



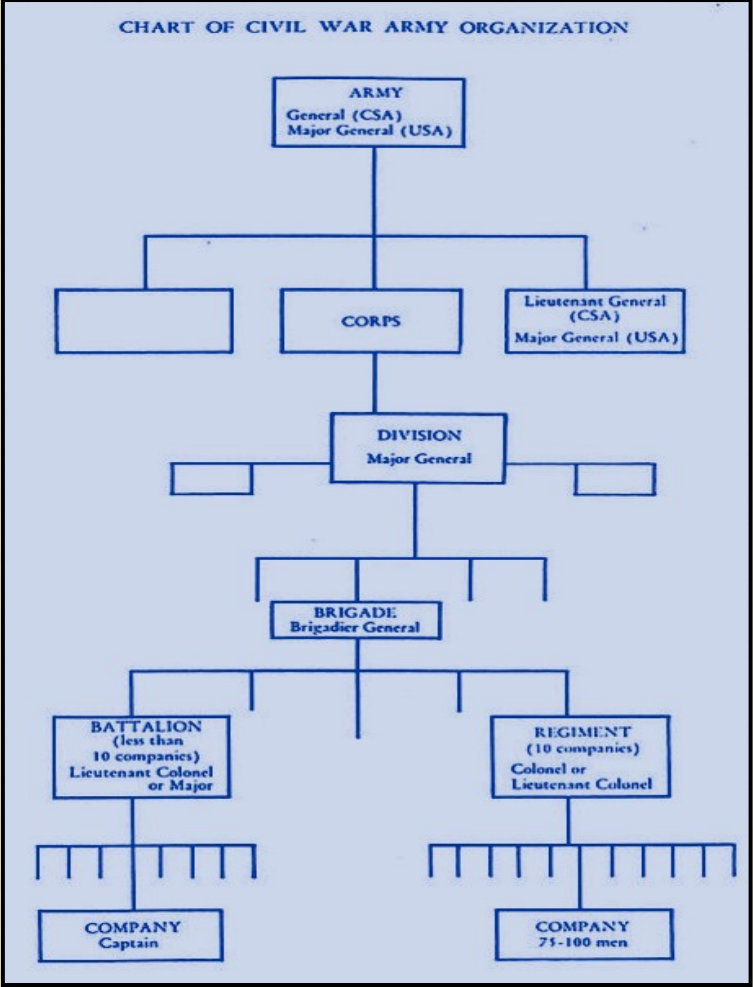
Commemorating the 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army

Brothers in Arms: Army Organization in the American Civil War

On the eve of the American Civil War, the United States' Army was small, disjointed, and largely unprepared wage war. The reductions to the armed forces instituted after the war of 1812 saw a temporary reversal in the short ramp-up required to fight the war with Mexico. Yet, the size of the Army quickly declined as soldiering duties became restricted to manning frontier fortifications and fighting Native Americans.

By January 1861, the Regular Army had just 16,403 officers and enlisted men, nearly 2,000 of them not on active duty, supported by 352 civilian staffers. Staff departments also had 831 enlisted personnel ensuring the Army was clothed and fed. The heads of these departments operated independently of one another, reporting directly to the Secretary of War. The mostly symbolic General-in-Chief was 75-year-old war hero Winfield Scott, whose position was not authorized by Congress.

At this time, the Army consisted of two groups: the Line of the Army, made up of the fighting force; and Staff Departments, which coordinated administrative and logistical functions. The Line of the Army contained 15 regiments - four artillery, 10 infantry, and five mounted. Of the last five, one contained mounted riflemen, two were dragoons, and two were regular cavalry. Artillery regiments each contained 12 companies, while the rest contained 10, for a total of 197.

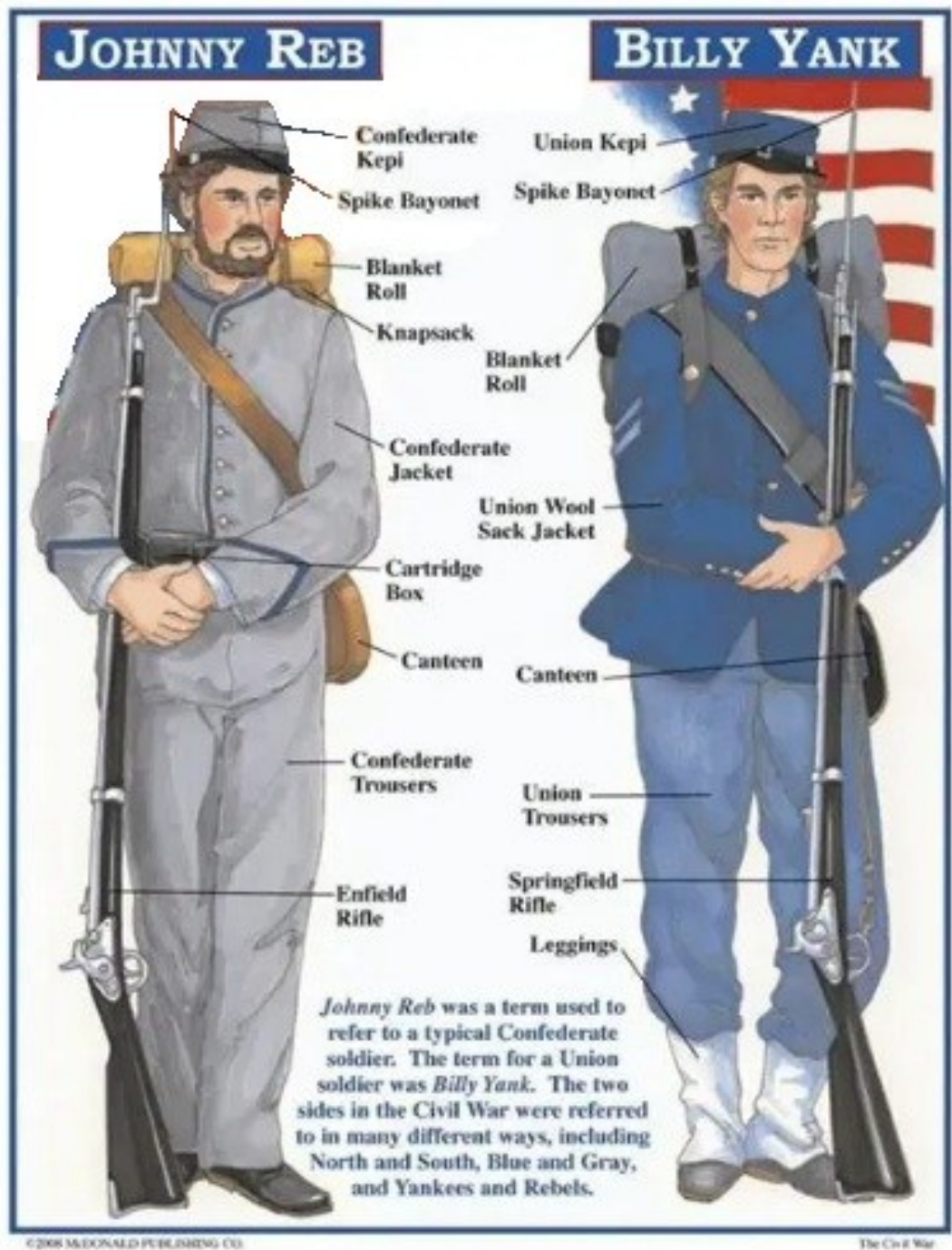


Federal and Confederate Organized Forces	
Infantry	
Federal	Confederate
19 Regular Regiments	642 Regiments
2,125 Volunteer Regiments	9 Legions
60 Volunteer Battalions	163 Separate Battalions
351 Separate Companies	62 Separate Companies
Artillery	
Federal	Confederate
5 Regular Regiments	16 Regiments
61 Volunteer Regiments	25 Battalions
17 Volunteer Battalions	227 Batteries
408 Separate Batteries	
Cavalry	
Federal	Confederate
6 Regular Regiments	137 Regiments
266 Volunteer Regiments	1 Legion
45 Battalions	143 Separate Battalions
78 Separate Companies	101 Separate Companies

In keeping with the Army's shifting focus, every infantry and cavalry regiment, along with 30 artillery regiments, occupied 79 posts west of the Mississippi River. As the Civil War erupted, the federal government faced two challenges concerning the Regular Army. The first was its size, especially when 270 officers and a few hundred enlisted men resigned to join the Confederacy. The other was its roll. After briefly considering using Regular Army veterans to train and lead volunteer units, the decision was made to keep the Regular Army units together to maintain trained, experienced reserves.

The fall of Fort Sumter in April 1861, prompted President Abraham Lincoln to use the 1795 militia statute to raise volunteers. Lincoln called for the states to raise 75,000 troops, initially for three-month enlistments, the legal limit at that time. Two weeks later, he asked for another 42,000, though the repeat was not authorized by statute. He also asked for the expansion of the Regular Army. Congress retroactively approved the second call-up and authorized the Regular Army to grow to 41,000 men, but the latter never expanded beyond 26,000. By the end of the war, Regular Army regiments were so depleted that many were disbanded.

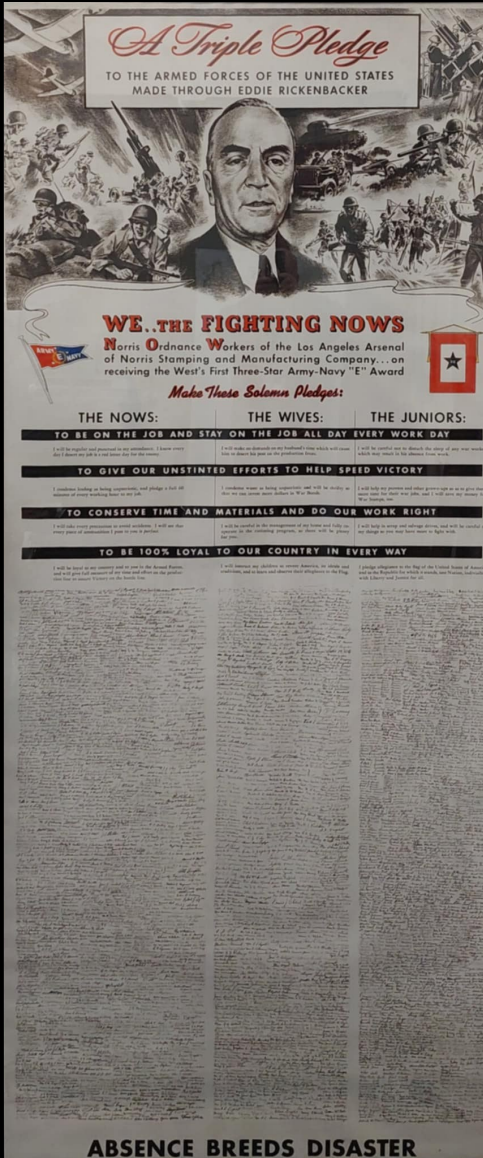
The Confederate Army was organized in a similar fashion, with a small, experienced veteran force and a large volunteer force. In March, even before the fall of Fort Sumter, the Confederate States of America called for 100,000 volunteers, serving one-year enlistments. The initial turnout outpaced the new government's ability to equip the volunteers. One month later, a second call solicited 400,000 volunteers for three-year enlistments, though the Confederacy was no better able to equip this force.



There was no unified approach to raising volunteer regiments on the federal level. Individual states set their own rules and policies. In most cases, local communities raised regiments via recruitment rallies. These recruits then reported to regional camps where they were mustered into the Army and quickly trained prior to deployment. For example, Illinois had several camps, including those in Chicago, Springfield, and Quincy. In camp, soldiers received essential equipment and learned how to muster and drill. In most cases, regiments elected officers from their ranks, often those local leaders who had been the most responsible for organizing recruitment efforts.

JMC Archives Spotlight:

The largest historical item found in the JMC Archives is this 7-foot monument to civilian achievement. It acknowledges the contributions of the employees of Los Angeles Arsenal's Norris Stamping and Manufacturing Company (Norris Ordnance Works) upon receiving the Three-Star Army-Navy "E" Award. The bottom half contains the signatures of every employee.



This Month in Military History

- Nov. 3, 1783:** Commander-in-Chief George Washington formally disbands the Continental Army one day after issuing his *Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States of America*.
- Nov. 6, 1153:** King Stephen and his cousin Empress Maud sign the Treaty of Wallingford, ending their 15-year civil war. The agreement names Maud's son as Stephen's heir; he will become King Henry II.
- Nov. 9, 1918:** German emperor Wilhelm II abdicates the throne following his nation's defeat in World War I. He will spend the rest of his life in exile in The Netherlands.
- Nov. 12, 1927:** Leon Trotsky is expelled from the Soviet Communist Party, making it possible for Joseph Stalin to seize control of the party and the nation. Trotsky spends 10 years in exile before Soviet agents assassinate him in Mexico City in 1940.
- Nov. 15, 655:** Christian King Oswiu of Bernicia defeats Pagan King Penda of Mercia at the Battle of Winwaed (Yorkshire), ending paganism as a recognized faith for future monarchs of Anglo-Saxon England.
- Nov. 18, 1803:** Haitian General Jean Jacques Dessalines defeats a French force at the Battle of Vertières (Saint-Dominique), paving the way for Haiti to declare itself an independent state.
- Nov. 21, 164 BCE:** As part of the Maccabean Revolt, Jewish leader Judas Maccabeus recaptures Jerusalem from the Seleucid Empire (West Asia), allowing the rededication of the Second Temple. The festival of Hanukkah is established to commemorate the event.
- Nov. 24, 1221:** Genghis Khan's army of 50,000 cavalry defeats the 35,000-man army (mostly infantry) of Shah Jalal al-Din at the Battle of the Indus, completing the Mongol conquest of the Khwarezmian Empire (eastern Persia and Afghanistan).
- Nov. 27, 1095:** Pope Urban II preaches to a large crowd at the Council of Clermont, formally calling for the First Crusade against Muslim-held Jerusalem. Kings and knights eventually respond to his call, but not before nearly 100,000 peasants (men, women, and children) attempt to walk to the Holy Land in the Peasants' Crusade.
- Nov. 30, 1941:** After the United States demands that Japan withdraw its forces from French Indochina and China, Emperor Hirohito consults with Admirals Shigetaro Shimada and Osami Nagano. The next day, an Imperial Conference supports war against the U.S., United Kingdom, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

At first, neither the federal government nor the Confederacy had trouble raising recruits. However, as the war dragged on, volunteers were more difficult to find. By 1862, the need for more soldiers led both sides to turn to conscription. The Confederacy acted first, enacting their first draft in April 1862. The Union would not do so until March 1863. In both cases, conscription was an unpopular policy, especially among the poor, who were forced to serve at high rates while many wealthy men paid others to serve in their place.

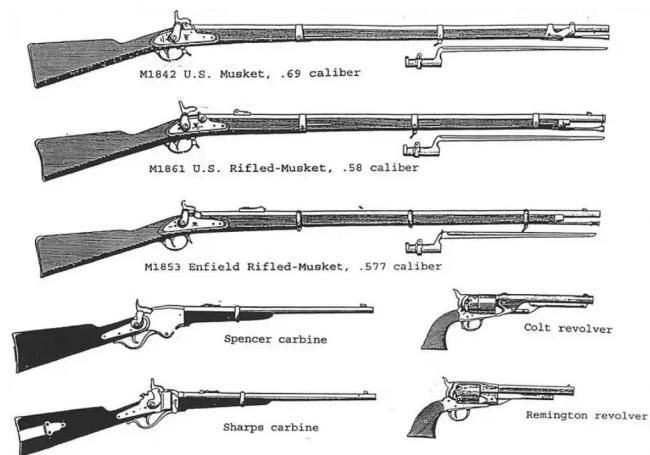
As volunteers received the better training and supplies, many chose to volunteer rather than face conscription. In addition, the federal government paid bounties to encourage volunteers. Over the course of the war, the most significant change in the makeup of the Union Army came through the recruitment of African Americans for service. The Militia Act of 1862 authorized the president to recruit Black soldiers, but Lincoln did not press the point until issuing the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. In May, the Bureau of Colored Troops was formed to recruit and train new regiments. By the end of the war, 178,000 African Americans served in the U.S. Army. All told, over two million soldiers served the Union in the Civil War, while less than one million served the Confederacy - one-third of the military age population in the North and four-fifths of eligible men in the South.

In general, the U.S. Army had an easier time supplying regiments with food and supplies than the Confederacy for several reasons: the North was more heavily industrialized, allowing for more manufacturing; Southern rail lines frequently changed gauges from one state or region to another, leading to transfer delays until lines could be standardized; and Northern farmers had less difficulty producing crops, as the majority of battles were waged in the South. Despite these differences, Union and Confederate troops re-



Camp Butler - Springfield, Illinois - 1862

SMALL ARMS



ceived similar supplies and training. The difference in on-field performance was largely due to leadership. At the start of the war, the North had 82 West Point trained officers out of 126, while the South had 44 of 89. The Union made Springfield rifles standard by the end of the war, increasing the accuracy of Army regiments over their Confederate counterparts.

JMC Historical Document Collection

The JMC Public and Congressional Affairs Office maintains the JMC Archives, which collects and maintains historically significant records, including: emails, manuscripts, letters, reports, studies, images, videos, films, photographs, oral history interviews, briefings, SOPs, policies, decision papers, memoranda, statistics, newspapers, newsletters, brochures, maps, blueprints, drawings, and artifacts. Such records are pertinent to the Army's knowledge of active and predecessor installations, the ammunition industrial base, and JMC missions. JMC regularly uses these materials to research command history, and to answer research queries. When JMC workers leave positions or make physical moves, it is vital that their records be assessed before disposal. If employees are uncertain about the historical value of materials, the best policy is to make the items available to Paul Ferguson (paul.t.ferguson14.civ@army.mil), Room 661.

This Month in Military History

- Dec. 1, 1420:** English King Henry V enters Paris following his capture of Melun. Victorious in his invasion of France, Henry returned to England with his new wife, French princess Catherine, and a declaration by King Charles VI naming the English king his royal heir.
- Dec. 4, 1908:** The world's 10 most significant maritime nations conduct a Naval Conference in London to agree on rules concerning blockades, convoys, and the seizure of contraband in open water.
- Dec. 7, 43 BCE:** Soldiers under the command of consul Mark Antony assassinate Roman orator and politician Marcus Tullius Cicero in the Formiae for his speeches supporting Octavius as heir to Julius Caesar. Octavius eventually defeats Antony and becomes Emperor Augustus.
- Dec. 10, 1510:** Portuguese general Alfonso de Albuquerque forces the surrender of Muslim ruler Yusuf Adil Saha and his Ottoman allies, giving Portugal control of Goa (on the coast of India) and orders the massacre of its population.
- Dec. 13, 1266:** Rebels occupying Kenilworth Castle surrender to King Henry III after 172 days, bringing an end to one of the longest sieges in English history.
- Dec. 16, 1773:** Several dozen members of the Sons of Liberty, disguised as Native Americans, board the HMS *Dartmouth* and dump 342 chests of tea into the sea to protest passage of the Tea Act. The incident becomes known as the Boston Tea Party.
- Dec. 19, 1487:** At the opening ceremony of the sixth Great Temple of Tenochtitlan (Mexico City), organizers sacrifice 4,000 prisoners of war to the Aztec gods. The process lasts four days.
- Dec. 22, 1807:** To maintain neutrality in the ongoing war between England and France, U.S. Congress passes and Thomas Jefferson signs the Embargo Act, prohibiting American ships from trading with either nation.
- Dec. 25, 800:** Pope Leo III crowns Charles the Great (Charlemagne) as Roman Emperor, establishing the Holy Roman Empire, a title which will be the centerpiece of church-state conflict in Europe for one thousand years.
- Dec. 28, 1781:** Nicolas Luckner and Comte de Rochambeau become the last generals given the title Marshal of France before the French Revolution.
- Dec. 31, 192:** Roman Emperor Commodus, heir to Marcus Aurelius, survives a poisoning attempt by his mistress, but is strangled in the bath by his wrestling partner, Narcissus.