

7045

CHP:IA

August 13, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR FITTS, G-3:

As requested by telephone on the 12th instant, there are submitted below additional names considered appropriate for designation of the proposed new Army posts in Arkansas and California:

a. Vicinity of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

*Weyand
Chaffee*

PIKE, Albert (1809-1891) -

Prominent in the public affairs of Arkansas from 1832 to the close of the Civil War. He taught school in Pope County in 1833; lived for a time in Fort Smith, and was long associated as an editor and publisher of the Arkansas Advocate of Little Rock. Served in the Mexican War as a Captain in the Regiment of Arkansas Mounted Volunteers, commanded by Col. Archibald Yell, killed at the battle of Buena Vista. Conspicuous in the political affairs of the State; when the Civil War opened he was sent as a commissioner by the Confederate Government to the Indians and on August 15, 1861, was appointed a Brigadier General, C.S.A.; commanded the Indian Brigade at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, in March, 1862. A distinguished writer before and after the Civil War period; particularly prominent in Washington, D. C., where he died and where there is a statue in his honor. See detailed biography attached.

Note: General Pike was suggested as appropriate for a post in Oklahoma in our memorandum dated June 12, 1941, to Brig. Gen. Twaddle, G-3.

Camp Pike, Arkansas, established in 1917 near Little Rock, was redesignated Camp Joseph T. Robinson on August 26, 1937. However that National Army garrisonment was named in honor of Brig. Gen. Zebulon M. Pike, U.S.A., explorer of the southwest, who was killed in Canada in 1813. No post has as yet been named for Albert Pike.

b. Vicinity of Santa Maria-Iampos, California.

COOKE, Philip St. George (1809-1895) -

In separate file

Distinguished American soldier, explorer, Indian fighter and author; born in Virginia; graduate of the U.S. Military Academy in 1827; distinguished in the Black Hawk, Mexican and Civil Wars; led the "Horned Battalion" to California (following General Kearney) in 1846-47, making the ~~practical wagon road in 55 days~~; exploring and building a practical wagon road en route; arrived at San Diego, Calif., on January 29, 1847, where he played a prominent part in breaking the deadlock between military and naval officers regarding control of the new territory; played an outstanding part in the settlement of the whole western part of the United States from 1845 to 1861; military observer in the war in Italy (1857-58); famous cavalry commander in the Civil War, being brevetted a Major-General of Volunteers. See detailed biography attached.

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OLIVER L. SPILLING,
Colonel, U. S. A., Ret.,
Chief, Historical Section.

G-3/43440 - Memo for the Chief of Staff - August 23, 1941 - Subject: Housing of new camp near Ft. Smith, Ark.

II. Action recommended.

The Secretary of War directs that the new camp near Ft. Smith, Arkansas, be named "Camp Chaffee".

SEP 9 1941

APPROVED
By order of the Secretary of War
G. C. WARE, Major, G.S.C. Asst. Sec. W.D.G.S.
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NOTED CHIEF OF STAFF

HARRY L. TWADDLE,
Brigadier General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

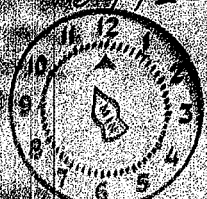
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1-1 use will be instructed to consider in connection with those of any other plans contemplated for the housing of the Section of the Army War College, situated at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and to report to the Chief of Staff, War Department, Washington, D.C., as to the suitability of the site for the proposed camp, and to recommend the name to be given to the camp, if it is determined that it is suitable for the purpose.

2-1 adhere to its recommendation that the site be adapted for the camp in the vicinity of Ft. Smith, Arkansas. This camp is to be occupied by an Armored Division and other units. If this remains it will be an important post, and will probably have more chance of being retained as a permanent post than any of the camps at which an Infantry Division is now stationed. If the new site is not adapted for the camp in California, it is recommended that it be called "Camp Chaffee".

For signature and distribution.

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AUG 23 1941

G-3/43110

August 15, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, GENERAL STAFF:

Subject: Naming of new camps near Santa Maria, California, and Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

The attached G-3 study (G-3/43110, July 31, 1941, subject: "Naming of Army Posts") was returned to G-3 informally with the remark that the names McAndrews and Root were not entirely suitable and that other names should be recommended for the subject camps. It was stated that Mr. Root was considered too important a personage to have his name used in connection with the camp near Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and that General McAndrews was not a native of the state of California. Colonel Spaulding has submitted additional names for consideration in connection with the two sites in question, "Pike" for the camp in Arkansas, and "Cooke" for the camp in California. (Tab X).

G-3 was also instructed to consider the name Shannon in connection with these or any other suitable camp. In a telephone conversation Colonel Spaulding, Chief of the Historical Section of the Army War College, stated that the name Shannon would be suitable for any camp, but not as suitable as those already suggested for these particular camps. He was not a native of or prominently connected with Arkansas or California.

G-3 adheres to its recommendation that the name Root be adopted for the camp in the vicinity of Ft. Smith, Arkansas. This camp is to be occupied by an Armored Division and other units. For this reason it will be an important post, and will probably have more chance of being retained as a permanent post than any of the camps at which an Infantry Division is now stationed. If the name McAndrews is not adopted for the camp in California, it is recommended that it be called "Camp Cooke".

See next page for signature and inclosures.

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