

profession of Capt Nat Smith's company. The Ordnings is for Capt Vezey's Company 20  
 the blankets for the others, and the arms 8' with 40 musketts and accoutrements and 20  
 Rifles which we have purchased from W J Ringold, with those you have bought and  
 also the latter are to be equally distributed. To avoid all complaints if you have leisure  
 we request you will parcel out the arms for each Company. Cecil County is already suf-  
 ficiently supplied with powder and lead. The gentlemen from below say the addition of  
 one barrell will not be enough, we therefore would have you send them each another  
 and to keep up an equality which may prevent uneasiness we desire you will also add  
 one to each of the other Counties except Caroline. We desire you will contract for the  
 other rifles, but think the shoes too dear.

If W Hands can come over with you the last of next week it will be a great  
 relief to us. Mr Carroll is fearful of a bit of the gout. Mr Filgusman is anxious to get  
 to the Eastern Shore and the rest of us are much fatigued.

To J Smyth Esq. We are yr mo<sup>o</sup>: obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Sir. You are hereby requested to send a commissioned officer to apprehend  
 Alexander Ross of this Province on suspicion of his having been instrumental in  
 communicating intelligence to Lord Dunmore and other persons inimical to this  
 Province and to the Cause of America and to bring him with all convenient  
 speed before the Council of Safety. The officer you send will probably find him  
 in the neighbourhood of Queens Town in Queen Annes County, and for so doing  
 this shall be your justification. Witness our hands this day of April anno  
 Dom 1776.

To Colo William Smallwood.  
 N.B. The officer is to command what assistance he may want after he gets to the  
 Eastern Shore.

Genl. Very urgent affairs of the Province require your attendance in Council. We therefore  
 request you will immediately join us at Annapolis.

To J Smyth & J B Hands Esqs

Genl. We have had an alarm here of a very interesting nature. We think it advisable  
 to communicate the intelligence by express, at the same time letting you know what we have  
 done therein - and we are induced to expedite our dispatch because we do not know  
 but that the Congress may have taken some steps in the same affair, Copies having  
 been forwarded to them from the Committee of Observation for Baltimore County, to whom  
 the whole packet was transmitted by the Committee of Safety of Virginia, we think very  
 improperly, as the address ought to have been made in the first place to us.

Some time past Alexander Ross (a great scoundrel - we fear) applied to our board  
 for a permit to Lord Dunmore under pretence of private business, getting some money that  
 was due to him as he alleged; he brought us a letter from two Gent of the Congress Messrs  
 Alexander and Rogers, which no doubt R. A. remembers. We refused to give him any  
 other permit than to the Committee of Safety of Virginia, whither he went as we told  
 but could get no permit to Dunmore, He got a letter 'tis said to the Committee of  
 Hampton, they declined giving him any passport; he went to Lord Dunmore without  
 any and on his way back was stop't by Capt Barron, who took from him some letters  
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