

"Intelligence Service Europe"



SCV Europe Camp #1612



www.scveuropecamp.jimdo.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Letter.....	1
EDITOR'S NOTE.....	2
HERITAGE ALERT.....	3
CAMP SCOUT IMPROVES CAPABILITIES.....	4
CAMP ANGEL RECEIVES AWARD.....	5
JOIN THE SESQUICENTENNIAL SOCIETY.....	6
HEINRICH WIRZ SPEECH.....	7-8
THE GREAT MANIPULATOR.....	9-11
SWEDISH CONFEDERATE COLONELS (1).....	12-13
CONFEDERATE NON-REGULATION DRESS.....	14-17
THE PREACHER'S CORNER...	18-19
EDUCATIONAL MOVIES.....	20-22
CAMP LIBRARY.....	23



Intelligence Service Europe, Year II/III, Issue 5/1, Dec./Jan. 2009/2010

Commander's Letter

Compatriots,
now the time approaches were we think of the loved ones at home. I do not think only of our families today, I think of the many ancestors who fought in the War between the States defending their State, trying to ensure liberty and a future in freedom for their families and their descendants. We are their descendants; and I would like to call you to remember the men who are fighting right now and this Christmas for liberty and safety of the whole Western world. May God grant them to do their service in honor and to come back home in safety. I wish y'all a Merry Christmas and a good step into the year 2010.



Commander Achim Bänisch

EDITOR'S NOTE

Christmas is a time of peace and love for those men of good will on earth. And in love and peace we will celebrate the birth of Jesus the Saviour. But remember that immediately afterwards in the year 2010 will be on the eve of the Sesquicentennial battle. I say "battle" because during the next five years there won't be only celebrations for sure. We may remember in pride and honor the Cause of the South, but we will have to fight hard to defend it and everything what is right against the hordes of evil. For that reason, this editorial is brief and a straight one: prepare to stay firm, well-armored with the faith in Christ and spread the truth of the Southern Cause during the coming 5 years.

Our translators continue doing well and I look forward to see the informative SCV Multilanguage site becoming a reality next year to tell the world about the Cause of Southern Independence.

In addition to the Camp Library, which has proven to be a successful offer to educate interested people, inside this issue you will find some new educational stuff: the Movie Section, which will be maintained throughout the Sesquicentennial. It will recommend certain movies (or not) and analyze them from a Southern point of view.

Remember in next year's December issue of this newsletter we will be commemorating South Carolina's Secession from the Union; but for now I wish you a Merry Christmas and a peaceful time for your hearts and souls.

The Editor



Nativity of Christ, by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo

HERITAGE ALERT

A Spanish-language Weblog, rife with links to Nazi and White-Supremacy sites, is recommending racist music for download. Most recently this page, with an unidentified server, has introduced a new music CD. It claims to be from the “Realm of Deutschland National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan”. Intended as “a tribute to Johnny Rebel” it includes many fine Southern songs and melodies, thus confusing the true Cause Johnny Reb fought for, with the most repugnant racist totalitarianism of the Nazis. We have been doing a thorough research in the fetidness of Nazi and white supremacist websites in German language and have not found a “German Realm” of any KKK group (fortunately). It seems to be just a tasteless fantasy title of an anonymous music band. However, every Europe Camp member is encouraged to report to the Commander any suspicious data about possible incipient activity of KKK-imitating hate groups in his country.

In the specific case of Germany we can be optimistic for the future because groups like the fictive gang portrayed in the CD cover are forbidden by German law. Thus, in the case of these “gentlemen” becoming real some day and trying to launch a KKK homepage, SCV Europe Camp 1612 will immediately react by notifying them to the German Federal Crime Bureau (BKA) and ensure to see the website closed.

In order to avoid any publicity for the mentioned racist site we do not publish the web address. But see the original cover of the music CD as reproduced below:



**Music CD cover of the false German KKK Realm.
A perfidious “tribute” to Johnny Reb, used to expand racism**

OUR CONFEDERATE SCOUT IMPROVES CAPABILITIES!

Last October 24, our Cavalry Scout, Compatriot Tom Landgraf, has qualified for the German Federal certificate of Mounted Nature Guides. As one of our most passionate reenactors, Tom does not only make historical portrays of the WBTS and American history in his own association IGCW e.V., and participates in many reenactments (we have reported about several of them). Tom also has a riding school and likes to bring the beauties of nature closer to people. To achieve better performance in that all, the certificate of Mounted Nature Guide (berittener Naturführer) will be very helpful to him. This was the very first course held in Germany; January 2010 the second official course will start at the Hohenberg Ranch near Annweiler/Trifels.



After more than 120 lecture hours (this refers to only to previously fully capable horsemen, others need to double the instruction time) a Mounted Nature Guide qualifies in knowledge of natural environment, pedagogical issues regarded to nature and environment, organisation of related projects, practical execution of the projects, communication, presentation, conflict management and aspects of law.

We congratulate our Camp member for this new qualification that will help to improve his many activities! And we are especially proud that our Compatriot ALWAYS rides in uniform, thus expanding interest in Confederate heritage among his students.

If you're located in Germany, visit Tom's homepage for more details:

<http://www.rheinhessen-raids.de/>

NANCY HITT RECEIVES THE JAMES H. WAKEFIELD AWARD



Last October 9, the William Clarke Quantrill Society honored our Camp Angel Nancy Hitt, UDC Kentucky, with the James H. Wakefield Award for outstanding contributions in studies of Confederate history and the figure of William C. Quantrill. Europe Camp 1612 is proud of having helping hands like yours, Nancy! Congratulations!



The Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary) of the Cause for Southern Independence is upon us!

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has established the SCV Sesquicentennial Society. By joining this prestigious group you will help in supporting two projects very important to the future.

1. The General Executive Council made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building on our property at Historic Elm Springs. One of the uses of this new building is to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. It will give an accurate portrayal of the Confederate soldier, something that is lacking in most museums and in the media.

75 % of the money received through this effort goes to that building fund.

2. We need to leave a legacy for our Compatriots who will be the members and leaders of the SCV when the Bicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence arrives 50 years from now. One can only guess at the obstacles they will have to face in putting forth an accurate commemoration. 25% of the money will go into a fund to be used by the SCV at that point in time. Here is how you can take part. To join it is a minimum payment of \$200. (You can give more if you wish!) You will receive a handsome SCV Sesquicentennial Society Medal and Certificate.

This program will end at the close of the Sesquicentennial. We hope that all Camp members/associates and allies will take advantage of this opportunity to make a stand for the future. You can proudly wear your medal and display your certificate as symbols of your commitment to teaching the true history of the South to future generations.

Last October 17, the GEC voted to allow non-SCV members to join the Sesquicentennial Society, thus every reader outside our Camp is invited to join.

Payments from Europe can be made using the encrypted, secure SCV on-line Paypal donation page; it is not necessary to open a Paypal account:

<http://www.scv.org/> just scroll down to the label "Donate"

Be sure to put **Sesquicentennial Society Membership** as purpose of payment.

Address during the 34th Captain Henry Wirz Memorial Service, Sunday, 1st November 2009, Andersonville, Georgia, U.S.A.

Heinrich L. Wirz, Colonel Swiss Army (Ret.)
Past Commander Europe Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Member of the Order of the Stars & Bars
Alabama Honorary Colonel
Great-grandnephew of Captain Henry Wirz, A.A.G., C.S.A.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear Confederate Compatriots and American friends,

On behalf of the Watkins family in Louisiana and the Wirz family in Switzerland, I thank you for being here today to commemorate – already for the 34th time – our common ancestor, Captain Henry Wirz, Assistant Adjutant General, Confederate States Army, Commandant of Camp Sumter Prison, Andersonville, Georgia, from 1864-1865.

I had the opportunity to talk to many of you three years ago at this ceremony and this year in May at the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Captain Henry Wirz Monument, which had been erected by the Georgia Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and dedicated on 12 May 1909.

In November 2008 in my address I told you about Major and later Colonel Johann Heinrich August Heros von Borcke, who was born 1835 as a son of a Prussian officer in Koblenz in the South of what is today called Germany. He was serving on the staff of the Prince of Prussia in 1861 when he requested leave of absence to fight in the Civil War, because he sympathized with the South turning against the North. Running the blockade, he joined the Army of Northern Virginia and in May 1862 he became Cavalry General James Ewell Brown “Jeb” Stuart’s Chief of Staff as Major.

Heros von Borcke and Henry Wirz both fought 1862 in the Battle of Seven Pines, also called Fair Oaks, Virginia. There would be a lot to say about this bloody battle, but let us just sadly remind the about 6’000 Confederate losses from about 42’000 men engaged and 5’000 Federal losses from also 42’000 men engaged.

You are so kind to not only honour my ancestor and his comrades in the Confederate States Army but all fighting and fallen heroes who risked or even gave their life for their belief during the so terrible War of Secession.

To you I want to express my feelings of great gratitude, especially to Mrs. **Sybil Willingham**, representing the U.D.C., for the erection and the dedication of this monument 100 years ago and for organizing the 100th anniversary commemoration of the dedication on 16 May 2009. Further on, I thank Mrs. **Peggy Sheppard**, the grand old lady of Andersonville, who is restlessly supervising the working and writing on

Andersonville, the former prison camp and its commandant. A special thank goes to Mr. **James Gaston**, who is my liaison officer here for nearly 20 years and once more reading my address. Last but not least I thank Mr. **Tommy Lawrence**, Commander of the Alexander H. Stephens Camp 78, and his Compatriots for the preparation and organization of today's ceremony.

I really regret not to be personally here today, but I am with you in thoughts. I hope you are enjoying good Southern weather, as it was in last May.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have not yet lost my faith in American justice and hope that Henry Wirz one day will be exonerated. God bless our two so called Sister Republics, the United States of America and Switzerland!

With best Confederate regards,

Heinrich L. Wirz, Colonel Swiss Army (Retired) and Great-grandnephew of Captain Henry Wirz.



Wirz Memorial base. Andersonville, Georgia

The Great Manipulator: Lincoln and the Scriptures

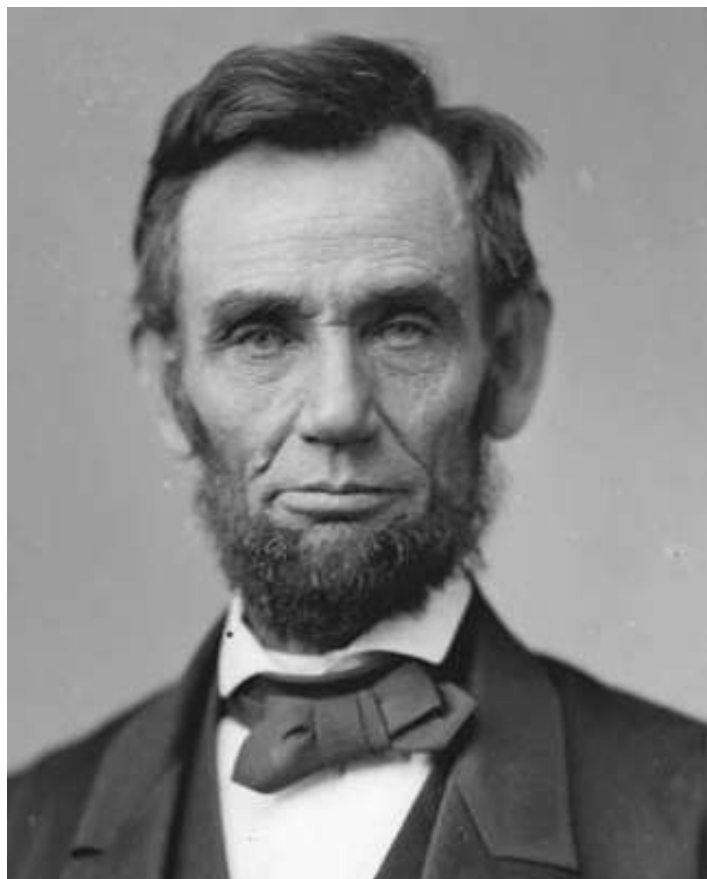
Note: With this article we bring our Bicentennial memory of President Lincoln to an end. The Editor published a slightly modified version of this article in the past November issue of the Palmetto Partisan Journal, Newsletter of the SCV South Carolina Division, on page 6.

There are definitely too many books on Abraham Lincoln. In the Library of Congress publication catalogue his name appears ranking 3rd, after Jesus Christ and William Shakespeare. He is represented as the greatest American President. Many of those books show him as a good Christian and even an exegetical scholar on biblical contents. But this is completely untrue. Lincoln's intellect was the result of a limited and shallow formal education and manners and he never fully identified with any Christian church, not even with basic Christianity. Thus, Mr. Lincoln had troubles in understanding the true meaning of the Word of God, both by his lack of faith and education. But he had certainly no troubles reading it and using entire passages to flavour his political speeches and writings. Unlike Thomas Jefferson, who also saw in the Bible "a great book" and recommended reading of the Scriptures to improve morals in the same way he would the writings of Livy or Tacitusⁱ, Lincoln used the Word of God to obtain tactical advances for his career and to achieve better populist effects. Herndon's *"Life of Lincoln"* illustrates the fact by saying that Lincoln achieved this effect, "by using a language universally well-known, that may strike home to the minds of men in order to raise them up"ⁱⁱ. He also used this tactic to present himself as the educated Christian gentleman he was not. Earl Schwartz, a modern Lincolnite scholar, wrote in the Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association that "*The Bible was the common coin of literate nineteenth-century Americans, and Lincoln made good use of its currency.*"ⁱⁱⁱ

Doubtless it is due to Lincoln's long-term success in using the Word of God in this manner that his legacy has over time become inextricably bound up with the words and themes of the Bible in a pseudo-Christian way. An aura of almost prophetic and exegetical authority has accrued to his own words, heightened by the skilful use of several literary resources combined within the Holy Bible.^{iv} Lincoln-era witnesses saw Old Abe training himself with the "great book": "*Mr. Lincoln was a great reader of the Bible, but I have a notion without knowing exactly why I have it, [...] that he read the Bible quite as much for its literary style as he did for its religious or spiritual content. [...] He read it in the relaxed, almost lazy attitude of a man enjoying a good book.*"^v

If we read Roy Basler's *"Collected Works"* of Lincoln, they appear marbled and shining with scriptural quotations and biblical references. But what Lincoln sought was an out-of-context use of the Scriptures to achieve opportunistic benefit in concrete circumstances rather than an exegetical appliance of Christian values or at least a moral teaching in politics. A few chosen examples are quite revealing:

During the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858, the Democratic candidate charged Lincoln that quoting the Scriptures did not suit him as a Republican. Old Abe answered he would continue doing it and added a vigorous defense of "*human equality*", surrounding the verse "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which in heaven is perfect*" (Matt. 5:48).^{vi} The Gospel was used here to hide dangerous intentions, as Lincoln went down in history as a champion of equality by literally redefining the purpose of American government as the pursuit of **equality** rather than the **individual liberty** originally intended by the Founding Fathers.^{vii}



**The Great Manipulator of the Word of God:
Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. President**

During the Secession crisis Lincoln gave a speech in Independence Hall and used a biblical metaphor to affirm with great pathos his commitment to the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution: "*May my right hand lose its cunning and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth' (Psalms 137:5-6) if ever I prove false to those teachings*".^{viii} This was a vacuous political oath peppered with biblical flavour that had a splendid effect on the audience.

Early 1861, during a fiery rally in Indianapolis in support of the Union, he made a scandalous political transposition of the words of Christ by declaring, "*When the people rise in masses in behalf of the Union and the liberties of their country, truly may it be said, 'The gates of Hell shall not prevail against them.'*" (Matt. 16:18)^{ix}. This is the real Lincoln unmasked: the religion of state, the will of the masses instead of the citizens (coming close to Marxism), and the blasphemous misuse of the words of Christ and his promise given to the ones who believe in Redemption.

Sometimes the infidel Lincoln was overcome by his intimate feelings. Until today there is much discussion about the probability that Lincoln wrote the original draft of the 1863 Gettysburg Address without the words "under God" (in fact, they appear only in two of the five hand-written drafts existing today and there was much controversy among reporters who listened to the Lincoln speech). Many authors sustain they were included later to add a religious touch in Lincoln-style tactics, to increase the "greatness" of the content.^x

It is no surprise that a political figure like Lincoln had no sympathy in the entire Southland, even long before the War. This was not only because of his political views and the menaces that grew out of them, but because a man who was a tactical religious faker had no chance among true Christian believers. In South Carolina for sample, biblical culture and exegetical studies were at its highest. This was true not only among the educated elites but among the common people as well. The disputes between Presbyterian professor James H. Thornwell in Columbia and Catholic Bishop Patrick Lynch of Charleston between 1841 and 1844 about the interpretation of parts of the Old Testament as apocryphal or not are among the finest theological writings of its time. Though they never softened their opinions, in 1860 both Thornwell and Lynch joined the Confederate idea, with heart and soul, as believing Christian brothers. Lynch became President Davis envoy to the Papal States in 1864.

One of the many differences between Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln as men was in their use of the Holy Bible. The first used it as a true believer for the study and meditation about the Word of God. The other one liked to read it in a “*relaxed, lazy style*” and used it as a kind of “tactical manual for rhetoric”. It’s rather curious that Lincolnite scholars of today assert that the evidence of Lincoln’s religious faith is in the clearest location for historians: his writings and speeches. As we have seen, any closer view to them this brings out a liar and manipulator. But final evidence of how Lincoln lived his faith and spent his life as a “Christian” is given in the moment of his death: Instead of staying home on Good Friday to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and the Redemption which fulfilled those Scriptures so often misquoted by Lincoln, he was shot in the head while having fun in Ford’s Theatre on Good Friday evening.



SWEDISH CONFEDERATE COLONELS (Part 1)

By Bertil Haggman, Sweden, full member Europe Camp 1612

Colonel Augustus Forsberg, “Forsberg’s Brigade”, C.S.A



Colonel Forsberg had a very strong willed wife, Mary Morgan Otey Forsberg, also known as Mollie. She was the daughter of a wealthy Lynchburg, VA, tobacconist. She met Colonel Forsberg, aged 51, of the 51st Virginia Infantry, in the Lynchburg hospital in 1864. They married in 1865, when Col. Forsberg returned to Lynchburg. After the war it was forbidden to wear the Confederate military insignia in public. Mollie took no notice. She had a jacket made in Confederate officer style and there she added the three gold stars of her husband and a military style gold braid to the sleeves. She then wore it over a Gray skirt. There must have been quite a stir in Lynchburg!

Her husband was born in Sweden, January 13, 1831. Augustus Forsberg was a graduate of the Royal Military Academy in Stockholm and was serving as a Lieutenant in the engineering corps of the Swedish army in 1852. For reasons of health he was recommended a sea voyage by his doctor. A furlough from the Swedish Army was secured. Having arrived in America he decided to stay in the New World. He established an office as architect in Baltimore, Maryland, and also worked as a topographical draftsman for the U. S. Government in Washington D. C. In 1861 Forsberg volunteered for the South and in August 1861 he joined the 51st Virginia Infantry Regiment, being appointed a Lieutenant in October. Between August 1861 and May 1862 he took part in three battles and was cited for bravery at Fort Donelson. His bravery and valor, among his leadership abilities were widely recognized. In May 1862 he was promoted to Lt. Colonel and in July 1863 became colonel of the 51st Virginia.

After a time in hospital, 1864 he returned to active service and succeeded Brigadier General Gabriel C. Wharton as commander of the "Forsberg's Brigade", as it was later known (45th, 50th, 51st Virginia Infantry and the 30th Battalion, Virginia Sharpshooters). The Brigade fought with distinction in a number of battles during 1864. Late 1864 Forsberg was wounded in the hand (see the photograph) and again had to spend time in the Lynchburg hospital but resumed command of the Brigade in February 1865 and was captured along with most of his command in March 1865 at Waynesboro, Virginia.



Col. Forsberg's right hand was in need of an orthopedic leather reinforcement from 1864 on (image from the portrait above). In many photographs of that time we can see wounded/disabled with such items. The absence of modern neurosurgery and proper physical rehabilitation programs often meant to a patient having to wear the leather reinforcements a lifetime long to better move a hand, to write, etc

After the War, he served as city engineer of Lynchburg for twenty-one years. Forsberg designed and directed the construction of many of the public buildings in the city. Passing away in 1910 he is buried at the Presbyterian Cemetery in Lynchburg. One of his friends spoke at his grave and said: "Here lies this generous stranger who watered with his precious blood the tree of liberty." Augustus Forsberg had become a true Virginian. His wife Mollie lived to 1918 and the coat mentioned above remained with a daughter, Hilda Forsberg Davis. She donated the coat to the Lynchburg Museum where it can now be seen.

The diary of Colonel Forsberg was donated in 1981 to the Washington and Lee Library. The Forsberg clan is widely spread and thriving to this day.

CONFEDERATE NON-REGULATION DRESS:

SACK-COATS AND SPECIAL JACKETS

The armies of the South had from the very beginning of the War on much more freedom of dress than in the Federal Yankee army. State militias often had their own designs too. The CS Army dress regulations of 1862/64 specified that officers may have private horses, servants, laundresses and surgeons, but about the field use of private uniforms they don't say a single word. The term "sack coat", does not appear at all. In fact, the regulations specify that "*All Officers shall wear a frock coat of gray cloth, known as cadet gray; the skirt to extend half way between the hip and the knee; double breasted for all ranks.*" (See, "*Regulations for the Army of the Confederate States, 1864. Revised and enlarged*", War Department, Richmond, 1864, page 1466), but either the flamboyant character of an officer, his personal dandified taste for fashion or just individual preference for a more comfortable design or the love for his hunting jacket, made the non-regulation dress to appear from the first hour on. Unlike the common soldiers, who had to wear whatever they could get, especially during the last war years, many officers had liberty and money to choose sometimes very unique designs. Thus, single breasted frocks, a variety of shell jackets, sack coats and other garments were in large use.

In the North the only character with comparative liberties was perhaps exocentric Lt. Col. and General of Volunteers George A. Custer (whose special tastes were finished off by Native Americans at Little Big Horn in 1876).

The Confederate officer's most widespread piece among non-regulation clothing was the sack coat. Many favored it over the regulation frock coat and the shell jacket. One interesting piece found on the Gettysburg battlefield after the fighting had ended was the officer's sack coat reproduced below, which has maintained its perfect Gray colour till today. The single-breasted coat has a 2" fall down collar. There are three rows of gold braid sewn on the collar indicating the rank of captain. All the coat and cuff buttons originally on the coat are now missing (probably cut off by souvenir hunters already on July 4th 1863), but there is a single row of five 1" buttonholes on the coat. Very unusual: there are no outside pockets, but there is one inside pocket on the left side. The coat is made from finely woven wool broadcloth and has a cotton sateen lining. This was an expensive custom-made piece of finest quality. Most sack coats were not so well made.

Double-breasted sack coats also existed and were favored by Colonels and especially by Generals. These coats often included color trim. Another typical feature of sack coats is the total absence of gold braid knots on cuff and sleeves but they retain the three buttoned cuffs, although some models show only one.

We do not know the Captain who wore this piece at Gettysburg, but we know from several officers and Generals, including Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne, who favored exactly this kind of sack coat. Others preferred to wear their own jackets. Hunting coats, civilian jackets, etc. just with rank insignia added. Let's have a look at different pictures which show a glimpse of the variety used.

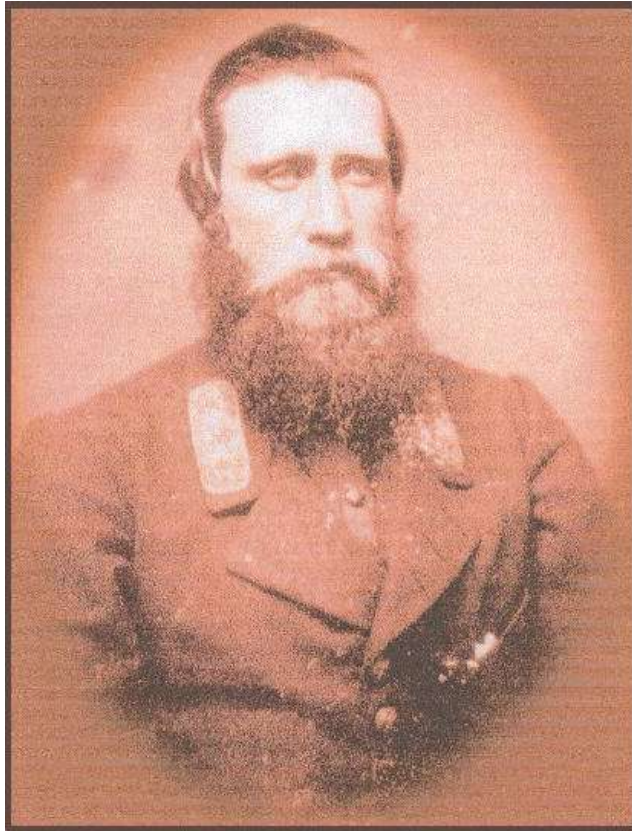


Original sack coat (© Gettysburg National Military Park)

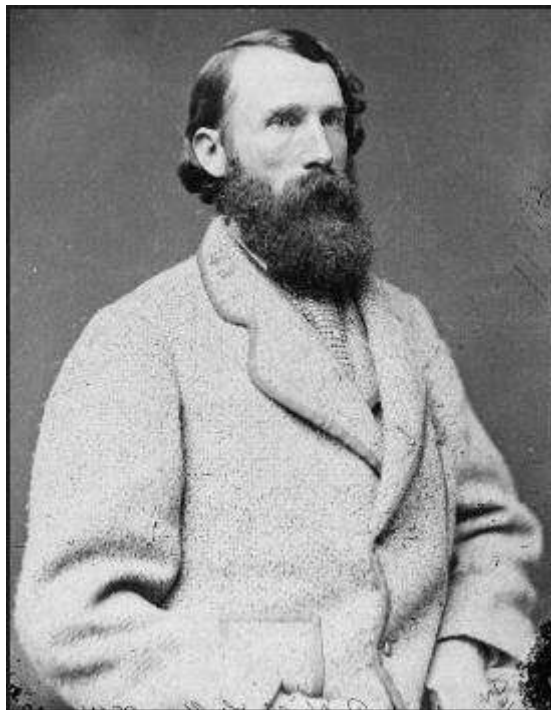
General John Bell Hood was rarely seen with sack coats, but for comfort reasons, he favored them after losing the use of his left arm. The reproduced picture shows him with a Lt. Gen. three buttons-array in single row.

A very unique field jacket was worn by Lieutenant-General Ambrose Powell Hill. Several pictures exist of him; both with regulation and non-regulation uniform, but the thick, woollen knit jacket with General's insignia sewn on is most unique.

General James L. Kemper led his Brigade during the great assault on July 3rd at Gettysburg wearing a civilian-cut Gray jacket with the General's stars much in the way General Joseph E. Johnston did on his uniform (without leaf encirclement). In the 1993 movie "Gettysburg" he is shown wearing a sack coat with Colonel's stars on the collar, both is, in fact, wrong.



**Gen. John B. Hood with sack coat.
Note the white General badges on the
fall down collar.**



**Gen, AP Hill's knit wool jacket
Rank insignia are hand-embroidered
into the collar.**



General Kemper wearing his civilian-cut suit.

Sack coats for the modern reenactor

As the non-regulation dress is not subjected to any specific design, the inspirational path to follow for the reenactor must be always based on historical photographs and museum pieces. Pockets may be added upon personal taste. The jacket depicted below is based on the mentioned Gettysburg sack coat.



Captain with Gray woolen sack coat.
(© CJ Daley Reproductions)

THE PREACHER'S CORNER

Every Camp member must remember that he is a witness of the truth and as a baptized Christian he must spread the Gospel, especially during these days. Now we reproduce a splendid sermon by Chaplain J. W. Binion who remembers what Christmas really is. It is most inspirational for remembering other people what is *the true reason for the season*:

My Beloved Compatriots,

A time for rejoicing is upon us. We are entering the season during which we shop for gifts for our loved ones. We become entangled in the rush, hub-bub, and excitement of this shopping season. We search for gifts that will both delight and bless those upon whom we will bestow these gifts. As I contemplate these weeks of giving and receiving, a number of questions come to mind.

First, have we changed a time of spiritual rejoicing into a time of commercial endeavour? Second, why is it that the unbeliever is so quick to want all signs of the Nativity removed from public view but always ready to accept the money/gifts associated with the season? Third and most important of all – what was the very first Christmas gift?

The first two are a matter of continuing debate, year after year. The third is something many of you will think about and others will give no thought to whatsoever. Some of you will be answering – Love.

If you answered “Love” then you have started toward the correct answer. Love is of course a major part of the first Christmas gift, but it is not the complete answer.



Instead of looking to scripture in the tradition Christmas passages, may I be so bold as to suggest that you search for the answer in the Gospel of St. John. Go to the 3rd Chapter and begin with the 16th verse. Yes dear hearts, you will read the familiar words, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...” The very first Christmas gift was a baby – a child – the only begotten Son of God.

It was because of God’s love for us that He GAVE His only Son to become man. The Son would walk among us, live like us, grow up like we do, learn as we do, and experience the life of a man.

The baby Jesus would become the sacrifice for our sins, He would suffer as we have not. The baby Jesus would grow physically and in wisdom (it’s in scripture). Your sins, my sins, would be placed on Him even though He had no sin. He would be tortured for our sins, His suffering; His death for us would be to save us from hell. We did nothing to deserve this gift of the manger – God GAVE us His Son because He loved us. As trite as it sounds – Jesus IS the reason for the season.

Give thanks to God as you are giving the gifts this Christmas and remember that the very first gift was a child.

Have a blessed and merry Christmas, your obedient servant-Chaplain J. W. Binion,
5th KY Vol. Infantry Co. D, E, F, CSA.



EDUCATIONAL MOVIES

As our readers from all parts of Europe are growing in numbers, they are no longer only Camp members and associates, but “American Civil War” buffs, we think it will be a good idea to introduce a new educational section in our Newsletter: Movies. We are living in a sad era were many people (also in America) get a lot of their education by going to a cinema or watching a home video DVD while eating popcorn. But history is often not shown on screen as it really was, but to better fit the tastes of modern audiences – or to give them specifically a brainwashing in political correctness. This is most common today, but even in older, better times, movie mistakes and historical distortions happened. For that reasons, and throughout the five years of the Sesquicentennial, we will introduce continuously to the readers different kind of movies related to the Old South and the WBTS, giving a short synopsis, a fair critic and additional explanations from the Southern point of view, so everyone interested will be able to get a better understanding of the stuff shown and will be able to explain it to others.

Last November 21, the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond and the Byrd Theatre Foundation celebrated their 2nd Annual Civil War Cinema event by showing the movie *Shenandoah*, an Oscar-nominated Hollywood classic with James Stewart. We will start our new section “Educational Movies” introducing the same film, commented and analyzed:

SHENANDOAH (1964)



Plot summary: Farmer Charlie Anderson (James Stewart) lives as a widower with six sons, a daughter and a daughter-in-law, in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, in 1864. The Yankees are coming closer every day but the stubborn farmer has decided from the very beginning of the War not to get involved in any fighting because he believes that this is not "his" war. The Confederate Army claims his elder sons into service but Anderson refuses. A resigning Cavalry officer says one of the key phrases of the movie: "*Mr. Anderson, if you can sit in the middle of this war and not get touched, I congratulate you.*" Farmer Anderson eventually has to get involved when his youngest son, called Boy (Phillip Alford), aged just 16, is mistakenly made a prisoner by a group of Federal soldiers. The father and the elder brothers, including daughter Jennie (Rosemary Forsythe) dressed in men's clothes, are compelled into action. A particularly difficult search starts, the whole family is touched and deeply involved in the drama of the War, and the words the Confederate officer had grimly spoken become true: before the happy end, several of Anderson's children, including his daughter-in-law who stood at home, will meet death.

Analysis: The movie has no intention of doing PC propaganda; although produced in midst of the Civil Rights battle and the beginnings of the Vietnam War. It presents a deeply moving family drama involved in the WBTS. In some modern critics we may read that Anderson "*is faced with the conflict of saving his sons from senseless slaughter in a losing war to protect the right to own slaves. This is the film's central conflict and forms the main plot.*" This is untrue. Anderson's passivity, an absolutely atypical attitude for a Virginian, is best explained by thinking that being a widower, he is deeply concerned for his children and overprotects them (even his adult boys) by keeping them distanced as much as possible from the conflict. At the same time, Anderson only cares "about his tomatoes and potatoes". He does not own slaves - and his sons make clear they would fight in the War, but not to keep other men's slaves. It may be a necessary concession to the time this movie was made and to show without any reason for doubt that the Andersons are "the good ones". However, it is historically accurate because most little farmers owned no slaves and didn't care about slavery. Anderson's youngster, called Boy, has a close friendship with Gabriel (Eugene Jackson Jr.), a Black slave of one of Anderson's neighbours. He is the one who gives notice about the capture of Boy, thus allowing the Anderson's to start a more accurate search. He does this after being "proclaimed free" by the Yankee soldiers, he does it for loyalty to his white childhood playmate, a link to Southern realities.

There are also worthy scenes of mutual respect like the one with Union Colonel Fairchild (Robert Kennedy) who is touched by the fate of Anderson's son and gives him a pass to obtain a release if found.

But as in most motion pictures, there are some mistakes: In the first part of the movie valiant daughter Jennie drives away the procurement agents by aiming at them with a single shot rifle (ending a rather humorous fistfight between the Anderson boys and the agents claiming for horses). Afterwards we see the Andersons ride off armed to the teeth and even equipped with latest Winchester lever action models; hard to believe a farmer family could own such weapons.

You will find some details of historical inaccuracy: In one scene Dr. Witherspoon (Paul Fix) mentions having lost a son the year before at Gettysburg, yet much later Carter (James Best), the leader of the escaped Confederate soldiers, notes that "the besieged troops at Vicksburg are eating rats". The battle of Gettysburg ended July 3, Vicksburg surrendered July 4, 1863; the movie plays in 1864 and it is not probable

that Confederate POW's didn't know these facts more than one year after they had happened. But there is only one important inaccuracy that can be misleading to the audience, it happens twice:

1. When Boy is taken prisoner (for wearing a Confederate Infantry cap he had found floating downstream in a river) the Yankees appear to be a racial mix of white and black soldiers under a white Sergeant. This never occurred, as the units of the USCT (United States Colored Troops) were segregated by race and kept strictly separated from US Army units. Thus, racially mixed small patrols and skirmishers were never seen in the War. This is a fictive scene.

2. After escaping from the Federal POW transport, Boy and several Confederate soldiers find their way back to Southern lines. Once in camp, they are attacked by a mixed force of Union Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry. During the battle Boy spots his friend Gabriel wearing the blue coat of the North. The close-quarter fighting scene is presented to the audience again as if the Union Infantry had racially mixed units. This is blatantly false. However, the scene ends with true Southern friendship and loyalty: the Black bluecoat takes the wounded Boy in his arms and hides him in the woods, thus saving his life.



In the midst of the battle, Boy Anderson spots his Black friend Gabriel
(© Universal Pictures, 1964)

Despite several mistakes, "Shenandoah" is highly recommendable. It exudes a quality in film making and a level of historical understanding that seems to have disappeared from Hollywood today. This motion picture represents a time of moral sentiment and deep devotion to an established ideal, cornerstone of human society and Christian civilisation: the love to one's family.

CAMP LIBRARY

“Prison Life of Jefferson Davis” By John Craven, Lt. Col. USA Medical Corps.
Carleton Publishing, New York, 1868, 377 pages.

President Davis, falsely accused of treason, the plot to assassinate President Lincoln and other invented charges (no one was ever brought against him), spent two years in prison after the WBTS before being released without trial. The book *“Prison Life of Jefferson Davis”* is Dr. Craven's first-person account of President Davis imprisonment in Fort Monroe. Craven served as personal physician to President Davis during the hardships and humiliations of the first seven months of his imprisonment and has recorded his experiences in this captivating story. What makes it especially interesting is the fact that Craven was a Yankee doctor who step-by-step came closer to Davis from a human point of view and learned lots about the truth of the Confederacy from the conversations with him. His book is a first-hand account of the prisoner's life, his suffering and spirituality. Published in 1868, it includes the first fair defense of Jefferson Davis and the Confederacy made by a Yankee.

New printed editions have an average price of about \$24 plus shipping costs. Receive from our Camp the original 1868 edition as e-book for free! To be sent as Word.doc with no pictures.

As always, contact the Editor: partisanranger@swissmail.com



**Jefferson Davis under heavy guard in his casemate cell.
(Pencil drawing from the book. The window was much smaller)**

Intelligence Service Europe

Bi-monthly electronic newsletter.

e-mail: partisanranger@swissmail.com

www.scveuropecamp.jimdo.com

Editor: Raphael Waldburg Zeil



Editor: Raphael Waldburg Zeil

Submissions must be in Microsoft Word or text file and e-mailed to partisanranger@swissmail.com.

© 2009 All rights reserved. Publication herein does not necessarily imply agreement. Permission to reprint is granted on the condition that such reprints give full credit to SCV Europe Camp #1612, supply our address and telephone number, and prominently display the author's name.



SCV Europe Camp #1612

Notes to "Lincoln and the Scriptures"

ⁱ Letter of Thomas Jefferson to his nephew Peter Carr giving him advise on how to improve his education, August 10, 1787. Norman Cousins (ed.) *"In God we Trust, the Religious Beliefs and Ideas of the American Founding Fathers"*, Harper&Bros., New York, 1958, p.128.

ⁱⁱ *"Herndon's life of Lincoln: The history and personal recollections of Abraham Lincoln as originally written by William H. Herndon and Jesse W. Weik"*, World Pub., Cleveland, 1949, p. 325.

ⁱⁱⁱ Earl Schwartz, "A poor hand to quote Scripture: Lincoln and Genesis 3:19", *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, Vol. 23, Issue 2, 2002, p. 37 (pp. 36-49).

^{iv} See, Elton Trueblood, *"Abraham Lincoln: Theologian of American Anguish"*, Harper&Row, New York, 1973, p. 50, also Schwartz, op. cit. pp. 37-38.

^v Julia Taft Bayne, *"Tad Lincoln's Father"*, Little Brown and Co., 1931, p. 183.

^{vi} Roy P. Basler (ed.), *"The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln"*, Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, 1953–1955, Vol. II, p. 501.

^{vii} Thomas J. Dilorenzo, *"The Real Lincoln"*, Three Rivers Press, New York, 2002, p. 11.

^{viii} Trueblood, op. cit. pp. 55-56.

^{ix} Roy P. Basler (ed.), op. cit., Vol. I, p. 115.

^x See, Gabor Borritt, *"The Gettysburg Gospel: The Lincoln Speech That Nobody Knows"*, Simon & Schuster, reed. 2003.