LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

Statements from the Quartermaster-General and others in reference to Senate resolution of January 24, 1882, calling for information in relation to the cost to the government of the Indian wars during each of the past ten years, &c.

MARCH 6, 1882.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington City, March 4, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution of the Senate, dated January 24, 1882, by which the Secretary of War is directed to inform the Senate what has been the cost to the government of the Indian wars during each of the past ten years; also what has been the cost to the government during each of the past ten years of so much of the Army as has been engaged in the observation and control of Indians, and whose presence has been rendered necessary as

a protection from danger of Indian hostilities.

In reply to that part of the resolution which calls for information as to the cost to the government of the Indian wars during each of the past ten years, I have the honor to submit a tabular statement, marked A, made by the Qartermaster-General of the Army, showing the cost of transportation, quartermaster's supplies, and claims paid arising out of Indian wars during the years in question, and a tabular statement marked B, made by the Commissary-General of Subsistence, showing the cost of subsistence stores issued and lost in such wars, both these statements giving expenses above the cost of the usual supplies to the Army. These statements have been combined in one table, herewith submitted, marked C, which shows, with as much definition of years as I am advised is practicable, the cost of Indian wars over and above the usual expenses of maintaining the Army during the period in question.

In reply to that part of the resolution which calls for information as to the cost to the government during each of the past ten years of so much of the Army as has been engaged in the observation and control of Indians, or whose presence has been rendered necessary as a protection from danger of Indian hostilities, I have the honor to state that my endeavors to obtain data upon which to base a response show that, if the reply should be delayed a sufficient time to do all that is practicable in the way of separating the proper items of cost from the mass of expenditures on any assumed basis, there would still be left a large amount of expenditures which would have to be divided by estimate merely, and that the result would therefore be still an estimate, and

probably not much nearer absolute accuracy than the result reached, as hereinafter shown.

I have assumed that so much of the Army as is kept in that part of the United States which lies west of the Mississippi River, is so kept for the purposes named in the inquiry, and have therefore caused to be prepared the table herewith submitted marked D, making for each year an exhibit of the total strength of the Army, and of the strength of that part of it kept west of the Mississippi. The average percentage of the Army so kept is, for the whole period of ten years, 73.36. The statement herewith submitted marked E, prepared by the Adjutant-General of the Army, gives, for each year, an exhibit of the various ordinary appropriations for maintaining the Army, and a statement based upon percentages of which the average is as above stated, which, combined with certain special appropriations expended wholly in the West, shown in the same statement gives the estimate of the Adjutant-General prepared for my assistance in answering this inquiry. Attention is also respectfully invited to the letter of the Adjutant-General transmitting his estimate.

I have also the honor to submit a copy of a letter from the General of the Army on this subject, from which it will be perceived that his general conclusion is that about four-fifths of the expenditures for the Army during the past ten years have been made on account of that part of the Army which is engaged west of the Mississippi River. This estimate would increase that of the Adjutant-General by about the

average annual sum of \$1,792,486.

The estimates prepared by the Adjutant-General would, in my judgment, be reasonably accurate, if the character of the troops, the nature of their duties, and the facilities for transportation of men and supplies were similar in the East and in the West. Three important items—pay, subsistence, and clothing—cost the same in one place as in another; but when it is considered that the cavalry, the most expensive arm of the service, relatively, is wholly employed in the West, that all the troops in the West are frequently in the field and not merely in garrisons, as in the East, and that the numerous isolated posts in the West are nearly all supplied by the most costly methods of transportation, it is manifest that greatly more than the pro rata part of such appropriations as regular supplies and incidental expenses of the Quartermaster's Department, purchase of cavalry and artillery horses, transportation of the Army, and hire of quarters and construction of temporary quarters, is expended in the West. These items aggregate, for the ten years, the sum of \$110,361,069. If, instead of adopting the estimate suggested by the General of the Army, of four-fifths of the total appropriations, a percentage as high as 90 per cent. on these particular items is taken (as to other items, using the percentage adopted by the Adjutant-General), the estimated cost of that part of the Army west of the Mississippi River, as shown in the statement of the Adjutant-General, is increased by the average annual sum of \$1,841,650, making an estimate of the aggregate annual cost slightly larger than is suggested by the General of the Army. I have embodied this estimate in the inclosed statement marked F, which is respectfully submitted as my response to the second inquiry contained in the resolution of the Senate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT T. LINCOLN,
Secretary of War.

To the President pro tempore, United States Senate.

 $\hbox{Statement of cost of Indian\,wars since 1872, as shown by the records of the } \\ Quartermaster-General's Office.$

Wars.	Period.	Q. M. appropriation.	Claims.	Total.
Modoc	1872-'73 March to June, 1875			\$335, 009 78 6, 641 61
Sioux Nez Percés Baunock Northern Cheyennes Ute Sheepeaters Apache (partial)	1876–'77 1877 1878 1878–'79 1879	1, 894, 361 28 931, 329 02 556, 636 19 34, 209 57 1, 190, 320 64	\$43, 753 63 10, 935 25 2, 362 25 9, 411 86	1, 894, 361 28 975, 082 65 567, 571 44 34, 209 57 1, 192, 682 89 9, 411 86 43, 850 00
Total		4, 992, 358 09	66, 462 99	5, 058, 821 08

J. G. CHANDLER, Deputy Quartermaster-General, U. S. A.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, February 17, 1882.

STATEMENT B.—Table showing expenditures incident to Indian wars entailed upon the Subsistence Department of the Army during the fiscal years 1872 to 1881, inclusive, over and above the cost of subsisting the Army during the same periods.

Date of issue.		Cost to the Subsistence Department.	Refunded by the Interior Department.
	1872.		
	1873.		
January, 1873	Rations issued to first brigade. Oregon militia,	\$181 85	
March, 1873	in Modoc war. Commutation paid two Modoc prisoners	1 50	
	1874.	183 35	
	1875.		
November, 1874, to May, 1875.	Rations issued to Kiowa, Comanche, and Chey- enne prisoners of war in Department of Mis-	19,836 98	
May and June, 1875	souri and en route to Fort Marion, Fla. Rations issued to above prisoners at Fort Marion, Fla.	540 81	
	1876.	20, 377 79	
March to June, 1876	Subsistence stores lost in operations against Sioux Indians.	2, 786 70	
	1877.	2, 786 70	
July, 1876, to June, 1877	Rations issued to Kiowa, Comanche, and Cheyenne prisoners of war at Fort Marion, Fla.	4, 399 31	
July, 1876, to June, 1877	Subsistence stores lost in operations against Sioux Indians.	13, 061 80	
	Add excess of cost of above stores purchased in Black Hills over cost of same stores if supplied from depots.	6, 311 86	
May and June, 1877	Rations issued to Crow allies Commutation of rations paid on account of Kiowa, Comanche, and Cheyenne prisoners of war.	1, 545 78 22 50	\$22 50
	1878.	25, 341 25	22 50
July, 1877, to April, 1878	Rations issued to Kiowa, Comanche, and Cheyenne prisoners of war at Fort Marion, Fla.	2, 885 34	
July, 1877	Subsistence stores lost in operations against Sioux Indians.	1, 637 62	

STATEMENT B.—Table showing expenditures incident to Indian wars, &c.—Continued.

Date of issue.		Cost to the Subsistence Department.	Refunded by the Interior Department.
,	1878—Continued.		
July to December, 1877		\$7,512 88	\$7,803 71
December, 1877, to June, 1878 July to September, 1878 November, 1877, to June, 1878 January to June, 1878	of war. Rations issued to Cheyenne prisoners of war Rations issued to Crow allies Rations issued to Nez Percé prisoners of war Commutation paid on account of Nez Percé prisoners of war.	6, 268 35 1, 680 17 18, 851 32 29 25	
	Subsistence stores lost in operations against Nez Percés.	8, 811 36	
July to October, 1877	Rations issued to volunteers and volunteer scouts in operations against Nez Percé Indians.	2,664 40	
June, 1878	Rations issued to Idaho volunteers in operations against Bannock Indians.	184 68	
January to June, 1878 October, 1877, to June, 1878	Rations issued to Bannock prisoners of war Rations issued to Warm Spring Apache prisoners of war.	114 49 8, 469 43	
	1879.	59, 109-29	7, 803 71
July, 1878, to June, 1879 July, 1878, to June, 1879 July to September, 1878	Rations issued to Cheyenne prisoners of war Rations issued to Nez Percé prisoners of war Rations issued to Idaho volunteers in operations against Bannock Indians.	8, 498 40 1, 542 50 352 81	
December, 1878	Subsistence stores lost in operations against Bannock Indians.	66 95	
August, 1878, to May, 1879 July, 1878, to June, 1879 September, 1878, to June, 1879	Rations issued to Piute Indian prisoners of war. Rations issued to Bannock prisoners of war Rations issued to Bannock and Piute prisoners of war.	11, 884 19 4, 709 77 461 87	1, 932 30
October, 1878, to April, 1879	Rations issued to Bannock and Shoshone prisoners of war.	2, 117 41	
June, 1879 October, 1878 July to September, 1878	Rations issued to Cheyenne prisoners of war do Rations issued to Warm Spring Apache pris-	416 64 109 54 3, 763 67	
October, 1878, to June, 1879	oners of war.	213 82	
	1880.	34, 137 57	1, 932 30
July and August, 1879	Rations issued to Nez Percé prisoners of war	66 66	
July, 1879, to December, 1879 July, 1879, to September, 1879	Rations issued to Bannock prisoners of war	684 04 568 44	
July, 1879, to September, 1879 August, 1879	Rations issued to Cheyenne prisoners of war Rations issued to Cheyenne, Bannock, and Sioux prisoners of war.	1, 087 93 212 60	
February to April, 1880 September, 1879, to June, 1880 March to June, 1880 October, 1879	Rations issued to Bannock prisoners of war Rations issued to Sheepeater prisoners of war Rations issued to Ute prisoners of war	40 23 1, 584 43 13 76 756 44	
May, 1880	Rations issued to Weiser prisoners of war Rations issued to Chimijuive prisoners of war Rations issued to Mescalero Apache prisoners of war.	242 87 417 48 112 87	
December, 1879 July to October, 1879 June, 1880	Rations issued to Apache prisoners of war	20 46 41 09 1,900 81	
	1881.	7, 750 11	
July to October, 1880 November, 1880, to June, 1881	Rations issued to Sheepeater prisoners of war Rations issued to Sheepeater, Weiser, and Nez	498 82 1, 664 14	
July, 1880, to January, 1881 July, 1880 August, 1880	Percé prisoners of war. Rations issued to Ute prisoners of war Rations issued to Weiser prisoners of war Rations issued to Mescalero Apache prisoners of war.	31 76 38 17 176 51	176 51
February to June, 1881 . September, 1880, to April, 1881 July, 1880, to June, 1881	Rations issued to Apache prisoners of war	94 20 90 53 88, 970 51	25, 000 00
		91, 564 64	25, 176 51

STATEMENT C .- Expenditures on account of Indian wars from 1872 to 1881.

Period.	War.	Quartermaster's Department.	Subsistence De- partment.	Subsistence of Indian prisoners.	Stores lost.	Total.
1872-'73 1875 1875 1875 1876-'77 1876-'77 1877-'78 1877-'78 1878-'79 1878-'79 1879-'80 1879-'80 1879-'80	Modoc Texasdo Siouxdo Nez Percésdo Bannock do Northern Cheyennes Utedo Sheepeaters Apachedo	\$335, 009 78 6, 641 61 1, 894, 361 28 975, 082 65 567, 571 44 34, 209 57 1, 192, 682 89 9, 411 86 43, 850 00	\$183 35 2,664 40 537 49	\$20, 377 79 5, 967 59 37, 227 31 42, 301 73 6, 993 67 91, 564 64	\$23, 797 98 8, 811 36 66 95 756 44	\$335, 193 13 6, 641 61 20, 377 71 1, 918, 159 96 5, 967 59 986, 558 41 37, 227 31 568, 175 88 42, 301 73 34, 209 57 1, 193, 439 36 9, 411 86 43, 850 00 91, 564 64
		5, 058, 821 08	3, 385 24	204, 432 73	33, 432 73	5, 300, 071 78

STATEMENT D.—Distribution and average yearly strength of the United Slates Army from January 1, 1872, to December 31, 1881.

W	Number employed in observation or con- trol of Indians, &c.			Number otherwise employed.			•	e in the stritory.	d posts	d posts
Year.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Off.cers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Aggregate.	Percentage in th Indian Territory	Garrisoned east of the sissippi.	Garrisoned west of the sissippi.
1872	1, 260 1, 303 1, 326 1, 321 1, 391 1, 500 1, 461 1, 511 1, 526 1, 556	18, 852 19, 852 19, 100 15, 756 17, 154 16, 417 17, 624 18, 875 18, 780 17, 261	20, 112 21, 155 20, 426 17, 077 18, 545 17, 917 19, 085 20, 386 20, 306 18, 817	852 777 762 755 768 685 700 624 634 633	7, 219 6, 724 6, 791 7, 040 8, 553 4, 946 5, 630 5, 387 5, 479 5, 733	8, 071 7, 501 7, 553 7, 795 9, 321 5, 631 6, 300 6, 011 6, 113 6, 366	28, 183 28, 656 27, 979 24, 872 27, 866 23, 548 25, 415 26, 397 26, 419 25, 183	71. 36 74. 17 73 68. 65 66. 55 76 77. 33 76. 86 74. 72	71 54 63 55 62 46 37 31 28	104 107 116 116 107 107 107 114 115

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, February 27, 1882.

STATEMENT E.—Amounts appropriated for the support of the military establishment proper for the ten years commencing July 1, 1871, and ending June 30, 1882, showing general heads of appropriations, with estimated proportion chargeable to Army west of the Mississippi River.

· Fiscal years.	Expenses of recruiting.	Contingent expenses Adjutant.General's Department, divis- ion and department headquarters.	Expenses Signal Service.		Pay of the Army.	Subsistence of troops.	Regular supplies, Quar- termaster's Depart- ment.
1872-73 1873-74 1874-75 1875-76 1876-77 1877-78 1878-79 1879-80 1880-81 1881-82 Total	\$120, 580 121, 000 105, 000 105, 000 90, 000 75, 000 75, 000 75, 000 97, 000 938, 530	\$5,000 5,000 3,000 3,000 3,000 3,000 3,000 3,000 3,000 3,4,000	\$12, 500 12, 500 12, 500 12, 500 10, 500 10, 500 10, 500 10, 500 10, 500 10, 500 10, 500	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2, 105, 591 2, 300, 000 1, 400, 000 1, 400, 000 2, 620, 375 1, 300, 000 1, 600, 188 2, 299, 800 2, 295, 800 9, 621, 554	\$2, 770, 944 2, 500, 000 2, 409, 000 2, 484, 330 2, 200, 000 2, 370, 000 2, 315, 000 2, 300, 000 2, 250, 000 2, 250, 000	\$4,010,000 4,500,000 4,250,000 3,750,000 3,750,000 3,600,000 3,600,000 3,500,000 3,500,000
Amounts appropriated to supply deficiencies during the above ten years	330, 300	34,000			896, 000	191, 800	1, 322, 981
Grand total	938, 580	34, 000	113, 000	12	0, 517, 554	24, 041, 074	39, 832, 981
Fiscal years.	Incidental expenses Quartermaster's De- partment.	Purchase of cavalry and artillery horses.	Transportation of the Army.		Hire of quarters and construction of temporary quarters, &c.	Construction and repair of hospitals.	Purchase, manufacture, and care of clothing and equipage.
1872-'73 1873-'74 1874-'75 1875-'76 1876-'77 1877-'78 1878-'79 1879-'80 1880-'81 1881-'82	\$1, 540, 000 1, 300, 000 1, 200, 000 1, 200, 000 850, 000 800, 000 1, 000, 000 1, 000, 000 1, 000, 000	\$300, 000 350, 000 300, 000 300, 000 250, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000	\$4,000, 4,500, 4,000, 4,000, 3,500, 4,200, 4,200, 4,200, 4,200, 4,239, 40,839,	000 000 000 000 000 000 000	\$1, 250, 000 1, 700, 000 1, 400, 000 1, 500, 000 1, 150, 000 1, 100, 000 880, 000 880, 000 880, 000	100,000 100,000 100,000 100,000 50,000 75,000 75,000 75,000 75,000	\$770, 000 1, 723, 508 1, 480, 000 400, 000 900, 000 900, 000 900, 000 1, 000, 000 1, 100, 000
Amounts appropriated to sup- ply deficiencies during the above ten years	550, 903		3, 172,	095	956, 090)	280, 493
Grand total	11, 440, 903	2, 500, 000	44, 011,	095	12, 576, 090	850, 000	10, 904, 001

STATEMENT E .- Amounts appropriated for support of military establishment, &c .- Cont'd .

Fiscal years.	Army contingencies.	Purchase of medical and hospital supplies.	Arms and equipments, Ordnance.	Total.	Percentage of Army in Indian country.	Percentage of appropriation chargeable to Army in Indian country, west of the Mississippi.
1872-'73 1873-'74 1874-'75 1874-'75 1876-'77 1877-'78 1878-'79 1879-'80 1880-'81 1881-'82	\$75, 000 100, 000 100, 000 100, 000 50, 000 40, 000 40, 000 40, 000 40, 000 40, 000	\$300, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 175, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000 200, 000	\$550, 000 665, 000 475, 000 575, 000 610, 000 415, 000 565, 000 785, 000 785, 000 780, 000	\$27, 909, 615 30, 077, 008 27, 434, 500 27, 679, 830 25, 758, 875 25, 363, 500 25, 413, 688 26, 568, 300 26, 398, 300 26, 670, 300	71. 36 74. 17 73 68. 65 66. 55 76 75 77. 33 76. 86 74. 72	\$19, 916, 301 22, 308, 116 20, 027, 185 19, 002, 203 17, 142, 531 19, 276, 260 19, 060, 266 20, 545, 286 20, 289, 733 19, 928, 048
Total	625, 000	2, 075, 000 25, 000	6, 185, 000 100, 000	269, 273, 916 7, 495, 362	73, 36	197, 495, 909 5, 498, 597
Grand total	625, 000	2, 100, 000	6, 285, 000	276, 769, 278		202, 994, 506

1.—Special appropriations for barracks and quarters west of the Mississippi.

Posts.	Purpose.	Amount.
Red Cloud Indian Agency Forts Custer and Keogh Fort Assinaboine Fort Meade, Dak Fort Bliss, Tex Fort Lewis, Cal	do Winter quarters New posts New post do do do do Depot and headquarters building Sites, &c. Storehouses, &c New buildings Barracks	\$90, 903 50, 000 200, 000 225, 000 100, 000 40, 000 50, 000 225, 000 245, 000 245, 000 200, 000 30, 000
Total		1, 746, 608

2.—Military wagon-roads and bridges west of the Mississippi.

Appropriated for—	Amount.
Gridge across North Platte River Roads in New Mexico Roads in Arizona Road from Sloux City to Fort Randall Jio Caliente to Fort Wingate	\$15, 000 6, 64 15, 000 2, 500 5, 000
fridge at Fort Snelling. Soad from Scottsburg to Camp Stuart, Oreg.)jo Caliente to Pagosa Springs Fort Missoula to Cœur d'Alene.	65, 00 10, 00 5, 00 20, 00
Total	144, 14

3 .- Military telegraph lines west of the Mississippi.

Line appropriated for.	Amount.
Prescott to Camp Verde. Frontier of Texas Lines in New Mexico and Arizons Indian and Mexican frontier Bismarck to Fort Ellis Fort Buford to Helens Fort Elliot westward.	\$4,000 100,000 163,000 232,500 50,000 20,000
Total	589, 500

RECAPITULATION.

Proportion of appropriations as above chargeable to the Army west of the Mississippi Special appropriations for construction and repairs of posts west of the Mississippi (see	\$202, 994, 506
table 1)	1, 746, 608 144, 145

205, 474, 759

R. C. DRUM, Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, February 27, 1882.

> WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, February 27, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith Senate resolution of January 24, 1882, calling for "the cost to the government of Indian wars during each of the past ten years"; also "the cost to the government during each of the past ten years of so much of the Army as has been engaged in the observation or control of Indians, or whose presence has been rendered necessary as a protection from danger of Indian hostilities," with tabulated statements showing the disposition of the military force, the regular appropriations for the support of the Army, and special appropriations made to facilitate military operations during the period named in the resolution.

The average percentage of troops west of the Mississippi for the past ten years is 73.36, and the proportion of garrisoned posts (if we deduct, as in my judgment we should, the temporary stations occupied by the troops in the Southern States in the years 1872–1876) is about the same.

Taking these items, as shown in detail in the statement, it is found that the aggregate is \$205,474,759, but there are certain items of the appropriation, such, for instance, as regular supplies, incidental expenses, transportation, purchase of cavalry horses, repair of barracks, in which the percentage is higher than that given.

I have the honor, to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. DRUM,
Adjutant-General.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF WAR.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES. Washington, D. C., February 20, 1882.

SIR: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday, calling for my views on the subject of inquiry by the Senate of January 21, 1882, "What has been the cost to the government during each of the past ten years of so much of the Army as has been engaged in the observation or control of Indians, or whose presence has been rendered necessary as a protection from danger of Indian hostilities."

I construe all of the Army west of the Mississippi as either in the Indian country or so near as to be incident to their control or observation.

The Army to-day consists of 23,785 enlisted men and about 2,000 commissioned officers. Of these are posted west of the Mississippi River—

6,627
300 10, 916
525
161
18, 529
350
1,885
1,316 1,705
5, 256
18

Thus accounting for every man now in the Army.

This has been the condition of facts for the past ten years, the aggregate force varying each day, but the relative proportions but little disturbed.

I am unable to apportion the relative cost of the several parts of the Army, as that does not fall under my supervision; but my general conclusion is, the four-fifths of the Army has during the past ten years been employed west of the Mississippi, and that the expenditures of the annual appropriations have been in about the same ratio.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

Hon. R. T. LINCOLN, Secretary of War.

STATEMENT F.

Fiscal years.	Estimate by Adjutant-General of cost of troops in the Indian country, including annual average of appropriations for deficiencies expended wholly west of the Misslasippi Kiver.	Additional amount chargeable on appropriations for regular supplies and incidental expenses, transportation, purchase of horses, hive and construction of quarters, to make the proportion charged on these items 90 per cent.	Annual average of deficiency appropriations for items mentioned in the preceding column, calculated as therein.	Estimate submitted by the Secretary of War of the total cost of troops in the Indian country.
1872-73 1873-74 1874-75 1875-76 1876-77 1877-78 1878-79 1879-80 1880-81 1881-82	\$20, 714, 186 00 23, 106, 001 00 20, 825, 070 00 19, 800, 088 00 17, 940, 416 00 20, 074, 145 00 19, 858, 151 00 21, 343, 151 00 21, 087, 618 00 20, 725, 933 00	\$2, 069, 040 00 1, 955, 005 00 1, 895, 590 00 2, 401, 875 00 2, 227, 750 00 1, 400, 000 00 1, 251, 796 00 1, 271, 952 00 1, 500, 343 20	\$99, 874 43 99, 874 43	\$22, 883, 100 43 25, 160, 880 43 22, 820, 444 43 22, 260, 187 43 20, 268, 040 43 21, 574, 019 43 22, 694, 821 43 22, 694, 821 43 22, 326, 150 63
Total	205, 474, 759 00	17, 417, 761 20	998, 744 30	223, 891, 264 50