

Head Quarters 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Md. Vols.  
Camp on Md. Heights opp. Harpers Ferry  
November 9<sup>th</sup> 1862

Gov. A. W. Bradford

For my own Regt. I drew from the Arsenal at Washington, 950 "Austrian" Rifled Muskets, Cal. 54. and receipted for them there myself — the order was from Col. Kingsbury, Chief of Ordnance on Genl. McClellan's staff, upon Genl. Ripley of the Ordnance Dept. — accoutrements complete came with them. For the 4<sup>th</sup> Md. I received from Lt. Woods, Chief of Ordnance Genl. Wool's staff, 480 Austrian Rif. Muskets, with accoutrements — For the 5<sup>th</sup> Md. I received from Lt. Woods (Fort McHenry) 950 Austrian Rif. Muskets, brown cal 56 — (20,000 rounds of cartridge) & 150 of same for the 4<sup>th</sup> — making for the 4<sup>th</sup> Regt. 630 Austrian Rifles. You will recollect Governor, I had an order from the "War Dept." to Genl. Wool for 1100 Austrian Rifles — 950 I gave to the 6<sup>th</sup> and 150 to the 4<sup>th</sup> — For the 7<sup>th</sup> you had signed a Requisition for 950 Austrian Rifles and accoutrements — Genl. Wool after I put in the Requisition, refused to issue and returned me the Requisition — Col. Webster then went to Washington and received 900 Springfield Rifled Muskets and accoutrements Cal. 58. For the 8<sup>th</sup> I drew none. You signed and approved four Requisitions and forwarded them from your Chamber at Annapolis, for Arms and equipments for the 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Regiments — all Austrian Rifles, Cal. 54 — 950 each. Up to the time I left Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> none of these Regts. were supplied, other than the 1580 I received from "endorsed Requisitions" of Maj. Genl. Wool — it was understood these being "Special" Requisitions that the no received, should be returned back out of those sent on our Requisitions — Lt. Col. Bowerman receipted for the 4<sup>th</sup> Col. Howard for the 6<sup>th</sup> & the Actg. Qr. Master for the 7<sup>th</sup> I was present when the latter were recd. the 8<sup>th</sup> received none, the requisitions were signed by myself, countersigned, examined and found correct, and approved by yourself — My order for my Command bears date the 14<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1861. under seal of "War Dept." My Regt. was mustered complete 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov. 1861. — in all its parts — Coms. issued by you 28<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1862. The Arms of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> are known as "Austrian Rifled" Muskets — 4<sup>th</sup> Cal. 56 — 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Cal. 54 — 7<sup>th</sup> Springfield Rifled Muskets — Cal. 58. — they have not the "Primer" to them or patent "Cap." 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> are "European" in make — the 7<sup>th</sup> American. I am responsible for 950 you for 2480. When I get to Calm. I will return you all the receipts &c. My recollection though is distinct and I am sure accurate.

Believing Governor, I have answered your request, fully and plainly, and at once  
I remain as ever, With great respect  
Your obt. Servt.

Wm. Lewis Schley  
Col. Comdg 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Md. Vols.