

Lib. J. R. opportunity, and in case any private Soldiers or men, shall  
& U. S. refuse to be drafted in manner above directed, or afterwards  
to Serve, or March to the Place of Rendezvous, and join the  
Company, The Captains of such men, so Refusing to be  
drafted or Serve, shall thereupon put in Execution the Militia  
Law of this Province, particularly that Clause thereof which  
directs, what shall be done if upon any Foreign Invasion, any  
Person or Persons shall upon the Command of his Captain  
obstinately refuse to appear and Serve in Arms and the said  
Captain shall then proceed to select and draft other men to  
make up the Number, that he may be by you required to  
furnish from his Company. As soon as you have appointed  
Officers for the Company of Rangers, you are to acquaint me  
with their names that I may send them further Instructions  
for their Government & Conduct—you shall also Advise me  
what Place you have appointed for their Rendezvous, till  
they receive my final Orders, that I may if Possible review  
them before they March, you must also make me a Return of  
the Arms and Ammunition in your Possession, or the Maga-  
zine of the County, that if wanted I might send up a proper  
supply for this Occasion

Given at the Council Chamber at the City of Annapolis  
under my hand and Seal this third Day of July in the fifth  
year of his Lordships Dominion Annoq Domini 1755

Hor<sup>o</sup> Sharpe

To Colonel Nathaniel Wickham of Frederick County. For-  
asmuch as the Safety of the Inhabitants of this Province who  
are threatened to be attacked by the French and their Allied  
Indians makes the putting & Keeping the Militia of the  
Frontier Counties especially in Good Order at this time of  
danger extremely necessary I have thought fit hereby to re-  
quire and command all Military Officers within your County  
p. 61 to have the several men under their respective Commands  
frequently Mustered and disciplined (once at least in every  
fortnight for this three Months) and ready to march upon  
any Emergency to Serve his Majesty by defending that part  
of his Majestys Dominions and their own Properties and I  
do further strictly Command and enjoin you and the Several  
officers under your Command during the time aforementioned  
to put in force and see the Militia Laws of this Province  
strictly executed against such Persons as shall neglect their  
duty or disobey the Lawful Commands of their officers, and  
to the End the said Militia may be rendered fit and ready for  
Service on occasion you shall as often as you shall see fit and  
at such times and Places as you shall judge most convenient