

Grant Promoted; Rosecrans Out

By MERTON T. AKERS
United Press International
A special train from the East pulled into the Indianapolis depot on Oct. 17, 1863 just as the Louisville train was about to pull out.
A messenger ran from the special and ordered the Louisville train held. Then a man left the special, hastened along the platform and swung aboard the Louisville train. There he met the ma. he wanted to see.
The man who hastily left the special train was U. S. Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. The man he greeted was Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. They never had met before. Furthermore Grant was in the dark about why he had been summoned all the way from Vicksburg, Miss., via Cairo, Ill., to meet "an officer of the War Department."

fading some place in western Kansas and the Indian Territory.
For Lincoln and Stanton it meant the first unified command in the West during the War and foreshadowed a Union national command to come.
It meant also to the President and the war secretary that they had found a general who fought the enemy where he found it and with the troops and war material he had. No excuses... no alibies... no carping about supplies... no unsolicited advice about how to run the government.
Lincoln now had in a key spot the general of whom he had said:
"I can't spare this man; he fights."
Talked All Day
Stanton and Grant arrived in Louisville in a cold drizzling rain and talked all day in the Salt house about the military problems in the West, chief of which was the plight of Rosecrans at Chattanooga. He was besieged by the Confederate Army of Tennessee under Gen. Braxton Bragg. Rosecrans army was recovering from its defeat at Chickamauga but food and forage was scarce.
The conference concluded, Stanton retired for the night. He had caught cold and his asthma returned. The general and Mrs. Grant went out to visit relatives in the evening.
While he was gone Stanton received a message from Charles A. Dana, assistant secretary of war, who was in Chattanooga. Unless prevented, he said Rosecrans would retreat from the key city.
Roused from sleep by the messenger, Stanton became agitated as he was likely to do

under stress. Where was Grant? Someone find him quickly! Guests and employees of the hotel were bidden to send the general to Stanton's room the moment he appeared.
"About eleven o'clock I returned to the hotel," Grant wrote in his memoirs, "and on my way, when near the house, every person I met was a messenger for the Secretary, apparently partaking of his impatience to see me. I hastened to the room of the Secretary and found him pacing the floor in his dressing gown."
"Saying the retreat must be prevented, he showed me the dispatch."
"I immediately wrote an order assuming command of the Division of the Mississippi, and telegraphed it to General Rosecrans. I then telegraphed to him the order from Washington assigning Thomas to the command of the Army of the Cumberland; and to Thomas that he must hold Chattanooga at all hazards."
Soon the answer came from Thomas.
"We will hold the town till we starve," "Old Pap" Thomas replied.
"I appreciated the force of this dispatch later when I witnessed the condition of affairs which prompted it," Grant wrote.
Couldn't Keep Secret
Rosecrans was out on an inspection tour when the order relieving him arrived. One of his generals, Gordon Granger, read it and laid it on Rosecrans' desk. But Granger could not keep the secret and told it under the seal of secrecy to Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield, chief of staff for Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, who rode into headquarters from Bridgeport, Ala., where reinforcements from the Army of the Potomac were stationed.
Rosecrans returned a bout dusk and read the order. He took it "coolly and composedly, exhibiting neither surprise nor chagrin," Col. John P. Sanderson of his staff reported.

THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR



LINCOLN'S ORDERS—On Oct. 17, 1863, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton met at Indianapolis with Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Stanton gave Grant two orders signed by President Lincoln and told him to accept whichever one he preferred. The orders were identical except for one provision. They made Grant chief of a new division of the Mississippi, comprising all Union armies west of the Allegheny Mountains except the command of Gen. N. P. Banks

THE Lighter Side...
BY DICK WEST
Englishmen Still Prefer Cricket

United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI) — In view of all that has been happening in England recently, it was reassuring to chat with three policewomen from that country.
The lady cops, who were here in a goodwill visit, were the very essence of stability and respectability.
I could tell that if they caught someone like Christine Keeler swimming in the nude they would pinch her immediately. As who wouldn't?
In fact, Miss Jean Stewart, who is a police superintendent on the Lancashire County force, brushed aside my query about the sex problem in England.
Prefers Cricket
She made it plain that the average Englishman still preferred cricket, so we talked about police business instead.
The superintendent and the other two policewomen, Winifred Cross and Sheila Origall, were driving an MG sports car, which is the same type of vehicle they use for patrol work back home.
Miss Stewart said lady cops in police-equipped sports cars were quite common in England. The Lancashire County force, which is the second largest in England, has been using policewomen on general duty since 1914 and now has 122 in its ranks.
I left the interview more convinced than ever that "there'll always be an England."

Portland University Enrollment Hits 1,750
PORTLAND (UPI) — Enrollment for the fall semester at the University of Portland was 1,750, final registration figures showed Saturday.
Enrollment for the fall semester last year was 1,756.

JFK, Pearson Discuss Great Lakes Dispute
WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy discussed the Great Lakes Maritime dispute Saturday with Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson and expressed hope that it can be settled "quickly, fairly and without further misunderstanding."

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Handed Two Orders
They introduced themselves and Stanton handed Grant two orders, signed by President Lincoln.
Stanton told Grant to accept whichever he preferred.
The orders were identical except for one provision. They made Grant chief of a new Division of the Mississippi, comprising all the Union armies west of the Allegheny Mountains except the command of Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks in the southwest.
One order left departmental commanders as they were. The other replaced Maj. Gen. Williams S. Rosecrans as head of Chattanooga, Tenn., by Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas.
Grant accepted the order replacing Rosecrans.
For Grant this was more than a dramatic meeting on a train and a promotion, as great as that was. It meant that Sam Grant, a captain the Army didn't want less than 10 years ago, now commanded more than half of the armies of the Republic in the vast area from the eastern mountains to a vague frontier

in the southwest. One order left departmental commanders as they were; the other replaced Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans as head of the Cumberland at Chattanooga. He was to be replaced by Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas. Grant accepted the order replacing Rosecrans. Here, in photos from the Department of the Interior, are from left, Thomas, Grant and Rosecrans. (UPI)

He had formulated a plan to break the stranglehold the Confederates had clamped on his supply line.
But the plight of Chattanooga was critical whether Rosecrans was planning to retreat or not and Grant applied himself to the problem.
He arrived at Thomas' headquarters on Oct. 23. He still was crippled from a fall off his horse in New Orleans several weeks before and walked with crutches. He had to be lifted on and off his horse.
Excellent Suggestions
On the way he had met Rosecrans at Stevenson, Ala.
"He made some excellent suggestions as to what should be done (in Chattanooga)," Grant wrote, adding, "my only wonder was that he had not carried them out."

Rosecrans sent for Thomas and when "Old Pap" arrived handed the dispatch to him without comment.
"Slowly and solemnly," Thomas read the order. Rosecrans reported, "turning pale and drawing his breath harder as he proceeded."
Rosecrans went on to say to Thomas that "no cloud of doubt will ever come into my mind as to your fidelity to friendship and honor."
Saying he could not bear to take leave of his troops, Rosecrans departed early the next morning for Cincinnati to await orders.
Rosecrans always denied that he was going to retreat from Chattanooga and attributed his removal from command to the ill will of Stanton and Grant.

Thomas received Grant coldly and so did other officers who had served with Rosecrans.
Colonel Sanderson wrote that "most of the officers and men feel cool, doubtful and distrustful." He thought Grant was "a clever and affable gentleman" but "not a great man."
The next day Grant, his staff, Thomas and Brig. Gen. W. F. (Baldy) Smith, engineering officer, went over the ground. At one point on the Tennessee River the party was within musket shot of a Confederate picket but was not fired on. Grant took this to mean the Rebels were confident they could take the city by stratagem.
Grant then ordered the supply line — "cracker line" the soldiers called it — opened at once, using the plan Rosecrans and his officers had worked out.

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