

# Papers of the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts



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Brief Description AAG Clay Wood and J.J. Reynolds, Commanding Dept of Texas, to Major Zenas Bliss, Commanding, Fort Duncan  
*General Reynolds authorizes the first enlistment of the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts.*

Keywords: Bliss, Calvary, Elm Creek, Enlist(ment), Fort Duncan, Indian Name, Infantry, Kibbitts (Kibbetts, Kivits), Military, Muster(ed), Seminole(s), Negro(es), Scouts, Soldiers, Reynolds, Texas, Wood

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Headquarters Department of Texas  
(Texas and Louisiana)  
Office Assistant Adjutant General  
Austin, Texas July 20th, 1870

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Zenas. R. Bliss  
Major 25th U. S. Infantry  
Commanding Fort Duncan, Texas

Sir:

Referring to your communication of the 14th instant, making report relative to the Seminole Negro Indians at Fort Duncan, you are authorized to enlist twenty (20), or such number as shall be found fit for service, as Scouts who will receive the pay and allowance of Cavalry Soldiers. Kibbitts, or the Headman, will receive pay of a sergeant.

They will be mustered into service for six (6) months unless sooner discharged. The required muster rolls will be prepared and forwarded. The Indian and English names will both appear on the Muster-in rolls.

You will please detail an energetic and discreet commissioned officer who will have charge and command the party when enlisted.

Your recommendation as to locating the Seminole Negroes on Elm Creek, where they can live and cultivate land is approved, and you will carry out your plan.

The entire party of Indians will be under the control and protection of the Military Authorities at Fort Duncan.

By Command of Brevet Major General Reynolds:  
(signed) H. Clay Wood  
Assistant Adjutant General

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## HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,

(TEXAS AND LOUISIANA.)

Office Assistant Adjutant General.

Austin, Texas, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1870.

Brigadier General James R. Bliss,

Major 25<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry,

Commanding Fort Hancock, Texas,

Sir:



Referring to your communication of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, making report relative to the Seminole-Negroes, etc. at Fort Hancock. You are authorized to enlist Twenty (20) or such number as shall be found fit for service, as Scouts, who will receive the pay and allowances of Cavalry Soldiers, Kitchell, or the Head-man, will receive pay of Sergeant -

They will be mustered into service for (12) months, unless sooner discharged. The required muster-rolls will be prepared and forwarded. The Indian and English names will both appear upon the muster-in rolls -

- You will please detail an energetic and discreet Commissioned Officer, who will have charge and command of the party when enlisted -

Your recommendation as to locating the Seminole Negroes, on Elm Creek, where they can live and cultivate land, is approved, and you will carry out your plan,



# Papers of the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts

The entire party of Indians will be under the  
control and protection of the Military Authorities, at Fort  
Hancock -  
By Command of Brigadier Major General Reynolds;  
(Signed) St. Clair Hooker,  
Assistant Adjutant General

561. A. J. 1870.  
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Official Copy  
St. Clair Hooker  
Assistant Adjutant General

