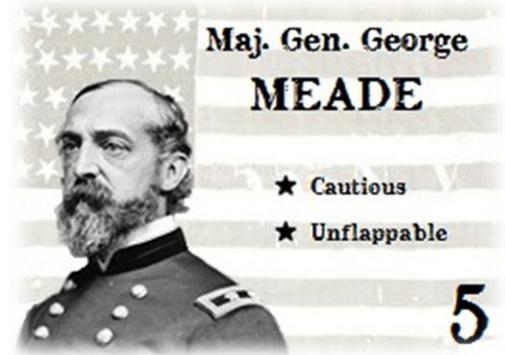


FEDERAL ARMY COMMAND BRIEFING



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.

Objectives:

The primary objective for this campaign is to screen Washington DC and **Baltimore** at all costs. Lee must be driven back across the Potomac as quickly as possible, which may **necessitate a pitched battle**. Additional objectives include defending Harrisburg, protecting the Susquehanna bridges, and potentially aiming to sever Lee's line to supply and communication to the Shenandoah Valley by securing possible Potomac River crossings. It may also be useful to threaten Richmond by detaching a corps for operations in northern Virginia. Before the start of the campaign, you may elect to voluntarily detach the II Corps from your OOB to immediately earn a variable number of Victory Points, randomly rolled and determined by the GM.

Order of Battle:

The Army of the Potomac currently fields over 90,000 men, with a full OOB listed on the following pages. You are responsible for maneuvering the reserve artillery formation, and eventually French's fixed garrison at Harper's Ferry, if it is released as future reinforcement. The remainder of the divisions will be maneuvered by your corps commanders.

Army Reserve [unattached]

Ransom (art.)	+0
McGilvery (art.)	+0
Taft (art.)	+0
Huntington (art.)	+0
Fitzhugh (art.)	+0

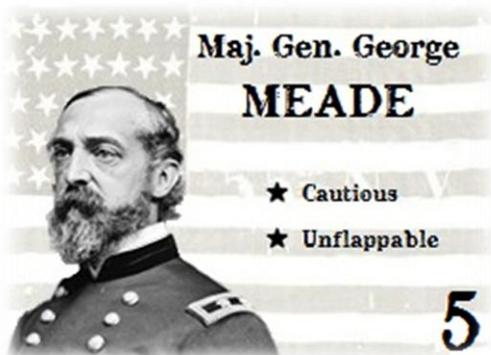
[Random Release]

French's Garrison

Hays	+2
White	+1
Tannett (art.)	+0

FEDERAL ORDER OF BATTLE

The Army of the Potomac



Army Reserve [unattached]

Ransom (art.) +0
McGilvery (art.) +0
Taft (art.) +0
Huntington (art.) +0
Fitzhugh (art.) +0

[Random Release]

French's Garrison

Hays +2
White +1
Tannett (art.) +0

I CORPS—MG John B. Reynolds

Wadsworth's Division	Robinson's Division	Doubleday's Division
3,800 men reporting	3,000 men reporting	4,700 men reporting

II CORPS—MG Winfield S. Hancock

Caldwell's Division	Gibbon's Division	Hays' Division
3,300 men reporting	3,500 men reporting	3,600 men reporting

III CORPS—MG Daniel Sickles

Birney's Division	Humphreys' Division
5,100 men reporting	4,900 men reporting

I CORPS—MG George Sykes

Barnes' Division	Ayres' Division	Crawford's Division
4,100 men reporting	3,700 men reporting	4,800 men reporting

VI CORPS—MG John Sedgwick

Wright's Division	Howe's Division	Newton's Division
4,100 men reporting	3,700 men reporting	4,800 men reporting

XI CORPS—MG Oliver O. Howard

Barlow's Division	Steinwehr's Division	Schurz's Division
2,400 men reporting	2,800 men reporting	3,100 men reporting

FEDERAL ORDER OF BATTLE

The Army of the Potomac

[continued]

XII CORPS—MG Henry Slocum

Williams' Division

3,400 men reporting

Geary's Division

3,900 men reporting

CAV. CORPS—MG Alfred Pleasonton

Buford's Division

4,000 men reporting

Gregg's Division

2,600 men reporting

Kilpatrick's Division

4,000 men reporting

Dept. of Susq.—MG Darius Couch

WF Smith's Division

7,000 men reporting?

Haller's Division

4,000 men reporting?

Morning Field Report

Turn 1, Late June 1863

General Meade,

You were hastily awoken in the pre-dawn hours to be given command of the Army of the Potomac. General Hooker resigned his commission in the midst of the campaign--the timing could not be worse. You have almost no information about the location of Lee's army, except newspaper reports that rebels are already deep into Pennsylvania. You know little more about the state of your own army, so establishing communication with your new corps commanders is essential. Until Lee's intentions can be discerned, we must be on guard.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 4)

From: Reynolds' I Corps HQ

We are proceeding with I Corps and IX Corps towards Gettysburg. We have reports of rebel pickets along the mountain passes to the west towards Hagerstown. Be vigilant of any rebel attempt to cross the mountains against us as we move north. We are proceeding with I Corps and IX Corps north towards Gettysburg. We have reports of rebel pickets along the mountain passes to the west towards Hagerstown. Be vigilant of any rebel attempt to cross the mountains against us as we move north.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 3)

From: Hancock's II Corps HQ

Moving II Corps north to Liberty as per previous orders. No word on enemy positions, troop movements, or intentions. Please advise as to enemy situation if known.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 5)

From: Sickles' III Corps HQ

General, the Third Corps will be protecting the left flank of the Army as we advance north. Please follow with and messages needing my attention.

Gen. D Sickles

To: Genl Meade
From: Sykes' V Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 7)

General Sir, please advise any reports coming from the cavalry in the Valley. --Chief of Staff V Corps

To: Genl Meade
From: Sedgwick's VI Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 9)

Congratulations on your promotion. Unless otherwise directed, VI Corps will continue as rear guard for the Army, continuing to Frederick by way of Point of Rocks, remaining watchful for Johnny cavalry, and accepting battle if offered. Do you wish me to garrison Point of Rocks to cover the ford?

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, John Sedgwick, Major General, U.S. Army

To: Genl Meade
From: Howard's XI Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 7)

We are moving north towards Gettysburg under the direction of Reynolds, our IX Corps will remain in support of his I Corps at this time.

To: Genl Meade
From: Slocum's XII HQ

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 7)

Congratulations on your promotion. XII Corps stands ready in the vicinity of Frederick. What are your orders?

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, H. W. Slocum, Major General, U.S. Army

To: Genl Meade
From: Pleasonton's Cavalry Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 1 (GM roll = 8)

Be advised that Buford's division will be conducting screen and reconnaissance vicinity of Fairfield, SW of Gettysburg. Be advised that my HQ and Gregg's division will be move to Hanover to act as Corps reserve and to screen the Army's North.

Be advised that Kilpatrick's division will conduct zone reconnaissance from Hanover to vicinity East Berlin, PA. Effort will be to confirm or deny reports of enemy forces vicinity York, Pa. Orders will be to not become decisively engaged, but to report any contact to higher ASAP.

Morning Field Report

Turn 2, Late June 1863

General Meade,

We have established communication and confirmed the location of most elements of the army. We have little knowledge of Lee's location, but there are some worrying developments. General Sickles has taken it upon himself to march over the Blue Ridge Mountains and attack the enemy rear. We have lost direct contact with him and do not know what he encountered, though General Sykes is nearby for support if needed.

More concerning are the rampant newspaper reports from Pennsylvania that Harrisburg is either under direct attack or has already been lost. Reports are running so wild that it's hard to know the precise situation. General Couch must be contacted urgently.

[Random Event] There are also newspaper reports of General Stuart's rebel cavalry rampaging through Maryland at this very moment. If you have a division guarding the depot at Westminster within two turns, additional victory points will be earned.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 4)

From: Reynolds' I Corps HQ

We have previously arrived at Emmitsburg and Fairfield. I Corps has now been ordered to take position just west of Gettysburg, straddling the roads into Gettysburg from Cashtown and Fairfield, which is a very simple, 1 grid movement. I have requested Gen Howard bring XI Corps into Fairfield proper (from his current position at Emmitsburg) as he awaits contact from Gen Sykes and V Corps. We have made contact with Buford's cav division to our immediate south, which is a great comfort at this time!

We have received perhaps more credible reports that elements of General Ewell's II Corps have been identified at Carlisle. We can not confirm this, nor confirm his strength there. In any event, at this time we are not in a position to relieve Harrisburg. We continue to receive unsubstantiated reports of Rebel concentrations at Chambersburg. Continue to be wary of Confederate elements crossing the mountain passes to our west.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 10)

From: Sickles' III Corps HQ

Holding near the Sharpesburg. Found General Hood to the north and various CSA units to the north and west. Will hold as long as possible retreating back towards Harper's Ferry

Gen. D Sickles

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 10)

From: Sykes' V Corps HQ

Holding near Middletown. III Corps is engaged near Boonsboro.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 5)

From: Sedgwick's VI Corps HQ

As ordered, VI Corps serves as rear guard, moving along the rail line north of Point of Rocks to Frederick. I am riding forward a few miles to have a chat with Henry Slocum to make sure his fellows are on the road so that my fellows aren't late for supper in Frederick! We will remain in range of B&O until directed northward.

Very respectfully, John Sedgwick, Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 7)

From: Howard's XI Corps HQ

We remain in contact with Gen Reynolds, and he is instructing us to move from Emmitsburg to Fairfield, as we await contact from Gen Sykes and V Corps. Be aware of unconfirmed reports of rebel concentrations at Chambersburg, and more specific, but still unconfirmed reports of elements of Ewell's II (CSA) Corps at Carlisle, perhaps approaching Harrisburg.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 4)

From: Slocum's XII Corps HQ

XII Corps moving to Liberty from Frederick and will arrive this day. We await your orders.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant, H. W. SLOCUM, Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 8)

From: Pleasonton's Cavalry Corps HQ

My Corps will transition to counter-cavalry operations. If Stuarts cavalry is out there, we will find them and engage them if feasible. I look forward to orders from you. I am still not aware of your general intent for this campaign. You will see that my orders have put my divisions well north of the main body of the Army. If you have a mission for me to the West, I need to know soon. Otherwise I will continue to seek out the enemy cavalry.

Be advised that Burford's division will move with all haste to York Springs, PA. Mission will be to conduct counter cavalry operations. I advised the I Corps commander to leave a picket force in Cashtown.

Be advised that my HQ and Gregg's division will be move to E, Berlin to act as Corps reserve and to screen the Army's North. I highly advise that you detach a force to protect the depot in Hanover. My mission is not to defend ground.

Be advised that Kilpatrick's division will conduct zone reconnaissance from East Berlin, PA to York, PA. Effort will be to confirm or deny reports of enemy forces vicinity York, Pa. Orders will be to not become decisively engaged, but to report any contact to higher ASAP.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 5)

From: Couch's Dept. of Susquehanna HQ

Sir, we are engaged with the enemy in Harrisburg. They have taken our capital. Rodes Corps is here, and is being reinforced by Ewell moving north from York. I am doing everything in my power to retake the capital and keep the enemy engaged. I hope the army can move to help and drive this invader from our soil!

Morning Field Report

Turn 3, Early July 1863

General Meade,

Your transition to command seems to have gone smoothly enough, and most of the corps commanders are following your orders admirably. The army is largely in position as desired, including our strong vanguard closing in on a crossroads at Gettysburg, where Reynolds can keep an eye on the Blue Ridge passes.

There are worrying developments. We have heard nothing from General Sickles for several days—not since he disappeared over the mountains. General Sykes, last known to be near Middletown, has also not reported in and his present location is unknown.

Our only verifiable news of Lee's movements now comes from newspaper reports and telegrams flooding into our headquarters. Harrisburg is lost. General Rodes is sacking the city even now. General Couch seems to have preserved his militia after a sharp fight, but the political ramifications to such a loss could be serious. It is more urgent than ever that we locate Lee and drive him from Pennsylvania. Newspapers are indicating Ewell's corps remains in Carlisle and Harrisburg, sacking the cities and demanding huge ransoms. Where are Hill and Longstreet? And where is Stuart?

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade
From: Reynolds' I Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 7)

Heth's division of AP Hill's III CSA Corps has already occupied Gettysburg. For better or for worse, the entire I Corps under my command is located just west of Gettysburg, sandwiched between Heth and Penderton's division (or bisecting his Corps if you prefer), also of AP Hills III CSA Corps, which is marching down the Cashtown road. Another unknown division is making its way through the Cashtown gap... presumably Anderson's division as the remainder of AP Hills III CSA Corps.

I am closely supported by Howard and his XI Corps... my take on it is that I Corps and XI Corps are about equal in strength to AP Hills III CSA Corps, though, they will have superiority in artillery against us. I will hope to utilize Buford's cavalry division , with regards to Gen Pleasonton, in the upcoming fight, to achieve local superiority against Heth while he remains isolated. Gen Howard and his XI Corps may receive a thrashing trying to hold off Penderton and possibly Anderson, but he is willing to take the role as he understands the need.

If the lead divisions of Gen Hancocks Corps can fall against Heth in Gettysburg directly, or at the very least, approach Gettysburg from the east, we may be able to deprive Hill of one of his entire divisions.

I feel obliged to pursue a battle here and now, as without a victory it is possible for Heth to advance upon Hanover. Given my position in the midst of Hill's Corps it hardly seems likely I can avoid battle even if I wanted to.

If Longstreet or Ewell arrives, or if Stuart ceases his galivanting, this may go fell for us here. Otherwise I hope make a good go of it.

I look for my esteemed colleague Hancocks's arrival, and Syke's as well, though he will not arrive for this days battle.... and can only hope that Buford has brought artillery with him.

God speed gentlemen.

To: Genl Meade
From: Hancock's II Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = n/a)

Sir, I am moving Caldwell and Gibbons to Westminster immediately as per your order. I have dispatched Hays Brigade north to Littlestown to be in position to support Buford, defend Hanover, or move south to support my Corps in case we run into Stuart. Do you have further orders before we execute this maneuver?

To: Genl Meade
From: Sickles' III Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 6)

Will be withdrawing towards the pass while obtaining information about the Confederate forces in front of us. Please inform III Corps if there are any cavalry units in my vicinity.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 5)

From: Sedgwick's VI Corps HQ

VI Corps moving from Frederick to Liberty, pending your anticipated orders to move even further north, yet still in a position to cover and threaten the B&O as ordered. We will be in Liberty by supper! Please advise your intent.

Very respectfully, John Sedgwick, Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = n/a)

From: Slocum's XII Corps HQ

General Slocum will immediately ride to and speak with General Meade in person about the following matters: 1. General Sickles message regarding his encounter at Sharpsburg/Harper's Ferry. 2. General Meade's orders for XII Corps, including line of advance and intent of our operation. 3. The location of friendly and enemy forces in the region. 4. An explanation of the blue oval and red circle drawn on the map received from General Butterfield. Orders from General Slocum will be issued after this meeting

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 4)

From: Pleasonton's Cavalry Corps HQ

General Update: Gen. Buford reports substantial enemy forces in the vicinity of Gettysburg. Your report to me of Stuarts cavalry to the South of me is alarming. I will move my best division towards Hanover and then Westminster with haste. I will do my best to ensure that other enemy forces are not able to join at Gettysburg from directions other than west.

Be advised that Buford's division will attempt to move to the high ground North of Gettysburg. (Personal Note: Ha! Just like it really happened. LOL) He will do his best to deny the enemy the high ground for as long as possible. Be advised that my HQ will move back to Hanover. Be advised that Gregg's division will move one Brigade to York Springs to screen that path to Gettysburg from the North. The remainder of the division and artillery will remain in E. Berlin. Mission is to screen this main artery from Harrisburg to Gettysburg, while remaining close enough to Gettysburg should they be required there. Be advised that Kilpatrick's division will march with haste to Hanover and then Westminster.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 6)

From: Couch's Dept. of Susquehanna HQ

Sir, beg to report of CSA contact. Generals Ewell and Rodes have taken Harrisburg and are ransoming officials and ransacking the city. General Early is encamped south at Lewisburg. I am mustering forces at Middletown to strike bank and either retake the city or keep rebel forces busy until Federal forces arrive. I am in contact with Kilpatrick's cavalry in York. The governor has requested the assistance of his forces in the recapture of the capital. I defer to your command in this matter. I would certainly not turn down the offer of help. The keystone state is doing everything it can to throw back the rebel forces from our great state.

Morning Field Report

Turn 4, Early July 1863

General Meade,

An urgent message from Reynolds indicates his corps has been engaged near Gettysburg, but we have no news from the outcome of this battle. Pleasonton's troops confirmed the presence of AP Hill's III Corps at Gettysburg.

We also received week-old messages from both Sickles and Sykes, delayed by God's providence. You may wish to go back and review both of these messages in the previous turn's correspondence.

The Army of the Potomac is well positioned in the central deployment we desired, with Hill's corps clearly identified at Gettysburg and Ewell at Harrisburg. Longstreet is unaccounted for, but if Sickles is engaged at Sharpsburg, could this be Longstreet? Or perhaps just a minor rebel rearguard? Stuart, as ever, remains elusive!

Your Obedient Servant,
Gen. Daniel Butterfield
Chief of Staff
Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade
From: Sedgwick's VI Corps

Sent: Turn 4 (GM roll = 2)

GEO. G. MEADE, Major-General, Commanding Army of the Potomac.

VI Corps moving from Frederick to Liberty, pending your anticipated orders to move even further north, while still in a position to cover and threaten the B&O as ordered. It is imperative that we receive your orders and intent.

Very respectfully, John Sedgwick, Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 4 (GM roll = 9)

From: Couch's Dept. of Susquehanna HQ

Sir, I will move my forces to York via Wrightsville, while protecting Lancaster, with all due speed! I relish the opportunity to give battle to the invader as part of our grand army. I do regret to inform that the city of Harrisburg has been looted and abandoned, for reasons that will be clear in Ewell's note. The governor has requested I repair the bridge to Harrisburg and regain the city. I will be unable to do that if I leave to cross at Wrightsville, but I trust the governor will understand my deferment to the commander of the Army in pursuit of our enemy.

I have attached a message found at Harrisburg while the secesh had occupied the city. It is from Ewell to Longstreet. It appears the message was left behind in their haste to leave the city, I presume to join forces with the rest of Lee's army. It would seem Harrisburg was a distraction from their main action elsewhere. I hope this message is useful.

Morning Field Report

Turn 5, Mid July 1863

General Meade,

Our repulse at Gettysburg was unfortunate but of little consequence in the greater course of the campaign. Lee's army is here and must be beaten. The rebels are a long way from their line of supply and communication back to Virginia, though it remains possible that General Longstreet is operating in the Cumberland Valley, laying in wait for us. It is more critical than ever that Longstreet's corps be located.

Lee's main body remains camped in and around Gettysburg, only two miles north of our current position. General Slocum is near at hand, and General Sedgwick was last reported on the road to Liberty.

[RANDOM EVENT] There is great panic seizing Philadelphia at this time and political pressure is higher than ever. If more than half of our infantry divisions are in the state of Pennsylvania by the end of next turn, additional Victory Points will be awarded.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade
From: Sickles III Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 5 (GM roll = 7)

We are following Sykes en route to cut Lee's line of supply to the Potomac. Assistance from Harper's Ferry would be desirable.

To: Genl Meade
From: Sykes' V Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 5 (GM roll = 8)

General Meade—General Sykes wishes you inform you that he is has assumed effective command of the rearguard of the Army of the Potomac. Longstreet's corps is present at Sharpsburg in strength and we have been occupying them for several turns now. We are swinging around behind Longstreet via Harper's Ferry to cut the enemy LOC and secure ferries at Shepherdstown and Williamsport. The V Corps staff has sent word to General Sedgwick, requesting his assistance in taking watch over the Blue Ridge passes. Please send as many Staff Dice as possible with all haste, speeding our long march. Faster marching is essential to success. – MG Sykes.

To: Genl Meade
From: Sedgwick's VI Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 5 (GM roll = 5)

GEO. G. MEADE, Major-General, Commanding Army of the Potomac.

Great Scott! I only just received your orders. VI Corps moving lickety split towards the sound of the guns at Gettysburg. Unless directed otherwise, starting from Liberty, our route will be Middleburg, Taneytown, Emmitsburg, and Fairfield. Any help you can give to clear the roads and speed our march will be appreciated. I will attempt to inform V Corps of my intent and suggest that they join us at Gettysburg. They appear to be mollygrubbing in Middletown!

Very respectfully, John Sedgwick, Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps

To: Genl Meade
From: Slocum's XI Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 5 (GM roll = n/a)

As directed by you at our council of war, XII Corps will remain in support of the action currently underway at Gettysburg, positioning Williams' Division at Hanover and Geary's Division at Littlestown. My divisions will dig in for all around defense at both locations. From Hanover, pickets will be pushed north to the Pigeon Hills and Abbottstown, south on the road to Manchester, and east along the Hanover Branch railroad. From Littlestown, pickets will be pushed south towards Union Mills. XII Corps eagerly awaits your order to advance!

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant, H. W. SLOCUM, Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 5 (GM roll = 3)

From: Couch's Dept. of Susquehanna HQ

Sir! I am moving to retake the capital, rebuild the bridge and join you to face the enemy.

Morning Field Report

Turn 6, Mid July 1863

General Meade,

At long last, we have clear word from Generals Sykes and Sickles regarding their intentions for the campaign. Something—the good Lord knows what precisely?—has clearly spurred Sykes into action. It would seem that in his sudden haste to act, he lost contact with Longstreet, who has clearly stolen a march on us and crossed the Blue Ridge.

Yesterday's Battle of Emmitsburg will no doubt get Bobby Lee much good press coverage, but the actual affair was tactically insignificant. Poor ground made it impossible to bring our superior numbers to bear. General Pleasonton deserves much credit for holding on as long as he did, though his corps is now dangerously isolated and trapped against the mountains.

Lee's army is united in front of us, still camped on the field of their minor victory. Does he intend to follow up with another attack tomorrow?

[RANDOM EVENT] General Halleck has finally authorized your long-standing request for the Harper's Ferry garrison to be released for action. French's division is now under your command for the remainder of the campaign.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade

Sent: Turn 6 (GM roll = 6)

From: Sickles III Corps HQ

General Meade,

We appear to have the southernns almost surrounded. The forces from the IIIrd and Vth Corps have disengaged from a losing position and are trying again to get around the Confederate forces to cut off their retreat to the south.

We are currently heading towards Harpers Ferry to reach the Confederate bridges on the upper Potomac. Our forces are currently doing reconnaissance with infantry so if there are any cavalry in the area you can dispatch to my Headquarters we would be grateful.

We hope to obtain troops from Harpers Ferry to use in trapping Lees forces. Your help with Washington is gratefully requested. The crossings at Williamsport and Shepherdstown will be in our hands in the next two days. Bath may be possible. Staff points are at the top of our list of needs.

Your Servant D Sickles

Morning Field Report

Turn 7, Mid July 1863

General Meade,

The Battle of Fairfield could have been a narrow victory had Longstreet's late attack not saved Lee's army. Alas, we must fight the rebels tomorrow. The army is in good fighting shape, with the exception of our battered cavalry corps, currently retreating north.

Word has arrived from General Sickles, confirming a report from General French that the III and V Corps are now at Harper's Ferry, with advanced elements probing Martinsburg. There are some reports of rebel cavalry in this area—perhaps Stuart?—but the rest of Lee's army is far from this place. French himself has taken 7,000 men and marched with purpose toward Winchester, driving a weak screen of rebel pickets before him.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade
From: Sykes V Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 7 (GM roll = 7)

General,

Requesting that French is released from duties in and around Winchester to be placed under V Corps command to help cover the crossings on the Potomac.

Currently we are engaged Confederate cavalry west of Harper's Ferry.

Sykes

Morning Field Report

Turn 8, Late July 1863

General Meade,

Newspapers across the region are already making grave pronouncements about our defeat at The Battle of Fairfield, but little was truly lost. The Army of the Potomac is securely deployed on the Pipe Creek line and if nothing else, we have held Lee's army in the north a few more days, buying time for Sykes and Sickles to secure the Potomac.

The telegraph lines from Harper's Ferry bring glad tidings that the V Corps has sacked a large Confederate depot at Martinsburg and secured the supplies. Farther south, General French has made lightning time and taken the rebel depot at Winchester, closing off the Shenandoah Valley and cutting Lee's line of communication to Richmond.

It remains an open question where Lee will strike next. His army is crossing back into the Cumberland Valley, safe from our view. There are credible reports from civilians in Greencastle and Chambersburg of large enemy columns on the road. Our sources in Hagerstown have not seen any Confederate formations for weeks.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Meade
From: Pleasonton's Cav. HQ

Sent: Turn 8 (GM roll = 9)

Gen. Meade,

General Buford's division is in place outside Middleburg. He reports that he is in contact with the rear element of Lee's Army, Heth's Division. He will continue to screen to the West and provide information, but will not (and is not able to) become engaged. The main body of my Corps is outside of Chambersburg. It appears to be an unguarded Rebel supply depot. My HQ and Gen. Gregg's division will salvage what we can and have it sent to Hanover, then destroy what cannot be saved. Gen. Kilpatrick will move at best possible speed further to the South. His goal is to get eyes on Hagerstown as soon as possible.

Morning Field Report

Turn 9, Late July 1863

General Meade,

Our fortunes may yet be on the rise. While movement of the army has been a plodding affair with such heavy traffic, there is reason for great hope. A courier from General Pleasonton arrived yesterday confirming his liberation of Chambersburg without rebel resistance. This information is now several days old and we have yet to receive more up-to-date intelligence from beyond the Blue Ridge. The capture of a new depot at Chambersburg further enhances our logistical supply situation and should provide even greater mobility to the army.

Farther south, we have only tenuous contact with Sykes and Sickles, but it does appear that their corps are properly deployed across a wide front, securing the Potomac crossings and blocking Lee's return to Virginia. We have reports from civilian sources in Maryland—all proclaimed Unionists—that large numbers of rebel troops are present at Greencastle and Hagerstown.

The only ill tidings in recent days comes from the area of Mechanicstown, where it appears General Slocum suffered some kind of check by a Confederate rearguard or counter-attack. The exact situation remains unclear and should be further explored.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac