

U.S. Mormon Battalion

Boy Scouts of America
Trail Award Program



U.S. MORMON BATTALION TRAIL AWARD PROGRAM

This trail award may be earned by Cubs, Eleven-Year Old Scouts, Scouts, Varsity Scouts and Explorers and their leaders by completing all of the requirements relating to the trails which were followed or pioneered by the Mormon Battalion of the U.S. Army. This volunteer unit was recruited to fight in the War with Mexico, 1846-1848. The war had developed from disputes over territorial rights.

The main objective of the award is to stimulate an interest in learning more about the history of our country and these great Americans who were willing to sacrifice and endure many hardships for their country. The great Southwestern territory they helped to acquire for their government was enormously valuable and included California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and parts of New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming.

This trail award may be earned on **any section** of either the main 2,000 mile trail from Council Bluffs, Iowa to San Diego and Los Angeles, California or the several return trails made or followed by the Battalion members to rejoin their families, whether in the Salt Lake Valley (Utah), Nebraska or Iowa. These include also the trails of the sick detachments from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Pueblo, Colorado and Ft. Laramie, Wyoming and on to Utah, and the return route of Gen. S.W. Kearney and his detachment from California to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. (See map on Page 2)

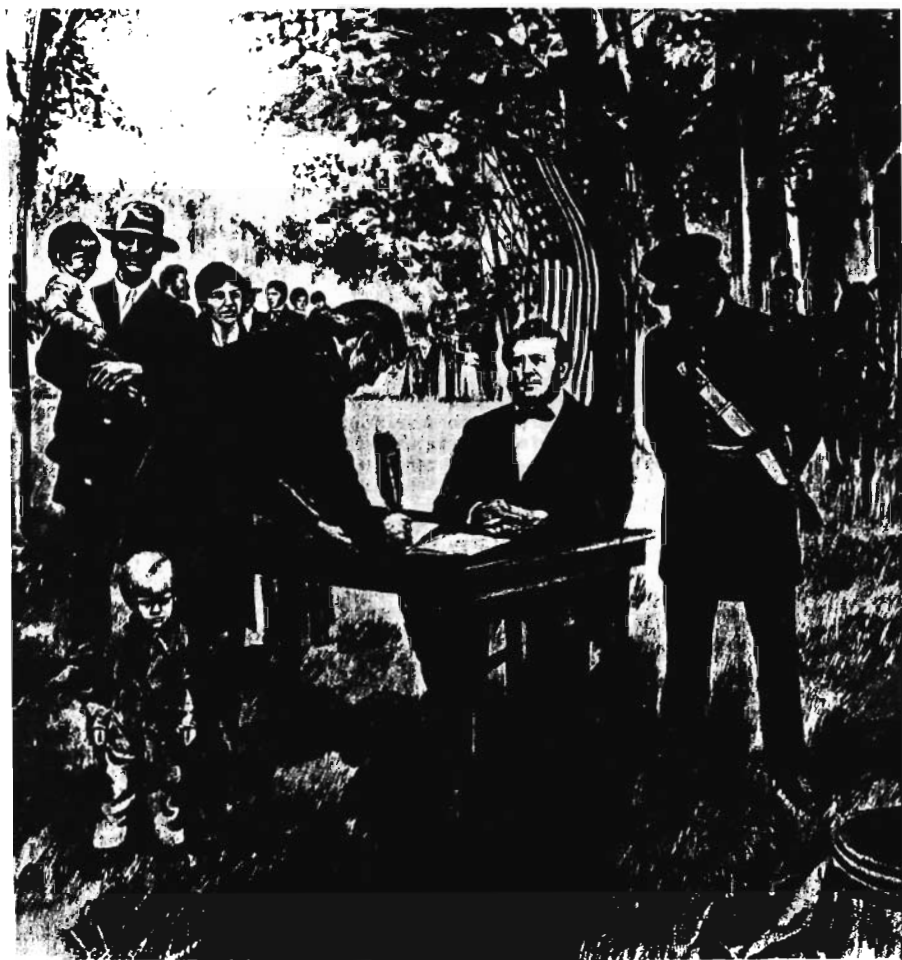
Upon completion of the trail award requirements, the unit leader must fill out and sign a U.S. Mormon Battalion Trail Award Completion Report, which includes the participants' names and accomplishments. Also, include a map showing the trail on which you hiked. Patches are available for \$2.00 each, and your unit certificate will be sent to you along with your patches. Kindly make all checks payable to LDS RELATIONSHIPS. Please mail to:

Director of LDS Relationships
Boy Scouts of America
40 East South Temple, Suite 330
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

This Historic Trail Award Program was developed by the U.S. Mormon Battalion, Inc., an association devoted to the preservation of the history of the original unit's march across Western America. It was approved by the National Office, Boy Scouts of America, in June of 1979. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-537-5923 or 1-801-530-0004.

U.S. Mormon Battalion
Trail Award Patch





BRIGHAM YOUNG RECRUITING THE MORMON BATTALION

This painting by Dale Kilbourn depicts the scene near Council Bluffs, Iowa on July 16, 1846 when 500 Mormon men enlisted in a battalion of the U.S. Army to serve in the War with Mexico. Capt. James Allen is shown standing next to Brigham Young, the Mormon leader, seated at the table. (Reproductions of this painting may be seen in some of the LDS Church Visitors' Centers in the western states.)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE U.S. MORMON BATTALION

The need for men to assist the U.S. Army in the Mexican War was urgent. President James K. Polk instructed the Secretary of War, Wm. L. March, to authorize Col. (later General) Stephen W. Kearney, Commander of the Army of the West, to enlist a battalion of 500 Mormons for this purpose. Capt. James Allen was ordered to proceed to the Mormon camps in Iowa and recruit five companies of 75 to 100 men each.

The Mormons had many reasons to be reluctant to enlist: they had received no protection from persecution and mob action in Missouri and Illinois; their families were destitute and spread over a wide area; they had hundreds of miles of hostile Indian territory to cross; they worried about how their families would suffer in the bitter plains winter; and, of course, the Mormons had particularly close family ties and were concerned about protection for their families located on the western frontier.

Mormons Are Patriots

However, President Brigham Young and the governing Council of the L.D.S. Church urged the men to enlist, telling them it was their patriotic duty to join. Five companies totalling over 500 men were mustered in at Council Bluffs, Iowa, July 16, 1846. Capt. Allen was promoted to a lieutenant colonel and appointed the officers elected by the Battalion. He said: "That is the only battalion in the United States Army in which every man can sign his own name." The Elders instructed the men of the Battalion to behave as true Christians, and to faithfully serve their God and country.

In addition to the 500 men, some of the officers chose to take their families and their possessions in their own wagons at no expense to the government, which the Army permitted. There were 15 or 16 families, including 45 to 50 children and dependents, who left Council Bluffs with the Battalion.

Council Bluffs to Santa Fe

The men first marched to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, to be outfitted. There Dr. George B. Sanderson of Missouri was appointed to serve with the Battalion as a U.S. Army surgeon. Dr. Sanderson, an unfriendly character, caused much unnecessary suffering. So determined was Dr. Sanderson that the men should take his calomel (mercurous chloride) and arsenic that he threatened with an oath to cut the throat of any man who would administer any other medicine without his orders. The sick were therefore compelled to take medicine quietly, or have it forced down them or be left to perish on the plains. A number of the men came down with malaria at Ft. Leavenworth, but nevertheless, continued with the Battalion.

In spite of temperature ranging from 101 degrees in the shade to over 125 degrees in the sun, three companies set out for Santa Fe, via Bent's Fort, on July 12, followed by the other two companies on the 14th. Each man carried his blanket, knapsack, 36 rounds of ammunition in a cartridge box, a canteen and flintlock musket. All the men marched on foot except the five men in the advance guard and the Colonel and his five first lieutenants, who all rode horses. No man was allowed to ride in any wagon unless he was on sick report and had the doctor's orders. The Kansas River was crossed in boats manned by local Indians.

Col. Allen was well liked and highly respected by the men. He remained at Fort Leavenworth because of illness and died in late August. Capt. Jefferson Hunt, the commanding officer of Company A, temporarily assumed command, but was relieved by young Lt. Andrew Jackson Smith of the Regular Army, at Council Grove. The Battalion then continued on to Great Bend and two days later camped on a stream known as Pawnee Fork. The Pawnee Fork proved a difficult crossing as the wagons had to be let down the banks with ropes and pulled up the opposite bank by teams of thirty men assisting the animals. Due to the surrender of Santa Fe to Gen. Kearney's forces, orders were changed to march directly to Santa Fe instead of by way of Bent's Fort. On Sept. 11 the Battalion reached the Arkansas River and generally followed it westward for about 100 miles before crossing (short of reaching Bent's Fort).

On Sept. 19, contrary to the original agreement made by Col. Allen to President Young that the Battalion would not be divided, Capt. Nelson Higgins, with Corporal Gilbert Hunt, was ordered to take ten men and most of the families to Pueblo, Colorado. Not long after crossing the Arkansas, The Battalion entered a dry desert-like area. Lt. Smith ordered forced marches of up to twenty-five miles a day on reduced rations and very little water. At one point they were so short of water that they drove buffalo out of a foul-smelling pool to obtain water. The Battalion suffered considerably from the forced marches ordered by Lt. Smith through his arrogance and ignorance of the endurance of men and animals.

On October 3, the Battalion was again split -- most of the men marched to Santa Fe, with a detachment of sick following several days behind. Food and water improved as they marched westward and they were even able to buy bread and cakes from the Mexican Population.

The main section of the Battalion arrived at Santa Fe on October 9th. Gen. Alexander W. Doniphan, Commander of the American Forces in Santa Fe, ordered a 100-gun salute to honor their arrival. The second detachment arrived within the next three days, with about sixty sick men being carried in the supply wagons.

Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke of the U.S. Army, a strict but fair disciplinarian, was sent by Gen. Kearney from his small force of Dragoons (cavalry) on the Gila River, back to Santa Fe to take command of the Battalion on Oct. 13. At Santa Fe, Col. Cooke noted that the Battalion "was much worn by traveling on foot and marching from Nauvoo." The mules were mostly poor and half unfit for an ordinary march. Several days later, after inspection of the Battalion and discussing their problems with the officers Col. Cooke ordered a second sick detachment of about 90 soldiers and the laundresses to Pueblo.

Discipline was tightened and morale was improved by Col. Cooke's command methods. There was no trouble with the Mexicans, except that they frequently refused to sell supplies and draft animals to the U.S. forces.

Santa Fe to Tucson

The Battalion left Santa Fe with 25 wagons and cannon and ordinance on Oct. 19. They had their first taste of winter weather -- cold, rain, freezing temperatures and some snow a week or so later in the valley of the Rio del Norte. The terrain became worse as they advanced westward. In fact, their guide said that it was impassable for wagons; but Col. Cooke decided to continue. They were slowed to an average of less than seven miles per day the second week in November.

There were 22 men on the sick report, who with arms and knapsacks encumbered the wagons. The Assistant Surgeon and the Captains were ordered to screen the men and provide a list of those believed too disabled for the march. Much of the camp equipment was abandoned. All tent poles were left behind and provision made

for one tent for ten men instead of six, and muskets to be used as substitutes for tent poles. On Nov. 10 Lt. Willis was ordered to take the third sick detachment back to Pueblo by way of Santa Fe to join the other two sick detachments under Capt. Brown.

The Battalion reached the Continental Divide in New Mexico on Nov. 28. There was a welcome increase of wild game to augment their short rations of failing mules and oxen. But steep slopes presented a new difficulty. Long ropes were attached to the wagons, upon which men pulled, and in this manner the wagons were all lowered. Only one wagon was lost and the descent was accomplished in only two days!

The famous "Battle of the Bulls" took place as they proceeded down the valley of the San Pedro on December 11, 1846. Wild cattle were the increase from cattle abandoned by the owners of the San Bernardino and San Pedro ranches because of incessant Indian attacks. These cattle increased and spread over this area and were as wild and more dangerous than buffalo. The wild cattle stampeded the line of march, goring and killing some of the mules, injuring others, and injuring two men. Some of the wagons were damaged by charging cattle. The bulls were repulsed by rifle fire, but proved hard to stop. They proved even more difficult to kill - one received six shots with two in the head and two in the heart before falling. The two-week fresh meat supply was welcome, even if the wounds and the damage were not.

The Battalion arrived at Tucson, then the capital of Sonora, Mexico, on December 16. The Mexican garrison of 200 regular soldiers under Capt. Jose Comaduran fled with cannon and many of the citizens. The Battalion raised the first American flag and took the fortified town without firing a shot. The Battalion camped on the river about a half-mile below the town. Negotiations were held with the garrison commander and, in spite of several alarms, the occupation was peaceful. Both the persons and property of the inhabitants were "held sacred" by the Battalion, so the Mexicans and Indians realized that they need not fear the American Army.

Tucson to San Diego

The Battalion resumed the march on Dec. 18 and made a surprising 24 miles through mesquite and sand and camped without water or grass. The weather was hot and dry, and although some of the trail was hard clay, frequent sand pockets required the men to assist the animals in pulling the wagons. The men suffered considerable hardship marching and pulling the wagons through the mesquite and soft sand areas. The mules went 48 miles without water; the men marched 26 of 36 consecutive hours and covered 62 miles in a little more than two days, one day of which was without an issue of meat.

When the Battalion reached the Gila River on Dec. 21, they were visited by 1,500 to 2,000 Pima Indians. No special guards were set and nothing was taken, as the Pima were noted for their honesty and friendliness. Several days later they arrived at another large Pima Indian village of about 1,000 inhabitants. As both Mormons and Indians respected each other they had a most enjoyable visit. On the 23rd the Battalion camped at a Maricopa Indian village of an estimated 10,000 inhabitants where the men enjoyed the same hospitality as they had received at the Pima Indian villages. Christmas of 1846 was spent marching 18 miles over low mesquite-covered hills through sand to a dry camp away from water.

The Battalion tried to follow the Gila so that they might have water, but they found this region more desolate and food harder to procure than any other previously experienced. Traveling along the bushy, sandy bottom of the Gila

was so difficult that they covered only ten miles a day for the next six days. Also, the Battalion was suffering severely from short rations. The sheep and oxen were little more than skin and bones and so often the entire carcass was used. The meat and bones of the oxen were boiled, the entrails were boiled or broiled on a stick and even the hides were used for food. (Try a little oxen hide: singe off the hair, cut the skin into small bits and boil until tender enough to eat!) On Jan. 1, 1847, cottonwood branches were cut for animal browse as there was nothing else. Unfortunately, the branches appeared to be poisonous, as a number of mules and sheep died from eating them. A makeshift raft was made of two wagon boxes to float supplies down river. It was hoped the raft would help ease the difficulties of manhandling the wagons through the almost impassable terrain. However, the many sand bars and the shallowness of the Gila forced the raft crews to abandon much of the badly needed rations, feed for the stock and some of their badly needed road-making tools. The daily ration was further reduced and many men tried to augment their poor supply by grinding and cooking mesquite seed-pods, which proved to be entirely inadequate.

The Battalion crossed the wide and shallow Colorado River Jan. 10, and 11. Colonel Cooke proclaimed the Colorado the most useless of rivers to man. The guides then led them in a westerly direction to cross the desert. Man and beast suffered severely from lack of food and water. On January 15, at Pozo Hondo (this location has been lost), a guide returned with fresh mules and cattle. A fat steer was slaughtered and provided a real treat to the men who had been eating little more than half-starved oxen and sheep and very little of that. The march across the low desert from the Colorado to Carizzo Creek was the worst section they encountered and was particularly hard on the animals. The men were helped by the water in their canteens. The "trail" ranged from cement-like dried clay to soft sand; the terrain from level mesa to steep, rocky desert canyons. The weather was bright and clear, with high temperatures under the desert sun during the day and freezing at night. Many of the men were so far worn from fatigue and lack of water that they had to be helped into camp. There was over a day's march between the van-guard and the rear-guard.

Many draft animals had to be abandoned when they became too weak to continue. Oxen did not do well in the harsh desert; their feet became tender and the vegetation was too sparse and not suitable for nourishment. Mules required no shoes and could better survive on available growth. The men's boots had long ago worn out so some wrapped rawhide around their feet while others improvised boots from the hide off the leg of an ox, which was sewn together with sinews. From Alamo Mocho to Carizzo Creek the Battalion was without water for three days for the working animals and camped two nights in succession without water and made in 48 hours forced marches of 18, 8, 11 and 19 miles. The desert could not have been crossed without great loss in any other way.

The Battalion marched to Vallecito and then swung eastward up a dry wash towards Blair Valley. On January 18 and 19, they traversed the now famous Box Canyon. With the Laguna Mountains on the west and Vallecito and Pinyon Mountains on the east, they chose to travel the dry wash tending eastward towards Blair Valley. They found the canyon, known as Box Canyon, too narrow by a foot for the wagons to pass. They widened the canyon with axes and few remaining shovels so the wagons could get through. Then they built a dugway on the east side of the wash to get around a dry waterfall about 20 feet high (this road is still visible). On January 20, the Battalion crossed the ridge between Blair Valley and Little Blair Valley by roping the wagons up and down. This pass probably is what later became known as "Foot and Walker Pass" because the Butterfield

stage passengers had to get out on foot and walk up. They camped that night at an Indian village on San Felipe Creek. They arrived at Warner's Ranch on the 21st and stayed over the 22nd "eating their first full meal since Tucson." The day's ration was four pounds of beef, without salt or anything else. On the 25th they reached Temecula, only four day's march short of Pueblo Los Angeles. Col. Cooke's intelligence was that Gen. Kearney, being reinforced by the Navy, and with support from the north by Lt. Col. John C. Fremont's irregulars, and now Col. Cooke's advance from the east would surround the Mexican capital of California and cut off their possible retreat toward Sonora. However, a letter that night from Gen. Kearney reported the fall of Los Angeles, with orders to report to San Diego.

The Battalion marched into San Diego from the north on January 29, 1847, and camped at the Mission de Alcalá, while Col. Cooke rode into Old Town, San Diego and reported to Gen. Kearney at the Casa de Bandini where he was staying. The Battalion arrived at the end of the trail with only five of the original twenty-five wagons, the cannon and other ordnance of war brought from the Rio Grande, New Mexico, over a 700-mile new road through enemy territory. Col. Cooke issued an official order on January 30, 1847, congratulating the Battalion for having completed, under most arduous and difficult conditions, a march of over 2,000 miles to the Pacific, "through a wilderness where nothing but savages and wild beasts are found and over deserts where for want of water there is no living creature." Half-naked and half-fed they made a road of great value to our country. "History may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry."

The Battalion In California

Two days after the entire Battalion was sent to San Luis Rey Mission, one company returned to San Diego in the middle of March. They converted Old Fort Stockton into a real bastion for defense of San Diego. They befriended the local people with community development projects. They built a blacksmith shop, a bakery, a tannery and the first fired brick kiln in California. They built the first brick building in California, which served as the Court House until 1872, when it burned down. Lt. Robert Clift became the "Alcalde" or Mayor of the city and Capt. Jesse D. Hunter was appointed by the Governor as the first Indian Agent.

The other four companies of the Battalion were marched from San Luis Rey Mission to Pueblo de Los Angeles in March 1847, as a part of Gen. Kearney's command. There they built Fort Moore and established military control over this most populous area of Alta California. The Mormon Battalion fought no military battles with the enemy during their service, but because of their strength and their presence there the fighting was ended. The loyal and efficient troops of the Battalion were a stabilizing force from a political and military point of view.

The Kearney Escort

Historian Edward W. Tullidge wrote: "Destiny went with the Mormon Battalion to California, in the expedition of Gen. S. W. Kearney, whose instructions from the Secretary of War were to conquer California and set up a provisional government there in the name of the United States. Kearney found the situation claimed by several rival governors. At this crisis of affairs Col. Cook arrived in California with his command, the Mormon Battalion. Gen. Kearney consulted with Col. Cooke, who assured him he could rely on every Mormon soldier. This decided the General. He resolved to force the issue and arrest his rival. This was consummated." (The rival was Lt. Col. John C. Fremont.)

Col. R. B. Mason arrived in California April 6, 1847, to replace Gen. Kearney, who had asked for release as soon as stable government was established. Gen. Kearney, Col. Cook with Col. Fremont under arrest, and with a special escort of fourteen Mormon Battalion soldiers, left Monterey (capital of California) on May 31st with rations for 75 days. The route took them through Sutter's Fort and to Fort Hall in the Oregon Territory. From Fort Hall (now in Idaho) they followed the Oregon Trail to Fort Leavenworth, at which they arrived on Aug. 21 after 83 hard days in the saddle. The Mormon Battalion men were paid \$8.60 each for the time they served in excess of the year's enlistment period. Gen. Kearney continued on to Washington, D.C. for the court martial of Col. Fremont, and the Mormon escort found their way to Council Bluffs from which they had started their historic march, and were now free to join their families.

Mormon Battalion Praised by Officials

Col. J. D. Stevenson, who succeeded Col. Cooke as commander of the Battalion, wrote the following to Gov. Mason: "All persons in San Diego are anxious that the Mormons should remain there; they have by a correct course of conduct become very popular with the (Mexican) people, and by their industry have taught the inhabitants the value of having an American population among them and if they are continued, they will be of more value in reconciling the people to a change of government than a host of bayonets. I have been, in consequence of this good feeling, the more desirous to have them remain."

Gov. Mason, in an official communication to Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of War, said of the Battalion: "Of the service of the Battalion, of their patience, subordination, and general good conduct, you have already heard; ---as a body of men they have religiously respected the rights and feelings of these conquered people, and not a syllable of complaint has reached my ears of a single insult offered or outrage done by a Mormon volunteer. So high an opinion did I entertain of the Battalion and their special fitness for the duties now performed by the garrisons in this country, that I made strenuous efforts to engage their service another year."

Many Discharged, Some Re-enlisted

When the enlistment for one year was completed in July, 1847, the Battalion was brought together and discharged at Los Angeles. One company of 82 men, under Capt. Dan C. Davis, re-enlisted as the "Mormon Volunteers" and marched to San Diego, where they were stationed until the war was over. The other discharged soldiers journeyed northward up the San Joaquin Valley and some up the coast to Monterey to Fort Sutter, located in present Sacramento, where they learned from a messenger that many of their families were on their way to Salt Lake Valley from Council Bluffs, via the Mormon Trail. Because of a scarcity of supplies in Salt Lake they were encouraged to remain in California until spring and bring wagons, farm machinery, livestock, seeds, plants and other badly needed supplies for the new settlements. Many remained in California and found employment.

Gold Discovered

Capt. John A. Sutter was delighted to hire these men for they had the crafts, skills and integrity needed for his multiple enterprises. Seven of the nine men hired by Capt. Sutter to work with John Marshall in Building a sawmill, were Mormon men and six were from the Battalion. It was on their shovels that

gold first glittered, which gold brought adventurous hordes to California. In the spring of 1848, the call of their families and their faith led them to leave the gold fields. They made a new road (Mormon Emigrant Trail) up the American River, crossed the Sierra Nevadas south of Lake Tahoe to Carson Valley, and joined the old trail at the Carson Sinks, east of Reno, (This road is now part of U.S. Highway 50) and went on to Salt Lake Valley.

The Return Trip

Almost half of the discharged men decided they would continue the return trip to their families, rather than stay in California. They had left families in wagons and crude shelters, without adequate supplies, near the Missouri River more than a year before. They hoped they would be with the first groups of Mormons arriving in Salt Lake in 1847. They were uncertain as to their location, for they left Los Angeles before Brigham Young's advance party arrived in the Salt Lake Valley. They crossed the Sierra Nevadas and saw the evidence of the Donner party disaster, then followed the California Trail to Fort Hall in the Oregon Territory where it joined the Oregon Trail. They arrived in Salt Lake on October 16, 1847, where a few were united with their families.

Many of the soldiers who did not find their families did not hesitate continuing their journey another 1,000 miles, even at the late season of the year. They left the valley in good spirits on October 18, without adequate supplies with the expectation that at Fort Bridger, 115 miles to the east and at Fort Laramie they could obtain all the supplies they needed upon reasonable terms. Emigrants to California and Oregon, however, had bought all the available supplies. Jim Bridger said that the men at his post had nothing but meat to subsist on.

From Fort Laramie eastward they followed the Mormon Trail on the north side of the Platte River. A few miles below the fort they were able to buy from an Indian trader 100 pounds of flour for \$25, which they said would be used to thicken their soup and for making gravy; but not for bread. They still had 500 miles to go before reaching the Mormon encampments. With about 250 miles to go, they awoke one morning under a covering of a foot of snow, which was present the rest of the trip. As their worn-out mules and horses eventually became unable to travel, they were slaughtered for food. The day before crossing Loup Fork of the Platte, they divided and ate the last of the food which in the main consisted of rawhide "saddle bags" which were no longer needed to pack provisions. The next day, December 17, 1847, after two months of bitter cold and near starvation diet, they completed the round trip to Council Bluffs, Iowa, from which they had left 17 months before.

The Sick Detachments

The three sick detachments, consisting of about 150 soldiers, laundresses, and families spent the 1846-47 winter at Fort Pueblo, Colorado, under Capt. James Brown. He had orders to proceed to California when conditions would permit. This detachment traveled north to Fort Laramie and continued west on the Oregon Trail. The enlistment period expired on July 16, 1847, and they continued the trek to the Salt Lake Valley where they arrived just five days after Brigham Young's advance party. Captain Brown requisitioned military supplies from Fort Bent on the Arkansas River, which made it quite easy for this group to continue their march.

Five wives of Battalion officers had been reluctantly given permission by Col. Cooke to continue with the Battalion from Santa Fe to California. Four completed the arduous march with the soldiers. One of the women, Lydia Hunter, the wife of Capt. Jesse D. Hunter, gave birth to the first child of U.S. citizens in San Diego. She died a short time later and the child, named Diego, was raised by one of the native families. The other three women accompanied their husbands to the Salt Lake Valley.

New Roads Established

. In addition to the accomplishments already noted, the Battalion made a great logistic contribution to the United States. The wagon road they carved across the wilderness of New Mexico, Arizona and California was followed by the Butterfield Stage Lines and other travelers for decades. When the stage lines were put out of business by railroads, the route of the Southern Pacific was chosen and the land for the Gadsden Purchase was selected by using maps made by the Mormon Battalion. Some of the 82 Mormon Volunteers who re-enlisted and served their country until after the Guadalupe-Hidalgo Treaty ended the war, took the first wagon from San Bernardino via Las Vegas to the Salt Lake Valley, which route eventually became Interstate Highway 15.

SUMMARY

It is difficult to conceive of a harder march under more trying conditions, than that made by the Mormon Battalion in the War with Mexico. The personal sacrifice exceeded that normally associated with the call of duty. Twenty-two of the enlisted men paid the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives while in service to their country. They are all deserving of the fulfillment of the promise made by Brigham Young that "their lives should be held in honorable remembrance to all generations."

It is remarkable that this Battalion as a body and in its detachments should be directly connected with, and effectively influence, so many events of such large importance to the United States, and especially the West, with whose fortunes their lives were more especially identified. To enumerate them again: The conquest of northern Mexico; the opening of western roadways; the discovery of gold; and the adoption of irrigation by Anglo-Saxon people.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

HISTORIES OF THE MORMON BATTALION IN THE MEXICAN WAR

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE MORMON BATTALION IN THE MEXICAN WAR by Sgt. Daniel Tyler, published 1881, republished, 2nd edition 1969 by the Rio Grande Press, Inc., Glorieta, N.M.. This history, written by a member of the Battalion from his own diary plus extensive research, is probably the top Battalion history. It starts with an extensive coverage of the events leading to the formation of the Battalion and concludes with pertinent events and letters into the 1850's.

THE CONQUEST OF NEW MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA IN 1846-1848 by Philip St. George Cooke, published 1878, republished 1964 by the Rio Grande Press, Inc., Glorieta, N.M. This book is a personal narrative and historical account of the Mormon Battalion from the viewpoint of the commanding officer and one of his rank-and-file soldiers.

*THE MARCH OF THE MORMON BATTALION FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS TO CALIFORNIA by Frank Alfred Golder, published 1928 by the Century Company, New York, New York. This history is taken from the journal of Henry Standage, a member of the Battalion. It is a vivid description of the long and arduous expedition.

*THE MORMON BATTALION, ITS HISTORY AND ACHIEVEMENTS by B. H. Roberts, published 1919 by the Deseret News, Salt Lake City, Utah. This history covers the Mormon Battalion's trek and its accomplishments.

MORMON BATTALION TRAIL GUIDE by Charles S. Peterson, John F. Yurtinus and others, published 1972 by the Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101. A trail guide of the Mormon Battalion Trail from Fort Leavenworth to San Diego. This book includes detailed maps. (Out of print, but may be found in library.)

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HISTORIES CONTAINING ARTICLES ON THE BATTALION

*CALIFORNIA MORMONS BY SAIL AND TRAIL by Annalione D. Patton, published 1961 by Deseret Book Company, Salt Lake City, Utah (Pages 34-57).

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*THE SILVER DONS by Richard R. Pourade, published 1963 by the Union Tribune Publishing Co., San Diego, California.

MORMONS AND THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD by Norma Baldwin Ricketts.

THE WEST OF PHILIP ST. GEORGE COOKE by Otis E. Young.

ENSIGN TO THE NATIONS by Russell R. Rich, a history of the L.D.S. Church from 1846-1972.

* Indicates possible readings for Cub Scouts

MORMON BATTALION MEMORIALS AND MARKERS

- 1846 - Lt. Col. James Allen died. Gravesite is at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.
- 1846 - Santa Fe was surrendered to General Stephen W. Kearney.
- 1846 - Teamster Elisha Smith died.- Gravesite between Douglas and Tucson, Ariz.
- 1846 - Ft. Tucson was surrendered to Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke.
- 1848 - Gen. Stephen Kearney died. Gravesite at Mexico City, Mexico.
- 1895 - Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke died. Gravesite at Detroit, Michigan.
- 1879 - Capt. Jefferson Hunt died. Gravesite at Oxford, Idaho.
- 1927 - Monument dedicated on the Utah State Capitol grounds with a cost of \$200,000.
- 1936 - Capt. Daniel C. Davis monument erected at Farmington, Utah.
- 1940 - Monument dedicated at Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 1946 - Monument dedicated at Pueblo, Colorado.
- 1956 - Capt. Jefferson Hunt monument erected at Huntsville, Utah.
- 1958 - Monument (Cost, \$500,000) dedicated honoring the Battalion who built the original Ft. Moore in 1847, at Los Angeles, California.
- 1960 - Monument erected at San Bernardino Ranch near Douglas, Arizona.
- 1967 - Monument erected in Tucson, Arizona.
- 1969 - Mormon Battalion Soldier monument dedicated in Presidio Park (Old Ft. Stockton) in San Diego, Calif. with a cost of \$40,000.
- 1972 - Mormon Battalion Memorial Museum dedicated at Old Town in San Diego, California.
- 1976 - Mormon Emigrant Trail dedicated near Placerville, Calif. Also a marker at Tragedy Springs.
- 1977 - Monument erected at Tenth Ward Latter-day Saints Chapel in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 1977 - New headstone placed at Lt. Col. James Allen's grave at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.
- 1978 - Battalion Trail monument erected on I-8 west of El Centro, California.