CHAPTER 18

ARKANSAS

Arkansas was admitted as a state in 1836. Despite a steady growth in population during the next twenty-five years she retained much of the flavor of a frontier community. Large areas remained wild and undeveloped, roads were generally poor, and the only railroad in the state, between Memphis and Little Rock, the state capital, was not finished until 1869. Arkansas had no cities and few towns were of any size; industry was almost nonexistent. Over 90 percent of the population in 1860 were farmers.

The white population in that year was 325,000 almost entirely American stock from the southeastern states. There were 111,000 Negroes, virtually all slaves employed on cotton plantations. There were no Indians, but Arkansas’ entire western border lay along the Indian Territory, an area peopled by semi-civilized tribes like the Choctaws, Cherokees, and Chickasaws and, further west, by the wilder Comanches, Pawnees, and Kiowas.

During our period of 1851-1872 Arkansas was divided into two militia divisions: the 1st covered the western portion with its Indian frontier while the 2nd embraced the remainder of the state. The enrolled militia was further broken down by counties: was inactive, untrained, and un-uniformed, and plays a very small part in this study.

Throughout the 1850’s the militia laws of Arkansas authorized the organization of four volunteer militia companies within each county, one each of artillery, cavalry, infantry, and light infantry. Most of the counties had no such commands, but in a few, like Pulaski and Phillips, there were by 1860 one or more volunteer companies of relative permanence. Most had been formed in the late 1850’s. No attempt was made to group these uniformed companies into battalions or regiments, and there probably were never enough in being at any time to do so. In 1860 there were, in Pulaski County, four independent companies: the Capital Guards (whose history went back to about 1840), an infantry corps commanded by Captain Gordon N. Peay, a cavalry company armed with lances and sabers under Captain Thos. J. Churchill, a light infantry corps raised by Captain Dan Ringo, Jr., and the Totten Artillery, later called the Pulaski Light Battery, under Captain W.E. Woodruff, Jr. All except perhaps Peay’s company were uniformed.

In addition to these volunteer companies, the military of Arkansas included the cadets of the Arkansas Military Institute at Tulip, in Dallas County. This school was chartered in 1850 and opened the following year with the Virginia Military Institute as its model. It closed its doors at the outbreak of the Civil War, the cadets forming Company I of the 3rd Arkansas Infantry. Another military school opened in Little Rock on the eve of the
war, called St. John's College. It had been planned and organized by Masons but the war cut its career short before it really got started.

On 21 January 1861 the governor approved two acts of the legislature reorganizing the militia and otherwise placing the state in a more defensible position. The raising of volunteer companies was encouraged and steps were taken to arm them, especially those companies already being raised along the western border.

**CONFEDERATE ARKANSAS**

Arkansas, in 1860, was a growing and prosperous state, and sentiment in favor of secession was far from unanimous. Indeed, in a few areas Unionist feeling predominated and continued to be uppermost throughout the Civil War. But by 15 January 1861 Southern sympathy was strong enough to induce Governor Henry M. Rector to sign a bill passed by the legislature calling for a convention of representatives of the people to decide the matter of secession. This body assembled on 4 March and adjourned on the 21st without reaching agreement. Recalled following the outbreak of war, it voted on 6 May to leave the Union. Thereupon it remained in session until the following month and, somewhat to the embarrassment of the Governor, undertook to prepare Arkansas for war.

Long before these events took place — indeed, over two months before Fort Sumter was fired upon — the state took its first military step toward rebellion. In its capital lay the Little Rock Arsenal, a U.S. government installation. For years it had been inactive, occupied only by an ordnance detachment. Unexpectedly, in November 1860, Company F, 2nd U.S. Artillery was moved from Kansas to Little Rock. The move alarmed Southern sympathizers and early the following February, three volunteer militia companies from the eastern part of Arkansas, accompanied by a clamoring mob of citizens, placed the Arsenal under virtual siege. The Governor was forced to intervene and on 8 February the garrison turned over the installation and its contents to Arkansas.

At about the same time a shipment of ordnance stores, enroute to posts on the Arkansas River, was seized at Napoleon; and in April, a year's supply of subsistence stores was intercepted at Pine Bluff, on the Arkansas. On the 23rd of that month a provisional regiment of volunteer militia commanded by Colonel Solon Borland seized Fort Smith, on the border of the Indian Territory.

As early as 22 April the Confederate Secretary of War requisitioned a regiment of infantry from Arkansas for service in Virginia. This the Governor felt powerless to provide until the convention had acted. But Theodore B. Flournoy and other wealthy residents of the state offered to provide one, and President Jefferson Davis authorized its formation. This regiment, organized in May, became the 1st (Fagan's) Volunteer Infantry.

When the convention reconvened in early May it found, then, two classes of regiments being formed without always a clear distinction between them. The first made up what
Fig. 219. Arkansas, Volunteer Militia, c. 1860-1862. 1st Lieutenant, Pulaski Battery, 1860: black hat; gray coat, brass buttons and gold shoulder straps; gray trousers, gold (?) stripe; black boots; scarlet sash; M1840 officer’s light artillery saber; brown leather binoculars case; white shirt, black cravat. Corporal, Jacksonville Guards, 1861: gray cap, black band; dark gray shirt with black letters and chevrons; light gray trousers; brown belt; black cravat; Derringer and converted flint-lock musket. Private, 1st Mounted Rifles, Dismounted (Churchills), 1862: Black or dark gray hat; gray woolen over-shirt; gray trousers (state clothing); black cravat; black waistbelt, brass plate; wooden canteen; black cartridge-box and shoulder belt; “common” rifle. Drummer, 6th Regiment, 1861-1862: old pattern forage cap with rainproof cover and yellow band; gray jacket, brass buttons; black silk cravat, light gray or brown trousers of home-made jean; and white drum sling. Western Frontier Militia, 1861; black or gray hat; white/gray undershirt; gray woolen shirt; brown pants, brown leather waistbelt and knife scabbard and ball pouch; percussion rifle. From photographs and descriptions.
was called the "Army of Arkansas," a force comprising men enlisted for six months for the defense of the state from invasion. This army embraced most of the former volunteer militia and its formation was already well under way. It comprised the 1st-5th State Regiments (one of which was mounted), two mounted rifle regiments, four or five batteries of light artillery, and possibly other organizations.

The other class was made up of regiments being formed for the Confederate service, whose men were enlisted for twelve months. The convention passed ordinances for the organization and equipment of both classes although it actually established only two regiments. But it did create a Military Board, consisting of the Governor and two advisors, and gave it "full power to call out the militia and volunteer forces of the state," plus other military powers and the sum of two million dollars.

On 30 May the convention also established a "home guard of minute men" to be composed of companies organized for three months service as needed. Their function was "to keep the slave population in proper subjection" and each county was to bear the cost of arming and equipping its share.

Spurred on by proclamations of the Military Board and other officials, and by the enthusiasm of the times, men flocked to the colors from all over the state. Companies poured into Little Rock and other centers where they found little done to receive them, and next to no arms and equipment. Nonetheless, regiments and battalions were raised until, by the end of 1861, Arkansas had formed for the Confederate service some thirty regiments and nine battalions of infantry, three regiments and five battalions of cavalry, and several batteries of light artillery.

Mobilization was attended by considerable confusion due to the methods by which commands were raised, the varying terms of enlistment, the distances involved, the threat of invasion from Missouri, and overall inexperience. Some regiments contained companies from all over the state, others were raised within a small area and at times for a specific purpose. A poor control was kept of designations with the result that much duplication of numbers existed in the Arkansas order of battle. If a command could not raise sufficient companies it was called a battalion and numbered in a separate series in both infantry and cavalry. Commands had to be identified by their commanders' names and often this was the only way by which they were known.

The bulk of the State Troops of the Arkansas Army were enroute to the battle of Wilson's Creek when, on 15 July, the state turned over the troops raised up until then (eight regiments of infantry, three regiments and one battalion of cavalry or mounted rifles, and five batteries of artillery) to the Confederate War Department. All but one of the State Regiments refused to transfer and were disbanded in September. The greater part of their men, however, enlisted in new volunteer regiments then being formed.

Arkansas was one of the eight "border states" of the Civil War, and one of the four that seceded. It was only a matter of time before Union forces crossed her borders and the occasion arrived following the battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn) in March 1862. During the following month virtually all Arkansas regiments remaining in the state (the Army of the West under General Van Dorn) were moved east of the Mississippi to reinforce the Confederate army in West Tennessee. Few of these regiments ever returned to Arkansas and the state was left defenseless save for some companies of militia and a few regiments in the Indian Territory.
To meet the Federal forces moving from the north, General T.C. Hindman began forming a new Trans-Mississippi Army in May 1862 which included several Arkansas regiments. In that state he raised thirteen regiments and one battalion of infantry, two regiments and one battalion of cavalry, and four batteries, all for the war. A considerable number of new independent irregular companies were also brought into service. The new infantry units were at first numbered in a separate “Trans-Mississippi” series, but later renumbered from 26th through 47th, with some gaps.

A large part of the Trans-Mississippi Army was destroyed in the disasters of December 1862 and January 1863, and by the general incompetence of the Confederate command in the state. Union victories in July further reduced its strength and enabled the Northern forces to assume the offensive. Arkansas lost eight regiments and one battalion of infantry at Port Hudson (some of which were reformed), and four regiments and two battalions at Vicksburg. Little Rock was occupied by Union forces in September 1863 and the Arkansas commands were pulled back into the southwest corner of the state, there to remain through several campaigns until the end of the war.

Clothing

Very little has been discovered about the uniforms worn by Arkansas volunteer militia. Each company, of course, selected and procured its own garb. The state issued no regulations governing military dress until January 1861, when the legislature ruled that militia officers must wear the same uniform as the U.S. Army, “except commissioned officers of companies, who shall be allowed to adopt any uniform which they may see proper.”

The cadets of the Arkansas Military Institute apparently copied the gray dress and fatigue uniforms of the Virginia Military Institute, which in turn closely resembled those worn at West Point. At least one volunteer militia corps — the Totten Artillery of Little Rock — adopted gray.

The state was as unprepared to manufacture uniforms as it was to produce all other forms of military equipment. A clothing factory, far in its southwest corner, near Nashville, Arkansas, was the only one of its kind until a second was improvised about 1862 at Little Rock.

All the clothing of the regiments raised in early 1861 was improvised and largely homemade. The companies raised in Little Rock and other towns or heavily populated counties tended to adopt a uniform of gray coats or jackets and trousers faced in such colors as red, black, or green. Loose cotton shirts or hunting blouses, generally of gray or brown and often trimmed with colored facings or fringe, were also popular. Trousers were usually gray woolen “Kentucky jeans” or woolen plaid jeans. The bulk of the volunteers, farmers by occupation, arrived at musters in what for many of them would be the only uniform available for many months — their everyday working and hunting clothes. The acquisition of a belt-knife or pistol and the addition of a badge for his hat or facing material for the coat or jacket satisfied, for the time being, the volunteer’s desire
Fig. 220. Arkansas, 1st (Fagan's) Volunteer Infantry Regiment, 1861. From a woodcut in Harper's Weekly, 9 November 1861.

for a martial appearance. Certainly clothing was not uniform within a regiment and probably not so even within most companies. The lack of uniforms or uniformity in the early months of the War was always very apparent. Some steps were taken to identify the state troops, including Arkansas, which served with Generals Sterling Price and Benjamin McCulloch in Missouri and Arkansas in 1861. The Rock Island Register, of Rock Island, Illinois, noted on 11 September 1861:

The uniform of the Confederate army [of the West] is multiform. They are not uniformed at all, and generally speaking, it is impossible to distinguish a Colonel from a private. The only mark of distinction about them, except for their arms, is a piece of flannel stitched to the left shoulder. I was told that white flannel was the distinguishing mark of the Missouri troops, yellow that of Arkansas, red that of Louisiana, and so on. Of course this only applies to the Southwest.

When it agreed on 15 July 1861 to transfer the Arkansas commands to the Confederacy, the Military Board also agreed to furnish the men with clothing and to be recompensed by the War Department at commutation rates. The usual clothing provided seems to have been frock coats and pants of jean, with gray forage caps. Later this changed to jackets and felt hats. A description of the men of Liddell's brigade (Cleburne's division of Hardee's corps, Army of Tennessee) in June 1863 probably goes for all Arkansas infantry in the Confederate service east of the Mississippi: "The men are good-sized, healthy and well clothed, though without any attempt at uniformity in color or cut, but nearly all were dressed either in gray or brown coats and felt hats . . . many of the soldiers had taken off their coats and marched past the general in their shirt sleeves . . ."
Fig. 221. Arkansas, Example of Local Clothing. Private (or Sergeant) William T. Ussery, 10th Volunteer Infantry, 1861: black or gray hat; gray coat trimmed with white, brass buttons; gray trousers; black waistbelt with U.S. plate; cutlass pistol, percussion. Although mustered in as a sergeant, no recognized insignia of rank is visible. From a photograph.

Fig. 222. Five unidentified Arkansas Volunteers in typical jackets and brimmed hats. From photograph, courtesy of the Arkansas History Commission (2746).
While the new Trans-Mississippi Army was being formed in the latter part of 1862, General T.H. Holmes established a central bureau for receiving and distributing clothing. Suppliers were asked to submit

... the quantity, quality, and prices of such articles as Woolen or cotton socks, flannel or hickory shirts, woolen or lindsay drawers, cotton flannel drawers, woolen pants or jackets, jean pants, jean coats, woolen coats, Overcoats, satinette coats, Satinette or coarse cloth, blanket coats, blankets, boots, shoes, Wove hats or caps.

Contributions were also sought to be forwarded to regiments or particular individuals. This did a fair job of supplying much needed clothing up to the end of the War. No serious attempt was made toward uniformity.

In describing clothing hereafter, the term "local clothing" refers to garments obtained by companies in their home areas, "state clothing" to that provided by Arkansas and "CS clothing" to that issued by the Confederate War Department.

**Insignia**

The seal of the state used throughout the 1850's and until 1864 was a slightly modified form of that adopted when Arkansas was a territory. It consisted of a shield containing symbols of commerce and farming, flanked by two eagles and surmounted by the Goddess of Liberty within a ring of 13 stars. Underneath the shield were cornucopias and the legend "REGNANT POPULI."

In May 1864 the new pro-Union Arkansas legislature, then sitting at Little Rock, adopted a new Great Seal. It differed from the earlier one in displaying a single eagle on whose breast was almost the same shield as used earlier. On the eagle's left was a sword of justice, and on its right an angel clearly labelled "MERCY." Above, in a sunburst, was Liberty within the stars. This seal was used throughout the remainder of our period.

In the Smithsonian Institution is a large oval belt buckle bearing the pre-1864 seal, said to have been worn by Surgeon J.E. Nagel, C.S. Army. An identical plate, worn by Captain C.C. Scott of the Arkansas Appeal Battery, is in the Museum of the Confederacy, and perhaps two others exist. It is thus possible to place this insignia in the Civil War period although we have no record of its authorization or manufacture. It is the only insignia, except buttons, that bore a state device.

Both seals are represented on military buttons. The earlier pattern, with the two eagles (Albert, AK 61), was worn prior to 1861 and probably saw use during the Civil War since it was sold by Hyde & Goodrich of New Orleans. This button was produced in two sizes. Again, there is no record of its authorization.

The 1864 state seal appeared on buttons manufactured after 1872 and there is no indication that these arms were used on insignia during our period. A most interesting regimental button, of local Confederate manufacture, is known (Albert, AK 62). It is brass, .9 inch in diameter, with a small five-pointed star in the center, around which is the inscription: "CSA. 2D ARK. RGT." Why this regiment received a distinctive button, and at what time, remains a mystery.
Fig. 223. Arkansas, 8th-19th Regiments, showing regimental standard. *Clothing:* the usual mixture of gray, black, brown, and light blue, hats, caps, and Southern (and captured U.S.) accouterments and weapons. *The flag:* blue with white border and oval, white lettering on field, device and lettering in oval, black. In Arkansas First State Capitol, Little Rock, Ark.
Fig. 224. Sergeant Joseph V. Bogy, Arkansas Light Artillery, after a photograph furnished by Dr. Louis T. Bogy, a descendant. This is one of the few photographs that show a Confederate enlisted man in an 1861 dress uniform. It could be accepted as such except for the fact that it was taken in Mobile, Ala., and, according to his memoirs, Bogy visited that city only late in the war. He had served since December 1861, was planning marriage, and perhaps found opportunity on leave in Mobile to buy a new outfit. Note the buttons of bone or wood.
Small Arms and Accouterments

Arkansas regularly drew arms and accouterments from the general government until 1860. The state at first kept its reserve of ordnance at Tulip, in Dallas County. Then, about 1855, the stores were moved to the U.S. Arsenal in Little Rock. The stock was never large and the weapons on the whole were old models. On the other hand, most if not all companies of the Arkansas volunteer militia were carrying percussion rifles or muskets of some sort by 1861. One company at least, the Phillips County Volunteers, purchased fifty converted muskets on its own from the St. Louis Arsenal. These were delivered in November 1860.

Accouterments, all at first of U.S. patterns, were as scarce as arms. When war came the supply quickly ran out and all sorts of substitutes were tried. Independent leather workers supplied belts and cartridge boxes until and even after the state set up its own accouterment shops in Little Rock.

There were about one thousand serviceable percussion weapons in reserve in January 1861 when the legislature began to prepare Arkansas for possible war. To increase the supply it appointed two commissioners to purchase arms in the North. The sum of $100,000 was appropriated and $36,000 was actually spent. Cincinnati was designated as an assembly point for shipment to Arkansas. Later, after the arms were assembled there, it was discovered that they had been seized by local authorities.

The capture of Little Rock Arsenal in February 1861 netted the state 10,000 stand of arms. All but about 400 of these were flintlocks — muskets mainly although some Hall flintlock rifles were included. Subsequent seizures gave Arkansas a small supply of small arms ammunition and saddlery. The Military Board distributed 7,500 of the arms to the five six-month state regiments and to other commands forming throughout the state. The remainder were shipped to General Ben McCulloch who was assembling a force in northwestern Arkansas.

Thus, perhaps only one in twenty Arkansas soldiers carried a military percussion weapon in 1861, and many were not fortunate enough to receive a military arm of any sort. Shotguns, flintlock muskets, and country rifles were the usual arms, and all varieties might be found in a single company. Although officers raising regiments went to extraordinary lengths to secure serviceable weapons for their men, they were rarely successful. In general, the cavalry was worse off in this respect than the infantry.

The Trans-Mississippi infantry raised in 1862 were, by October of that year, supplied by the Confederacy with Richmond rifle muskets. The cavalry, on the other hand, had little more than double-barrel shotguns. Supplies of arms from the Confederacy probably continued to come in until mid-1863. When they ceased, Arkansas, as in its first year, was left much to its own devices in the matter of ordnance. Regiments serving east of the Mississippi, of course, were supplied in common with other Confederate units.

Following its seizure by the state, Little Rock Arsenal remained inactive until August 1862, its machinery having been moved by Confederate ordnance authorities to Arkadelphia and Camden. Then the installation was revived as an official ordnance station for the manufacture of ammunition and repair of arms. No arms were made there. It was evacuated in September 1863.
Small ordnance works and depots were established at Arkadelphia and Camden, both on the Washita River in southwestern Arkansas, early in the war. These establishments supported the Trans-Mississippi forces by altering, repairing, and storing arms until late in 1863. A fourth shop for arms repair was set up at Fort Smith. By October 1863 all their machinery, tools, stores, and workmen had been moved to Texas.

The Arkansas infantryman was especially fond of carrying a side or bowie knife and some mounted men also used them. Earlier knives were long, sometimes three feet or more, but the fashion changed in time and most soldiers confined themselves to short side knives of a utilitarian pattern. Soldiers carrying weapons of civilian origin were dependent upon knives, of course, to take the place of bayonets, and many an Arkansas infantryman was in this position.

**Flags**

Arkansas did not officially adopt a state flag until 1913. However, a state seal existed, as already mentioned, and may have been used on flags. There is record of only one Arkansas flag that dates from before the Civil War, a U.S. cavalry standard. It was the one presented to the Capital Guards of Little Rock in 1846, which later became Pike’s Company E of Yell’s Arkansas Cavalry in the Mexican War.

The principal collection of Arkansas military flags exists in the flag gallery of the First State Capitol in Little Rock, where about twenty date from the period of the Civil War. Perhaps a dozen other specimens exist in other collections, often in fragments. No state orders or regulations governing their design have been found. Not until 1976, when Michael Madaus published his work on the battle flags of the Army of Tennessee (cited below) was any readable material in print on the subject.

Even now the story of Arkansas battle flags remains obscure. It seems that several patterns were in use at one time or another.

In late 1861 a distinctive battle flag was adopted by General William J. Hardee for regiments of his original brigade (5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Arkansas). It has been described above (p. 478) but the details can be repeated. The size was about 3 x 3.5 feet; it had a light or medium blue field with a broad white border of from three to four inches. In the center was a rough white oval, about 12 inches high and 15 inches across, on which the regimental designation was painted. Battle honors were later painted or sewn on various parts of the flag — black on the white portions, white on the blue. Most if not all these flags were made of bunting.

According to General Hardee, it was carried by the regiments of General Patrick R. Cleburne’s division throughout the Civil War by special permission of the Confederate War Department. “Friends and foes,” wrote Hardee, “soon learned to watch the course of the blue flag that marked where Cleburne was in battle.” Its use was not restricted to Arkansas regiments, however, and in all likelihood it was quite widely used in the Confederate Armies of the Mississippi and of the Tennessee.
The two regiments serving in Virginia (1st and 3rd Arkansas) undoubtedly carried the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag while there. Finally, at least one of the Trans-Mississippi regiments (30th Arkansas) raised in 1862 carried the “Polk type” battle flag (see pages 477-78 and Fig. 151.a.), which resembled the Hardee type but had a white St. Andrews cross instead of the oval.
ORDER OF BATTLE: STATE TROOPS

(Local clothing plus certain distinctive uniforms worn before 1861. Inf armed with variety of US reg small arms; 3rd Regt [Cav] indifferently armed.)

- 1st State Regt (redesig) 1861
- 15th Vol Inf Regt (Cleburne's; Polk's) 1861-1865
- 2nd State Regt (Gratiot's; also called 3rd State Regt) 1861
- 3rd State Regt (Carroll's; 1st State Cav) 1861
- 4th State Regt (Walker's) 1861
- 5th State Regt (Dockery's) 1861
- Reid's and Woodruff's [Pulaski] Btrys. Light Arty 1861

MILITARY SCHOOLS

- Arkansas Military Institute (Tulip) 1850-1861

EMBODIED MILITIA

(Not uniformed and very poorly armed and accoutered.)

- 1st Regt (McCaleb's) 1 mo, 1861
- 2nd Regt 1 mo, 1861
- 5th Regt, Provisional Army c. 1 mo. 1861
- 7th Regt, Provisional Army c. 1 mo. 1862
- 10th Regt (May's) 1 mo, 1862
- 13th Regt (Peyton's) (?) 1862
- 15th Regt (Williamson's) (?) 1862
- 21st Regt (Query's) (?)
- 45th Regt (Leslie's) 1 mo, 1861
- 50th Regt 1 mo, 1861
- 51st Regt, Provisional Army 1 mo, 1862
- 58th Regt, Provisional Army (?)
- 62nd Regt, Provisional Army (?)
- Desha County Bn (?)

(All commands hereafter listed were probably initially given local clothing, at least through 1861. From 1862 on, regiments serving east of the Mississippi received CS clothing; those west, state clothing. Small arms were very mixed and of poor quality until early 1862.)

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

- 1st Regt (Crawford's; also called 10th Cav Regt) 1863-1865
- 1st Regt (Fagan's; Monroe's; also called 6th Cav Regt) 1862-1865
- 1st Regt Mounted Rifles (Churchill's) 1861-1865
  (Dismounted in 1862?)
  Initially armed mainly with flintlock muskets and conversions; one comp carried lance; local clothing. Feb 1862: issued woolen blouse or "overshirt" and pants (state clothing). July 1862: CS clothing and improved arms.
- 1st Bn (Brooks'; Stirman's) 1862-1863
  (Dismounted and served as sharpshooters)
- 1st Bn Mounted Vols (Borland's; Arkansas Riflemen; reorgan as 3rd Cav Regt) 1861-1862
- 1st Bn Arkansas and Louisiana Cav: see 1st Bn Trans-Mississippi Cav, under CSA order of battle
- 2nd Regt (Morgan's): see 8th Cav Regt
- 2nd Regt (Slemont's; formed by consol 2nd and 6th Cav Bns; also called 4th Cav Regt; reorgan as 18th 1862-1864 [McMurtry's] Cav Bn)
- 2nd Regt Mounted Rifles (McInosh's Arkansas Rifles) 1861-1865
- 2nd Bn (Barnett's; merged into 2nd Cav Regt) 1862
ORDER OF BATTLE: VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (continued)

- 3rd Regt (Borland's; formed from 1st [Borland's] Bn) 1862-1865
  (Dismounted 1862; remounted same year)
- 4th Regt: see Gordon's Regt
- 5th Regt: see 8th Cav Regt
- 6th Regt: see 1st (Fagan's) Cav Regt
- 6th Bn (White's; Phifer's; McNeill's; also called 1st Cav Bn; merged into 2nd Cav Regt) 1861-1862
- 7th Regt (Hill's; formerly Hill's Cav Bn) 1863-1865
- 8th Regt (Newton's; Morgan's; formerly 5th Cav Regt; also called 2nd Cav Regt) 1862-1865
- 9th Regt: see Gordon's Cav Regt
- 10th Regt: see 1st (Crawford's) Cav Regt
- 11th Regt: see Gordon's Cav Regt
- 12th Regt: see Wright's Cav Regt
- 13th Bn (Witherspoon's; O'Neil's; merged into 1st [Fagan's] Cav Regt) 1861-1862
- 15th Bn: see Buster's Cav Bn
- 16th Bn: see Witherspoon's Cav Bn
- 17th Bn: see Harrell's Bn
- 18th Bn (McMurtrey's; formerly 2nd Cav Regt) 1864-1865
- Anderson's Bn 1864
- Borland's Regt: see 3rd Cav Regt
- Brooks' Bn: see 1st Cav Bn
- Buster's Bn (also called 15th Cav Bn) 1863-1864 (?)
- Carlton's Regt 1864
- Carroll's Regt: see Gordon's Cav Regt
- Chrisman's Bn (merged into Dobbin's Cav Regt) 1862-1863
- Crawford's Regt: see 1st (Crawford's) Cav Regt
- Crawford's Bn: see Harrell's Cav Bn
- Dobbin's Regt (formed from Chrisman's Bn; also called 1st Cav Regt) 1863-1865
- Ford's Bn 1864-1865 (?)
- Gipson's Bn Mounted Riflemen 1862
- Gordon's Regt (also called Carroll's Regt and Thomson's Regt; also 1st, 2nd, 4th, 9th and 11th Cav Regt) 1862-1865
- Gunter's Bn 1864-1865
- Harrell's Bn (organ as Crawford's Cav Bn; also called 17th Cav Bn) 1863-1864
- Hill's Cav Bn: see 7th Cav Regt
- McMurtrey's Bn 1864-1865
- Morgan's Regt: see 8th Cav Regt
- Newton's Regt: see 8th Cav Regt
- Phifer's Bn: see 6th Cav Bn
- Poe's Bn 1862-1864 (?)
- Stirman's Bn: see 1st (Brooks') Cav Bn
ORDER OF BATTLE: VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (continued)

- Thomson's Regt: see Gordon's Cav Regt
- White's Bn: see 6th Cav Bn
- Witherspoon's Bn (also called 16th Cav Bn) 1863-1864 (?)
- Wright's Regt (formerly Wright's Cav Bn; also called 12th Cav Regt) 1862-1865

VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY

- Shoup's Bn 1861-1862
  (Included Swett's, Trigg's, Hubbard's Btrys, etc.)
- Blocher's Bn 1865
  (Included 1st, 3rd, 5th [Appeal], 6th, 7th, 9th Btrys)
- Hill's Bn 1863

(There were, altogether, some twenty btrys of light arty, called by either number or name, or both. Most remained in an independent status throughout the war.)

VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

- 1st (Cleburne's) State Regt: see 1st State Regt, STATE TROOPS
- 1st Regt (Fagan's; Colquitt's; in 1865 was one of 11 regts consol to form 1st Consol Regt) 1861-1865
  By 1864 was carrying Hardee type battle flag.
- 1st Consol Arkansas Inf Vols (formed from remnants of regts paroled at Port Hudson) 1864-1865
- 1st Bn (Marmaduke's; reorgan as 18th Inf Regt) 1861
- 1st (Rector's) War Regt: see 35th Inf Regt 1861-1865
- 2nd Regt (Hindman's; Govan's; later called Hindman Legion) 1861-1865
- 2nd Consol Arkansas Inf Vols (formed from remnants of regts paroled at Port Hudson) 1864-1865
- 2nd Bn (merged into 3rd Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 3rd Regt (Rust's; Manning's) 1861-1865
  ANV battle flag
- 3rd Bn (McRae's; expanded to regt; reorgan as 15th [McRae's] Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 4th Regt (McNair's; South Arkansas Regt) 1861-1865
  Shotguns, "squirrel rifles," and flintlock muskets until Sept 1862 when issued captured M1855 rifle; initially almost no accouterments. May 1863: described as wearing "reddish homespun and broad-brimmed wool hats."
- 4th Bn: see 5th Inf Bn 1861-1865
- 5th Regt (Cross') 1861-1865
  Hardee type battle flag. Initially issued flintlock musket. 1863: Enfield rifle.
- 5th Bn (Terry's; also called 4th Inf Bn) 1861-1865
- 6th Regt (Lyon's) 1861-1865
  Ouchita Grays (Comp K): gray roundabout and pants, trimmed with green, glazed caps. Camden City Guards: gray roundabout and pants trimmed with red, glazed caps. Hardee type battle flag to 1864; later special type. Initially issued flintlock musket. April 1862: Enfield rifle musket and accouterments.
- 7th Regt (Shaver's; merged into 6th Inf Regt) 1861-1864
  Hardee type battle flag. Initially issued flintlock musket. April 1862: Enfield rifle musket and accouterments.
- 7th Bn (Desha's; merged into 8th Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 8th Regt (Patterson's; consol with Dawson's 19th Inf Regt in 1863) 1861-1865
  Hardee type battle flag
- 8th and 19th Regts (temporary consol) 1863
- 8th Bn (Jones'; also called 1st or 2nd Inf Bn) 1862-1863
- 9th Regt (The Parson's Regt; Bradley's) 1861-1865
  Converted muskets till April 1862 when issued captured Enfield rifles. (Flag exists; not seen)
ORDER OF BATTLE: VOLUNTEER INFANTRY (continued)

- 9th Bn (merged into 8th Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 10th Regt (Merrick's) 1861-1865
  Converted muskets till April 1862 when issued captured Enfield rifles.
- 10th Bn (Scott's) ?
- 11th Regt (Smith's; consol with Rector's 17th Inf Regt to form 11th and 17th Consol Regts) ( Mounted in 1863) 1861-1865
- 11th Bn (B.G. Johnson's; reorgan as 25th Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 12th Regt (Gaunt's) 1861-1864
- 12th Bn Sharpshooters (Jackson's) 1862-1865
- 13th Regt (Tappan's; consol with 5th Inf Regt) 1861-1863
- 14th Regt (McCarver's; consol with Lemoyne's 17th Inf Regt to form 21st Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 14th Regt (Mitchell's; merged into 23rd Inf Regt) 1861-1863
- 15th Regt (McRae's; Hobbs'; Boone's; consol with Fagan's 1st Inf Regt; usually called Northwest 15th Regt; also called 21st Inf Regt) 1862-1864
- 15th Regt (Cleburne's): see 1st State Regt, STATE TROOPS 1862-1865
- 15th Regt (Gee's; Johnson's) 1861-1865
- 16th Regt (Hill's) 1861-1863
- 17th Regt (Lemoyne's; consol with McCarver's 14th Inf Regt to form 21st Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 17th Regt (Rector's; consol with 11th Inf Regt) (Mounted in 1863; flag exists, not seen) 1861-1863
- 18th Regt (Carroll's) 1862-1865
- 18th Regt (Marmaduke's; formerly 1st Inf Bn; reorgan as 3rd Confederate Inf Regt) 1861-1862
- 19th (Smead's; Dockery's; consol with other corps to form 3rd Consol Regt) 1862-1864
- 19th (Dockery's; consol with 8th Inf Regt in 1863) Hardee type battle flag 1861-1865
- 20th Regt (King's; formerly 22nd Inf Regt; consol with other corps to form 3rd Consol Regt) M1861 CSA flag 1862-1864
- 21st Regt (Craven's; formed by consol of McCarver's 14th and Lemoyne's 17th Inf Regts) 1862-1864
- 22nd Regt: see 20th Inf Regt 1862-1865
- 23rd Regt (Adams'; Lyles') (Mounted in 1863) 1862-1865
- 24th Regt (Portlock's; consol with 2nd Inf Regt) 1862-1864
- 25th Regt (Turnbull's; formerly 11th Inf Bn; also called 30th Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 26th Regt (Morgan's; 3rd Trans-Mississippi Regt) Richmond rifle musket 1862-1864
- 27th Regt (Shaler's; Gaither's) 1862-1864
- 28th Regt (2nd Trans-Mississippi Regt; McRae's Emergency Regt; reorgan as 36th Inf Regt) Richmond rifle musket 1862
- 29th Regt (Pleasant's 1st Trans-Mississippi Regt; reorgan as 37th Inf Regt) Richmond rifle musket 1862
- 30th Regt (McNeill's; Hart's; Ragan's; 5th Trans-Mississippi Regt; also called 39th Inf Regt) Richmond rifle musket. Polk type battle flag. 1862-1863
- 31st Regt (McCay's; Sharpshooters) 1862-1865
Fig. 228. Arkansas, 1st Union Cavalry, 1864-1865. U.S. regulation clothing. Starr's breechloading carbine; regulation accouterments.
ORDER OF BATTLE: VOLUNTEER INFANTRY (continued)

- 32nd Regt (Gause's 4th Trans-Mississippi Regt)
  Richmond rifle musket 1862-1865
- 33rd Regt (Grinstead's) 1862-1865
- 34th Regt (Brooks'; also called 2nd Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 35th Regt (King's; Rector's; 1st or Rector's War Regt; McCord's; also called 22nd Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 36th Regt (Glenn's; Davies'; McRae's; formed from 28th Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 37th Regt (Bell's; formed from 29th Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 38th Regt (Shaver's; also called 31st Inf Regt) 1862-1865
- 39th Regt: see 30th Inf Regt
- 40th - 44th Regts: not raised 1864-1865
- 45th Regt (Baber's; mounted) 1864-1865
- 46th Regt (Coleman's; mounted) 1864-1865
- 47th Regt Mounted Inf (Crandall's) 1862-1863
- Adams' Bn (also called 3rd Inf Regt) 1862-1863
- Cocke's Regt: see A.W. Johnson's Regt
- Crawford's Bn 1862-1863
- Hawthorne's Regt: see A.W. Johnson's Regt
- A.W. Johnson's Regt (also called Hawthorne's, Polk's, and Cocke's Inf Regt) 1862-1864 (?)
- B.G. Johnson's Bn: see 11th Inf Bn
- McCray's Bn: see 31st Inf Regt
- Polk's Regt: see A.W. Johnson's Regt
- Rector's Regt: see 35th Inf Regt
- Williamson's Bn 1862-1863 (?)

(All Confederate Indian commands are listed in the order of battle of Confederate States regts and bns.)

UNION ARKANSAS

The substantial Unionist sentiment in Arkansas found no way to express itself by action during the first year of the Civil War. But after the battle of Pea Ridge, when some northern portions of the state fell into Federal hands, men of these sympathies began to appear within the Union lines and enlist in various regiments. In May 1862 Captain LaRue Harrison undertook to organize a cavalry company made up of Arkansas men for a Missouri regiment. It became immediately apparent that enough men for a full regiment could be obtained and, after authority of the War Department had been secured, the 1st Arkansas Volunteer Cavalry was raised for three years or the war and mustered in August.

Subsequently, three more cavalry regiments, plus three of infantry or mounted infantry, and a battery of light artillery were raised in the state, not, however, without some confusion and difficulty. A military governor was appointed in July 1862 but the
office was abolished a year later. A provisional state government was established in January 1864 and a more permanent one followed in April, with its capital in Little Rock. A local militia was organized in the areas held by the Union army in early 1865; as many as sixty-three companies were authorized although not all were successfully raised. These companies, never organized into higher commands and all of them infantry, protected loyal communities against bushwackers and guerrillas and, at times, Confederate raiders. Most of them were disbanded following General E. Kirby Smith's surrender in May 1865.

The first Arkansas Negro regiment was organized and mustered in during May 1863. It was designated the 1st Regiment Arkansas Infantry, African Descent. A second regiment was raised during that fall and a third was organized about the same time composed of Arkansas Negroes in St. Louis. Recruiting began in the western areas of the state and still another regiment was organized at Fort Smith, commencing in December 1863. A total of seven infantry regiments and a battery of light artillery were raised from colored men in the state.

Arkansas Union regiments were furnished U.S. Army clothing, insignia, arms, and accouterments of a decidedly mixed variety. No record has been found of the colors they carried, but it can be assumed these were of regulation pattern.

**ORDER OF BATTLE: VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (UNION)**

- **1st Regt**
  - Initially issued muskets, probably conversions.
  - 1862: M1841 and M1855 rifle; some Enfield rifles.
  - 1864: Starr carbine, Colt navy revolver, Pettingill and Remington army revolvers; M1840 saber.
- **1st Regt Mounted Rangers**
  - (reorgan and redesig) 1862-1863
- **2nd Regt**
  - 1862: M1841 and M1855 rifle; later Cosmopolitan, Burnside, Gallager, Smith and Sharps carbines; Colt and Remington army revolvers; M1840 saber.
- **3rd Regt**
  - 1864-1865
  - Initially issued “light French rifle,” cal .577, and Cosmopolitan, Gallaher and Sharps carbines; Remington army and navy revolvers. 1864: Starr carbine; Colt and Remington army revolvers; M1840 saber.
- **4th Regt**
  - 1863-1865
  - 1864: armed with M1861 rifle musket and Enfield rifle, Prussian muskets (cal .69-.72), US muskets (cal .69), Hall carbine, Sharps carbine; no sabers.

**VOLUNTEER LIGHT ARTILLERY (UNION)**

- Btry A. 1st Regt (also 1st Independent Btry; Easter’s Btry; Stark’s Btry) 1863-1865

**VOLUNTEER INFANTRY (UNION)**

- **1st Bn**
  - 6 mos. 1862
- **1st Regt**
  - 1863-1865
  - 1863: “Dresden” and “Suhl” cal .58 rifled muskets, which were largely replaced by Enfield rifles in 1864-1865.
- **2nd Regt**
  - 1864-1865: Enfield rifle.
- **3rd Regt**
  - failed to complete orgn
- **4th Regt Mounted Inf** (1 comp only; merged into 2nd Inf Regt) 1864-1865: Springfield rifled muskets. 1864
**VOLUNTEER CORPS, AFRICAN DESCENT**

(All Negro commands raised in the state were issued US clothing, arms and accoutrements.)

- 1st Btry. Arkansas Light Arty, a.d. (redesig) 1864
- 1st Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1863-1864
  1863: Austrian rifled muskets, cal .54 or .55.
- 2nd Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1863-1864
- 54th Regt Inf, U.S.C.T. 1864-1866
  1863: US Rifles M1840; some M1842 smoothbore muskets. 1864: Springfield rifled muskets; “Dresden” and “Suhl” rifled muskets; Enfield rifles with saber bayonets.
- 3rd Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1863-1864
- 56th Regt Inf, U.S.C.T. 1864-1866
  1864: Enfield rifle.
- 4th Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1863-1864
- 57th Regt Inf, U.S.C.T. 1864-1866
  1863: Comp F armed with M1842 smoothbore muskets. 1864: Enfield rifle.
- 5th Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1864
- 112th Regt Inf, U.S.C.T. (merged into 113th Regt Inf) 1864-1865
  1864: Enfield rifle.
- 6th Arkansas Inf, a.d. (redesig) 1864
- 113th Regt Inf (old), U.S.C.T. (reorgan) 1864-1865
- 113th Regt Inf (new), U.S.C.T. 1865-1866
  1864: Enfield rifle.

**U.S. COLORED TROOPS RAISED IN ARKANSAS**

  1863: Comp C armed with M1842 smoothbore muskets. 1864: Springfield rifled muskets and Enfield rifle.

**SOURCES**


Adjutant General, Arkansas (Union), *Report . . . for the Period of the Late Rebellion, and to November 1, 1866*, Washington, D.C. (Senate Misc. Doc. No. 53, 39th Cong. 2d Session), 1867. No reports of the Arkansas Adjutant General under the Confederacy have been found.


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