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Wednesday 19th July 1780

That Capt. George Keeports collect and take into his Possession all the Military Stores & other property belonging to this State at the Fort on Whetstone point & in Balt<sup>o</sup> Town and dispose of all except the Cannon & Furniture at public vendue after giving Notice in the Balt<sup>o</sup> News Paper & in hand Bills and that he render an Account of the Sale to this Board.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 262.

(Council to Lieut Francis Shepherd)

(Tuesday 22<sup>d</sup> August 1780)

Sir You will receive from Mr Bullen forty four Horses and one Waggon with Harness compleat, which we request you will proceed with Diligence and Care to Morris Town and deliver them to the Quartermaster General or such Person as he shall authorize to receive them at that Post, taking his Receipt therefor. Forty of the Horses are furnished in Part of four hundred Draft Horses and the Waggon &<sup>ca</sup> and four Horses belonging thereto, in Part of fifty Waggons with Harness compleat and with four Horses to each, which were required of this State by the Committee of Congress at Head Quarters. You are to draw for the Subsistence of the Horse, from the Quarter masters at the several Posts betwixt this and Morris Town.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 266.

(Council to Ensign Middleton)  
(Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August 1780)

Sir. You will receive from M<sup>r</sup> Bullen, Forty Horses. You are likewise to call on Col. Henry Hollingsworth at the Head of Elk, or the Person acting for him in his Absence, for all the Horses which have been delivered to him by the Contractors for the Purchase of Horses in this State and with which we request you will proceed with Diligence and Care to Morris Town and deliver them to the Quartermaster General or such person as he shall authorise to receive them at that Post, taking his Receipt therefor, as a Part of four Hundred Draft Horses which were required of this State by the Commee of Congress at Head Quarters. For the Subsistence of the Horses, you are to draw Forage from the Quartermasters at the several Posts between this and Morris Town.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 377.

(December 3, 1779.)

(John Randall, Morristown, to His Excellency,  
Thomas Sim Lee Esqr.)

Sir I arrived here two days ago with the Cloathing Sent from Maryland at which place our Troops arrived this Morning and are preparing to Build their Hutts forthe Winter. I've got a House, ready and am to be furnish'd with the Taylors to make up the Overalls immediately.

I could purchase nothing in Philadelphia, the Continental agents purchase everything fit forthe army. Our whole dependence is on the State for the deficiency of the two Thousand Overalls, Shirts & Sacks, with all the Shoes, Stockings and Blankets you can possibly procure, at least twelve hundred of the latter are wanted and our men Suffering exceedingly for want of them.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 386.

December 16, 1779

(George Washington Headquarters, Morristown, to Gov. Lee)

Sir The situation of the army with respect to supplies is beyond description alarming. It has been five or six weeks past on half allowance, and we have not more than three days bread at a third allowance on hand, nor any where within reach. When this is exhausted we must depend on the precarious gleanings of the neighbouring country. Our magazines are absolutely empty every where, and our commissaries entirely destitute of money or credit to replenish them. We have never experienced a like extremity at any period of the war. We have often felt temporary want from accidental delays in forwarding supplies, but we always had something in our magazines and the means of procuring more. Neither one nor the other is at present the case. This representation is the result of a minute examination of our resources. Unless some extraordinary and immediate exertions are made by the States, from which we draw our supplies, there is every appearance that the army will infallibly disband in a fortnight. I think it my duty to lay this candid view of the situation before your Excellency, and to intreat the vigorous interposition of the state to rescue us from the danger of an event which if it did not prove the total ruin of our affairs, would at least give them a shock from which they would not easily recover, and plunge us into a train of new and still more perplexing embarrassments than any we have hitherto felt.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect regard

Your Excellency's Most obt<sup>t</sup> Servt Go. Washington.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vole.43. Page 389.

December 26, 1779

(John Randall Camp Near Morris Town to His Excellency

Thomas Sim Lee.)

Sir I wrote you a letter the third Inst<sup>t</sup> which I hope you receiv'd. I've issued all the Cloathing I brought up. am getting Overalls made of the Cloth, but we are mich retarded and find the work more tedious than expected for want of proper Implements which I've sent for to Philadelphia, when they arrive and the disagreeable work of Cutting over expect to go on much faster. I find our calculation of Annapolis erronious Instead of two yards of  $\frac{3}{4}$  Cloth I find it takes two and a half for a Middle Siz'd pair of Overalls, and much more for large, those made at Annapolis were too short in general. I hope we shall profit by experience for the future and have our winter Cloathing provided in Summer.

The sufferings of our Troops for many species of Cloathing is very distressing, especially Blankets Shoes Stockings or Socks, to wear with Overalls. Our dependence on the Continent is very uncertain even for coats and waistcoats. I've not been able to get proper returns of the deficiency as soon as I can I will transmit them and every other matter. I may think worthy your Excellency's attention.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 390.

December 27, 1779.

(Henry Knox Morristown to George Washington)

I have the honor to return the letter from Governor Johnson of the State of Maryland to your Excellency of the 27<sup>th</sup> October last.

The proposal of making the companies of Artillery from that State one Corps would be complied with, totally derange the system of promotion in the line of Artillery, and introduce every bad consequence that can follow the superseding a great number of the Captains of Artillery who are senior to Capt. Brown, the oldest Capt. from the State of Maryland. And were the precedent fixed in this instance, each State who have two or three companies of Artillery, would for the gratification of its officers, use its influence to have separate Corps under the command of the senior officer of the State, at the expence of the destruction of the system of the Continental Artillery.

Captain's Brown's and Dorsey's companies from Maryland, which joined the Army at Valley Forge, have been attached & annexed to Col<sup>o</sup> Harrise on's Battalion of ten companies from the State of Virginia which compleste that battalion according to the establishment of twelve companies. The principle of promotion in the Artillery is to rise to Captains regimentally, and to Field Officers in the line of the Corps. No promotion has as yet taken place so as to intermix the Officers of the above two companies from Maryland with those of Virginia. The companies from Virginia will soon be so weak as not to have more than sixty or seventy inlisted for the war in the ten companies, whereas

those three companies from Maryland, viz. Brown's Dorsey's and late Gales (a company which joined about three months ago, and whose Captain has died since that period) amount to about two hundred non-commissioned officers & Privates, most of who are for the war.

From this State of facts perhaps it may appear, that as the ten Virginia Companies are so weak it will be necessary to reduce them to eight and to make four companies of the three from Maryland to compose Col<sup>o</sup> Harrison's Battalion, which will make a promotion to Captaincies of Capt, Lieut<sup>s</sup> Smith and Finley, the officers mentioned in the Governor's letter; and will be complying with his request and wish, so far as to provide for those two officers, and the making four companies from the State of Maryland; and will entirely prevent the confusion which would attend making a young Captain a Major.

The inconvenience that would result from this arrangement would be, that some of the Captain Lieut<sup>s</sup> of the Virginia companies, who are senior to Capt. Lieut. Smith and Finley, would probably think themselves injured by the promotion of those Gentlemen to companies. Perhaps this is an evil which cannot be avoided, considering the political reasons which urge this measure.

If your Excellency should approve of this arrangement, which is agreeable to Gen<sup>l</sup> Smallwoods sentiments, it would perhaps be necessary for a Resolve of Congress to incorporate the companies of the State of Maryland into Col Harrison's Battalion.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1780-1781  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 397.

January 3, 1780.

(J. Gunby Camp near Morris Town to Col Forrest)

D<sup>r</sup> Forrest From our present Arrangement of Field Officers I have the Honour to claim you as Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel to the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment and shall have your muster'd accordingly, the bearer of this Serjeant McLane, I beg leave to Recommend as an honest fine Lad, and send him to you for the purpose of a Recruiting Serjeant, to be continued as long as you may think proper, or while recall'd and to receive your orders & directions for the Execution of that business, Cap<sup>t</sup> Beatty is rodered to Frederick Town with a Drum & fife, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> Beall to George Town, as Recruiting officers; Serjeants David Green Robert Green and Robert Yates, of the the seventh Regiment, are recommended for commissions in ~~the~~ said Regiment; and will Apply to you for your Instructions, and Assistance, in the Recruiting Business, Please have Money drawn for that purpose, and give them your orders, Your Interest I am well convinced will tend much to the Promotion of the Regiment; if Cloathing is to be had in the State, be as Early as you can in drawing for the Recruits, of the Regiment, if Captain Beatty & Ball could have Clothing drawn for them, and in readiness that as soon as a man Enlists, Scour him up, shave his face, put a new Suit of Cloaths on him, powder his head, and make a Gentleman of them, as soon as they become Soldiers, it would be a great inducement for their Inlisting & I am Confident there would not be half so many Desertions, with Recruits in the State, that heretofore have been, I have the Pleasure to Inform you that Excepting the 3<sup>d</sup> the 7<sup>th</sup> is the Strongest Regiment in the

Maryland Line & flatter myself that with your Assistance it will soon be the Strongest & best in the Line, as we have few good Serjeants now left in the Regiment, would be glad of your endeavours to have some Enlisted, which are qualified to fill the places of those who are promoted; the news of Camp Refer you to Gen<sup>l</sup> Smallwood, & Capt. Jones & believe me Dear Forrest to be with every Sentiment of Respect and Esteem. Your Sincere Friend & most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1780-1781,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43. Page 407.

January 24, 1780.

(George Washington, Headquarters, Morristown, to Gov. Lee)

Sir I have been honored with your Excellency's letter of Dec<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> and its enclosure. The immediate attention of government to the distresses of the Army, and the effectual assistance promised from the operation of the act cannot but claim the acknowledgments of every good citizen. I flatter myself from your exertions, and those of the other States from which we derive our supplies, that we shall not again experience a like evil.

I have the honor to be with the greatest regard, Your Excellency's  
Most ob: Serv<sup>t</sup> G<sup>o</sup> Washington

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1780-1781,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 424.

February 12, 1780.

(John Carlile, Capt. Michael Gilbert, Capt. John Hughes,  
Capt. Camp near Morris-Town to his Excellency Thomas Sim  
Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>)

Sir, The officers from the State of Maryland in Col. Hazen's Regiment beg leave to call your Excellency's attention to our particular situation. We entered the service of our Country at an early period: We have not hesitated to share every danger and difficulty in common with our brother officers and have also been fortunate enough to be of the Number of those who had the thanks of the Commander-in-chief in a General Battle. We have often been detached a great distance from the Grand Army upon hard and disagreeable Service; And necessarily on our marches incurred greater expences. When we took commissions in the Regiment engaged in the common cause we were taught to believe that we could render as much service there as in any other Corps and by no means expected to be considered as aliens or excluded any benefit common to officers of the same State. We have seen a Resolution of Congress last spring calling for Returns from the additional Regiments that the States severally might have Credit for so many officers and soldiers and be accounted as part of their Quota, in consequence of which the States of Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island & Connecticut with Pennsylvania have considered the officers and Soldiers (in the same Regiment as ourselves) as part of their quota and given them all the benefits & privileges of the States Troops, from which we were induced to believe that the State of Maryland not less generous than her sister states had made a similar Provision for us untill undeceived by the officers of that Line on our arrival on our arrival at this Place.

When the claims of our Country called us into the Field we cheerfully left the Pleasures and indulgences of retirement to encounter the hardships & toils of war, not only to Protect the rights of mankind but our own individual Liberty, and now when the war is apparently drawing to a conclusion we shall reluctantly leave the work unfinished for which we have made so many sacrifices; but the advanced price of every necessary will not leave it in our Power to continue in a Service in which we are so much interested unless some provision shall shortly be made for us. Relying on your Excellencys justice and liberality of sentiment We are Your Excellency's Most Obed<sup>t</sup> H<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup>

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 426.

February 12, 1780.

(J. Gunby Camp near Morristown to his  
Excell<sup>y</sup> Tho's S. Lee Esqr.)

Dear Sir I have received yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> by M<sup>r</sup> Keeport the 10,000 lbs. you mention for reEnlisting the men of the first Brigade was left by M<sup>r</sup> Keeport in Phil<sup>a</sup> I expect to receive it by M<sup>r</sup> John Randall in a few days, if I could be empowered to reEnlist men that have from four to eight or ten months to serve I believe the greatest part we have that is not for the war might be taken but those whose time will shortly expire will not be detained, for the bounty you Offer them, I shall use my utmost endeavour as soon as I receive the money to re-Enlist the men agreeable to your Instructions, & if the sum you have sent be not sufficient I will give you the earliest notice what I think will; I am highly honoured by the Promotion of my Serj<sup>ts</sup> Recommended to Col<sup>o</sup> Forrest

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780.  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 426.

February 12, 1780.

(Mordecai Gist Camp Morris Town to the  
Honble J.T.Chase, Esqr.)

Dear Sir Col<sup>o</sup> Woolford informs me that he some time since recommended four of his Serjeants whose termes are now expired to be commissioned in the line (viz<sup>t</sup>) Jacob Crawford, John Law, Caleb Mason & John Sears.

I wou'd wish these to be appt<sup>d</sup> to his Regiment as also Jacob Rittenhouse Shoemaker to the 4<sup>th</sup> These Officers request you may not appt<sup>t</sup> any of the Serjeants recommended from the first Brigade to serve in the second.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 426.

(De Kalb, Camp near Morristown to His Excellency the  
Governor & the honorable the Members of the  
Council of Maryland.)

February 13, 1780.

Honourable Gentlemen I take the Liberty to address you in behalf of two field officers of your State whose Service and present circumstances intitle them to your particular notice, the one is Colonel Price: That officer, during one year, laid under the weight of imputations as mortifying as they proved groundless, adter a trial long wished for, he was acquitted of every charge. No sooner had he got over this misfortune than he found himself Superseded in his rank by the appointment of a Junior officer to that of Brigadier. under those circumstance he could not ~~not~~ consistent with that pride, so necessary to keep up a true military Spirit, act in his military Capacity, and as those reasons which preclude his reassuming his functions, can no more be removed, the good of the service dictates that such a provision may be made for him, as will induce him to resign a commission which he cannot hold with honour to himself or advantage to the State. his early and Zealous Sacrifices, the State of his private fortune, greatly impaired by them, apply to your generosity for such a provision, and I beg leave to recommend that the State of Maryland, either by themselves or by their intercession with the Congress will be pleased to effect it.

The other officer for whom I am to intreat your favours is Lieutenant Colonel Forrest: This Gentleman is no more able to continue his Services in his regiment, and his holding a Commission in it precludes

the appointment of another field officer, and throws all the hardships of the duty upon the Major. I need not urge, Gentlemen, how far the holding of Commissions by persons unable to discharge the functions annexed to them, is prejudicial to the service; that consideration, alone would be a sufficient inducement to any measures tending to remove such an inconvenience, were not the circumstances of those officers such as Strongly claim for the provisions which I make bold to request to be made for them.

With the highest respect I am Honourable Gentlemen Your most obedient and most humble Servant The Baron de Kalb, M.G: Command<sup>g</sup> Maryland Division.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1780-1781,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 428.

February 18, 1780.

(John Randall, Philadelphia to Gov. Lee)

Sir I was just Setting out for this place when Cap<sup>n</sup> Keepports Arriv'd at Camp with the Officers & Soldiers Cloathing, I had before his Arrival made the inclosed purchase at Morris Town I wish I had extended it to the Article of Rum. I find it higher than I conceiv'd it possible, from ninety to a hundred Dollars p<sup>r</sup> Gallon. I shall purchase Tobacco and Soap for a two Months Supply for the Officers and Soldiers. The Ballance of the Money sent I shall lay out in Rum with half of what was sent for the Recruiting Service, General Gist thinks it may be replac'd from the State before it will be wanted this will go but little way in supplying that extravagant article.

(NOTE: Remainder of letter refers to proposed adjustment of Officer's monthly allowance of rum, sugar, tobacco, etc.)

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1780-1781,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 430.

February 20, 1780.

(George Washington, Head Qrs. Morristown to Gov. Lee)

Sir Your Excellency will have received, I make no doubt, a Copy of an Act of Congress of the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant, ascertaining the Quotas of non Commissioned Officers and privates to be furnished by the Respective States for the ensuing Campaign, and directing all themen in the additional Corps, Guards, Artillery and Horse and the Regimented Artificers in the Departments of the Quarter Master General and Commissary General of Military Horses, as well as those of the Battalions in the State lines, whose times of service do not expire before the last of September next, to be considered as part of the Quotas of the States to which they respectively belong. The Quota of the State of Maryland is fixed at 3238, and I have now the honor to enclose your Excellency a Special Return of the Non Commissioned Officers and Privates in her Seven Battalions and of the men belonging to her in Spencer's & Hazen's Regiments, serving with Harrison's Regiment of Artillery in the late Gale's Artillery Company. Lee's Crops and the Artillery Artificers; designating in a particular manner, the proportion engaged for the War and by monthly column periods when, and in what proportion the services of the Rest will expire. Your Excellency will observe by the Act, that the men whose engagements expire before the last of September and I have already taken the liberty to mention are not to be counted as part of the 3238 and therefore according to the Return inclosed the deficiency to be raised recrediting also the 26 in the German Battalion is 1047. There are however a few

Corps besides I have mentioned not acting immediately with the part of the Army in which there may be some men belonging to the State, and I consider it ~~a~~ an unlucky circumstance that I have not such Returns of them in my possession as will ascertain the point and the credit to which the State may be entitled in consequence. The principal one is the German Battalion. I expect a Return of this and of one or two more Corps when I shall take the earliest occasion after obtaining them, to advise your Excellency of the number of them in them belonging to the State. I have thought it more eligible to transmit the present Return than to delay it, till those of every little detached Corps could be collected, as the want of these, admitting they should contain a few then belonging to the State, can make no material difference with respect to the deficiency to be levied and the postponing the business on that account would interfere essentially with the views of Congress and indeed entirely defect them, as to the time assigned for the Recruits taking the field, I would observe before I conclude that the present Return bears the fullest number of Men under every description that the State can have in her Seven Battalions and other Corps, which it comprehends, and they would most probably be found, if an actual inspection could take place, to fall a good deal short of the Complement, as there is always a material difference between an Army on Paper and its real strength. A comparative view between the Total account of an Army is borne upon every General Return and the Column of present fit for duty and the Absentees that can be satisfactorily accounted for demonstrates this beyond question.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect & esteem

Y<sup>r</sup> Excellency's Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

G<sup>o</sup> Washington.

P.S. According to an Abstract Return obtained from the Muster Master General in October, The German Battalion amounted in the whole to 208 Men, out of which number the Inlistments of 66 expire before September

There will then be, supposing all the men alive, 142 engaged for the War, but I cannot determine what proportion of these belong to Maryland or Pennsylvania. In December there were 53 men of the late Rawlins's Corp at Pittsburg, but the terms of their enlistments are not known, nor can I say whether they are now in Service.

I have this minute received a State of the Pennsylvania part of the German Battalion, by which it appears that 116 of the 142 men enlisted for the War belong to her. Hence it seems that Maryland is only entitled to a credit of 26 in this Corps. G. W.

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List of American Officers **Prisoners** who have Violated their Paroles belonging to the State of Maryland

Rank & Names	County	State
Capt. Rich <sup>d</sup> Davis		Maryland
L <sup>t</sup> William Piles		d <sup>o</sup>
James Tool	Baltimore	d <sup>o</sup>
Jacob Carsdorph		d <sup>o</sup>

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 455.

(J. Gunby Kembles near Morristown to Gen'l Smallwood)

March 25, 1780.

Dear Gen<sup>l</sup> I beg leave to call your attention for a Short time, respecting, as I term it, unjust, partial distribution of the Blue Cloth sent up by the State of Maryland, for the use of her Officers. Sometime after M<sup>r</sup> Randall had received the Cloth brought up by M<sup>r</sup> Keepert, he took upon himself to deliver it Individually, no day or time was appointed for a delivery, no method taken to proportion the Cloth to the different Regm<sup>ts</sup> agreeable to its Quality, or wuantity, & altho I demand- ed of M<sup>r</sup> Randall the time he meant to deliver the Cloth to the Officers, it was kept from me while the prime & greatest part was delivered & this delivery was made on the very day, that I requested of M<sup>r</sup> Randall to know when we might attend for our proportions of the Cloth, finding this to be the case I applied to Gen<sup>l</sup> Gist, who commanded the Maryland Division, to give some order respecting the matter, that Justice might be done to the Officers; that conceived themselves injured, his reply was, that he did not think the distribution a proper one, but that he had not Authority to give order respecting the matter I informed him that all distributions of State store in our Line, had been made by order of Gen<sup>l</sup> Smallwood, & never heard the authority doubted by any in the Line, except by M<sup>r</sup>. Randall & that very lately, but these Arguments proved to have no effect. A material difference between there was in the Quality of the Cloth, & leave you to Judge, from the nature of the distribution, whether those ~~that~~ <sup>from the</sup> ~~were~~ <sup>are</sup> not among the foremost is not Injured, they are of your Brigade and did not expect an unjust distribution would have

taken place. I am so unfortunate as to have none of the Cloth, & cannot conceive that the Assembly of Maryland, ever intended that M<sup>r</sup> Randall should have had the entire order of the clothing furnished for the use of her Officers, or from the Letter of her Act, that an Ensign should have preference to a Field Officer in distribution; I wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Randall some short time after he had made delivery, requesting he owuld inform me the quality of the Cloth he had on hand, also what he delivered, he inclosed me in his answer five or Six Samples of the cloth he had received; in them were papers pinn'd to the different Samples and on them were wrote Gen<sup>l</sup> Gist choice, Col<sup>o</sup> Williams choice, Major Andersons choice, &c. &c. this is the true State of the treatment we have received, if any thing is necessary to be done to prevent, an in-jury of this kind's taking place again in your absence, I make no doubt but you will attend to it, I have nothing new, your Officers and Soldiers are in Gen<sup>l</sup> very healthy, the Officers present their Compliments to you, & by accepting mine you'll very much Oblige dear Gen<sup>l</sup>

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Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 479.

(Thos Richardson, Georgetown to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>)

April 23, 1780.

Sir By yesterdays Post I recd a letter from Col<sup>o</sup> Biddle dated Morris Town 13<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> advising that the Maryland Division were under orders to march to the Southward, he expected they would move on the 15<sup>th</sup> their Rout is by Baltimore, Snowdens, Georgetown, Alexandria &c. requesting me to assist them with Forage as far as was consisttent with the Laws of the State. I apprehend this makes it necessary that I should inform you that there is some Forage in the Magazine here but I apprehend not so much as the Troops will require & request you would consider whether it would not be proper that the Commissioners of this County who have plenty should be directed to supply the Issuing Forage Master here during the present March, provided he has Occasion of their Assistance.

I beg leave further to Suggest that the Troops might be benefited by orders being given to the different Commissioners on the Rout they are to march to supply them with Forage, as there are few or no Continental Forage Masters on the Western Shore. I hope the foregoing will not be thought impertinent but if it should I beg it may be imputed to the desire I have to comply with the Requisitions of my Friend & my Zeal for the Publick Service.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 486.

(Geo Washington Head QRS Morris Town to His Excell'y  
T.S.Lee Esqr. Govr &c)

May 4, 1780.

Sir On the 2d Instant I received the Honor of Your Excellency's Letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> and also one from the Board of War on the same subject. The information the Council had received, of particular States having made exchanges of prisoners taken by them for Officers belonging to their line, as well founded. It has been done in several instances, tho' without any interference in the business on my part, and therefore I could not but direct the Commissary of Prisoners on Your Excellency's Application and the Board of War's opinion that it was also warranted by a late Act of Congress respecting Prisoners in the like predicament, to propose to the Enemy the exchange of Lt Col<sup>o</sup> Conolly. For my own part I have wished to see the Exchanges of prisoners conducted on the boardest and most general footing in the order of their captivity, as being the most equitable mode, and that all taken from the Enemy whether by the United or Individual States, should be considered as one, common Stock, for the common relief of Ours according to this Rule. This has been the case with respect to the Prisoners made by the Army in every instance of exchanges under my direction; but the system having not entirely prevailed, Maryland has certainly the same right to benefit her Officers by those of her own capture, that other States had. And the indulgence has not been exercised in any instance in favor of a more deserving Officer than Col<sup>o</sup> Ramsay. He set out for New York yesterday and would carry with him the proposition for his re-

lease.

I have the Honor to be with great respect & esteem Y<sup>r</sup> Excellency's  
Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 508.

(George Washington Head Quarters Morris Town to His Excellency  
Govr. Lee.)

June 2, 1780.

Sir By a letter, from the Honorable the Committee of Congress at  
Morristown, which this accompanies, Your Excellency will find, that  
those Gentlemen and myself, after maturely considering the matter, deem  
it essential to the success of the measures in contemplation to be car-  
ried on against the Enemy, to call on the States for certain Aids of  
Militia, in addition to the requisitions for Men already made, and that  
they should be at places of rendezvous appointed by me, by the fifteenth  
day of next month. The aid requested, in this instance, of your State,  
is founded on a principle of apportionment common to all the States from  
New Hampshire to Maryland inclusive, (the others on account of their dis-  
tance and the operations in the southern quarter not being nor called on)  
and is Stated as Two thousand two hundred and five Rank and File. This  
number of Militia well armed, and equipped in every other respect for the  
Field in the best manner circumstances will admit, under proper Officers,  
I wish to be at the Head of Elk at the time mentioned by the Committee,  
which appears to me a suitable place for their rendezvousing in the  
first instance, and from whence they will proceed, on my orders as occa-  
sion may require. It will also be material, on account of disciplining  
and organizing the men, as well as on account of public economy, that they  
should be formed into full Regiments. If this is not done, it will ren-  
der our arrangements extremely difficult and irregular, and will add by  
greatly ~~encreas~~ the number of Officers, very considerably to the public  
expence. I would beg leave to observe, that I think the whole number  
of Militia requested from your State should be comprised in four

Regiments. This additional aid will not, I trust, and erneathly intreat, impede in the smallest degree, the filling up the Regiments of the State, by draft, to their full Complement, as requested by the Hon<sup>bl</sup> the Committee in their letters of the 25<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>. This is a point of such vast importance, so absolutely essential to give the least prospect of success to our operations, and indeed on which they depend, that I could not forbear mentioning it. If the Regiments are compleated by drafts, it is possible our demands for Militia may be a good deal diminished, but this must be governed by Events, and therefore for objects so very interesting, so important as those are to which we at present look, we should provide whatever may be possibly requisite

I have the Honor to be With great Respect and Esteem Your  
Excellency's Most ob<sup>t</sup> and humble Serv<sup>t</sup> Go Washington.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
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Vol. 43, Page 508.

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Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 517-8.

June 19, 1780.

(John Mathews and Nathaniel Peabody, in Committee of Congress, Morristown, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esqr, Governor of the State of Maryland.)

Sir We inclose you a copy of General Washington's letter to us of this day.

We have in your former letters dwelt so forcibly on the several matters contained in the General's letter, that it is now become almost unnecessary for us to say anything more on them. But when we consider the season for operation wears fast away, the small force we have now in the field, being still fed in a scanty and uncertain manner, the hourly expectation of the fleet and Army of our ally, on our coast, and that the commander in chief, as well as ourselves, are as yet totally uninformed, what are to be our expectations on the subjects of our former letters; Be assured Sir, we feel an anxiety congenial with his. You will therefore we are perswaded, pardon us for being thus solicitous, when we again intreat you, in the most earnest, in the most urgent manner, to use every exertion in your power to engage your State, to a speedy and decisive compliance with our former requisitions. The two points we would wish to impress most favorably on yours, and the minds of the legislature of your state, are the immediately forwarding your quota of troops necessary to compleat your battalions in the Continental Army and of supplies of provisions agreeably to the estimate inclosed you in our letter of the Instant. At the same time we would not wish you to

consider any part of our former requisitions, as become in the least degree unnecessary, on the contrary, we are more strongly convinced, that they are already as small as the important objects in view can possibly admit of. We only mention the two first, as the most immediately and indispensably necessary. For, reinforced as the enemy now are, by the            from the reduction of Charlestown, momentarily expect

will be made on our weak and almost resistless army. should this event happen, whilst in this State, we seriously dread the result.

From the well known indefatigable attention of your State to the welfare of the United States, we cannot entertain a doubt of its exertions, at this interesting conjuncture. And we most earnestly intreat you, to give us the earliest information of the final determination of your state on the subjects of this and our former letters.

Journal and Correspondence of the  
Council of Maryland, 1779-1780,  
Archives of Maryland,  
Vol. 43, Page 525-6.

(George Washington Head Quarters Ramapough to Honble  
Dan'l St Thomas Jenifer & Hon'ble Josiah Beall)

June 27, 1780.

Gentlemn I was ~~last~~ Evening honored with yours of the 22<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> containing propositions of both House for substituting a compleat additional Battalion enlisted for the War, in lieu of the aid of Militia required by the Committee of Cooperation in conjunction with me. The reasons urged by you, in support of this Alteration, are weighty, and such as, all circumstances considered, I think are sufficient to induce an acceptance of your offer, provided you can be upon a certainty of filling and marching the Battalion to the place of rendezvous by or near the time fixed <sup>upon</sup> for the junction of the Militia in at furthest by the last of July. But this you will be please ot observe is only my opinion upon the Subject. As the Committee of Cooperation are yet at Morris Town, some distance from hence, i have taken the liberty, to save time, of putting this letter under a flying Seal to them, and have desired them, if they coincide with me, to forward it to you, with their approbation of the measure.

It cannot yet be determined whether the whole or any of the Levies to compleat your Continental Battalions will be wanted to the Southward, perhaps circumstances may require that part of them should besent to that quarter, and part come to this. It would <sup>be</sup> therefore most convenient to form them into two Corps for the present, under the care of such number of Officers as Major General Baron de Kalb will be able to spare from the Line. The number I am confident will be but few, as the Regiments were most of them very deficient of Subalterns when they marched from this Army. Inclose you will find a letter to the Baron upon the subject.

I cannot help impressing upon you Gentlemen the indispensable necessity of filling and forwarding the additional Battalion in the time I have before mentioned, or of having the whole, or the greater part of the Militia required, ready for service, in case you see no probability of completing the Battalion as twenty five hundred Militia from your State we by your Estimates, deemed essential to the cooperation you will easily perceive that so great a diminution of force, altho the composition will be better, must be attended with many inconveniences. The completing your Continental Battalions is a matter of equal importance.

Give me leave Gentlemen, to present through you, my warmest acknowledgements to both your Houses for their ready attention to and compliance with the several requisitions, more especially of provisions, which I have lately been under the necessity of making from them: And from the tenor of the letter which I have now the honor of answering. I am confident that no means will be left untried to furnish the men in question, either upon a permanent establishment, or if that cannot be done in a reasonable time, for a temporary service

I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect Gentlemen

Your most ob<sup>t</sup> and most h<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> G<sup>o</sup> Washington