
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

OCTOBER 3, 1888.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. STEWART, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 1959.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1959) authorizing the Secretary of War to issue to the governor of the Territory of Montana military stores for the use of the regularly enlisted, organized, and uniformed active militia, having considered the same submit the following report:

In August, 1867, there was issued to the Territory of Montana, for the purpose of repelling Indian hostilities, field artillery, small arms, etc., amounting to \$69,296.77, which was charged against the annual quota allowed said Territory under the law for arming and equipping the militia. By the act of February 17, 1870, the Secretary of War was authorized to balance the account between the Territory of Montana and the United States by crediting said Territory with the balance of the amount then standing charged against it on account of the issuance of arms in August, 1867, amounting to \$69,296.77, as above mentioned. In the meantime, and before such credit was authorized, there had been deducted from the annual quota of the Territory the sum of \$33,860.76.

The United States has frequently on occasions of emergency issued extra arms to the States, and deducted the same from their annual quotas, but has afterwards credited the States with the amounts so deducted. This was done in the case of an extra allowance made to the State of South Carolina on the requisition of the governor of that State in 1869, which was for a time charged to its annual quota and afterwards made good by the issuance of additional arms.

The bill under consideration provides for the arming of the militia of the Territory of Montana, and the Secretary of War estimates that it would require about \$46,500 to comply with its provisions. This would be in excess of the amount which should be issued to the Territory to make up what has been deducted from its annual quota and credited on the special issuance of arms, etc., in August, 1867.

Your committee have therefore amended the bill limiting the amount appropriated thereby to the amount which had been taken from the annual quota of the Territory and credited on the special issuance of arms in 1867, which amounted to \$33,860.76. This will relieve Montana from the charge of the extra allowance made in August, 1867, on account of an emergency growing out of Indian hostilities.

The matters herein stated will appear in detail in the annexed communication from the Secretary of War.

Your committee report back the bill, and recommend its passage as amended.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington City, September 13, 1888.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d ultimo inclosing Senate bill 3336 to authorize the issue to the Territory of Montana of military stores for the use of the regularly enlisted, organized, and uniformed active militia, together with House Report No. 2402 thereon, and a letter upon the subject from the governor of Montana, and asking for information respecting the yearly allowance of arms and equipments for that Territory, and for the views of the Department upon the proposed legislation.

In reply I beg to invite attention to the inclosed copies of reports from the acting Chief of Ordnance upon the subject of ordnance stores, heretofore issued to the Territory.

With reference to the cost of the arms and ordnance stores proposed to be issued by the bill, the acting Chief of Ordnance states that, based upon the return of the regularly enlisted, organized, and uniformed active militia of the United States, as reported to the Adjutant-General of the Army, the estimate is about \$32,000; and the Quartermaster-General reports that the cost of clothing for the troops, as specified in the bill, including helmets, forage-caps and trimmings, dress-coats, blouses, trousers, stripes, will be about \$14,000. Neither of these amounts allow for transportation of the stores, which would cost, it is supposed, at least \$500.

Since the passage of the act of February 12, 1887 (24 Stat., 401), stores amounting to \$5,529.04 (which sum is the whole of its quota for last year, and all but \$2.24 of its quota for this year) have been issued to the Territory, and no more stores can be issued under the act until July 1, 1889.

A number of requisitions have been made by the States and Territories (one notably from the State of Oregon, which under the law can receive no more stores than Montana) for a larger amount of stores than they were entitled to under the provisions of the act, all of which had to be refused.

If the stores are to be issued as proposed by the Senate bill an appropriation of \$46,500 should be made for their purchase, as the cost thereof can not, under the act of February 12, 1887, be a charge against the annual appropriation for arming and equipping the militia, and the issue of so large an amount of stores from army supplies would make a serious inroad upon the appropriations for the Army for the present year (said appropriations not being yet available), and for a purpose not contemplated when the estimates for the present year were prepared.

The letter of the governor of Montana is herewith returned, as requested.

Very respectfully,

R. MACFEELY,
Acting Secretary of War.

Hon. WILLIAM STEWART,
Of Committee on Military Affairs, United States Senate.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, August 15, 1888.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War.

In August, 1867, field artillery, small-arms, etc., amounting to \$69,296.77, were issued to the Territory of Montana, by order of the Secretary of War, and charged against its quota under the law for arming and equipping the militia. The annual quotas since that date until February 17, 1887, have been applied to the liquidation of this charge.

The act of February 17, 1887 (copy inclosed), authorized the Secretary of War to adjust and balance the account for arms, etc., between the Territory of Montana and the United States by crediting said Territory with the balance then standing against it. Under this act a credit of \$35,436.01 was given the Territory, thus balancing the account.

Under the provisions of the act approved May 21, 1872 (Vol. 14, Stat. at Large), page 138, 1,000 Springfield breech-loading rifles, with accouterments, and 200,000 cartridges, were issued to the Territory of Montana without charge, and have not yet been returned by said Territory.

Under the joint resolutions of July 3, 1876, March 3, 1877, March 9 and June 7, 1878, and the act of May 16, 1878 (copies inclosed), the Territory of Montana is entitled to draw 2,000 rifles and 100,000 cartridges, but thus far it has only drawn 600 rifles and 30,000 cartridges, leaving still available 1,400 rifles and 70,000 cartridges.

Since July 1, 1887, Montana has drawn, under the law for arming the militia, 290 rifles and 80 carbines, with ammunition and accouterments.

CHAS. S. SMITH,

Captain, Ordnance Department U. S. Army, Acting Chief of Ordnance.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, August 30, 1888.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War, with the report that the cost of the arms and ordnance stores proposed to be issued by Senate bill 3336 is estimated, based on the return of the regularly enlisted, organized, and uniformed active militia of the United States, published by the Adjutant-General of the Army, to be about \$32,000.

CHAS. S. SMITH,

Captain, Ordnance Department U. S. Army, Acting Chief of Ordnance.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 6, 1888.

Respectfully returned to the honorable the Secretary of War, with report that, it is estimated, the cost of clothing the troops specified in the within bill, and of furnishing the officers and men with the regulation allowance of equipage, will be \$14,000.

In making the calculation the following articles of clothing were included: Helmets, forage caps and trimmings, dress coats, blouses, trousers, chevrons, and trousers stripes.

S. B. HOLABIRD,

Quartermaster-General U. S. Army.

Statement of the account of the Territory of Montana from July 1, 1888, to September 13, 1888.

Cr.			Dr.		
1888. July 1.	Balance due from fiscal year 1888.....	\$0.66	1888. July 17.	Requisition for ordnance stores.....	2,699.65
	Quota for fiscal year 1889.....	2,764.98		Estimated transportation...	63.75
		2,765.64			2,763.40
				Balance	2.24