

# THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR

## Hooker Leads Potomac Forces

By MERTON T. AKERS  
UPI Correspondent

The Army of the Potomac, its morale dragging in the Bottomless Virginia mud where it was encamped, got a new commander Jan. 25, 1863.

The news that President Lincoln had relieved Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside came as a surprise to no one.

Hardly a month earlier Burnside had lost the disastrous battle of Fredericksburg when he sent his blue legions across the Rappahannock River and up the heights against the massed fire of the entrenched Confederates of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Only a few days before being relieved, Burnside had sought to retrieve his military fortunes with a quick winter march to flank Lee's army. This campaign has come down in history as the "Mud March" because the big ponderous Army of the Potomac mired down in the Virginia countryside in a two-day rain.

To cap his misdeeds, Burnside had demanded the discharge from the army of four general officers of his command and removal of four others from duty. The alternative he presented to Lincoln was his resignation. Lincoln chose to remove Burnside instead of the eight general officers.

### Many Surprised

The President's choice of a successor did surprise many in the army. The new commander the President designated was Joseph Hooker, major general and commander of one wing of the army.

"Fighting Joe" Hooker had been one of Burnside's severest critics, being guilty of, according to Burnside, "unjust and unnecessary criticisms of the action of his superior officers, and of authorities" and having "endeavored to create distrust in the minds of officers associated with him..." Hooker was one of the generals Burnside wanted to relieve.

Despite these charges, some of which the President knew to be true, Lincoln appointed him anyway and wrote him a letter on Jan. 26. For a letter from the Commander-in-Chief to a subordinate, it was remarkable for its frankness, its advice and its warning.

"I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac," Lincoln wrote to Hooker. "Of course I have done it upon what appear to me to be sufficient reasons. And yet I think it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which, I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and skillful soldier, which, of course, I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your profession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself, which is a valuable, if not an indispensable, quality."

### Great Wrong

"You are ambitious, which, within reasonable bounds, does you good rather than harm. But I think that during General Burnside's command of the Army, you have taken counsel of your ambition, and thwarted him as much as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country, and to a most meritorious and honorable brother officer. I have heard, in such a way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the Army and the Government needed a Dictator. Of course it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you the command. Only those generals who gain success, can set up as dictators. What I ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship."

"The government will support you to the utmost of its ability, which is neither more nor less than it has done and will do for all commanders. I much fear that the spirit which you have aided to infuse into the Army, of criticizing their Commander, and withholding confidence from him, will now turn upon you. I shall assist you as far as I can, to put it down. Neither you, nor Napoleon, if he were alive again, could get any good out of army, while such a spirit prevails in it."

"And now, beware of rashness. Beware of rashness, but with energy and sleepless vigil, go forward, and give us victories."

Hooker's reaction to the letter, as recorded by Noah Brooks, Washington newspaper man was:

"That is just such a letter as a father might write his son. It is a beautiful letter, and although I think he was harder on me than I deserved, I will say I love the man who wrote it."

Others, however, recorded that Hooker considered the letter a rebuke. Hooker, himself, said the command was conferred on him "for his sword alone."

Hooker's appointment was hailed by the troops. He was known as a fighter and as a general who always made sure his men were fed and clothed well — two considerations which loom large to soldiers.

Other generals in the Army of the Potomac did not think as well of Hooker as the troops.

Maj. Gen. Rarius Couch felt President Lincoln had made a serious mistake on the appointment. William F. Smith said that "Hooker would start out to make a spoon and spill a horn." O. O. Howard felt skeptical about Hooker's personal conduct. Carl Schurz said Hooker "is a man with no firm moral force but he is a good soldier..." George G. Meade said "Hooker is a very good soldier and a capital officer to command an army corps but I should doubt his qualifications to command a large army."

A West Pointer of the class of 1837, Hooker was 48 when he came to command of the Army of the Potomac. He was a veteran of the Mexican War but by Civil War time he had resigned from the Army and was farming in California.

A faro dealer lent (or gave) him \$1,000 for the trip east to get into the war. The gambler also stocked Hooker's steamboat cabin with food and drink for the long voyage around Cape Horn.

After some delay he was made a brigadier general of volunteers at the same time as U.S. Grant but was ranked two places above Grant in the Army Register.

Hooker fought with distinction in the Peninsular Campaign and at Antietam, where he was wounded in the foot. He had tried to argue Burnside out of the last assaults at Fredericksburg.

He always rode a white horse, this new commander of the North's biggest and showiest army, "tall, robust, bronze-haired, sharp-eyed..."

Hooker got the name of "Fighting Joe" by mistake. During the Peninsular campaign a newspaper printer in New York dropped the hyphen from the slugline "Fighting-Joe Hooker." It appeared in print that way, the proofreader letting it go into the paper purposely.

The name stuck but Hooker never liked it.

"... that name has done and is doing me incalculable injury," he told a reporter.

Hooker, who came from Hadley, Mass., was the fourth commander of the Army of the Potomac. This fighting army, badly led for two years, would have only one more before it hit its stride.

### Court Records

MEDFORD MUNICIPAL COURT  
John Chepin, improper lane usage, \$10.

Donald Jason Simpson, improper lane usage, \$10.

Bernard Kent Plumer, violation of basic rule, \$10.

Oscear Jackson, disobeyed stop sign, \$10.

James Lewis Yates, violation of basic rule, \$25.

Florence Mildred Kezek, improper lane usage, \$10.

Raymond Edward Mencke, violation of basic rule, \$25.

Thomas Fenton Storey, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.

ASHLAND MUNICIPAL COURT

Roland Charles Bailey, violation of basic rule, \$15.

Richard Louis Schroeder, obstructed vision, \$10.

Clarence Edward Diebel, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.

Theodore Kucera, violation of basic rule, \$15.

Robert Douglas Evans, violation of basic rule, \$20.

Ronald Allen Wilson, disorderly conduct, \$50, work detail.

Raymond Lewis Thompson, violation of basic rule, \$15.

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by Alice Brooks

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## Grange News

### Butte Falls Grange

Ted Fredenburg, newly installed master of the Butte Falls Grange, presided at a recent meeting and installed officers who did not attend the joint installation ceremonies at Central Point.

Officers are overseer, Leonard Stratton; lecturer, Ban Fulton; steward, Everett Moore; assistant steward, Earl Deen; secretary, Mrs. Roy Green; chaplain, Mrs. Ben Fullon; treasurer, Mrs. H. J. Arnold; Ceres, Mrs. Everett Moore; Pomona, Mrs. Leonard Stratton; Flora, Mrs. Ray Chambers; executive committee, Elza Abbott, Leth Meadows and Ray Chambers. Gate keeper is Frank Terry and Mrs. Ernest Smith is the home economics committee chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Haworth, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Allen, Steve Deen, Harvey Deen and Marvin Cothrin were obligated in the third and fourth degrees. Miss Laura Deen was instructed in the first and second degrees.

Guests at the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kee and daughter, Cecilia, of the Shady Cove Grange.

Refreshments were served during the social hour by Mr. and Mrs. Elza Abbott.

### Lake Creek Grange

A letter was received from Sen. Wayne Morse in answer to a letter from Lake Creek Grange, concerning the cleaning of the debris along Little Butte creek from the Dec. 2 flood. He said he had contacted federal officials and was requesting full information as to what could be done.

He also stated that he was asking for information as to what could be done by the federal government to prevent future flood losses in this area.

Fire Insurance Agent Cecil Kee explained the slowness in receiving verification from the home office in Seattle, Wash., for new applicants.

Since the Columbus day windstorm, office personnel has been busy. Kee said he keeps his policy files with him at all meetings.

Merton Bradshaw reported that representatives from Jackson County Stockmen's association who attended the meeting at Portland, did not bring back an encouraging report for stockmen.

Faye George, educational committee, read a poem entitled "Somebody Else."

Master Wayne Marshall announced committee appointments: agriculture, Merton Bradshaw; Claus Charley, Chan Stokes; educational, Pearl Bartling; Arlene Stover, Elynn Charley; legislative, Murray Bartling; Bob Gilkey, Lova George; ways and means, Leland Charley; Kent Stover; Al Humper; home economics chairman, Nora Bradshaw; fire insurance agent, Cecil Kee.

The secretary read the fourth quarterly report for 1962. We have a new member, Walter Gilbert.

Members who cleaned the hall after the December flood were given a vote of thanks. Murray Bartling thanked Grange members for the gift given him as an expression of appreciation for his years of service as fire insurance agent. Bartling resigned recently.

### Parking Ticket Supply Exhausted at Eureka

Eureka, Calif. — (UP) — The public learned during the week end what police have known for a week — the supply of parking tickets has run out.

Several citizens took advantage of the situation but City Manager Ronald Bartels said "meter maids" were going through the motions of marking the tires of guilty cars anyway.

And meter maids, he might have added, have long memories.

### BEGINS INTEGRATION

Orlando, Fla. — (UP) — The Orange county public schools will begin gradual integration next fall, school Supt. R. Earl Kipp said Thursday.

## Wild Blat Chase

# Inability To Find Recipe for Exotic Filipino Dish Upsets Lecture Writer

By DICK WEST

Washington — (UP) — My doctor keeps telling me not to let little things upset me, but

I can't help it. Take this matter of "blat." I spent half a day recently trying to dig up some data on "blats." The upshot was that I discovered there isn't any such thing as a "blat."

This threw me into a fit that lasted for hours. In fact, I still haven't fully recovered my equanimity.

It was all the fault of a chap I know who lives in New York and who, like most New Yorkers, thinks of himself as a man of the world.

Knowing that I was writing a series of lectures on "great dishes of the Western world," he dropped me a note that was fairly oozing sophistication.

"When are you going to

### Ullman's Father Dies at Rest Home

Dallas, Ore. — (UP) — Albert Cornelius Ullman, 83, the father of Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore) died Saturday in a rest home where he had lived for the past 18 months.

The senior Ullman lived most of his life in Montana, where he operated general merchandise stores. He was born in Chicago.

Survivors, in addition to the congressman, are another son, Miles, of Alexandria, Va., and a daughter, Mrs. Robert Sprague of Salem.

San Diego, Calif. — (UP) — Howard Lee White, 33, chose the wrong policeman Saturday to ask if his car was parked legally. The officer recognized him as a Tennessee prison escapee.

write a lecture on blats, the exotic Filipino dish?" he asked. "Some of my best friends are blat-eaters."

How's that for a status symbol? A person is entitled to choose his own friends, I always say, but some people obviously are pretty hard up for companionship.

"I assume you know," he added condescendingly, "that a blat is an unhatched chicken egg that is buried three months before it is eaten."

As a matter of fact, I didn't know, but I wasn't about to admit it. I went to the library to read up on blat-eating and spent the entire morning consulting reference books. In none did I find any mention of "blats."

The nearest thing to it that I ran across was "bluat," which is a type of wild flower. That wouldn't be of any help unless I were writing a book called "Please don't Eat the Blats."

Finally, I called the Philippines Embassy, and there I found the answer. An authority on food of the islands told me that the New Yorker with the blat-eating friends must have been referring to a

"blat," only he didn't know how to spell it.

Furthermore, I was informed that a "blat" is not a chicken egg at all. It is a duck egg. Besides that, it is not necessary to bury the egg.

You simply let it incubate for about 15 days and then boil it for 45 minutes. Remove shell and there you have a "blat."

I asked my embassy contact if the incubation time for a blat was always 15 days.

"It depends on what kind of a blat you want," she replied.

Personally, I prefer my ducks fully hatched and roasted. So I guess you could say that I have been on a wild blat chase.

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## Public Notice!

In regards to a recent letter to the Mail Tribune Editor by an irate reader; and due to the fact that a telephone answering service appears to be the ultimate target for his complaint, we wish to advise the public, our clients and prospective clients that our firm was not involved. Further (had it been) the call would have been treated with our usual cordial and courteous manner.

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