

## **SAMPLE TELEGRAMS FOUND ON MICROFILM IN INTERPRETIVE CENTER LIBRARY**

Telegrams Found in Immanuel Lutheran Church of Pilot Knob Records, partial transcriptions and editing notes by Walt Busch. The Book found and owned by the Church contains about one year's set of both sent and received telegrams.

### **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Pilot Knob Jan 6 63

Gen Davidson  
Van Buren

The Envelope containing key to cypher was given to Sergt. commdg. Escort to mail ambulances. I have sent for him and will let you know as soon as I can hear from it.

John B. Gray  
Col. Commdg. Post

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### **[ Stock of supplies at Fort Davidson]**

Pilot Knob, MO Jan 19, 1863

Captain Dyer  
AAG, St Louis [M M Wo?]

Four thirty two pdr. guns, and three twenty four pdr Howitzers all but one of the former at Fort Curtis [at Arcadia, MO]. Four hundred rounds assorted and round shot for the former. Four hundred and fifty rounds asstd. shell sph. [spherical?] case and cannister for the latter. Thirty seven thousand Buck and Ball cartridges Cal. sixty nine. Seventy three thousand elongated ball cartridges Cal. fifty eight besides small quantities of other calibres. One hundred revolvers assorted with three or four thousand cartirdges, one hundred and fifty muskets and carbines, different kinds. This is a rough statement, a detailed report would shew a few more or less. Is this what you want. I do not include in the above the ammunition for my four companies stationed here.

John B. Gray  
Col. Comdg Post

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### **[MUTINY]**

Patterson MO Jan 22/ 63

General Gray

The artillery men came in last night and decline serving me. They return with the [wagon] train today as they say under agreement or orders from you. The train brought no forage for this place. I move up the St. Francois today about 15 miles to cross and get forage leaving a small force here. I am ordered by Genl. Carr to scout South East of this place. Two hundred and Forty Texan Rangers and Tim Reeves Company are on South back of Black River. Cooper and Ellisons guerillas are in the neighborhood of Bloomfield and Greenville.

James Lindsay  
Col Comd'g Post

Pilot Knob Jan 22/ 63

Col Lindsay  
Patterson

I am sorry about the cowardly scoundrels I sent you as artillery men. Genl. Curtis has sent for them to all come to St. Louis so I shall be rid of them.

Each of the six mule teams were loaded light say one thousand pounds to each wagon with forage for your post. Surely they could not have eit it up. If Gen. Carr directs your movements of course I will not attempt to advise. I will tell you of any move which I make.

John B. Gray  
Col. Comd'g Post

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**[WANTED POSTERS]**

Rolla Mo Feby 20/63

Commander of Post

Three men have deserted my Company and are supposed to be in the train with Gen. Benton and will probably leave him a little before he arrives at the Knob. Try to arrest them.

James Broomley, age 24, height 5 feet 8 inches, complexion fair, eyes blue, hair light. Cap Dress Coat. New Pants. Face without Beard had Enfield Rifle + accoutrements. Wilson A. Pendergrass, age 22, height 6 feet ½ inch, complexion dark, eyes hazel, hair Black, wore dark Whiskers is a Robust looking man. Cap dress coat Rifle +accoutrements.

Robert B. Smtih age 21, height 5 feet 9 inches, complexion light, eyes blue, hair light, face shaved has light beard. Hat Dress Coat Rifle + accoutrements.

Thos B. George  
Capt. Co F

23rd Iowa Infty.

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**[SMALLPOX OUTBREAK]**

Middlebrook MO March 9/ 63

Gen. Gray

The Small Pox Patients are one half mile west of Iron Mountain Depot in two tents separated at some distance from each other. I forward for Post Hospital at Ironton today forty four (44) patients.

W. Dickinson

Surg. MSM Med. Director

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**[Requesting the aid of Africa-Americans** : Slaves were supposed to still be returned to their masters at this time, but many Union commanders took it upon themselves to provide shelter to them, hence the name Contrabands, and also use them as a labor force for the military. That attitude prevailed in the area of Pilot Knob and is one of the reasons why approximately 8 percent of the Union combatants in the Battle of Pilot Knob were African-American].

Middlebrook MO March 9/ 63

Col. John B. Gray

If you can send me (2) two intelligent and highly relighable [sic] contrabands for servants I wish you would do so.

C. H. Dyer

AAG

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**[MORE MUTINY]**

Pilot Knob, MO March 18/03

Capt. Fillebourne

AAG

Hedqrts, St Louis Dist

Stanges Battery consisting of 4 pieces 2 twelve pound Howitzers and 2 six pdr guns is here and only twenty four men for duty. Between 50 and 60 in the Guard House for mutiny. Everything ready to move but the men. I will go down and see them and will report if I can get them to obey.

John B. Gray

Col. Comdg.

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Barnesville was an extreme outpost with little known about it. It is an earthen redoubt built by the military and is now on the National Register of Historic Places.]

Barnesville MO March 10/63

Brig. Genl. John B. Gray  
Post Commandant

Have just arrived here all right came through from Lesterville today was detained by high water on Black River and very bad roads.

A. Erskine  
Capt. Comdg 2nd Batt 13th Ill.  
Cavalry

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Pilot Knob, MO March 14/63

Captain Erskine  
Barnesville

I wish you to inform Col. Hartman upon his arrival at your post that I have today received information Said to be reliable that Tim Reeves with 151 men is amassing himself in the District of Country between Black and Current rivers by conscripting the people for the Confederacy. Tell him to strengthen his post at Barnesville so as to have at least one hundred men for duty at that point and keep a sharp look out in the aforementioned directions being ready at a moments notice for any movement of cooperation which I may direct. I am sending two more companies to Patterson, making four in all at that point.

John B. Gray  
Col Comdg. Post

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Barnesville, MO March 16/63

Col. J. B. Gray

All quiet down here expect Co. "B" and Co. "H" tomorrow.

Theo. Hartman  
Lt. Col. Comdg.

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Barnesville, March 16, 1863

Col. Gray  
Comdg Post

There is some eight or ten thousand (8 or 10000) bushels of corn, within 8 miles of this Post. Bad weather will soon set in and I would like to keep a good part of that forage on hand for all emergencies. Would the Col. Cmmdg please send out ten (10) wagons with oats and hay once a week and make a Detail from his Command to escort the train from here and back again. This would materially strengthen this post.

Theo Hartmann  
Lieut. Col. Commanding.

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Barnesville MO March 16/63

Col. J. B. Gray

Two rebel soldiers have given themselves up to one of my pickets. I will send them under guard to Pilot Knob tomorrow morning. They received information on their way thither that Tim Reeves is about Brush Creek. Cos. 'B' and 'H' have reported here already.

Theo Hartman  
Lieut Col. Comdg. Post

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Barnesville MO March 18/63

Col J. B. Gray

A scout which I had sent out towards Van Buren yesterday has just returned. They stopped over an hour at Current River. They report the Telegraph wire in fine condition all the way except 3 or 4 places where the wire is down. Guerrilla parties were reported to them to invest brush Creek and Jacks Fork.

Theo Hartman  
Lt. Col. Comdg. Post

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Barnesville MO March 19/63

Col. John B. Gray  
Commanding

Have heard nothing yet from Captain Leeper, a soldier coming from Lesterville informes me that he had already returned. In what direction did you send out Lt. Collins. Could you not send me 100 men of the EMM [Enrolled Missouri Militia] under command of Lt. Col. Walker of 32nd Regiment?

Theo Hartmann  
Lt Col Comg Post



Transcribed by:

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Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks