

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

July 16, 1917

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: Names for cantonment, National Army,
and camps, National Guard.

1. Pursuant to verbal instructions of the Chief of Staff, a study has been made of the above subject.

2. The following policy has controlled the selection:

(a) Names recommended are not only of deceased persons, but some names of noted deceased persons have been omitted because others of the same names and of present prominence are living.

(b) The names recommended are short, to avoid clerical labor of all who must use such names in letters, telegrams, reports, muster rolls, etc.

(c) The name for each camp should be that of some man from the State or States from which troops at the camp are organized.

(d) Where a division is located outside of the area in which it has been organized, care has been taken to select a name not unpopular in the vicinity of the camp.

(e) All names are American. The forces drafted from citizens of foreign descent should not be camped at places whose post-offices may be given names of some other national origin.

(f) Some names of great men, as Washington, Lincoln, McKinley and others, have not been selected, as the character of construction hardly merits assignment of such names.

(g) It is of more importance to select appropriate names for the National Army cantonments than for National Guard camps, so the former may be used for subsequent divisions, while National Guard camps may be abandoned after departure of the National Guard for Europe.

(h) Effort has been made to select names of Federal commanders for camps of divisions from northern States and of Confederate commanders for camps of divisions from southern States. Names of officers who served in the Continental Army, Mexican War or Indian War, or of explorers and pioneers, are suggested when the above rule seems impracticable.

3. Alternate names appear for many sites, that the Chief of Staff may select an alternate, if the principal be not approved. In that case the name not approved should be ruled out of the table before submission to The Adjutant General.

4. Memorandum for The Adjutant General of the Army herewith shown names proposed.

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JOSEPH E. KUHN
Brigadier General, General Staff,
Chief of War College, Division
Assistant to the Chief of Staff.