



# Lee's Dispatch



## Captain Bob Lee SCV Camp 2198

Volume 1, Issue 8

[www.captboblee.org](http://www.captboblee.org)

June 15, 2012

### Commander's Report

By Doug Garnett

We are in the middle of the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States (WTBS). 150 years since the war. The Sesquicentennial has brought out a new interest in the WTBS.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans find themselves in a wonderful position to recruit new members and correct decades of propaganda being taught in public schools.

The southern soldier was not the evil person as history has presented through the years. These men were, for the majority, honest, God fearing, family men, who left their families, their farms, and their homes to protect their lands from what they perceived as an invading foreign army.

Am I telling you anything new? No you already knew these facts. I am just reminding you why we are here. We all want to remember our southern heritage. We want to renew the pride in being southern.

We must stand up for the ancestors. No longer allow them to be vilified by a slanted history. Our lives have been shaped by the acts and sacrifices of our ancestors.

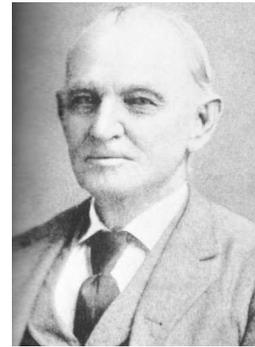
A few days ago the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D day passed quietly by. The passage not only left me sad to see very little done or said about it on the news but I was also wondering how people, veterans, families and historians felt in 1933 as the WTBS veterans were passing away. Our ancestors, our history fades from memory all too fast. We must remember not only those who stood to during their countries call 150 years ago but lets also remember those who have answered that same call through out our countries history. HONOR OUR VETERANS, for we loose them all too fast.

Lee's Dispatch is the official newsletter for the Sons of Confederate Veterans Captain Bob Lee Camp 2198 and is intended for the sole purpose of keeping the camp members and friends of the camp informed to the activities and news of Camp 2198. Statements in this newsletter are those of the author and may not reflect the opinions of the Captain Bob Lee Camp, editor or the National Sons of Confederate Veterans. Within articles or quotes written by outside authors mistakes in spelling, grammar or sentence structure are strictly those of the author and have been left as is.



See page 6B. One is tomorrow.

### General Henry Eustace McCulloch



MCCULLOCH, HENRY EUSTACE (1816-1895)

Henry was an early pioneer, Mason, Texas Ranger, and Confederate officer. During his time as a Texas Ranger he fought Mexican nationals and Comanches. He was elected sheriff of Gonzales. During the Mexican War and afterward, he served as a captain of a volunteer company guarding the Indian frontier. After Texas joined the United States he served in the State Legislature severing terms in both houses. He served as a Confederate officer during the Civil War. Given the rank of colonel by the Confederate Congress, McCulloch organized the First Regiment, Texas Mounted Riflemen, in 1861. This body of troops slowed down penetration of the western frontier by Indians through a system of patrols and small scale engagements. After promotion to brigadier general, McCulloch commanded the Northern SubDistrict of Texas, headquartered in Bonham Texas, from 1863 to the end of the war. In this role he faced the threats of Indian raids and the movement of Union forces. He also had to deal with the activities of draft dodgers, deserters, and bushwhackers. Henry continued to serve Texas after the war was over in various capacities.

## THE JEWISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE CONFEDERACY

Marc Jordan Ben-Meir, PhD

Part-5 The Conclusion

Many brothers faithfully served the South. The Moses brothers of South Carolina serve as an excellent example. Brothers Joshua Lazarus Moses, Isaac Harby Moses, and Perry Moses joined at the very beginning of the conflict. Joshua Moses was killed at Fort Blakely near Mobile, Perry survived the war and was active in the Confederate Veterans. He served as Commandant of his camp in Sumter, SC. And died in 1916. Isaac Harby Moses served as a private in the Citadel Cadet Rangers and was known as "Lord Shafsbury" because of his scholarly style of writing (12).

The Myers brothers of Richmond, Herman, Isadora, and Marx also served together in Company A, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia (Richmond Grays). Marx was killed at Manassas. (13).

Pvt. Morris Leon was a German immigrant whose parents and most of his siblings lived in New York. He and his brother Morris lived in the South. Leon enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Volunteers and later became a sharpshooter in the 53<sup>rd</sup> North Carolina State Troops. He was a member of the Army of Northern Virginia and was captured at the battle of the Wilderness. His brother Morris also fought as a member of the North Carolina State troops. Lewis Leon joined when he was 19. He was a clerk and only stood five feet and four inches. He enlisted on April 20, 1861 in Raleigh, NC and his company, the Raleigh Grays seized the Branch Mint in Charlotte the same day. (14).

Of particular note is Isidor Strauss. Strauss enlisted in Georgia and helped organize a regiment. He was elected Lieutenant. The Confederate government later sent him to Europe to purchase blockade running ships to bring badly needed goods through the Union "Anaconda" blockade line to the South.

After the war Strauss and family relocated to New York where he founded the "Macy's" department store with his brothers. Strauss was honored by the survivors of the HMS Titanic who reported to authorities that Strauss and his wife gave up their seats in the life-boats so that others could live. (19)

### THE POLITICIANS

Unlike the "liberal" Northern government, where no Jew had served as a cabinet member for any president, the Jefferson Davis Government contained three Jews; Judah Phillip Benjamin, Abraham Myers, and Dr. Simon Baruch. The most well known is Judah Phillip Benjamin. Most people have heard of Benjamin. Some say that he really wasn't really a Jew or that he converted to Christianity. This is not correct and I will address momentarily by Benjamin's own words.

Volumes have been written about Benjamin and I will not attempt to rewrite what previous authors have labored over. I will, however, attempt to through a contemporary light on this man, this enigma.

Benjamin was born in the British West Indies, on the Island or St. Croix on August 11, 1811. He was the first of seven children born to Rebecca and Phillip Benjamin Another child was born first also called Judah but he died in infancy. Benjamin retained his British citizenship throughout his life. It was this that allowed Benjamin to enter and reside in London after the fall of the Confederacy.

Stephen Vincent Benet called Benjamin "the dark prince" of the Confederacy (15). The fact is, Judah Benjamin achieved more political power than any other Jew in U.S. history. Benjamin was the first Jew elected to the U.S. Senate. Just prior to secession, Benjamin was offered a seat on the supreme court of the United States as well as the ambassadorship to Spain. Benjamin opted to follow Davis into secession he served as President Jefferson Davis' Attorney-General, Secretary of War, and, eventually, Secretary of State. He became known as the "brains of the Confederacy."

Benjamin was both hated and loved by the Southern peoples. He had married into the Catholic society yet remained a Jew. According to civil war diarist Mary Chestnut, some called him "Mr. Davis' pet Jew." Others used him as the scapegoat for all of the South's failures.

Benjamin's brilliance went with him when he escaped the northern dragnet attempting to seize the members of Jefferson Davis' cabinet who were attempting to escape. Benjamin managed to escape the United States territory and arrived in England. There he practiced law and several of his treaties stand to this day (see Benjamin on Sales).

It was during a hotly debated case in London that Benjamin finally rose and defended his Judaism and his lifelong attachment to his people. When the opposing attorney attempted to slander Benjamin because of his Judaism, Benjamin retorted "*It is true that I am a Jew, and when my ancestors were receiving the Ten Commandments from the immediate hand of Deity, amidst the thundering and lightning of Mt. Sinai, the ancestors of your people were herding swine*" (16).

Simon Baruch was born in Prussia and immigrated to the United States. He settled in Camden, S.C. He was degreed by the Medical College of Virginia. He joined the Confederate army as a surgeon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> South Carolina Battalion just prior to the Battle of Second Manassas. He rose in the military ranks and eventually caught the eye of the president, Jefferson Davis. Baruch was appointed to the position of surgeon general of the Confederacy.

Continued on page 3A

Continued from page 2B

After the war, Baruch married Isabella Wolfe and they set up house and what became a growing medical practice on West 57th Street in New York. Mrs. Baruch became a prominent member of the Daughters of the Confederacy and the couple raised their children with pro-Southern views. It is reported that if a band struck up "Dixie," Dr. Baruch would jump up and give the "Rebel Yell," much to the chagrin of his family. A man of usual reserve and dignity, he nevertheless let loose with the "Rebel Yell," on one occasion, at the Metropolitan Opera House.

Their son, Bernard, became the most successful financier of his time and one of the best known Americans of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Bernard Baruch was an advisor to presidents from World War I to World War II and became the confidant of President Franklin D. Roosevelt (17).

And to note: The Hebrew Confederate cemetery on Shockoe Hill in Richmond, Virginia is the only Jewish Military cemetery outside of the State of Israel. This cemetery, to this day, is maintained by Congregation Beth Ahavah. (18)

#### AND FINALLY

I was not born in the South and my ancestors were not residents of the United States during the era of the civil war. We did not have the honor of serving the South. However, after having lived here for the past 30 years it is my honor to say

#### GOD SAVE THE SOUTH

Author's note: During my research I found many references on the inter-net which either did not show a source or just showed someone else's work. It is not my intention to "steal" anyone else's work and I will present clear references either as a footnote or in the bibliography.

1. Wikipedia, Slavery in Massachusetts.
2. Wikipedia, Organized Slavery in the United States.
3. Letter, U.S. Grant to C.P. Wallcott, Assistant Secretary of War; December 17, 1862
4. General Order Number 11; U.S. Grant to commanders in the field. December 17, 1862.
5. Blacks, Jews fight on the side of the South. Thomas C. Mandes.
6. Rabbi Bertram Korn, Charleston, South Carolina, Confederate Jewish Chaplain and Advisor.
7. In his book *The Jewish Confederates* by Robert N. Rosen (Pub 2000).
8. *The Jewish Confederates*, Robert Rosen, (2000), Pg 90, inset)
9. Information sheet by a descendent of Gladden, courtesy of Bruce S. Allardice, Louisiana State Museum.
10. Courtesy of Eric Brock, Shreveport, LA

11. Rees, Richmond, VA; courtesy of Robert Marcus, Springfield, VA
12. Palmetto Book Works, Columbia, South Carolina, 1989, Pg's. 171 - 199. Courtesy of Anne F. Jennings of Charleston, SC.
13. Courtesy Beth Ahavah Museum and Archives, Richmond, VA
14. *Diary of a Tarheel Confederate*, 1913, as quoted in *Jewish Johnny Rebs*, Robert Rosen. 2000.
15. Inset, *The Jewish Confederates*, Eli N. Evans.
16. *Enigmatic Southerners*, Judah P. Benjamin, *Jewish Confederate*, Eli N. Evans.
17. *Blacks, Jews fight on the Side of the South*. Thomas C. Mandes
18. *American Jewish Encyclopedia; Encyclopedia Judaica*.
19. Shockoe Hill Hebrew Confederate Museum.
20. Personal Communication; Murray N. Friedman, C-1959.

[www.Jewish-history.com](http://www.Jewish-history.com).

Jewish Virtual Library.

[www.jewishmagazine.com](http://www.jewishmagazine.com)

Research on General Sherman courtesy of David S. Madison (Madison @ connex.us.net.au)

*Citizen Sherman - A life of William Tecumseh Sherman*, Random House, New York, 1995, ISBN 0-679-42966-2

Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life.

Polly Ann Motherly (April 1980) , National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination: Kahal

[http://en.org/Wiki/History\\_of\\_the\\_Jews\\_In\\_Charleston\\_South\\_Carolina](http://en.org/Wiki/History_of_the_Jews_In_Charleston_South_Carolina)

*The Jewish Encyclopedia*, 1901-1906, now in public domain.

Sarna, Jonathan, *American Judaism, A History*.

Hagy, James. *This Happy Land: The Jews of Colonial and Antebellum Charleston*.

***The Sons of JOSHUA, The Story of the Jewish Contribution to the Confederacy*** by Marc Ben-Meir, released in May 2012, gives the expanded version of the 5 part series printed here in our news letter. The editor wishes to thank Marc for allowing us to publish an abridged version of his book. We look forward to future works by this author.

THE CONFEDERATE SPANISH MOSS SADDLE  
BLANKET

By *Ken R. Knopp*

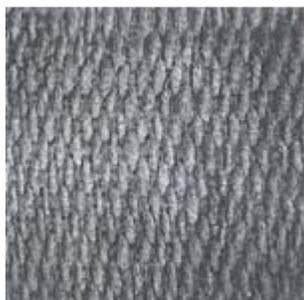
Copyright ©: 2001

This article originally published in the North South Trader's Civil War, Jan.-Feb., 1996.

**Reprinted with permission.**

Part two

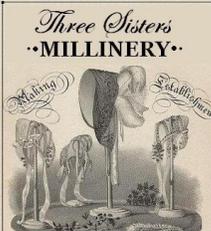
In general, the Confederate-made moss blanket was manufactured by curing moss in the aforementioned process, then shipping it to commercial contractors at whose facilities it was twisted or spun into cord, then hand woven on large looms into blankets. Thanks to Shane's recoveries, we know that there were at least four different weave patterns, some very tightly woven and thick. Different size blankets or mats were made, but most cavalry blankets were likely 40" wide and approximately 60" long. The moss fiber's inability to readily accept bleaching or dyes left the finished saddle blanket dull black in color. Some moss "mats" for artillery use were similarly twisted and woven, though smaller in size, as was other horse equipage like artillery collars. Although the moss's wiry, coarse texture makes it more scratchy than wool, the blankets' innate waterproof resiliency and strength make it a fine, if not excellent, substitute for the wool saddle blanket. Most importantly, the cost of these blankets was quite attractive to the Confederate Ordnance Bureau. In 1863, when blankets in some parts of the South were being impressed or selling for as much as \$40, the moss blanket cost the Bureau only \$2!



A close-up of a twisted and hand-braided moss mat. Image courtesy Louisiana State University Rural Life Center.

*Three Sisters*  
•MILLINERY•

Making Sewing



Kaufman, Texas

**Kathy Kelley Hunt**  
*Civil War Era Milliner*  
kkhunt@myeve.net 972-962-3890  
\*Check Us Out On EBAY & Facebook

10% OFF Custom Orders  
for All Members

January 2012

Get your Lady READY for  
all your Events in 2012

Ribbons & Nets, Mourning Caps  
& Covers, Formal Head Dresses



How common was the moss saddle blanket? In the western Confederacy, a shortage of wool and felt blankets necessitated the appearance of moss saddle blankets or mats in the records of virtually every ordnance facility—some as early as the spring of 1861. Purchased primarily from commercial suppliers, they were quite commonly issued, though by 1862 saddle blankets of all descriptions were getting difficult to obtain. One arsenal was even forced to issue "carpet" horse blankets. Imports were of little help as comparatively few English blankets or "numnahs" (British Army felt pads) were available in the west and most of those went almost exclusively to officers.

Records are sketchy and inconclusive, but it is clear that moss blankets were quite frequent issue items from the ordnance facilities of Macon, Augusta, Atlanta, Memphis, Nashville, Selma, and Columbus. At Atlanta, Macon, and Augusta, wool or felt blankets were scarce by 1863 and almost disappeared entirely by early 1864; the moss blankets, on the other hand, were often the only type of saddle blanket listed in the record of "Ordnance Stores on Hand." At Macon, more than 8,470 moss blankets were issued from June 1863 to February 1864.

In fact, this arsenal's leading supplier, Junius Jordan of Eufaula, Alabama, manufactured and shipped over 15,200 moss blankets in one fourteen-month period alone! Further, it is clear that many of these western arsenals shipped moss blankets to eastern ordnance facilities, including Richmond and Charleston.

Moss blankets do not appear to have been nearly as common in the east, although they are found in the records of the Richmond Arsenal as early as summer 1861. A shortage of wool and felt blankets was felt here too but, unlike the west, the east's manufacturing capacity and large numbers of imports of English blankets and numnahs served to greatly alleviate its lack of supply. In fact, of the 176 bales of blankets and numnahs imported by the Ordnance Bureau at Wilmington, North Carolina, between July 1863 and January 1865 nearly 65% went to Richmond!

Throughout the war a significant number of moss blankets were shipped to Richmond from several western arsenals and contractors, and at least one large local supplier of horse equipments, Cottrell & Co., provided several thousand. In August 1863 a moss blanket, obviously sent to the Richmond Ordnance Depot for official approval, was inspected by Superintendent of Armories Maj. William S. Downer, who considered it well-made and durable: "It is a handsome blanket of the kind, of good dimensions and of proper thickness sufficient so to prevent any saddle from hurting the horse."

Continued on page 5A

Continued from page 4B

A severe shortage of sleeping blankets later that fall necessitated that Josiah Gorgas, chief of the Ordnance Bureau, order blankets on hand in Richmond that were "serviceable to soldiers in the field" be sold to the quartermaster—obviously meaning selling the wool blankets, leaving the less desirable moss blankets and numnahs for their intended use. This critical shortage of blankets of all kinds continued throughout the war. All of this makes it clear that moss saddle blankets were, in some quantity, issued to the Army of Northern Virginia.

Just how prominent the use of the moss blanket was with Confederate cavalry may never be definitively known. However, Ordnance Department records show that tens of thousands of these blankets were manufactured and issued to troopers and artillerists in both major armies, particularly those in the west. That they were the only saddle blankets available strongly suggests that the Southern horsemen used them.

In August 1863 a moss blanket, obviously sent to the Richmond Ordnance Depot for official approval, was inspected by Superintendent of Armories Maj. William S. Downer, who considered it well-made and durable: "It is a handsome blanket of the kind, of good dimensions and of proper thickness sufficient so to prevent any saddle from hurting the horse."

A severe shortage of sleeping blankets later that fall necessitated that Josiah Gorgas, chief of the Ordnance Bureau, order blankets on hand in Richmond that were "serviceable to soldiers in the field" be sold to the quartermaster—obviously meaning selling the wool blankets, leaving the less desirable moss blankets and numnahs for their intended use. This critical shortage of blankets of all kinds continued throughout the war. All of this makes it clear that moss saddle blankets were, in some quantity, issued to the Army of Northern Virginia. Just how prominent the use of the moss blanket was with Confederate cavalry may never be definitively known. However, Ordnance Department records show that tens of thousands of these blankets were manufactured and issued to troopers and artillerists in both major armies, particularly those in the west. That they were the only saddle blankets available strongly suggests that the Southern horsemen used them.

The Spanish moss saddle blanket provides yet another excellent example of necessity-driven Southern expedience overcoming lack of resources. The almost forgotten Spanish moss saddle blanket is no longer relegated to some obscure archival footnote but can now assume its rightful place among Confederate and Southern cultural history. .



Twisted and hand-braided Spanish moss collar. A few references to "moss collars" have been found in Confederate ordnance records. Image courtesy Louisiana State University Rural Life Center.

### Sources

"Account Book of Capt. John M. Payne, Comprising Imported Ordnance Stores at Wilmington 1863-1865." Richmond, Va.:

Eleanor S. Brockenbrough Library, Museum of the Confederacy.

*Confederate Ordnance Manual: Regulations for Government of Ordnance Department, C.S.A.* Richmond, Va. 1863.

Fritchey, Robert. "When Moss Was Boss," *Louisiana Life*, spring 1995.

Gorgas, Josiah. *Overview of the Work of the Ordnance Bureau*. Original first-draft 1881 manuscript on file in Gorgas Family Papers, Series 678, Folder #9, Hole Special Collections Library, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Manuscript published in the *Southern Historical Society Papers*, 1882.

Jones, John B. *Rebel War Clerk's Diary*. Baton Rouge, La.: Louisiana State University Press, 1958.

Kniffen, Fred B., and Malcolm L. Cameos. "The Spanish Moss Fold Industry of Louisiana," *Melange*, #12. Baton Rouge, La.: Museum of Geoscience, Louisiana State University, 1979.

Massey, Mary Elizabeth. *Ersatz in the Confederacy: Shortages and Substitutes on the Home Front*. University of South Carolina Press, 1952.

Mauersberger, Herbert R. *Matthews' Textile Fibers*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman & Hall, 1947.

Continued from page 5B

National Archives, War Department Collection of Confederate Records, Group 109, "Citizen's File." Analysis of over 200 military contractors supplying horse equipage to the Confederacy, including files relative to Spanish moss saddle blankets: Junius Jordan, Eufaula, Ala.; Cottrell & Co., Richmond Va.; J.O. Ford & Co., Memphis, Tenn; James Morrow & Son, Nashville, Tenn; Winn & Co., Memphis, Tenn.; George Wyman & Co., Augusta, Ga.

National Archives, War Department Collection of Confederate Records, Ordnance Bureau, Chap. IV, Group 109: Vols.8,9,19,78,100,104,105, Nashville and Atlanta Arsenals; Vols.33,34,36, Augusta Arsenal; Vols. 32,101,3,4,6,7,36,58,59 1/2,83, Macon Arsenal; Vols. 90,91,91 1/2,92,93,96,97, Richmond Arsenal and Clarksville Depot.

National Archives, M33 1, Military Service Records, General and Staff Officers, Maj. William S. Downer (#78), Col. M.H. Wright (#265), Capt. Richard M. Cuyler (#69).

*The Official Records of the War of the Rebellion*, Series IV, Vol. 1, p. 314; Vol. 11, p. 654.; Vol. III, pp. 38, 683, 684, 1090.

Vandiver, Frank E. *Blockade Running for the Confederacy*. Austin, Tx.: University of Texas Press, 1947.



Ken R. Knopp most of his adult life made his living in the world of professional rodeo rising to the top of his field marketing and producing some of the nation's largest and most successful "indoor" PRCA rodeos and televised PBR Bull Ridings. Over the next several years Ken worked several movie projects including the ABC blockbuster Mini-Series "North & South"; "The Alamo:

"The Price of Freedom" - A State of Texas IMAX movie production (still shown at the Alamo); Another "movie from a book", TV Mini-series about Custer at the Little Big Horn entitled, "Son of the Morning Star" and, the hugely successful, Academy award winning movie "Glory".

<http://confederatesaddles.com/cswp>

Any people anywhere, being inclined and having the power, have the right to rise up and shake off the existing government and to form one that suits them better.

Abraham Lincoln on the floor of Congress, 13 January 1848

Compatriots,

I have been approached by Chief of Police Sam Allen of Balch Springs TX. to have the SCV present a short Civil War battle, march in a parade and hold a living history for his city. This is a "Juneteenth Jubilation" event. I meet with Mr. Allen who is a "Buffalo Soldier" and a member of the Col. M. T. Johnson Camp, SCV. We walked the battlefield and drove the parade route and this looks to be a very fun and safe event!

1. The Battle will be 8:30AM - 9 AM. We will be fighting against Buffalo Soldiers and Yankees.
2. The parade starts at 9AM so we march straight off the battlefield into the parade.
3. End of the parade we go into living history mode teaching the kids etc.
4. I need a head count, we have to register for this event and the reenactors will get to eat after it ends.
5. Horses are allowed on the battlefield and in the parade.
6. If anyone wants to build a float we have to know to register it.
7. I have been asked to set up a relic display so I will be locked down with that and not in the battle.

Please let me know if you are going to make this I need a good head count for the city. They need to know how many meals to plan for.

June is hot but the battle is early morning so that will help.

Thanks,  
Gary D. Bray  
214-766-5639

Men,

We will be filming the trial scenes for Black October Saturday June 23 at Frontier Village/ Loy Lake Park at Denison Texas off of HWY 75 N. We are drawing near to a wrap for the movie so if you want to be in it now is the time. We have to finish it and add the music etc. in order to show the film in early October. TIME IS RUNNING OUT! Make it if you can we need your help,

Gary D. Bray  
214-766-5639

## Texas Men

Find the Last name of these Texas men

F A P S Z P Z N Y R R U C S  
E X C A S H C O L L U C C M  
Z G I W R D F R V I T P F H  
P F J Q G S B O E O G E N T  
L X E U N R O F R K Q N M R  
L O D A E T A N P D L Y M R  
L P S N J I D N S Q E A E M  
E R B T O O O V B X B S W L  
R J V R H L O I A U S S H B  
R C D I N E H M F O R O I C  
E D V L S E O K R C B Y U D  
T V C L T X J C A B E L L E  
W C J T O L N R Y D V S W F  
N Q W H N J S L R X O X B A

**CABELL, WILLIAM L.**  
**GRANBURY, HIRAM B**  
**HOOD, JOHN B.**  
**JOHNSTON, JOSEPH E**  
**HOBBY, ALFRED M**  
**MAXEY, SAMUEL BELL**  
**MCCULLOCH, BENJAMIN**  
**PARSONS, WILLIAM HENRY**

**ROSSER, THOMAS L**  
**SCURRY, WILLIAM R**  
**TERRELL, ALEXANDER W**  
**WALKER, JOHN G.**  
**FORD, JOHN [RIP]**  
**QUANTRILL, WILLIAM CLARKE**  
**Lee, Robert J.**