a gun of any kind or can get one, to report at the court house with the least possible delay that you may be thrown in to companies in aid of the defense of the city. A prompt response is expected from every patriot. - Joseph E. Brown

Report to Colonel Carey W. Styles, who will forward an organization as rapidly as possible.

The citizens responded promptly. They had actually formed an organization of defense the night previous and before the unexpected arrival of Nisbet's battalion and the State militia. These corps and the Macon arsenal battalion, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Mallet and Captain Henry P. Westcott were sent across the river and bivouacked on the night of the 29th along the Clinton road. They were formed upon the right of the line and were under the command of Colonel J.B. Cumming, who also had an arsenal battery of three-twelve pound Napoleon guns,

under the command of General Robinson of Texas. Another battery of similar guns, under Major Edward Taliaferro, was stationed on a hill near Fort Hawkins and was near the center of the whole line. Lieutenant Colonel Findlay's battalion of Georgia reserves was between this battery and Cumming's command.

On the morning of the 30th, the Federals advanced within two miles of Macon and planted a battery on Dunlop's farm and fired freely around the suburbs of Macon without any serious damage. One shot fell into the center of the city on Mulberry Street, tearing away part of one of the front columns of the residence of Mr. Asa Holt, where Mr. Charles Canning now resides.

The fight opened on the part of the Confederates on the left wing which was the first part of the line attacked. Our batteries were ordered to hold their fire until the Federals were within two to three hundred yards of their front: they were then coming down the main road in that noted suburb of East Macon known as "Black Ankle" which derives its apparently singular name from a very amusing if not classical incident. The battery opened with a well-directed fire, when Nisbet's battalion was ordered to charge. The militia and Findlay's command were held in reserve to follow the battalion if necessary. During this time Taliaferro's battery was also in full play. On the charge being made, and the fire of the two well-directed batteries kept up with rapid shots, the enemy retreated about 1 p.m. in the direction of Cross Keys. During this engagement Cummings lost seven killed and twenty-six wounded, mostly under GA reserves, under Colonel Lee of Atlanta.

Stoneman had formed another line of three hundred sharpshooters in the meantime that engaged the right wing under Colonel Gibbs; an account of which is given in the following extract from the records of Company B, battalion of reserves under the command of Captain B.F. Ross:

"On the 29th of July, 1864, information was communicated at General Howell Cobb's headquarters by Captain Samuel S. Dunlap, commanding scouts, that a raid of the enemy was approaching Macon. Captain Ross received orders from General Cobb to assemble his company and report for duty to Col. Gibbs, commanding the post. The company assembled at the armory hall and reported at 6 p.m., took up line of march for the Vineville Academy and bivouacked at that place for the night. Next morning the battalion was formed, consisting of the following companies: One company of convalescent soldiers from their camps, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Wyll: one company from the employees of the Macon Manufacturing Company, under the command of Major M.R. Rogers: firemen guards, under command of Lieutenant John Nichols: Company A, Silver Grays (so called from being composed of gray-haired sires in the community; under command of Lieutenant James R. Butler (Captain James W. Armstrong being absent from the city): Company B under the command of Captain B.F. Ross. So soon as the line was formed, Colonel Gibbs announced to the battalion that he had received intelligence that the enemy were within one and one half miles of Macon and that we were called upon to face them and to recollect that we were Georgians in defense of our homes and firesides. We were immediately put in line of march through the city and around the river at the Central Railroad Bridge and marched through East Macon where the battalion was halted. Company A was detached to guard the bridge. At this point we heard the sound of battle. Our infantry, under

Colonel Cumming who were ordered over the river the night before had engaged the enemy on our left. The enemy's battery, stationed at Dunlop's Farm, had opened fire on the city. We continued our line of march out of town on the Milledgeville Road directly in the face of the enemy's battery who were continually shell after shell over and on each side of our marching column. After reaching the point opposite to Fort Hawkins at the old Mickeljohn house, our column filed to the right through a field of corn, taking position in line of battle along a board fence at the back part of the farm of George W. Adams. The enemy's sharpshooters were firing upon us. So soon as we got into position three hundred of the enemy opened a brisk fire from the right upon us. We withheld our fire to enable a few scattering militiamen to withdraw, who had imprudently run into a ravine below us being exposed to the enemy's fire and our own. The command was given to fire, when we poured a volley into the enemy, who were occupying a fence at a right angle from our position. Our fire soon told upon their ranks and they retreated with confusion.

The following is a list of casualties in our company:

Killed - Private A.J. Hogan: Lieutenant Goldsmith, from the Augusta Volunteers, who had volunteered in our ranks. Wounded: Private W.R. Singleton, in leg, severe. J.P. Shiver, in head, severe. Campbell Tracey, a paroled prisoner from Vicksburg, in neck, slight. James Brown, in neck, slight. S.E. Theus, in arm, slight. Corporal E.M. Brown, in shoulder, severe. Lieutenant James Blanchard, in hand, slight. Lieutenant Blanchard was A.A. and inspector general on General Cheatham's staff, then suffering from a wound in the hand volunteered as a private in our company: was struck by a spent ball in his wounded hand.

At 3 p.m. the enemy had disappeared from our front. A detachment of fifty men from the battalion under the command of Lieutenant A.G. Butts, were sent forward to feel the enemy, who reported their rear guard in the woods beyond the Cross Keys in full retreat. The battalion bivouacked during the night in line of battle. Sunday morning, July 30, they were marched across the river and were dismissed by Colonel Gibbs, subject to call in the event of danger.

General Stoneman, on leaving Atlanta, had 2,500 well equipped cavalymen, armed with Spencer rifles: he distributed his command in three columns. One was to advance on Macon by coming down the road via Griffin and Forsyth, and engage the local forces at Macon in the rear, while he, with the other two columns, was to meet the first column at Macon. The first column was intercepted by a portion of Hood's army near Jonesboro. When Stoneman reached Clinton he was surprised to learn that the city bridge across the river at Macon had recently been carried away by a freshet and that General Joseph E. Johnston was at Macon. He apprehended that General Cobb had been reinforced from Hood's army at Atlanta. On approaching nearer to the city, his delusion was increased by the number of troops he saw in his front and by the rapid and continuous fire by our two batteries.

Finding that he could not capture the city, he kept one column of 800 to 1,000 men, principally sharpshooters, with a couple of rifled pieces of artillery to make feint on the town, while he sent another column upon several unprotected points on the Central railroad, burning the bridges over Walnut Creek and the Oconee River, destroying cars at Griswoldville and Gordon, and causing the usual destruction along the route for which raiders were noted.

On the evening of the 30th of July, the Federal raiders retired from before Macon and the environment of Black Ankle. General Joseph E. Johnston was, then, temporarily residing in Macon and tendered his services to General Cobb and together they planned the defense of the city, distributed the forces and directed all movements. The desire of some of the officers was to pursue Stoneman. Our commanding generals directed otherwise as they sagaciously determined to act on the defensive and in the meantime General Conn telegraphed to General Hood to send a strong cavalry force after Stoneman, while he could repel his advance into Macon. General Hood sent General Iverson's brigade, from Wheeler's cavalry after Stoneman. On August 1, Iverson met at Sunshine Church, in Jones County, sixteen miles from Macon, and after a short battle Stoneman surrendered. The main bodies of the raiders were not with Stoneman and most of them succeeded in making their escape. Five hundred prisoners with Stoneman were marched into the city by Iverson. His artillery and over 1,000 eight-shot rifles and a large number of horses were captured: and for several days a large number of the raiders were captured in the woods and brought in as captives, the total number being 850. This raid was considered of no little importance, as two distinguished generals refer to it respectively in their histories of the war. General Joseph E. Johnston in his "Narrative" of the war, in referring to this attack on Macon says:

"It was attacked by a division of United States Cavalry with the object, probably, of destroying the viable workshops which had been established there by General Gorgas, the chief of ordnance. The place had neither entrenchments nor garrison. Fortunately, however, two regiments of the militia, promised me while commanding the army, by Governor Brown, were passing on their way to Atlanta. Their officers were serving in the army as privates, so they had none. With them and as many of the mechanics of the workshops and volunteers of the town as he could find arms for; in all about 1,500 or 1,800. General Cobb met the federals on the high ground east of the Ocmulgee, and repulsed them, after a contest of several hours, by his own courage and judicious disposition and the excellent conduct of his troops, who heard hostile shot then for the first time."

General W.T. Sherman in the second volume of his "Memoirs", refers to the raid as follows:

"Stoneman had not obeyed his order to attack the railroad first before going to Macon and Andersonville, but had crossed the Ocmulgee River high up, near Covington and had gone down that river on the east bank. He reached Clinton and sent out detachments, which struck the railroad leading from Macon to Savannah at Griswoldville station, where they found and destroyed fifteen locomotives and over one hundred cars; then went on and burned the bridge across the Oconee and reunited the direction before Macon. Stoneman shelled the town across the river, but could not cross over by the bridge, and returned to Clinton, where he found the retreat obstructed by a superior force. There, he became bewildered and sacrificed himself for the safety of his command. He occupied the attention of the enemy by a small force of 700 men, giving Colonel Adams and Capron leave, with their brigades, to cut their way back to me at Atlanta. The former reached un entire, but the latter was struck and scattered at some place further north, and came in by detachments. Stoneman surrendered and became a prisoner until he was exchanged sometime late in September, at Rough and Ready.

The objective points of the raid were Macon and Andersonville. The object being to destroy all the Confederate supplies, workshops, war material and provisions; also all railroad machinery of Macon, so as to prevent transportation to either Hood's or Lee's army in Virginia.

Southwest Georgia, in 1864, was the granary of the Confederacy. Upper Georgia and the whole of several other agricultural states had been cut off from supplying our armies with food, so that they were dependent as well as many of the people, upon the fertile lands of Southwest Georgia for corn and meat. From her many facilities by diverging railroad, Macon was also an important point for the collection and distribution of commissary supplies.

The other object was to advance upon Andersonville and secure the release of over 80,000 prisoners confined in the stockade there; for to liberate those prisoners would have effected the destruction of the crops, the provisions already in store and the general devastation of the most valuable portion of the State, at that time, to the Confederacy. General Cobb was familiar with those facts, hence his determination to protect Macon, the key to Southwest Georgia, in preference to the modicum of glory of a military exploit in pursuing and capturing the Stoneman raiders himself.

J.C.B.

SOURCE: THE MACON TELEGRAPH July 31, 1897(Page 5 - Columns 3, 4 and top of 5)

IN TREASURED MEMORY

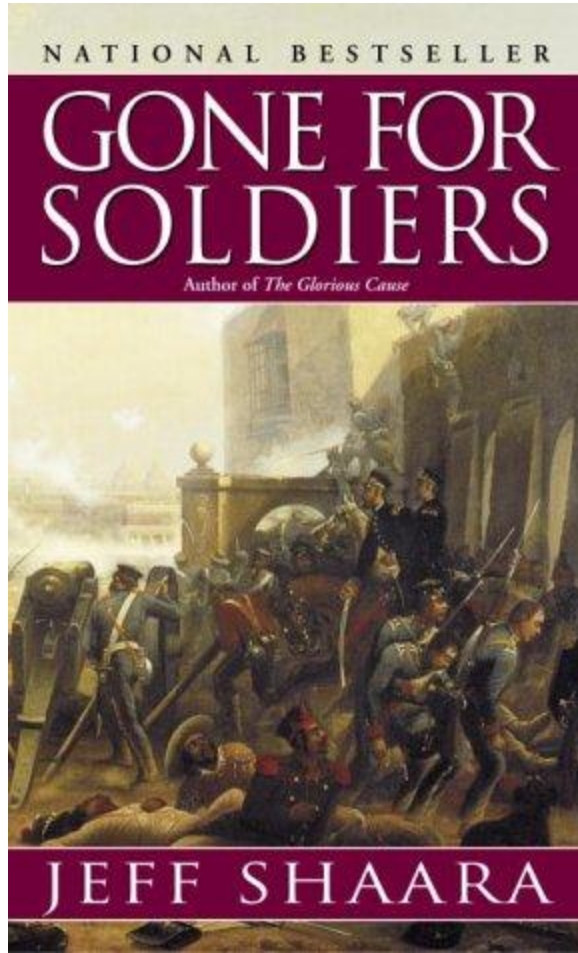


*For the time that I last, I shall live in
the past
And remember the world's fading
glories ...*

*I have shouldered a gun in the
blistering sun
And I've shivered in morning formation.*

Sgt. Benjamin R. Gormley
1946 – 2005

A BOOK SUGGESTION



With his acclaimed New York Times bestsellers *Gods and Generals* and *The Last Full Measure*, Jeff Shaara expanded upon his father's Pulitzer Prize-winning Civil War classic, *The Killer Angels*-- ushering the reader through the poignant drama of this most bloody chapter in our history. Now, in *Gone for Soldiers*, Jeff Shaara carries us back fifteen years before that momentous conflict, when the Civil War's most familiar names are fighting for another cause, junior officers marching under the same flag in an unfamiliar land, experiencing combat for the first time in the Mexican-American War.

In March 1847, the U.S. Navy delivers eight thousand soldiers on the beaches of Vera Cruz. They are led by the army's commanding general, Winfield Scott, a heroic veteran of the War of 1812, short tempered, vain, and nostalgic for the glories of his youth. At his right hand is Robert E. Lee, a forty-year-old engineer, a dignified, serious man who has never seen combat.

Scott leads his troops against the imperious Mexican dictator, General

Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana. Obsessed with glory and his place in history, Santa Ana arrogantly underestimates the will and the heart of Scott and his army. As the Americans fight their way inland, both sides understand that the inevitable final conflict will come at the gates and fortified walls of the ancient capital, Mexico City.

Cut off from communication and their only supply line, the Americans learn about their enemy and themselves, as young men witness for the first time the horror of war. While Scott must weigh his own place in history, fighting what many consider a bully's war, Lee the engineer becomes Lee the hero, the one man in Scott's command whose extraordinary destiny as a soldier is clear.

In vivid, brilliant prose that illuminates the dark psychology of soldiers and their commanders trapped behind enemy lines, Jeff Shaara brings to life the haunted personalities and magnificent backdrop, the familiar characters, the stunning triumphs and soul-crushing defeats of this fascinating, long-forgotten war. *Gone for Soldiers* is an extraordinary achievement that will remain with you long after the final page is turned.

