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In Council Annapolis 5th Dec^r 1770

N^o 311.
We have just received a Letter from the Board of War, with a Copy of General Washingtons desiring a Guard of about 500 Militia and a supply of Waggons for the Convention Troops through Frederick County, on their Way to Virginia. We are afraid that from the Delay of these Letters you will not have Time to adjust the Business to your own Satisfaction or as we could wish. We imagine the Pennsylvania Militia will expect to be discharged at the Line and are seem to be expected by General Washington to attend them no farther than across Patowmack. We wish you to get at least 500 of the Militia equipped and ready, if possible, to go on Guard at the Pennsylvania Line and to keep up that Number, 'till a Guard is furnished by Virginia. Not knowing the Number of Public Arms in Frederick, but supposing they are not sufficient, we have sent Orders to Baltimore to forward 150 Stand to Col^o Bruce, but no Deliance can be had on their getting up in Time, so that we would have the Militia, who have Arms to take them with them.

Col^o Charles Beatty. We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 5th Dec^r 1770.

Sir

N^o 312.
We have just now received Letters desiring a Guard of about 500 Men over Burgoyne Troops in their Way through Frederick, and have sent an Express to Col^o Beatty to provide it and Carriage for the Baggage &c. but the Troops may be in your Neighbourhood before Things can possibly be disposed in Order; wherefore we request you to exert yourself to prevent, as far as possible any Delay. We have ordered 150 Stand of Arms up from Baltimore with 20 Cartridges for each, to you, but fear they'll be too late. After they have answered the Service, if they get up in Time, or if not, as soon as you receive them be pleased to have them carefully lodged with the other Public Arms in Frederick Town.

We are &c.

Col^o Norman Bruce