

October 28, 1862 - Recruiting, return of escaped Confederate soldiers and requisition of slave labor; excerpts from Special Order No. 54, Breckinridge's Division



Special Order No. 54

Head Quarters

Murfreesboro, Tenn., Oct. 28th, 1862

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III. Col Ben Anderson is hereby authorized in pursuance of a Telegraph order from the war Dept. hereto annexed^{Note 1}, to proceed to Kentucky and there muster into service of the Confederate States a Regiment of Cavalry to be known as the Regt. of Kentucky Cavalry. All escaped soldiers from Fort Donelson are ordered to report to Col. Anderson and remain with his command until forwarded to their respective Regiments. Col. Anderson's Regiment will be attached to his command but will remain in Kentucky as long as possible after which they will report to these Head Quarters for further orders.



IV. Capt. David Spence will secure 40 able bodied negroes making his requisitions equitably to be reported at the R. R. Depot at Murfreesboro to Mr. Boone, Government Agent to load cars & for other duties. They will be provided with quarters & food, will not be taken from this point and will be returned to their owners when the work is done and a few hired paid for their serviced. They will be required to bring Blankets and cooking utensils with them, and Capt. Spence will attend to all the details, which will secure the comfort of the negroes and their return to their owners. It is not probable they will be needed longer than ten days.

By Command of Maj. Gen. Breckenridge

William B. Bate collection

Note 1: Not found.