



# The Republic



The newsletter for the  
California Division  
Sons of Confederate  
Veterans



“If I ever disown, repudiate, or apologize for the cause for which General Lee fought and General Jackson died, let the lightnings of Heaven rend me, and the scorn of all good men and true women be my portion. Sun, moon, stars, all fall on me when I cease to love the Confederacy. ‘Tis the cause, not the fate of the cause, that is glorious!” Major R.E. Wilson 1<sup>st</sup> NC Sharpshooters

Volume 1 Number 4 January 2012

## Happy Birthday to General Robert E. Lee & General Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson

Gentlemen:

Every camp in the California Division should be meeting and celebrating General Lee's and General Jackson's birthdays. This is a tradition upheld by all Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy. It doesn't matter if your plan is elaborate or simple, what matters is that you join in fellowship with men and women of like mind who care about their history and ancestry. What matters is that we as SONS fulfill our duty as dictated in the Charge by General Stephen D. Lee. For some of us, it is more than just a duty, it is an HONOR.

Our California Division Convention is soon approaching and I highly recommend you make reservations to take part in this annual event. Every year a different camp hosts the convention and this year Barron Smith, Commander of Camp 1631, Santa Barbara will be hosting. We will be meeting at the Holiday Inn in Santa Maria, CA. Please check out the address and phone number listed within the following pages and make your credit card reservations.

I hope you enjoy this issue of THE REPUBLIC, inside you'll find pictures from a couple of different camps, information and suggestions from our Division Adjutant, and words from our Division Lt. Cmdr as well as our Division Chaplain.

In closing, I wish all of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year! I'll see you in March at the Holiday Inn, Santa Maria.

Deo Vindice,  
Farrell D. Cooley  
California Division Commander

# Confederate States of America



From the Desk of Jefferson Davis,

Fellow Citizens,

As Chief Executive Officer of the Confederate States of America, it is my duty to present our side of the War for Southern Independence. My intent is to discuss the issues of the time, such as Slavery, Secession, Unfair taxation/tariffs, States Rights, the Constitution, our Founding Fathers legacy etc. It has come to my attention that the centralized public "education" system of the present day has virtually erased any biography or acknowledgment of my existence, save for some demeaning and/or demonizing references. Assuming this to be the situation, I will begin with introducing a bit of my personal history. So as to get us better acquainted for upcoming correspondence, I submit the following short biography and resume courtesy of the current Regent, Anne Tidmore, of the First White House of the Confederacy, Montgomery Alabama CSA.

**Jefferson Davis was born in Fairview KY June 3, 1808 near Abraham Lincoln's childhood home.**

**Davis's home is marked by a 350 ft tall monument, the world's tallest concrete obelisk, similar in appearance to the Washington monument - <http://parks.ky.gov/findparks/histparks/jd/>.**

**Jefferson Davis was the youngest of 10 children born to Samuel and Jane Davis.**

**Jefferson Davis's middle name Finis is actually Latin for "finished."**

**The Davis family moved to Mississippi early in Jefferson's life.**

**He graduated from West Point and served under Zachary Taylor in the Black Hawk War.**

**He resigned his commission to become a planter and to marry Taylor's daughter, Sarah but she died 3 months after they wed from malaria.**

**For the next 8 years he was something of a recluse, managing his plantation and expanding his slave holdings and studying history and politics.**

**He met Varina Howell and was engaged to her within a month, marrying on Feb 26, 1845. He was 37 and she was 18. That same year he won his state's seat to the US House of Representatives.**

**They had six children but only one, Margaret, lived to adulthood and had children of her own.**

**He resigned his seat in the US House to reenlist to fight in the Mexican-American War and raised a regiment, the Mississippi Rifles and was named colonel and successfully campaigned and was wounded at the Battles of Monterrey and Buena Vista.**

**He returned home a military hero and was elected to the US Senate from Mississippi. As a Senator, he helped founded the Smithsonian Institute and Museum.**

**He served as Secretary of War under Franklin Pierce and was credited with building up the US army which proved to be a detriment to the Confederacy.**

**As the Road to Secession and War built, he tried to save the Union but when Mississippi seceded; he resigned his Senate seat on Jan 21, 1861.**

**On Feb 9, 1861 the Provisional Congress of the newly formed Confederate States of America unanimously elected Jefferson Davis President.**

**He was informed of the decision while working on his Brierfield Plantation and traveled from there to Montgomery by steamboat, train, and coach for his inauguration Feb 18, 1861.**

On Feb 21, while developing the new country's Constitution and forming the Army, Navy, Post Office and other offices, the Congress leased an Executive mansion from Col. Winter. This home was built in 1835 and purchased by Col Winter in 1855. It was to become known as the First White House of the Confederacy. It has an Italiante style with a Liberty Cap design element. It was located at Lee and Bibb across from the Capital building. The location is marked today by a granite monument in downtown Montgomery.

On March 4th Mrs. Davis arrived and the couple lived there through the spring of 1861. The furnishings in the house belonged to the Davis' or were used in the house or are period pieces.

On April 10th the shots on Fort Sumter signaled the commencement of the War for Southern Independence and when Virginia seceded, on May 20 1861 the capital was relocated to Richmond and on May 29<sup>th</sup>, Davis arrived there.

Lincoln's War cost the lives of over 620,000 Americans and ultimately the Confederate armies were defeated by forces of superior numbers and equipment.

President Davis was incarcerated at Fort Monroe and charged with treason but never tried as the US government feared such a trial would expose that the Confederate states legally seceded. He was freed on \$100,000 bond paid by wealthy Northern financiers including Horace Greeley and Vanderbilt. He traveled in Canada and Europe following his release but eventually settled back in Mississippi where he built his final home, Beauvoir where he wrote the great historical piece The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government. He toured the South after the release of this work and was hailed a hero. Davis was a great Christian who withstood great personal and public tragedy with the loss of his first wife, all but one of his children, and the dissolution of his country and defeat of his Confederate States of America. While incarcerated he received a crown of thorns from the Catholic Pope Pius IX who recognized the tragic burden Davis carried throughout his life.

When traveling back to Brierfield, he fell ill and returned to New Orleans where he passed away on Dec 5th 1889.

Davis' body laid in state and was first buried in New Orleans but later moved to the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond VA.

Now you know a bit more about my background. I plan for subsequent editorials to present the justifications of our Cause, as well as exposing the myths that have been presented as "facts" the last 150 years.

Deo Vindice,  
Jefferson Davis (*Commander John Smoley, Camp 1742*)  
C S A

### The Charge

By General Stephen D. Lee

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldiers good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulations of his virtues, the perpetuation of the principles he loved; which made him glorious and which you also cherish.

Remember, it is you duty to see that the true history of the south is presented to future generations.

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### Salute to the Confederate Battleflag

I Salute the Confederate Flag with  
Affection  
Reverence  
&  
Undying Devotion  
To the cause for which it stands!

Memorize the **Salute**, using the CF, A-R, & D method. With your arm at your side, bend your elbow about 90 degrees, placing the palm of your hand up and toward the Battleflag. This implies that we meet in peace, free of arms.

## Chaplain's Article

Around the time Rome was founded, the prophet Micah spoke these words: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." About 700 years later, these words were fulfilled when a man named Joseph and his betrothed wife Mary, in obedience to a Roman order, traveled to Bethlehem, where she gave birth to a son, and named him Jesus. Nothing in Scripture tells us when this baby was born; we can't be sure of the date, the season, or even the year.

Several weeks ago, as I was going into a local store, a sweet little lady outside informed me that Christmas is just a pagan festival, and has nothing to do with the birth of Christ. As far as the facts go, she's probably right. There was a pagan feast that celebrated the rebirth of the sun, and the longer days that were a sign of coming spring, and the Church fathers decided this would be a good time to celebrate the birth of the Son, and the rebirth of hope. But facts sometimes get in the way of truth. The truth is that when God created man in His image, He knew that we would sin, and would need to be saved, and He had already planned how to accomplish this. There is nothing that can stand in the way of God's power, nothing that He can't and won't turn to His purpose. If the only way fallen man could be redeemed was for God to become man, in His infinite love, this is what He did. Even if we don't know the exact date, at some point in time, the Lord stepped down from His eternal throne, and became one of us – the greatest Christmas present ever! So Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

May God Bless and keep you all,

Ernie Powell  
CA Division Chaplain

## Division Advertising and Recruiting

### Vern Padgett Division Adjutant & Treasurer

Gents: Everyone agrees that we should spend money on recruiting and advertising. Yet no one seems to know just how to do that.

Spend money on what exactly? Put up a billboard? Run ads in the local newspaper? Run ads in magazines that are distributed outside of California? Commander Cooley had a project a few years ago: an ad in a local speedway publication, distributed to fans at racing events.

I tried a similar tactic last month: I designed a simple 2" column ad (attached) and sent it with a check for \$192 to the California Rifle and Pistol Association's (CRPA) newsletter, The Firing Line. They boast a readership of 35,000, all in California, and are headquartered in Fullerton. It seemed like a very good idea for California SCV recruiting. My ad and check and letter were returned 3 days later, with no comment, but with a CRPA window decal enclosed. I contacted CRPA and asked why our ad was returned, and Ruben responded: "The Publications Committee did not approve the ad... material not appropriate for The Firing Line." I wrote again and asked "Was it the flag?" and have not received a response.

I don't think it was the Flag—in the current issue of The Firing Line there is no advertising for other than gun-related products or services. Maybe if we wanted to advertise an SCV Shooting Match, they'd run our ad. I'm at a loss as to how to advertise for SCV in California. Do any of you know of California publications that are seen by men likely to join SCV? And there's always the billboard idea.



## Camp 1440 San Jose

Camp 1440, The Stainless Banner, welcomed three new members recently. Two of the members attended our November meeting to receive their membership scrolls. Both of the new compatriots shared their rich ancestry with the other members of the camp.

Below is pictured James Bonds, Commander, Joshua Lai, new compatriot, Jim Harlow, new compatriot, and Gary Waltrip, Adjutant.

Deo Vindice!  
James Bonds  
Commander Camp 1440



**James Bonds, Joshua Lai, Jim Harlow  
& Gary Waltrip**

## Camp 2048 Bakersfield

The General Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 2048 inducted two new members, Mr. Bowers and Mr. Browning. Reverend Bower was elected camp Chaplain as he is an Anglican Catholic Priest. Mr. Browning was elected Camp Historian; his minor in college was history. Both men will be great assets to the camp. Please welcome our new members.

Collin Bentley  
Adjutant Camp 2048

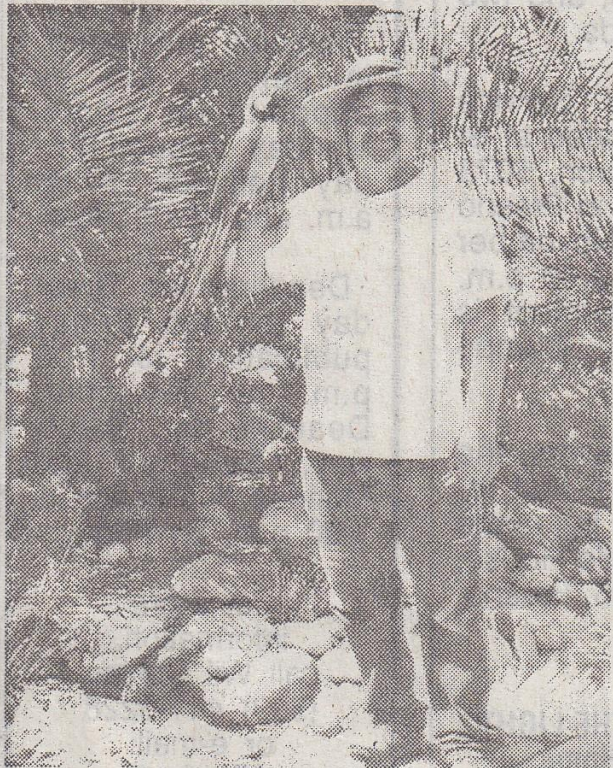
**Cmdr. Jon Fowler & Reverend Bower**



**Cmdr. Jon Fowler & Mr. Browning**



**New Member Mr. Daniel Fuson (center)  
& Compatriots from Camp 1770, Orange County**



**SAGO REY  
"Sago King"**

Thomas Rutherford Wash was born on June 26, 1952, and after a long illness, passed away on Thursday, November 3, 2011. Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Irene C. and Robert M. Wash who was on the County Council from 1950 through 1978.

Thomas was a native of Fresno County and resided on the family ranch that had been designated as a Fresno County Centennial Ranch, "Missouri Hill Farm." He attended Lone Star Elementary School in Sanger and graduated from Sanger High School. He then attended California State University, Fresno as a horticulture student. Tom was a natural entrepreneur and along with

his wife Maria, made a success of his sago palm (cycads), palm trees and tree business as the Sago Rey Palm Plantation. He specialized in fern spore propagation, palm cross pollination and cycad seed propagation. He introduced new species of palms and cycads into the valley and was a pioneer in the palm industry. Many people both professional and non-professional relied on him for his palm advice and assistance. Thomas helped other palm enthusiasts in starting their own palm businesses in California and in Las Vegas. The palm plantation will remain open and continue to thrive with Maria using the same philosophy that she and Thomas developed together. So although "Sago Rey" has passed, the plantation lives on in his name.

Thomas was a member of the "Sons of the Confederate" as was his father. Thomas will always be remembered as a devoted family man, a just man, with a mild spirit, and a friendly man who helped many people.

He is survived by his wife, Maria S. Banda; and their two sons, Martin A. Wash and Juan C. Wash, and his wife Graviela; three grandchildren; his sister, Ellen Lynne Stuart; and brother, John P. Wash.

A Funeral Service will be held at Chapel of the Light on Monday, November 14, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.

**CHAPEL OF THE LIGHT FUNERAL HOME**  
1620 West Belmont Avenue  
Fresno, California (559)233-6254

**The General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804, Fresno, California recently lost one of their most beloved members.**

Remember, it is our duty to look out for one another as brothers would do. When we experience a sudden loss it is our responsibility to show honor and respect to the family, devote ourselves if necessary and notify headquarters.

## **Camp 1742, Inland Empire**

Gentlemen: The inaugural reenactment event at Cahuilla State Park in La Quinta turned out to a very nice event. The venue was fantastic; parking and restroom facilities are more than ample. The hosts did a wonderful job promoting the event to the public as there was a phenomenal public turnout. The park is nestled against the mountains on the West and the Lake on the north, and is fully landscaped with grass and trees. We need to plan on our group manning the recruitment booth and we hope to see more of our desert dwellers there next time. This event is a keeper.

Deo Vindice,

John Smoley  
Commander  
Camp 1742

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### **Division Spending Plan**

**Vern Padgett**

#### **Division Adjutant & Treasurer**

We should have a plan for the disbursement of your division dues. I shared a draft of a plan with commanders last month, and have received some good feedback.

Some issues:

Spend the money in California, or send it out of California?

Should we have a "reserve"? Should we just not spend the money, and sit on it instead?

Should our California Division become a regular member of Southern Heritage organizations? For example, my camp,

John Bell Hood 1208, is a member of the Hunley Restoration Fund, the Drum Barracks Museum, and the Museum of the Confederacy. Each year I send camp funds to these organizations. Ought our division also support particular organizations?

We have \$2094 in our division treasury, with 5 camps yet to pay their dues, and only \$250 in expected expenses—the subsidy to the camp sponsoring our division Reunion, should they so request (my camp did *not* take that money for 2 years in a row, and it remained in our division treasury—thank you Mike Presswood for saving division \$500).

What are other divisions doing with their funds?

I am in favor of placing Confederate monuments all over the state, an idea put forth by Chuck Norred at our last Division Reunion. What project is more consistent with our mission? I do not see a distinction between a California Camp monument and a division monument. Division funds are camp funds—your camps sent those funds to division.

Projected Division Income: 300 men times \$5 less \$300 for division commander's travel and \$250 for the hotel at our state Reunion, if the camp takes it. We have another \$600 appropriated in our constitution for yearly division expenditures, but, no one has accepted those dollars in the last few years (web expenses and division genealogist expenses), so those dollars have remained in the Division Treasury. Should we consider advertising expenses?

Division fees at \$5 per man produce about \$350 a year beyond division outlays as required by our Division Constitution, and \$950 per year beyond what division has spent in these last 2 years.

DRAFT of a Spending Plan:

Goal and objective of why we are spending Division Money: To support Southern Heritage, primarily in California

The excess of what we collect over expenses should be spent toward our highest priority: Preserving and Promoting Southern Heritage.

One proposal: Divide up those dollars among California Camps' Heritage projects.

Preference would be given to those projects that have been approved, AND already funded in part, by that camp.

The division to provide no more than half the expenses of any camp project?

Proposals will be received at the annual business meeting, and our Executive Committee (camp commanders & Division commander and adjutant) would rank order and fund the ones best for California.

I first saw this plan as a by-law to our Constitution, but as Mike Schooling noted, we don't need to amend our Constitution, but we do need a written plan.

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## California Division Convention

**Dates: March 23 - March 25**

**Place: Holiday Inn  
2100 N. Broadway  
Santa Maria, CA 93454**

**Phone: 1.805.928.6000  
Fax: 1.805.928.9230**

**Cost: \$89 per night / King**

**Release Date: February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

### Flag Maker

Compatriots: At the National Reunion in Anderson, SC, I met a gentleman from Georgia who makes all kinds of Confederate flags. He uses a reference book to identify the flag you are looking for and confirms that is what you want. His prices are very reasonable and the quality outstanding. I highly recommend using this SCV compatriot for any flag orders you may be considering.

SOUTHERN PRIDE FABRICATIONS  
770.383.8908  
770.855.5890

[WWW.SOUTHERNPRIDEFLAGCO.COM](http://WWW.SOUTHERNPRIDEFLAGCO.COM)

PO BOX 200154  
CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA 30120

HE REFERENCES THESE SCRIPTURES  
Psalm 60:4 II Corinthians 4:8-9

## **Federal Troops in Kentucky** **By Mike Climo, Division Web Master, Camp 1742**

### A Secession Flag Torn Down

This was the headline to the beginning of an article that ran in the June 14, 1861 New Orleans Daily Delta.

CAIRO, June 13 – A steamer with two Federal companies and a squad of artillery on board while cruising within a few miles below Columbus, Ky., broke her machinery and drifted to shore. A party of three persons went ashore to cut down a Secession flag. When the War Between the States broke out in April 1861, Kentucky was firm in her declaration of its neutrality. This decision greatly benefited the Confederacy because the state shielded the South from invasion into Tennessee and other points south. If Kentucky ended its neutrality by declaring its allegiance with the Confederate States the results would have been very advantageous because of the resources in both manpower and material that the fledgling country so desperately needed. As President Abraham Lincoln once said of Kentucky, "I would like to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky. To lose Kentucky is nearly the same as to lose the whole game."

Governor Beriah Magoffin had often insisted that Kentucky remain neutral but both the Union and the Confederacy wanted the state and both had made some strides to raise troops for their respective causes. Beside the events of June mentioned earlier on August 6, 1861 the Union again disregarded Kentucky's wishes and established Camp Dick Robinson which was a large Union Army organizational and training center located near Lancaster in rural Garrard County, Kentucky. The Camp raised about 2,000 Kentucky recruits for the Union. When Governor Magoffin was informed of the camp he became incensed and wrote President Lincoln to urge "the removal from the limits of Kentucky of the military force now organized, and in camp within said State."

In his reply Lincoln conceded that there was indeed a military force inside Kentucky's borders, but that it was made up entirely of Kentucky's citizens. "While I have conversed on this subject with many eminent men of Kentucky," wrote Lincoln, "including a large majority of her Members of Congress, I do not remember that any one of them, or any other person, except your Excellency and the bearers of your Excellency's letter, has urged me to remove the military force from Kentucky, or to disband it." He did recall someone suggesting that the raising of troops ought to be "suspended for a time," but that was it. Lincoln did not believe it was "the popular wish of Kentucky that this force shall be removed beyond her limits; and, with this impression, I must respectfully decline to so remove it." President Lincoln ended with a thinly veiled warning: "I most cordially sympathize with your Excellency, in the wish to preserve the peace of my own native State, Kentucky; but it is with regret I search, and can not find, in your not very short letter, any declaration, or intimation, that you entertain any desire for the preservation of the Federal Union."

A few months prior to this President Jefferson Davis had given Leonidas Polk a commission as Brigadier General and later promoted him to Major General. Polk had command of Department 2, which consisted of the Mississippi Valley. One reason for this was of their long standing friendship. But more importantly Davis hoped that Polk's widespread familiarity with the people of the Mississippi Valley while he was an Episcopalian Bishop would make him sensitive to the

delicate political situation in Kentucky. By the end of August 1861 General Gideon Pillow who had been placed under Polk's command was pressuring him to allow his troops to seize Columbus, Kentucky which was situated on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. This location was desirable because it provided a much better position to defend Tennessee's stretch of river than any other location in the northern part of that state. Another reason for his request was that around the same time rumors were circulating that the Federals were also preparing to seize Columbus and these rumors were in fact true. On August 28, 1861 in a telegraph from Union General John Fremont he had ordered then Colonel Ulysses S. Grant to seize Columbus as soon as possible.

Many historians and scholars of the War have a tendency to re-write history and leave out all of the above important events when they make assertions that it was the Confederate forces under General Polk that invaded Kentucky first and not Union forces. But, I digress.

On September 2 upon hearing these rumors Governor Harris of Tennessee wired Polk to leave matters alone for a couple of days. Harris had hoped that the Federals would invade Kentucky first and take Columbus. His thoughts were that when the Yankees invaded first, pro-Southern Kentuckians would then have the provocation they needed to take Kentucky out of the Union and into the Confederacy but Polk had other ideas. Polk wrote to Governor Benjamin Magoffin of Kentucky that "it (was) of the greatest importance to the Southern cause in Kentucky or elsewhere that I should be ahead of the enemy in occupying Columbus and Paducah." In Richmond, Jefferson Davis had no idea that Polk was planning to invade Kentucky and occupy Columbus. On September 2, 1861, Davis wrote to Polk: "Keep me better advised of your forces and purposes. It is only when forewarned that I can meet your wishes or your wants." On September 3, 1861, Pillow, acting under Polk's orders, moved his troops into Kentucky and Columbus.

On September 4, 1861 Harris learned that Polk had invaded the state. He telegraphed Polk: "Just learned that Pillow's command is at Hickman. This is unfortunate, as the President and I are pledged to respect the neutrality of Kentucky. I hope they will be withdrawn instantly, unless their presence there is an absolute necessity." As reprinted in the Official Records on September 4, Confederate Secretary of War Leroy Walker telegraphed Polk: "News has reached me here that General Pillow has landed his troops at Hickman, Ky. Order their prompt withdrawal from Kentucky." On September 4, Polk sent a telegram to President Davis stating that the enemy had descended the Mississippi River and placed cannons and entrenched themselves opposite the town of Columbus, which Polk wrote "left no doubt upon the minds of any of their intention to seize and forcibly possess said town, I thought proper, under the plenary power delegated to me, to direct a sufficient portion of my command, both by river and by land, to concentrate at Columbus. It is my intention to continue to occupy and keep this position." In the Official Records Davis' response to Polk's invasion of Kentucky was: "The necessity justifies the action."

But, a much different version of these events exists than what was submitted by Polk. In the Jefferson Davis papers he stated that Polk had purposely changed the date of September 5 to September 4. By doing so Polk had hoped to show that Davis gave permission for his invasion when in fact he did not. According to the Davis Papers, Governor Harris had sent a copy of the telegram he sent to Polk to withdraw his forces from Kentucky to President Davis. Davis received Harris' note on September 5, 1861. Davis wrote on the telegram: "Secretary of War-Telegraph promptly to General Polk to withdraw troops from Kentucky-& explain movement

Ans(wer)-Governor Harris inform him of action & that movement was unauthorized." Secretary Walker telegraphed Polk to remove his forces on September 5th, not the 4th as stated in Polk's version. The Davis Papers also contain a similar but significantly different dispatch. In Polk's version of the telegram reads, "The necessity justifies the means," but Davis' telegram actually wrote: "Richmond Sept. 5th/61 Your telegram rec[eived]. The necessity must justify the action."

It seems clear that Polk's version of events as reprinted in the Official Records is different from the record in the more trustworthy Jefferson Davis Papers. It seems that Polk intentionally altered the correspondence to reflect his own interpretation of the movement. Polk wanted the records to show that Davis knew of his intentions to invade Kentucky and had given it his blessing. In actuality though, Davis had not been aware of Polk's plan to invade the state and did not authorize the invasion. Because of Polk's actions the Union army felt the political cover they needed to enter Kentucky and seize Paducah which is located on the mouth of the Tennessee River. The invasion of Kentucky and Polk's manipulation of the records shows Polk to be disingenuous. He had kept President Davis uninformed about his intentions to invade Kentucky and once he had made his decision to invade the state, he would not leave, even though President Davis, Governor Harris, Governor Magoffin, and Inspector General of the Kentucky State Guard Simon Buckner, all ordered Polk to leave. This obvious refusal to comply also demonstrated the loyalty of Davis to his friends. Davis decided to support Polk in his decision to invade Kentucky even though Davis knew that his actions had lost Kentucky to the Union.

The End