



*His Majesty's*  
***Tenth Regiment of Foot***  
*in America, Inc.*

**Major Michael V. Graves, Adjutant**

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**Command Staff Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 5, 2021**

**Zoom: <https://uml.zoom.us/j/.....5>**

**Attendees:** Maj/Adjutant Michael Graves, Maj/Capt Jeff Meriwether, Capt Shaun Timberlake, Sjt Major Ken Mental, Col/QM Paul O'Shaughnessy, Surgeon/QM Lenny Torto, Sjt Dylan Potter, Sjt Justin Murray

Meeting Called to order at: 7:06

1. Company reports
  - a. Grenadiers
    - i. Meeting Thursday to announce change of command
    - ii. Several Grenadiers attended Monterey and Ft No 4, went well
    - iii. Cpl Meriwether did a good job helping new recruits
  - b. Lights
    - i. Going well
    - ii. Struggling to hear from a couple
  - c. Battalion... no report
  - d. Music... no report
  - e. Civilian... no report
2. Personnel Changes
  - a. Recruit Transfer Devon Todd, Music to Lights, APPROVED
    - i. Graves: Yes
    - ii. Timberlake: Yes
    - iii. Meriwether: Yes
    - iv. Mental: Yes
    - v. O'Shaughnessy: Yes
    - vi. Jenkins via email: Yes
  - b. Corporal DeRosa to Serjeant, APPROVED
    - i. Graves: Yes
    - ii. Timberlake: Yes
    - iii. Meriwether: Yes
    - iv. Mental: Yes
    - v. O'Shaughnessy: Yes
    - vi. W. Stone via email: Yes
    - vii. Falotico via email: Yes
3. Paymaster Report
  - a. >\$17,000 in the bank
  - b. People are keeping up with payments

4. QM Report
  - a. New recruits are getting outfitted and are paying
5. NCO meeting report (Ken)
  - a. Attachment 1
  - b. Comments regarding financing issues:
    - i. Shouldn't go back to allowing payments
      1. PayPal, 6 months interest free
    - ii. Tailors paid directly
    - iii. Muskets paid directly
6. Changes to Grenadier Uniforms (Justin)
  - a. Attachment 2, APPROVED
    - i. Graves: Yes
    - ii. Timberlake: Yes
    - iii. Meriwether: Yes
    - iv. Mental: Yes
    - v. O'Shaughnessy: Yes
    - vi. W. Stone via email: Yes
7. Command staff email list serve
  - a. [10thcommand@googlegroups.com](mailto:10thcommand@googlegroups.com)
8. Events
  - a. Burning of the Valley (Nov 6-7) Canceled
  - b. Boston Tea Party (Dec 16) Canceled
  - c. Parade invite
    - i. 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 in Milford, MA
    - ii. Major Graves will ask for \$2000.00 and see....
9. Drills
  - a. 16 October in MMNHP
    - i. Still a "go"
    - ii. In uniform
    - iii. Major Graves will check with Ranger Hollister regarding parking
  - b. November
    - i. Major Graves will contact Ranger Hollister to arrange
10. Year-end Business Meeting and Dinner
  - a. Saturday, December 11, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
  - b. The Fours in Quincy
11. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

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*Major Michael V. Graves, Adjutant*

His Majesty's 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot in America

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## Attachment 1

### **A Letter to the Command Staff From the NCO Corps**

On 9/11/21, the NCO Corps met to discuss our visions and concerns for the 10th moving forward into next year. We have written this letter to summarize our meeting in the hopes that the Command Staff will help make our vision and reality and address our concerns.

#### **Cross Company Relationships and Work**

- We feel that each company is acting as its own unit instead of being part of the regiment as a whole. It has been happening since 2018, but COVID has exacerbated it to a new height and we would like there to be greater focus on inter-company work and relations.
- At drills we should occasionally mingle the companies in order to give NCOs the opportunities to command and interact with members of other companies.
- At encampments we would like to split up the cleaning by having a few members of each company clean each meal in order to encourage small talk and relationship building between companies.
- We would like there to be an NCO school completely separate from recruit school in order to teach NCOs about their roles both on and off the field. We would like this to be run by the Sgt Major and have no officer presence.
- At events we would like to occasionally form one or two large hat companies with the different companies mingled together to allow members to work with members whom they would not normally have the chance to work with.

### **Recruiting Concerns**

- We feel that over the years recruits have been pressured to join specific companies leading to member unhappiness and transfers. We request that members do not pressure recruits to join a specific company, but rather encourage recruits to check out all of the companies and make a decision. We also request that the section on the membership application asking what company one would like to join be removed.

### **Money Related Concerns**

- Outfitting a recruit is becoming increasingly expensive and the regiment is no longer offering easy, monthly payments which is pricing out many potential recruits.
- We feel that quartermasters should not purchase uniforms that are outdated or unable to be used. This would free up cash to help pay for other expenses to help new recruits.
- Muskets are the most expensive part of the uniform. We propose the creation of a musket loaning program to alleviate some of the new recruit cost. A member would sign a waiver agreeing to pay for a damaged, lost or stolen musket. They would then use the musket at an event, clean it and return it to the owner before the end of an event. This would allow a recruit to join for about \$1,000 dollars less and they can then purchase a musket once they are able to afford one.

### **Other Concerns**

- We need a steady monthly drill scheduled out for all of next year. Since opinions are split about having them Wednesdays or Saturdays and the depot is already expecting us on Wednesdays we propose keeping them the third Wednesday of every month.

- Need for a larger drill space as we continue to grow. We suggest looking into the possibility of getting permission to use the armory again or finding a new place of a similar size.
- We would like there to be increased member choice about what events they attend. For example, when the 10th was no longer officially attending (can't remember event) due to Bill Moss's funeral there were members that lost money on their hotel rooms or other arrangements. If the 10th pulls out of an event we feel there should be a system for members to still be able to attend.

The NCO Corps felt this meeting was extremely productive and we hope that next season we will have three meetings (January, May and September) to further foster collaboration.

Signed,

Adj. Michael Graves  
Sgt Maj. Ken Mental  
Sgt. Dylan Potter  
Sgt. Justin Murray

Cpl. Khalid Antar  
Cpl. Jonathan Derosa  
Cpl. Bernie Burris  
Cpl. Garrick Connelly

## Attachment 2

### Uniform Modification Proposal

*In accordance with SO 01-006-0721, this document is to begin the process by proposing the below listed uniform modifications to the Materials Research Group (MRG). This document was shared with the MRG on 8/16/21 and created by Justin Murray. Quartermasters approved the changes on August 16th. This proposal was passed along to the Command Staff for approval on September 7th.*

#### Waist Belts for Grenadiers

This conversion has already taken place in the Battalion and Light Infantry companies and the proposal is to have the grenadiers make this change as well.

#### Evidence

##### Evidence from warrants and regulations:

“Shoulder-Belts and Waist-belts. The breadth of the shoulder-belts to be two inches and three quarters; that of the waist belt to be two inches; and those Regiments which have buff waistcoats are to have buff-coloured accoutrements. Those which have white waistcoats are to have white.”

- H.M. Royal Clothing Warrant 1768 (33rdfoot.org)

“...That the accoutrements be conformable to Colonel Howe’s pattern, with a small cartridge box to contain nine rounds in one rowe, to be worn before, with a belt of tanned leather round the waist. The belt to be furnished with two frogs, one for the bayonet, the other for the hatchet occasionally, which at other times will be tyed upon the knapsack.” – 4 March 1771 (LI Regulation) (espritdecorsplivinghistory.com)

Note: 1. Espris de Corps group reenacts as the 23rd Fusiliers as well as other time periods  
2. William Howe was Colonel of the 46th Foot at this time

##### Lord Robert Bertie’s order for 7th Foot Light Infantry accoutrements 1771-1772

“Lord Robert Bertie to Jno. Hume.... For Accoutrements and for the Light Company of the 7th Regiment of Foot. 1771. June 22nd. To 39 Setts of Waist Belts, Cartouche [cartridge] Boxes, Hatchet Cases, Frogs, Powder Horns & Belts, Ball Bags & Slings... @ 9,,0 [each] ... 17,,11,,0. 39 Hatchets..... 1,,3 ... 2,,8,,9. 3 Serjeants Waist Belts wth. Running Carriages & Buckles ..... 4,,- ... -,12,,-. 3 do [ditto] Cartouch Boxes... @ 1,,6 ... 3 do Brass Ornaments.....1,,6 ... 3,,- [total 1 of each].... -,9,,- [total for 3 of each]. 3 do. Slings ..... 1,,3 ... -,3,,9. A Packing Case..... 7,,6. Cash paid Wharfage ..... -

,,1,- July 12th... 39 Private Caps & Feathers. .... 8,,6 ... 16,,11,,6. 3 Serjeants do. with Silver Lace & Tassels &c. .... 19,,- ... 2,,17,,- 1 Drummers do. with a white Bear skin Front a Drum Embroidered & a variegated Feather..... -,10,,6. a Packing Case ..... -,7,,6. Cash paid Wharfage ..... -,6. [total] £42,,0,,0. [Illeg.] 7 1772. Please pay the above account. Robt. Berti Recd. Feby. 7. 1772 of George Ross Esq. the contents in full. Jno. Hume. Witness Roderick" (Digital Collections, University of North Carolina)

HM 17th Blog on Facebook which included paintings that supported both waist-belts and cross-belts

Bayonet belt around the waist? Over the shoulder?

While the regulation for British soldiers called for the bayonet belt to be traditionally worn around the waist (on a "waist-belt" no less), since the period before the Seven Year's War, British soldiers had worn their belts occasionally over the shoulder.

The familiar and oft quoted Bennet Cuthbertson:

"The Bayonet-belt, if worn round the waist, not only heats and confines a Soldier too much about the loins, but if buckled over his coat (a very favourite practice of many Veterans)...as every Soldier on a March, or on Service, pursues that method, if left to his own choice, it cannot be doubted, but he feels it pleasanter, and more to his satisfaction in that position"

From Cuthbertson's perspective, to official documents of the British Army, Cuthbertson was reporting on practices that were already in place, not ones that had yet to be implemented:

Review of the 20th Regiment of Foot at Guildford 4 July 1769,

"Men....they wore their Waistbelts over the right Shoulder, and had

White Linnen Waistcoats and Breeches."

33rd Regiment of Foot, Inspection return of 1774

"Clothed According to regulation, except additional shoulder strap on right shoulder" [presumed to be for the method to secure the bayonet belt]

3d Regiment of Foot, Inspection return of 30th of march 1774:

"...Clothing according to regulation, except an additional shoulder-strap on the right shoulder for convenience of carrying the waist belts"

1st Regiment of Foot , Inspection return of 13th of May 1777:

" ...Men wore the waist-belt over the shoulder, and had a strap on the right shoulder to keep it fast"

13th Regiment of Foot. Inspection return of 5th of June 1777



“...The Grenadiers had their waist-belts hung over the right shoulder to carry the hanger, and a narrow belt round the waist for the bayonet”

25th Regiment of Foot, Inspection Return of 18th-21st of June 1777

”...Grenadiers had waist-belts over the over shoulder”







Two Horses of the Regiment, 25th 1769, National Army Museum, London



Soldiers of the 25th Regiment of Foot in Minorca, circa 1771. Detail from painting by Cecil C. P. Lawson, Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection, after original in the National Army Museum, Chelsea, England.

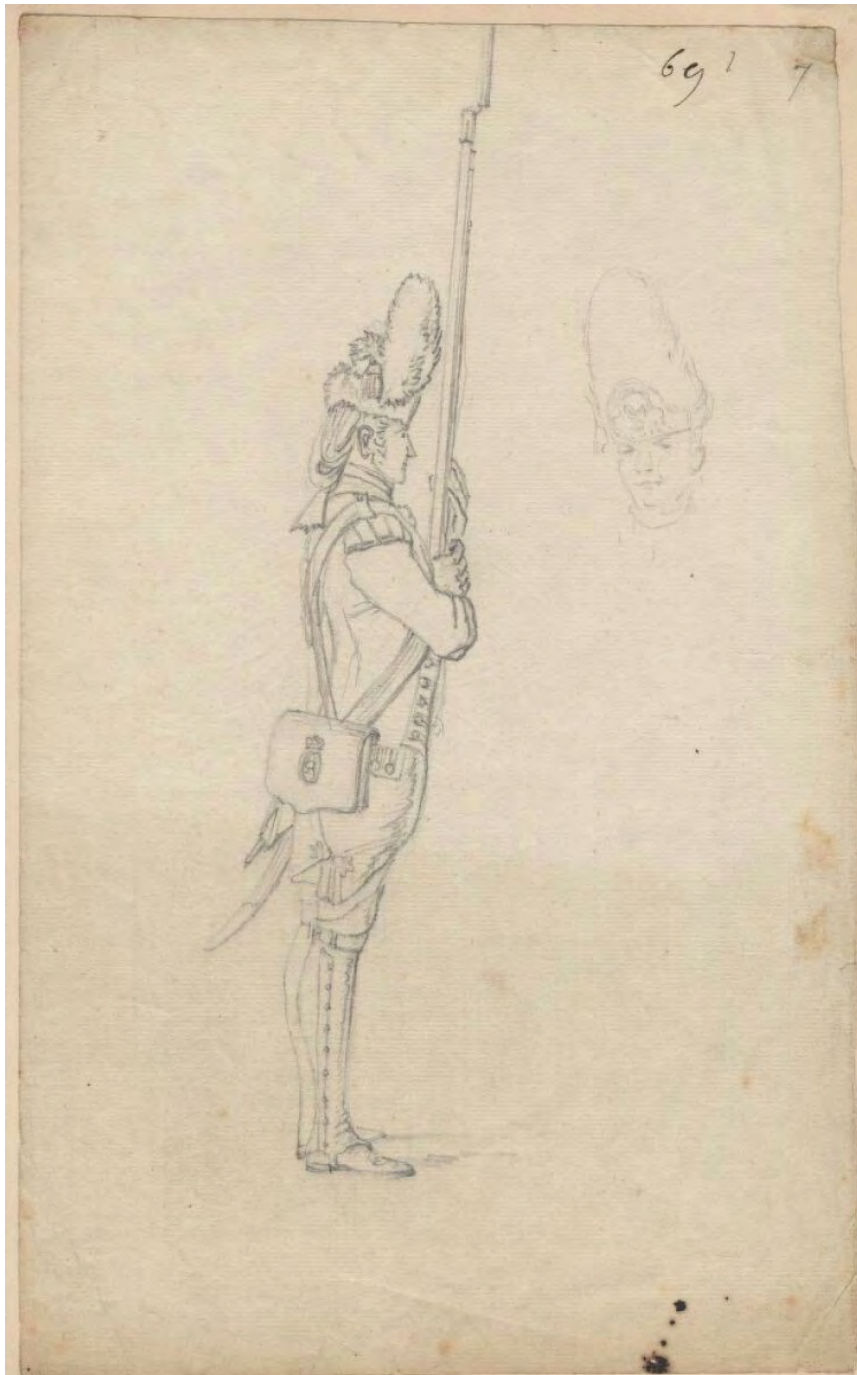
## Cloth Bombs on Grenadier Coat Tails

The proposal is to have the grenadiers switch from the metal bomb pins on the coattails to cloth bombs. The bomb would be made of red wool and the flame would be yellow in the style of matching the coat and facings.

### Evidence

#### Primary Source

Bennet Cuthbertson "One small grenade, with a neat Fuse of a different Colour, fixed upright on the joining of the Skirts, is a proper distinction for the Coats of Grenadiers, and has a pretty Effect."



Sketch of a British soldier by Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg, 1778 **Cloth bombs can clearly be seen on the coattails**



**Lady Louisa Lexcox with her Husband's Regiment,  
25th Regiment of Foot by Giuseppe Chiesa, C1771**

**Secondary Sources Paintings by Don Troiani**



**Grenadier in the 52nd Regiment of Foot, c1775**





Grenadier of the 26th Continental Infantry 1776



French Grenadier of the Regiment Soissonnais 1781

## **Quartermasters Comments**

**Paul and I had a face-to-face chat about the two uniform change proposals... We both concur that these changes are historically correct or are reasonably correct based on the research.**

- 1. One, the only cost for waist belts is thread, thanks to Jonathan Derosa who has established a method of converting current shoulder belts.**
- 2. Nick Woodbury generously made enough cloth bombs for all grenadiers. Again, the only cost is to sew on the cloth bombs.**