

Head Quarters 16th Me Vols
Camp Near Rappahannock Va
Nov^r 11th 1862

Gen^l

I have the honor to make the following report relative to the present condition of the Regiment under my command, and the causes of the same:—

On our arrival at Washington August 28th 1862, we were ordered to report to Gen^l Casey, some two miles from Washington, on the Virginia side of the Potomac. We remained under his command untill August 28th when we were ordered to report to Gen^l Whipple, at Fort Tillinghast.

On our arrival at Fort Tillinghast, a part of the Regiment was employed in digging Rifle Pits in front of the Fort, and the remainder, were ordered to drill at "Heavy Artillery" in the different Forts in front of Washington—

On the 3^d of Sept. by order of Col. Greene, who was assigned to command of Brigade, composed of the 14th Mass Vols and the 16th Maine Vols, companies were detached to garrison the Forts, extending from Fort Albany to Fort Detmold.

On the night of the 6th of Sept^r orders were received from Gen^l Whipple, to proceed with all possible dispatch to Leesboro and report to Gen^l Burnside, a copy of which I herewith enclose:— In addition to this order, was a verbal order from Gen^l Whipple, for the Regiment to move in light marching order, and that all our property could

be left in charge of our Regimental Quartermaster, with orders for him to arrange our camp between Forts Sillingshurst and Craig, as the Regiment was to return in two or three days:—

On repating to Gen^l Burnside, we were assigned to Gen^l Hartshuff's Brigade, Gen^l Ricketts Division—

Our Quartermaster learning that we were not to return, was ordered by Gen^l Mc Lellan, (to whom he applied) to turn over all property not issued and have the knapsacks and other articles stored at Washington:—

On the 2nd of October, an Officer was detailed to proceed to Washington by Col. Wilder (then in command) and obtain the company Books and Papers in store, and the same was sent up for approval, copy of which I herewith enclose:—

A third application was made, which was approved and Capt Ayer detailed for the business, copies of which I have also the honor to enclose:—

Capt. Ayer proceeded immediately to Washington and forwarded the property to Hagerstown the nearest point by Rail, to our camp at Sharpsburg, at which place we were in Camp at the time of his departure and at which place they arrived the day after our leaving Sharpsburg:—

Our Quartermaster proceeded to Hagerstown to look after the property, and have it sent to the Regiment but could not obtain transportation of the Quartermaster

there:—

I would very respectfully ask that steps be immediately taken to have the property transported to the Regiment, also Subsistence and Tents left at Berlin Md by our Quartermaster, as per his report herewith enclosed:—

I will here state that my Command is destitute of clothing sufficient to make them comfortable, many of them being without a Shirt to their backs, and none of them having had a change of clothing since the 7th of September:—

I would also state that one cause of so much sickness in my command, is, on account of not having proper clothing, and the want of a change of Diet

I am Gen^l

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt.

To/ Gen^l A. Taylor
Com^d 3rd Brigade 2^d Div 1st Corps

Wm. W. Wilder
Sic. Co. 16th Me. Inf.

Head Quarters 16th Maine Light
Near Rappahannock Station Va.
November 11th 1862

Communication from Col. Vildin
16th Me. Lts. to Brig. Gen. Taylor
Grand Brigade relative to
condition of 16th Me. Lts. and regard
clothing &c.

A true copy

A. B. Small

Adj. 16th Me. Lts.