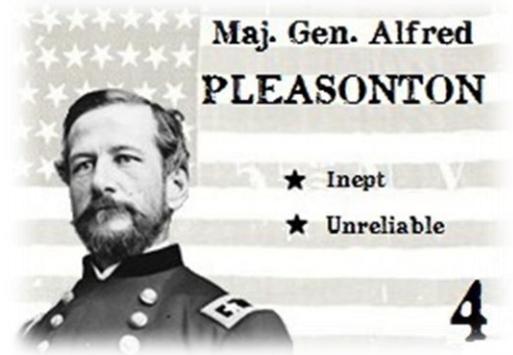


FEDERAL CAVALRY CORPS BRIEFING



Strategic Overview:

It is late June 1863. Pleasonton'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 cavalry divisions—Buford, Gregg, and Kilpatrick. You are the eyes and ears of the Federal army, expected to screen the advance and provide intelligence to headquarters.

Buford's Division	Gregg's Division	Kilpatrick's Division
Gamble (cav.) +0	McIntosh (cav.) -1	Farnsworth (cav.) +2
Devin (cav.) -1	Huey (cav.) +0	Custer (cav.) +2
Merritt (cav.) -1	Gregg (cav.) +0	Tidball (art.) +0
	Robertson (art.) +0	

Morning Field Report

Turn 1, Late June 1863

General Pleasonton,

A telegram arrived this morning, announcing the resignation of General Hooker and the advancement of General Meade as our new army commander. No new orders have arrived from Meade's headquarters as of yet.

Our own temporary headquarters is in Westminster, Maryland, but our divisions are fanned out across the region, chasing JEB Stuart's rebel cavalry. Kilpatrick reported a skirmish with some of Stuart's troopers in Hanover, where he drove them off. He has lost contact with the rebels, but local farmers are circulating wild rumors of rebel infantry in York County. We have not yet been able to confirm if this is true or only civilian rumors, perhaps referring to Stuart's raiding cavalry.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 2, Late June 1863

General Pleasonton,

Your troopers performed admirably in these critical days. Kilpatrick raced ahead to East Berlin and has confirmed that rebel infantry passed through York just a day beforehand. The rebels were last seen marching north toward Harrisburg—at least 5,000 bayonets according to eye-witnesses. Locals in this area seem very agitated and prone to panic, and everyone is talking about Harrisburg being under imminent attack.

We have heard no word from General Couch at Harrisburg, or General Meade, last seen near Frederick. Gregg's cavalry has secured the depot at Hanover and Buford made contact with General Reynolds, leading the vanguard of the army with the I and IX Corps. Reynolds was pleased to see our arrival but had no information to report about any sign of Lee's main army. Where are these clever rebels? And where is Stuart's famed cavalry?

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Pleasonton

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 3)

From: Meade's Army HQ

I have received your message last and your dispositions are well in accord with my instructions. It would appear that CSA forces are engaging with forces at Harrisburg, although the size of those forces is unknown. They appear to be on the line Newville to H'Burg. I Corps is at Fairfield/Gettysburg and I expect II Corps to be at Littlestown in the next day. There are reports of Stuart's cavalry in Maryland and heading north to Westminster. You should have an opportunity to prevent him from joining Lee's forces north of you and perhaps trap him against the II Corps at Littlestown. Your primary objective remains the location of Lee's army and screening the Army of the Potomac. Meade at Liberty, moving to Middleburg.

To: Genl Pleasonton
From: Reynolds' I Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 2 (GM roll = 7)

We have previously arrived at Emmittsburg 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 Emmittsburg) 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.

Morning Field Report

Turn 3, Early July 1863

General Pleasonton,

Messages from Meade and Reynolds await your review, but it does seem you divined Meade's intentions perfectly. Our divisions are in place as ordered, collecting critical intelligence. General Kilpatrick is at York, and has linked up with men from Couch's militia. This militia rabble is terrified and confirms Harrisburg has fallen to Ewell's II Corps. Kilpatrick's troopers believe they have spotted rebel infantry—certainly from Ewell's corps—in Lewisberry. Finally, we have actionable intelligence!

General Buford made contact with Reynolds, but was unable to complete his ride north. He reports—with some alarm—a large body of rebel infantry from AP Hill's corps already in the town of Gettysburg. Reynolds is nearby but in a defensive posture, reporting dense columns of rebels pouring down from the Cashtown gap. General Buford desires to know your intentions and how to react to this sudden development. The Army of the Potomac is not yet concentrated for battle and with Generals Longstreet and Stuart still unaccounted for, we must be wary.

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

To: Genl Pleasonton
From: Meade's Army HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 10)

General Pleasonton, My intention for this campaign is to screen Baltimore and Washington and destroy the enemy army just as soon as we find enough of it. 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. Your task is to firmly locate elements of the enemy from Carlisle to Wrightsville while keeping a force in the York area to prevent enemy movement on the railway from Harrisburg to Baltimore. You are authorized to destroy rails in the event that CSA forces appear to be using them. Hancock is moving to Hanover tomorrow and will be able to provide a position of support. Meade at Middleburg, Moving to Taneytown.

To: Genl Pleasonton
From: Reynolds' I Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 6)

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 Pleasonton
From: Hancock's II Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 10)

I am moving my Corps on a line covering Hanover, Codorus, and York. I have been ordered to keep in supporting distance with Reynolds Corps at Gettysburg as well as securing Hanover and the rail line at York. Please inform of any enemy movement and information whenever possible as well as your current location. Regards, Hancock

To: General Hill
From: Ewell's II Corps HQ

Sent: Turn 3 (GM roll = 9*)

General Hill,

I do hope this letter finds you well. I write this message to you to share with you my plans for the upcoming turns as communicated and approved by General Lee. First I will tell you that I have seized Harrisburg, looted the city, wrecked the crossings over the Susquehanna and safely sent the requisitioned supplies back behind the lines to General Lee. While it may be overly-prideful, I do declare that I look forward to reading what the papers in the North and South have to say about these exploits.

My plans hence are as follows: I intend to dispatch pickets to demonstrate before the enemy at York Springs and Bermudian. My hope is to draw the enemy forces out of York toward East Berlin. That will allow the weight of my corps to fall upon York, loot the city and then catch the Union forces in East Berlin between the twin Pincers of my corps and yours.

Are these not glorious days? I am, and always shall remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

Lt. General Richard Ewell

Morning Field Report

Turn 4, Early July 1863

General Pleasonton,

These have been glorious days for our troopers! General Buford rode north and secured the high ground above Gettysburg just in the nick of time—within hours Heth's division was attacking us desperately, attempting to escape north. Buford drove the rebels off with the help of Reynolds, who marched in Gettysburg at the opportune moment to drive Heth east. This means we have split the enemy III Corps in half!

Even better news came from Gregg's division during their sweep to Bermudian. Gregg uncovered the arrival of Jubal Early's division and swept up a rebel courier attempting to reach Hill in Gettysburg. The enemy has no idea that we now possess their battle plan for the campaign! This is an incredible stroke of good fortune, but also due to our active patrols and reconnaissance. No doubt Meade will wish to read this news at once!

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 5, Mid July 1863

General Pleasonton,

General Buford deserves your highest commendation for his valiant defense at Gettysburg. He alone faced elements of three rebel divisions and it was not until late in the afternoon that his troopers were overrun. The division has been badly cut up with two brigades no longer combat effective. After the campaign is over and the time is right, General Reynolds will have to be called to account for leaving our boys so isolated on the field of battle.

But that is for another day. Following the minor repulse at Gettysburg, Gregg and Kilpatrick are on the road to Emmitsburg to watch the Blue Ridge passes and screen the army's left flank. Buford is en route to Abbotstown to watch for the arrival of Rodes.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 6, Mid July 1863

General Pleasonton,

The battle began well enough yesterday—our boys were falling back in good order from rebel infantry. But General Sedgwick arrived from the east, spoiling for a fight, and brought about a general action that did not favor us. Our troopers found themselves cut off and largely abandoned by the rest of Meade's army. Our corps is badly cut up from these last few days of fighting and in need of recovery.

But there is no time to waste—Kilpatrick and Gregg are pinned against the Blue Ridge, divided from the main body of the Army of the Potomac. This is a dangerous place to be with so many rebels waiting for the chance to pounce and cut us off. We need Meade's help now more than ever.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 7, Late July 1863

General Pleasonton,

With the help of the rest of the army, our corps managed to escape destruction yesterday, pinned against the Blue Ridge. The remnants of Gregg and Kilpatrick's divisions are just north of the battlefield, able to assist if necessary or perhaps ride around the rear of the enemy and secure the Cashtown gap.

Buford made relatively slow progress, perhaps due to the tired state of the division, and is a short ride from Littlestown. He reports no sign of Stuart or the rebel cavalry near our depot at Hanover.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

Morning Field Report

Turn 8, Late July 1863

General Pleasanton,

We have received word of a defeat at Fairfield, with Meade's army retreating east toward Taneytown. General Buford is in position as ordered, guarding the army's southern flank and observing enemy movement. He reports that Heth's division forms the enemy rear-guard, while the rest of Lee's force is crossing back into the Cumberland Valley.

General Kilpatrick is in the van, within striking distance of Chambersburg. He sees little rebel activity, aside from a huge mountain of enemy supplies waiting to be sacked. Gregg's division is following in close support. Bobby Lee must be on the run now!

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac

To: Genl Pleasanton

Sent: Turn 8 (GM roll = 3)

From: Meade's Army HQ

General Pleasanton -- This army was forced to withdraw from Emmitsburg but is attacking again tomorrow. It appears that some of Lee's forces have withdrawn towards Greencastle and I have citizens' report that confederate columns were passing through Chambersburg...so it is very likely that your movement west will be blocked unless perhaps you deem it practicable to move cross country and get into the enemies rear at Greencastle or Waynesboro or continuing south to assist in blocking the crossings over the Potomac. If you find your way blocked and remain east of South Mountain, then you are to act as a screen on the right of the army with an eye to containing Stuart now that he is with Lee. You can be useful along the line from Gettysburg to Westminster. Maj. Gen Meade, commanding. Buford should proceed via Liberty to Middletown and cross to Boonsboro

Morning Field Report

Turn 9, Late July 1863

General Pleasonton,

An eventful two days in the Cumberland Valley! First, our men liberated Chambersburg and celebrated with a joyous welcome from the citizens. A large rebel supply depot was captured and these goods are now property of the US army. Turning south, General Kilpatrick pursued a wagon train of rebel supplies and put them to the torch. Stuart's cavalry arrived in Greencastle and were soundly beaten!

General Gregg pursued the rebel cavalry toward Hagerstown, where he suffered a minor repulse and was forced to fall back. No major losses were suffered and we can now confirm the location of Lee's army around Hagerstown. Our communications with the Army of the Potomac are limited on the opposite side of the Blue Ridge, but a message was received from Meade two days ago—the information is now slightly outdated.

Your Obedient Servant,

Gen. Daniel Butterfield

Chief of Staff

Army of the Potomac