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8-4-1865

Circular Number 1: Headquarters, Department of Louisiana and Texas, August 4, 1865

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Certain prisoners to be released.

C I R C U L A R, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. 1. } DEPARTMENT OF LOUISIANA AND TEXAS,
New Orleans, La., August 4th, 1865.

I. The following General Order is re-published for general information:

"GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPARTMENT,
No. 98. } ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 27, 1865.

ORDERED: That in all cases of sentences by military tribunals of imprisonment during the war, the sentence be remitted, and that the prisoners be discharged. The Adjutant General will issue, immediately, the necessary instructions to carry this order into effect.

By order of the President of the United States:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

All prisoners coming within the scope of the foregoing order, will be immediately set at liberty, upon the receipt of this Circular at their respective places of confinement. A report of each case will at once be made to these Headquarters, by the Commanding Officer of the post or prison, setting forth the offense of which the prisoner was convicted, the tribunal before which he was tried, and the sentence imposed, the length of time he has been in confinement, and such other facts in reference to the particular case as may be in his possession.

II. Commanding Officers of all military prisons within the Department, will immediately upon the receipt of this Circular, institute an investigation into the cases of all prisoners in their charge, who are undergoing sentences of imprisonment for terms extending beyond their enlistments. Where the circumstances of the case are such as would warrant a recommendation for pardon, the prisoner will be released from confinement, and forwarded to the Chief Mustering Officer of his State, to be mustered out of the service, or otherwise disposed of in accordance with existing orders. A special report will be made to these Headquarters in each case, and a copy of the order will be sent in each case, direct to the Adjutant General of the Army.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR-GENERAL E. R. S. CANBY:

WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Major, Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL: