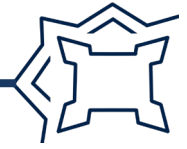


# 1759 SIEGE OF CARILLON CONNECTICUT PROVINCIAL GUIDELINES



The Colony of Connecticut provided four regiments totaling nearly 5,000 soldiers for General Amherst's Army in 1759. In the March 1759 Connecticut Provincial Assembly meeting, they resolved the clothing and equipment for their provincial soldiers, for the first time including a uniform coat.

*"That each man inlisting on either of the encouragements aforesaid shall provide himself cloaths, powder-horn and shot-bag, to the acceptance of the muster-master and on failure thereof such man shall be supply'd with the same by his captain out of the aforesaid wages and bounty, and the remainder shall be than paid to him. That each man raised in this Colony who shall go in said service shall have and receive one month's advance pay with a good blanket and knapsack, and also a bounty of thirty-five schillings to be improved by each man to purchase a lapelled coat."*

This Provincial Assembly Resolve reauthorized captains to purchase missing clothing and equipment for provincial soldiers using money from their equipment bonus, as had been the case in previous campaigns. In the May 1759 meeting the Provincial Assembly voted in, "An Act providing for the Encouragement of one thousand Men voluntary to inlist into the Service for the present Campaign..." to bring their commitment of troops up to 5,000. These resolves reiterated the equipment needs authorized in March, leading the list with the, "lapelled coat," along with, "suitable cloaths, powder-horn and shot-bag... a good blanket and knapsack..."

The uniform, "lapelled coat," each Connecticut provincial received was distinct to each of the four regiments. The, "Distribution of Troops for the Campaign 1759," among the papers of General Jeffrey Amherst, illustrated the coat and facing colors for British regulars and American provincials under his command, including the four Connecticut regiments.

*"Phineas Lyman- Brown with Red Facings*

*David Worster- Red with Yellow Facings*

*Eleazar Fitch- Blue with White Facings*

*Nathan Whiting- Blue with Red Facings."*



This chart of Connecticut Regimental uniforms is corroborated by runaway advertisement. A July 7, 1759 advertisement in the Connecticut Gazette described two men, "DESERTED from Capt. McNeal's company, in Col. Wooster's regiment," who both wore, "regimentals, viz. red, cuffed, and lappell'd with yellow..." Though there is a paucity of Connecticut deserter descriptions in 1759, Connecticut continued the same uniform scheme in 1760, according to the, "Distribution of Troops for the Campaign 1760," in the papers of General Jeffrey Amherst. A July 11, 1760 advertisement in *The New London Summary* or *The Weekly Advertiser* listed, "DESERTED his majesty's service, from the company under the command of Capt. Thomas Pierce in Colonel N. Whiting's Regiment," two soldiers in, "a blue soldier's coat, with red lapels." Early in the following campaign season a soldier from the Company of Major John Durkee in Colonel Phineas Lyman's Regiment had, "a cloth coloured coat with scarlet lappells..." in addition to a new regimental coat according to a June 12, 1761 advertisement in *The New-London Summary* or *The Weekly Advertiser*.



The two deserters from Colonel Wooster's regiment in the July 7, 1759 *Connecticut Gazette* advertisement wore waistcoats and legwear typical of many Connecticut provincial soldiers. In addition to their red regimental coats with yellow facings, one wore, "red breeches, check'd trowsers, and a brown waistcoat..." the other, "a black pair of plush breeches, a red waistcoat, and white swan's skin, ditto, with buttons on the sleeves, check'd trowsers and shirt..." Ditching his distinctive regimental coat a soldier from Captain Timothy Heirling's company of Colonel Phineas Lyman's Regiment had, "a black Wig, red Waistcoat without Sleeves, check'd shirts, and a Pair of old Oznabrig Trowsers, with a Blanket and Knapsack..." according to a June 13, 1760 advertisement in the *New-London Summary*. Ensign Ebenezer Dibble of Colonel Nathan Whiting's Regiment wrote in his diary of sending, "one blue jacket and one pare of Trousers Checerd and one Towell and one Bibel and one Bag of things," inside the

trousers in the chest of a fellow ensign at Crown Point on November 9, 1759. Trousers appear to have been more than just a common garment among Connecticut provincials. The orderly book for Colonel Phineas Lyman's Connecticut Regiment specifically mentioned parading in their trousers in July 18, 1757 orders.

*"That ye men belonging to ye Connecticutt Regt When Worned for Duty Appear on ye Peraid with shoes & stockens on & their trowsers Washed Clean--"*

In March 1758, the Connecticut Provincial Assembly resolved that, "Hezekiah Huntington and Jabez Hamlin, Esq<sup>s</sup>," be appointed Commissaries and sent to Albany articles for Connecticut troops.

*"...viz: one thousand pair large shoes, one thousand pair yarn stockings, on thousand shirts, two hundred fifty great coats made of duffels or such like cloth and cloth sufficient for two hundred and fifty coats more, two hundred fifty blankets.."*

In March 1759, the Connecticut Provincial Assembly appointed one commissary for each of the four Connecticut regiments. Though the assembly did not specify what clothing they were to buy, they were authorized to purchase, "cloathing and what other articles," for sale from the Colony's goods. Given their prevalence, trousers may have been among the colony of Connecticut's goods in Albany, though a formal order for purchasing trousers has not surfaced yet. In practice, linen trousers appear to have been part of the suitable clothing for campaign and may have been among the clothing purchased by Connecticut provincial captains at the muster point or from regimental commissaries at Albany.

Regardless of what hats Connecticut provincial soldiers brought with their suitable clothing, they were cut down into round hats along with rest of the army. The orderly book of Massachusetts provincial Major John Hawks, recorded General Orders at Fort Edward on June 21, 1759, "In all partys it is further ordered that all Great Hats are cut so that the Brims be 2 inches and a half wide..." For Connecticut provincial soldiers who had served previously in 1758, this would have been familiar order. Private Lemuel Lyon, of Colonel Whiting's Connecticut regiment noted in his journal on July 4, 1758, "This day I cut my hat and received my amantion and provisions..."

The colony of Connecticut had encouraged provincial recruits to bring their own arms, since May 1758 when Governor Thomas Fitch issued a proclamation that, "that if any of the arms brought by the troops of this Colony into the service shall be either lost in actual service or thro' real use be no longer fit for service, upon due proof thereof he will make the same good to the proprietors in money." Accordingly, the Connecticut Provincial Assembly, authorized:

*"...all those soldiers who shall furnish themselves with good arms not exceeding the number of three thousand, and carry the same into the service, for a good firelock , bayonet, cartouch -box and belt, or for a cutlass or hatchet carried instead of a bayonet, all to the acceptance of the captain of the company to which he belongs, each man shall have and receive a bounty therefor of five shillings to be paid out of the treasury of this Colony."*

The three thousand sets of arms, was based on 2,000 King's arms estimated in the colony's stores from previous campaigns. Yet the number of arms recruits brought from home proved insufficient, so officials like--future Connecticut Governor--Jonathan Trumbull, were "authorized and impowered to issue forth a warrant directed to some suitable person or persons, to impress the number of good arms and accoutrements wanted as aforesaid from that part of the militia exempted from training..." A May 24, 1758 impressment order from Jonathan Trumbull to Ebenezer Loomish of the Lebanon town militia company included a detailed receipt.

*"...imprest guns according to order  
Viz Arch[ie]! Dixon A Gun Cutlass and Belt  
Ebenezer Tildan A Gun Sam'll Bliss A Gun  
Sam'll Dewey A Gun and Bayonet -  
Capt. Daniel Smaley A Gun Cutlass & belt  
Caleb Howard A Gun James Botis A Gun  
Joseph Woodsworth A Gun."*

In addition to British Arms still within the Colony of Connecticut, the Provincial Assembly resolved in May 1758, to draw, "the four hundred ninety-four arms lodged in the King's ordnance stores at Albany." Going into the 1759 campaign, the Colony of Connecticut again prepared to collect arms found within the colony. The Connecticut Provincial Assembly in March 1759 resolved that:

*"Hezekiah Huntington, Jabez Hamlin, John Hubbard and Theophilus Nichols Esqrs, be appointed, and they are hereby appointed and fully impowered, as soon as may be to collect and put into the best conditions all the arms and accoutrements that can be found in this Colony belonging to his Majesty, to deliver the same to some chief officer of some one or more of the companies to be raised in this Colony for the ensuing campaign..."*

The Connecticut Provincial Assembly also appointed John Law as the colony's commissary in Albany to manage arms and supplies. Residing in Albany, he was to:

*"...receive, secure and forward the supplies to be provided for the troops of this government and take into custody guns and other stores that shall be returned from the army and ship them to the commissaries in the Colony."*

The Colony of Connecticut hoped to avoid the trouble of finding all the arms carried in 1759 by empowering the commissary to collect them at the end of the campaign season. Though gaps were inevitable, the Colony of Connecticut went to considerable effort to ensure that their nearly 5,000 provincial soldiers had their own shot bags and horns, knapsacks and

blankets provide by the colony, and complete sets of arms. King's arms, were supposed to include their bayonet, scabbard, cartridge box & belt. Guns brought from home or King's arms, missing the full stand of arms, were to be paired with sidearms, either cutlass or axe. With an extensive militia system, Connecticut impressed militia arms to equip their provincials in 1759 to this standard.

## Hats

**Best:** Round blocked wool-felt round hat with 2.5" brim.

**Unacceptable:** Anything else.

## Shirts

**Best:** Hand-stitched white or checked linen shirt with narrow band cuffs with two buttonholes made for sleeve buttons (cuff links).

**Acceptable:** Machine-stitched checked or white linen shirts.

**Unacceptable:** Cotton calico or plaid shirts.



## Neckwear

**Best:** Silk, linen, or cotton neckerchiefs; linen neck stocks, or linen rollers, well-tied around the neck.

**Acceptable:** Machine hemmed neckerchiefs or linen rollers.

**Unacceptable:** Military horsehair or leather neck stocks.

## Trousers and Breeches

**Best:** Hand-finished, well-fit oznaburg or checked linen trousers. Leather or wool cloth breeches, with buckled knee bands.

**Acceptable:** Well-fit oznaburg or checked linen trousers with minor visible machine stitching. Well-fit cloth, ticken, or leather breeches, with buckled, buttoned or tied knee bands visible machine stitching.

**Unacceptable:** Fringed trousers, baggy breeches.

## Jackets and Waistcoats

**Best:** Hand-finished, well-fit red, green, blue, grey or brown wool waistcoat with or without sleeves, lined or unlined.

**Acceptable:** Well-fit red, green, blue, grey or brown waistcoat with or without sleeves, lined or unlined. with minor visible machine stitching.

**Unacceptable:** Cotton canvas, upholstery fabric waistcoats, extremely long or baggy waistcoats.

## Coats

**Best:** Hand-finished, well-fit Connecticut provincial regimental coats, appropriate to the uniform of the four regiments.

**Acceptable:** Well-fit Connecticut provincial regimental coats, appropriate to the uniform of the four regiments, with little visible machine-stitching. Well-fit 1750s civilian coats of the same with little visible machine-stitching.

**Unacceptable:** Hunting shirts, Blanket shirts, Fur skins.

## Legwear

**Best:** Grey or white wool yarn or worsted stockings or socks seamed with back seams.

**Acceptable:** White, grey, or blue stockings of wool yarn, worsted, linen or cotton.

**Unacceptable:** Anything else.

## Footwear

**Best:** Common soldiers' shoes of black waxed leather, closed with brass shoe buckles.

**Acceptable:** Pucker toe or vamped mocassins.

**Unacceptable:** Officer's boots on non-officers; Dyer, Arrow, Minnetonka mocassins, Shoepacks

## Shot Bag & Cartridge Boxes

**Best:** Small leather shot bag of similar size to Lemuel Lyon shot bag.

**Acceptable:** 9 or 12-Round Government accoutrement sets accompanying British Arms.

**Unacceptable:** Possibles bags.





### Powder Horns

**Best:** Plain, empty, powder horns with narrow leather straps or hemp cords.

**Unacceptable:** Anything else.

### Arms

**Best:** Civilian Fowling Pieces, British Long land pattern muskets, Wilson commercially-made muskets.

**Acceptable:** Dutch muskets or captured French muskets.

**Unacceptable:** Canoe gun, blunderbuss, long rifles.

### Sidearms

**Best:** Bayonets accompanying British arms. British ordinance cutlass & belt or sheathed small axe when gun has no bayonet.

**Acceptable:** Privately purchased cutlasses or hangars in civilian waist belts. No Sidearm.

**Discouraged:** Shoulder belts.

**Unacceptable:** Uncovered axes. Pistols, daggers, dirks.

### Canteens

**Best:** Cheesebox-style wooden canteen on a narrow leather strap or hemp cord.

**Acceptable:** Kidney or similar shaped tinned-iron British army canteen on a hemp cord.

**Unacceptable:** Anything Else

### Blankets

**Best:** 2-Point or 3-Point, Checked, Dutch or Rose blankets.

**Acceptable:** British Army, plain white or Hudson Bay blankets.

**Unacceptable:** Civil War grey blankets.



## **Knapsacks and Tumplines**

**Best:** Single envelope two strap knapsacks and a leather or hemp tumpline to carry a blanket.

**Acceptable:** Hair-on calfskin or drawstring canvas knapsacks.

**Unacceptable:** British painted or goatskin knapsacks, Benjamin Warner Knapsacks.