

In Council Annapolis 26th March 1779.

We have the Honor to inclose you two Resolutions of the General Assembly passed Yesterday before their Adjournment and hope that our Parts of the Rifle and German Battalions may be incorporated without Inconvenience or Difficulty. The Merits and Services of many of the Officers, we have no Doubt, will make any Instances of ours to place them in the same advantageous Situation as others, unnecessary. The Resolution of Congress on the Subject of recruiting the Army did not reach us 'til Tuesday Evening: the Assembly are desirous of strengthening the Army all they can and our Opinion coincides with theirs, that the most probable Measure for Success will be the distributing recruiting Parties, under proper Officers, through different Parts of the State; a good many Deserters may, by that Method, be certainly got and secured and new Men may be expected to enlist. If the public Stock of Cloathing is such as that the recruiting Parties might have sufficient to dress the Recruits immediately on their enlisting, we doubt not, it would have the wished Effect. We hope Sir that the Situation of the Army may permit you to spare recruiting Parties agreeable to the Desire of the Assembly, we shall, with great Cheerfulness promote the Business all in our Power and, we flatter ourselves, not without Success.

We are Sir with the highest
Respect &c

General Washington.

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Sir. We this Morning received your Letter of the 17th Inst^l by Mr Baldwin; It was necessary to have the Sense of the Assembly on General Points of yours of the 23^d Feb^r before we could answer it. The Assembly broke up last Night and we are just now furnished with their Proceedings. Lieut^t Toomy was certainly not intitled to the 500 Dollars nor did we expect that Major Howard would have paid any of the Money away. Mr Baldwin tells us that your Officer returned again with the 10,936 Dollars without exchanging them: you'll see by one of the inclosed Resolutions, we are to change them. The Sense of the Assembly is, that the Staff as well as Regimental Officers are to have the 500 Dollars. We have no Account of the Officers in the Rifle or German Regiments. We have paid Mr Baldwin his 500 Dollars. The inclosed Resolutions must evince to our Officers the Attention of the Assembly, their Desire to do them full Justice; it is difficult, we are afraid, impossible to give entire Satisfaction to every Individual, but when the Assembly demonstrates so fully their Disposition to put every Thing on its just Footing and the Uneasiness of any must proceed from something within himself or the embarrassed Situation of our Affairs, we hope the Officers will still continue to act. We shall attend to your Recommendation of Mr Baldwin and should be fuller if the Time would permit but we fear this will be full late for the Post.

General Smallwood.

We are &c