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March 10, 1942.

MEMORANDUM TO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Revision of Publication in Conformance with Circular No. 59.

1. In connection with the revision of War Department publications necessitated by the reorganization set forth in War Department Circular No. 59 dated March 2, 1942, it is the intention of the War Department Reorganization Committee to forward items to you from time to time for the necessary action. It is desired in this manner that your office serve as a repository for intended changes and that those changes be effected at the proper time in the course of your revision of War Department Publications.

2. As an initial item the following is forwarded:
Naming Posts, Camps and Stations, etc.

It is desired that the Adjutant General handle all administration in connection with naming military posts, airdromes etc. In each case it is expected that the commander of the Ground, Air, or Service activity concerned will have the principal voice in the selection of name. It is desired, however, that all War Department Correspondence on this subject be handled by your office and be handled directly in so far as practicable.

For the Chief of Staff:

(Signed) JOSEPH T. McNAREY,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Reorganization Committee.

Copies furnished:

- Col. McGinely
- Operations Division Ground Forces
- Operations Division, Services of Supply
- Administrative Assistant, Services of Supply
- Chief, Administrative Services, Services of Supply.

2d Ind.

CHF:CS

Historical Section, Army War College, March 27, 1942 - To: Director of Operations, Headquarters, Services of Supply.

1. Before commenting on the suitability of the specific names suggested for the new seacoast reservation in the vicinity of Montauk Point, Long Island, New York, it appears desirable to review the policies which have been followed in the selection of designations for the new military posts established during the past several years.

The following principles have governed the suggestions and recommendations made by the Historical Section:

a. The use of the name of a living soldier or of any non-military person is not recommended.

b. The name should, if possible, be that of a person identified with the locality of the post by birth or distinguished service.

c. The service of the person whose name is selected should be commensurate with the importance of the post.

d. The names of all soldiers, regardless of rank, who were born in the locality of the proposed post, and who have conspicuously distinguished themselves, should be considered. The evidence of this service can be indicated, for instance, by the award of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

e. Where a post is established for the specific use of a particular arm or service, the name of a soldier belonging to that branch, if a suitable one is available, is recommended.

f. Names which might provoke local objections or controversies, for any reason, should be avoided, if possible.

g. The use of initials or first names is not to be recommended, unless absolutely necessary to distinguish two persons of the same surname.

h. The term "soldier" used in the above is intended to include officers and enlisted men.

2. It will be seen from the above that two of the names suggested in the enclosure to the basic communication violate the customary procedure.

While General Hero's name is eminently suitable for any post, the fact remains that he was born in Louisiana and was never prominently identified with the locality of the new post, except as indicated in his service as Chief of Coast Artillery.

Also there are a number of soldiers born in New York whose names are suitable.

3. As for using the name of General Murray, there is at present a "Camp Murray" near Fort Lewis, Washington. Also there is a "Battery Murray" on the Fort Kobbé reservation in the Canal Zone. The camp in Washington was a former National Guard camp and is not named for General Arthur Murray, but the battery is. (See General Orders No. 4, War Department, February 2, 1929, par. 4.)

Also, General Murray was born in Missouri, and, while he served at Montauk Point for a short time in 1898, the principles enunciated in (b.) above apply to the use of his name for the post. However,

*General in
"New York" folder*

it may be noted that the posts already bearing the name of "Murray" do not seem commensurate in importance with the services of General Arthur Murray. (See (c.) above.)

Regarding the use of the name of General Harry Lee Steele, the same objections exist, since he was born in Arkansas and does not appear to have been closely identified with the locality of the new post.

4. In accordance with past practice, there are submitted below the names of three soldiers considered appropriate for designating the Montauk Point reservation:

a. TOWNSLEY, Clarence P. (1855-1926) - Brigadier General, U.S.A.

Born in New York; graduate U.S.M.A., 1881; distinguished Coast Artillery officer; commanded 30th Division, World War I. (See biographical data attached.)

b. COLVER, Wilbur E. (____-1918) - Sergeant, Co. A, 1st Engrs., 1st Div., A.E.F.

Born in Brooklyn, N. Y.; awarded Congressional Medal of Honor; killed in action in France. (See copy of citation attached.)

c. DOUBLEDAY, Abner (1819-1893) - Major-General, Volunteers (Colonel, U.S.A.).

Born in New York; graduate U.S.M.A., 1842; distinguished Artillery officer of the Mexican and Civil Wars; was on duty at Fort Sumter, S. C., in 1861 and fired the first gun in its defense; is known as "The Father of Baseball." (See biographical data attached.)

OLIVER L. SPAULDING,
Brigadier General, U.S.A., Ret.,
Chief, Historical Section.

4 Incls.
3 Incls. added