

# OF UNION MILITARY IN MISSOURI

## STATE UNION MILITARY UNITS

1861

### AUGUST 24, 1861 SIX MONTHS MISSOURI MILITIA

**5 Regiments, 11 Battalions, 10 Independent Companies (one cavalry and one artillery)**  
On August 24, 1861, Governor Hamilton R. Gamble proclaimed that "the powers of the civil authorities being insufficient to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the State," and called for the enrollment of 42,000 (10,000 cavalry and 32,000 infantry) militia men for a term of six months. General Orders, No. 1, issued the same day, set the quota for each military district at 6,000 (1,500 cavalry and 4,500 infantry).

Enlistment fell far short of Gamble's call. Only 6,185 officers and men actually enlisted. On January 14, 1862, General Orders, No. 2, conceded "the organization of the six months' militia entails great expense upon the State without any corresponding benefit" and ordered them disbanded on January 25, 1862.



Colonel Eli Bowyer, MD, Regimental Assistant Surgeon, 11th Regiment Infantry, Missouri Volunteers.  
Courtesy: Dennis Belcher

1862

### NOVEMBER 7, 1861 MISSOURI STATE MILITIA (MSM)

**15 Regiments [14 cavalry; 1 infantry], 3 Battalions, 3 Companies**  
On November 7, 1861 the Adjutant General's Office in the War Department granted the state of Missouri the authority to organize a militia. On November 29, Brigadier General John M. Schofield, who had been appointed commander of all militias of the state, issued General Orders, No. 2, which provided instructions for the organization and muster of the Missouri State Militia. On February 13, 1862, Congress limited the number of MSM to 10,000. Because the number of troops already enrolled exceeded 13,000 the Adjutant General's Office reorganized and reduced the number of MSM troops.

On January 5, 1865, the War Department decided that the MSM troops, though mustered in for the duration of the war, would only be held for three years. On June 23, 1865, the Secretary of War ordered that all remaining MSM troops be discharged.

1863

### JULY 22, 1862 ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA (EMM)

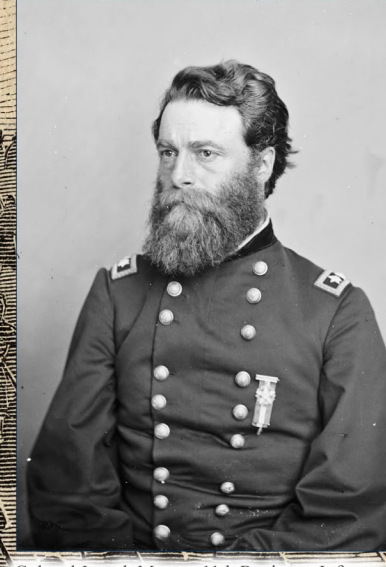
**89 Regiments, 11 Battalions, 10 Companies**  
On July 22, 1862, Special Orders, No. 101, directed Brigadier General John M. Schofield to organize the militia of the state. On the same day, Schofield issued orders calling for "an immediate organization of all the militia of Missouri . . . for the purpose of exterminating the guerrillas that infest our State." Within a month, the state issued orders that prohibited the enrollment of disloyal men or sympathizers of the rebellion in the militia.

On February 10, 1865, the General Assembly disbanded the Enrolled Missouri Militia, as well as the Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia and the Provisional Companies of Enrolled Missouri Militia, effective March 12, 1865.

1864

### FEBRUARY 3, 1863 PROVISIONAL ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA (PEMM)

**11 Regiments, 1 Company**  
On February 3, 1863, the commanding generals of the military districts of the EMM were instructed to select from the already organized EMM, men "of approved loyalty and efficiency" for provisional companies of 80 noncommissioned officers and privates and three officers. Eleven provisional regiments and one company of the 26th Provisional Regiment were formed. On March 12, 1865, the provisional regiments were officially disbanded with the EMM by act of the General Assembly approved February 10, 1865.



Colonel Joseph Mower, 11th Regiment Infantry, Missouri Volunteers.  
Library of Congress, Courtesy: Dennis Belcher

1865

### JUNE 28, 1864 PROVISIONAL COMPANIES OF ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA [ALSO PROVISIONAL ENROLLED MILITIA]

**62 Companies**  
Because "plundering, robbery, and arson have prevailed everywhere to a certain extent," General Orders, No. 107, June 28, 1864 from the Headquarters, Department of the Missouri, urged the "People of Missouri" to establish township and county committees of public safety to advise district and department commanders and to select and organize from local EMM companies of about 100 men, "selected for courage, energy, and willingness to serve for the protection of your respective counties." Sixty-two companies were organized. Some remained in active service until March 12, 1865, when they were disbanded by the General Assembly.

### JANUARY 30, 1865 MISSOURI MILITIA (GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 3)

**61 Companies**  
On January 30, 1865, in anticipation of the disbanding of the Enrolled Missouri Militia and Missouri State Militia and at the request of Major General Granville M. Dodge, commanding the Department of the Missouri, Governor Fletcher issued General Orders, No. 3. This order and subsequent orders called for the organization in the "disloyal counties, especially in those bordering on the Missouri River," of companies of from 83 to 101 men, to serve for no more than one year. The companies formed under this order were charged with "repressing lawlessness and to secure the safety of life and property to all good citizens, and to strengthen the hands of legal justice by enabling the officers of the law to execute its processes and judgments . . ."

The companies, subsisted by the federal government but paid by the state, "were generally engaged in guarding posts and lines of communication, doing escort duty and hunting guerrillas and bushwhackers" until they were relieved in June and July, 1865.

### FEBRUARY 10, 1865 MISSOURI MILITIA

**100 regiments and 11 battalions**  
The Militia Act of 1865, revised by ordinance of the state convention, created a new Missouri Militia to consist of all male inhabitants of the state, including African Americans, between the ages of 18 and 45, with some exemptions. This militia was never called into service during the Civil War. However, on March 14, 1866, an ordinance empowered the Governor, when informed by a sheriff or other official "that the ordinary process of law cannot be executed in any county," to call to service thirty or more men, "armed and equipped as militia . . . to aid the officers of the law in the execution of their duties." Under these provisions, volunteer companies from the regular militia were called into active service in Jackson and Lafayette counties to combat "murderers and robbers, who defied the civil authority," and in Howell, Oregon and adjacent counties to oppose "organized bands of horse thieves, and other desperadoes, who had created a reign of terror in that section."

On March 21, 1868, the Missouri Militia was disbanded with the passage of the Militia Act of 1868.



Captain William Stewart, 11th Regiment Infantry, Missouri Volunteers.  
Courtesy: Dennis Belcher

The Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas

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