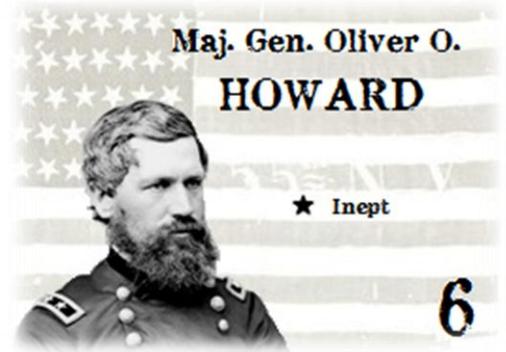


FEDERAL XI CORPS BRIEFING



Strategic Overview:

It is late June 1863. Pleasanton's cavalry caught JEB Stuart at Brandy Station, confirming our suspicions that Lee might be shifting west into the Shenandoah. It has since become clear that the rebels are rapidly marching north in a similar maneuver to their ill-fated Antietam campaign of last September. Alarm is now being raised across western Maryland and even as far north as Pennsylvania. Our army concentrated at Manassas Junction last week and is presently moving toward Frederick to counter any possible rebel moves. Lee's ultimate objective is not clear at this time.

Order of Battle:

The Army of the Potomac currently fields 95,000 men, and you are responsible for maneuvering three infantry divisions—Barlow, Steinwehr, and Schurz. You and your corps are still smarting from being the target of “Stonewall” Jackson's smashing flank attack at Chancellorsville only a month ago. Other officers in the army deride your “German corps,” but they are eager for redemption.

Barlow's Division		Steinwehr's Division		Schurz's Division	
von Gilsa	-1	Coster	-1	Schimmelfennig +0	
Ames	-1	Smith	+0	Kryzanowski	-1
Osborne (art.)	+0				

Morning Field Report

Turn 1, Late June 1863

General Howard,

Our divisions are following the I Corps on the road north toward Pennsylvania. We are the vanguard of the army, operating under the nominal command of General Reynolds, the senior corps commander in the army. No enemy activity is reported in our vicinity.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Howard

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 9)

From: Meade's Army HQ

General Howard, I have this day taken command of the Army of the Potomac. It seems certain that elements of Genl Lee's forces are in Pennsylvania. I think you would be in a good position were you between Emmitsburg and Fairfield as soon as possible with General Reynolds 1st Corps. Identify your starting location and destination in communications with HQ as well as ETA. Meade at Frederick, moving to Liberty

To: Genl Howard

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 5)

From: Pleasonton's Cavalry HQ

Be advised that Buford's cavalry division will be conducting screen and reconnaissance operations to your north. Be sure of your reporting if you hear word of cavalry in your AO.

Morning Field Report

Turn 2, Late June 1863

General Howard,

Our divisions have made good time on the march, reaching Emmitsburg and establishing camp. Buford's cavalry appeared from the east and are reporting news to General Reynolds.

The citizenry in these parts are inflamed with talk of rebels crawling all over the countryside, but we have seen no direct evidence of the enemy other than pickets in the Blue Ridge passes. This evening a telegram flashed through Emmitsburg warning that Harrisburg is under some kind of attack—it is unclear if this is a serious effort or merely rebel scouting parties probing the city defenses.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Howard

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 6)

From: Meade's Army HQ

Remain in support of General Reynolds in the Fairfield Gettysburg area, aggressively scouting your left and rear for enemy forces debouching from the Monterey or Cashtown passes. Meade at Liberty, moving to Middleburg

Morning Field Report

Turn 3, Early July 1863

General Howard,

The men are camped at Fairfield, keeping a watchful eye over the mountain passes to the west. While nothing has been seen at the Waynesboro-Emmitsburg pass, our advance pickets have reported dense columns of enemy infantry coming through the Cashtown gap.

General Reynolds has been alerted and is ready to receive them. The local newspapers here in Fairfield are full of terrible stories from Harrisburg, where it appears General Rodes stormed the city before our militia could burn the bridges. Huge quantities of material have fallen into enemy hands and even now it seems Rodes is extorting city officials for more materiel. Disturbingly, this leaves Johnson and Early's divisions unaccounted for, though locals in these parts claim rebels have been seen anywhere from Carlisle to Lewisberry to Manchester to York Springs. They cannot be everywhere at once!

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Howard

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 7)

From: Meade's Army HQ

General Howard—Copy of message to Reynolds—“It is with great satisfaction that I find you are in place at Gettysburg and have Howard on the flank near Fairfield. Sykes has been delayed and I fear has fallen under Sickles' spell. He has not moved from Middletown...perhaps he will...in the meantime I will be moving Slocum north. Have a care to the Waynesboro - Emmitsburg road..have Howard picket the pass and I assume you'll do the same at Cashtown. Hancock will be at Littleton / Hanover while the Army reserve moves to Taneytown. Pleasanton continues to scout north towards Carlisle and east towards the Susquehanna. Remain at Gettysburg.---- Location of enemy units: So far we have identified elements of the CSA II Corps (Rodes at Harrisburg which has fallen / Early perhaps north of York) Additionally I have 2 day old information that Hood's division of Longstreet's I Corps was at or north of Hagerstown...indicating that Lee's army is likely strung out between Harrisburg and Greencastle / Chambersburg which gives us an opportunity to defeat one part of that or to delay their junction with forces west of Gettysburg.”

Morning Field Report

Turn 4, Early July 1863

General Howard,

Terrible July heat slowed our advance to a crawl, and the corps barely made five miles in the blazing sun. Men have been straggling badly. We heard the thunder of cannon to the northeast and a sharp fight must have been underway. A courier from Reynolds arrived to announce a great victory, splitting the enemy III Corps.

But our own pickets are reporting that the bulk of Hill's corps is heavily fortifying the Cashtown gap. The position is said to be nearly impregnable, bristling with artillery and prepared earthworks winding up the Blue Ridge. There has been some grumbling among the regimental officers that no one wants to assault this fortress head-on.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 5, Mid July 1863

General Howard,

Our corps remains fresh after so little action at Gettysburg. The men are eager to avenge Chancellorsville and are restless, ready to come to grips with the rebels. We are positioned at the western flank of the army, two miles southwest of Gettysburg. The enemy is camped immediately to our north—men from Hill's III Corps.

Pleasanton's cavalry has taken up positions near Emmitsburg to watch the Blue Ridge passes and prevent Longstreet from turning our line. Hopefully General Sykes will arrive any day now via the Emmitsburg road, as Meade ordered him to be here days ago.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 6, Mid July 1863

General Howard,

Once again, as at Gettysburg, our men were barely engaged in battle. Spirits are high and they are eager to get into the fight. The corps is camped just east of the battlefield, with Schurz detached to the south, guarding the Middleburg road. If Lee tries to slip around our army, Schurz will sound the alarm!

AP Hill's corps remains on the field to our front, but it is unclear if they are making preparations to attack and follow up their success from Emmitsburg.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 7, Late July 1863

General Howard,

Schurz's division took the brunt of Hood's assault late in the day at the Battle of Fairfield, breaking under the weight of 10,000 rebels. One of his brigades is no longer combat effective. The rest of the corps fared better and are in position to carry the fight to the enemy tomorrow morning!

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 8, Late July 1863

General Howard,

Damn rebels. The Army of the Potomac has pulled back behind a strong position at Pipe Creek after a minor repulse at the Battle of Fairfield. The enemy has moved off to the west, though we do not know where. Our men are currently camped at east of Taneytown, and after the battering of the last few days, they are glad to be at rest.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 9, Late July 1863

General Howard,

The stain of Chancellorsville still seems to linger over our corps, as we were once again relegated to bringing up the rear of the army. The traffic on the Emittsburg road has been a tangled mess these last two days, with multiple corps attempting to march down a single axis of advance. Elements of the I and VI Corps now appear intermingled and our corps is camped northwest of Taneytown. Hopefully the confusion will be sorted out ahead, as the men are growing anxious with rumors of a set-back at Mechanicstown.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac