

# WAR DEPARTMENT

Annual Reports, 1909

(IN NINE VOLUMES)

## Volume III

*Reports of*

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST  
DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF  
DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI  
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA  
PHILIPPINES DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF LUZON  
DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS  
DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO  
ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION



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1909

## REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO,  
*Denver, Colo., July 31, 1909.*

Sir: In compliance with General Orders, No. 89, series 1901, and No. 47, series 1902, Headquarters of the Army, I have the honor to render the annual report of the administration of the Department of the Colorado for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1909.

The distribution of troops on June 30, 1909, was as follows:

Posts.	Commanding officer.	Troops.
Fort Apache, Ariz.....	Capt. James Longstreet, Eighth Cavalry.	Troops E and H, Eighth Cavalry.
Fort Douglas, Utah.....	Col. W. S. Scott, Fifteenth Infantry.	Fifteenth Infantry.
Fort Duchesne, Utah.....	Capt. C. G. Hall, Fifth Cavalry.....	Troop H, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.....	Maj. H. T. Allen, Eighth Cavalry.....	Troops F and G, Eighth Cavalry.
Fort Logan, Colo.....	Col. C. A. Williams, Twenty-first Infantry.	Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, K, L, M, Twenty-first Infantry.
Whipple Barracks, Ariz.....	Capt. G. G. Palmer, Thirtieth Infantry.	Company F, Twenty-first Infantry.
Fort Wingate, N. Mex.....	Maj. W. C. Brown, Third Cavalry....	Troops I and M, Third Cavalry.

*Indian scouts.*—Fort Apache, 15; Fort Huachuca, 6; Fort Wingate, 6; total, 27.

The movements of troops within the department, or transferred to and from it during the period covered by this report, are shown in the following statement:

### CHANGES OF STATION OF TROOPS.

Third Cavalry: Headquarters, Third Squadron, and Troops I and M, arrived at Fort Wingate, N. Mex., from Department of Texas, December 28, 1908. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.)

Fifth Cavalry: Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, and D left Fort Huachuca, Ariz., December 31, 1908, for the Hawaiian Islands. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.) Troops E and G left Fort Apache, Ariz., November 17, 1908, for Fort Yellowstone, Wyo. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.) Troop F (Fort Apache, Ariz.) left maneuver camp, Atascadero, Cal., October 30, 1908, for Fort Yellowstone, Wyo. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.) Troop H left Fort Wingate, N. Mex., September 2, 1908, for Fort Duchesne, Utah. (G. O., No. 119, War Department, 1908.) Troops I and K left Fort Wingate, N. Mex., January 1, 1909, for the Hawaiian Islands. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.) Troop L left Whipple Barracks, Ariz., January 1, 1909, for the Hawaiian Islands. (G. O., No. 177, War Department, 1908.) Troop M left Fort Duchesne, Utah, September 2, 1908, for Fort Wingate, N. Mex. (G. O., No. 119, War Department, July 29, 1908), and left Fort Win-

Field officers unaccustomed to riding, especially heads of staff departments closely confined to office work, do not have sufficient time, rather do not take time, to properly fit themselves for a three-days' ride such as ordered, therefore are somewhat handicapped when brought alongside in the riding tests of those officers of the mounted branch and in the saddle for hours each day. They have, however, some excellent trail-confidence in their make-up to stand the physical strain. In my opinion it is not a particularly severe test for any officer in good health, no matter what his age is. However, I think that an officer of 62 years of age should be excused from such test if he so desires or manifests an unwillingness to subject himself to the ordeal. Therefore, it is recommended that the "tests" be continued as heretofore ordered without change or modification, with the exception stated.

#### NAVAJO AND MENEGADE THE INDIANS.

In June of last year the War Department directed that an expedition consisting of not less than four troops of cavalry be sent to explore the Black Mountain region of the Navajo Reservation; also with the view of making a report on the conditions and mode of life of the Indians living in that little-traveled district. Troops E, G, H, I, K, and L of the Fifth Cavalry, with the machine-gun platoon of that regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. George K. Hunter, Fifth Cavalry, left the line of the Santa Fe Railroad on the fifth of July, for the purpose stated. The Black Mountain, the Carrizo Mountain, and Navajo Mountain were explored by the troops. The country in the vicinity of the four-cornered section of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico was quite well explored. A number of talks were had by the commanding officer of the expedition with the principal Indians in this part of the Navajo Reservation, and effort otherwise made, by talking with well-known whites or people who had lived many years in that section, with the view of learning the attitude of the Indians toward the whites and the Government, and the general conditions giving rise to any lack of security or unrest to the whites in this section by reason of deprecations committed, or the general tendency of the Indians in these parts to threaten and persist in doing lawless acts. The troops traveled over the reservation during a period of six weeks, having arrived at Fort Wingate on their return trip on August 25, 1908. The information derived as a result of the visit of Lieutenant-Colonel Hunter's command to the Black Mountain region of the Navajo Reservation convinces me that many of the reports submitted to the War Department relative to these Indians were not founded on fact and others greatly exaggerated. Those people that were met by the troops were friendly and cordial, and impressed the command as being subordinate and law-abiding as those living in the more accessible parts of the reservation. The white settlers interviewed confirmed this view of the situation.

#### GARRISONED POSTS.

A recent War Department orders the posts of Fort Apache and Hunchuca, Ariz., are to be increased in strength by one battalion infantry, and the post of Whipple Barracks is to be increased by

three companies of infantry. By reason of the increased strength of Hunchuca, it is more than desirable that an increased allowance be made to this department for the immediate repair of buildings at that station that have been unoccupied for a considerable period of time. At Whipple Barracks, to accommodate a battalion headquarters and the officers of a battalion, additional quarters for officers should be constructed.

The increase of garrison in the near future at Fort Hunchuca renders the consideration of additional water supply for that post a pressing necessity. Even with the present strength of the garrison, in seasons of extreme drought, which are always liable to occur in Arizona, the water supply is not any too abundant for the present garrison. Plans and estimates for a new supply of water at Hunchuca have been ordered prepared. It is contemplated procuring the additional supply of water from Garden Springs, which are located about 7 miles south of the post, in Garden Canyon. It is the intention to pipe water from these springs to the present post reservoir, and inasmuch as the springs lie altogether within the reservation, and the pipe line would be in the confines of the reservation, the plan is considered perfectly feasible, and its serious consideration is recommended.

With the new construction recently completed at Whipple Barracks, it has become a more or less desirable station, and by reason of the wholesomeness of the climate, a particularly desirable one for troops returning from the Philippines. The question of water supply at that station is also a pressing one. Correspondence relative to the subject has already been forwarded, and I recommend early consideration of the water supply at that post. I renew my recommendation of last year for the construction of a storage reservoir and the purchase of additional land. Owing to the location of this post, its climate, the small cost of supply, railroad facilities, target range and maneuver grounds in the immediate vicinity, I recommend that it be enlarged to accommodate a regiment of infantry.

Fort Apache has been occupied for some years past by a comparatively small garrison, sufficient only for the care of the post. In view of its increased garrison, I recommend that the needs of that garrison be considered at an early date. Both quarters for officers and enlisted men are in need of very considerable repairs, but attention has previously been called to this fact in special correspondence. The quarters for officers, in view of the increased garrison, are particularly inadequate. The question of haul from the railroad station (Holbrook, Ariz.) to Apache will now become more important than it has been heretofore. The road is bad at all times, but at certain seasons of the year it is practically impassable. It is recommended that an allotment be made by the department of not less than \$25,000 for the immediate repair of this road, using Indian labor for that purpose. There would result an annual saving to the Government of many thousands of dollars.

The construction of the Moffat road westward to Salt Lake City in the near future will prove a decided advantage to Duchesne, making this post very much less expensive to maintain, and will bring it into close touch with the markets of Denver and Salt Lake City. I renew my former recommendation that this post be garrisoned by a squadron of cavalry or a battalion of infantry—preferably the former. It is

further recommended that if this post is to be continued, which it presumably is, that an electric power plant be installed, utilizing for the purpose the power of the Uintah River.

At Fort Douglas the quarters for officers and many of the barracks for enlisted men are old and in need of considerable repair, if not new construction. It is presumed that new barracks for the men will be gradually constructed as funds become available, but attention is invited to the fact that all of the quarters for officers, excepting those of the commanding officer, should be overhauled, cellars constructed, heating plants installed, and effort made otherwise to render the same more modern.

In addition to the post at Duchesne, I recommend that electric lighting be installed at Apache, Wingate, and at Fort Douglas.

New construction work at Fort Wingate, rendered necessary by a recent fire at that station, has been previously brought to the attention of the department.

Very respectfully,

EARL D. THOMAS,

*Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.*  
THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,  
Washington, D. C.