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COMPILED SERVICE RECORDS OF
VOLUNTEER UNION SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN
ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE TERRITORY OF
UTAH



THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
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COMPILED SERVICE RECORDS OF
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ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE TERRITORY OF
UTAH

On the single roll of this microfilm publication are reproduced the compiled service records of volunteer Union soldiers who served in Capt. Lot [Lott] Smith's Company, Utah Cavalry. This company is the only organization of Union volunteer soldiers from the Territory of Utah for which the National Archives has separate compiled service records. The records are arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier and consist of a jacket-envelope for each one, labeled with his name and rank and containing card abstracts of entries relating to the soldier as found in the original muster-out roll for the company.

Captain Smith's Company was mustered into the service of the United States on April 30, 1862, by direction of the President of the United States, to protect the telegraph and overland mail companies that had been subjected to depredations in the Territory of Utah. The company was enrolled for 90 days' service, with the understanding that it would be continued in service until replaced by U.S. troops. The company was mustered out on August 14, 1862.

The compilation of service records of Union soldiers was begun in 1890 under the direction of Capt. Fred C. Ainsworth, head of the Record and Pension Division of the War Department. Abstracts were made from documents in the custody of the War Department but when none were available, as in this case, they were made from muster rolls borrowed from the Second Auditor of the Treasury. The abstracts made from the original roll were verified by a separate operation of comparison, and great care was taken to ensure that the abstracts were accurate.

Many of the jacket-envelopes contain, in addition to the abstract from the muster-out roll, a "notation" card that has information obtained from other sources about the soldier. Almost all of the notations relate to requests for copies of discharge papers supplied to the soldier several years after he was discharged from the service. One of the notations documents the determination of the proper spelling of the soldier's name.

There is a card index to the volunteer Union soldiers who served in organizations from the Territory of Utah (Captain Smith's Company). Each card in the index, reproduced as Microcopy 556, gives the name of the soldier and his rank.

The compiled service records reproduced in this microcopy and the index referred to above are part of Record Group 94, Records of The Adjutant General's Office.

The compiled service record of a volunteer Union soldier from the Territory of Utah may not appear in this microcopy for several reasons. First, he may have served in a unit from another State or Territory, or in the Regular Army. Second, he may have served under a different name or used a different spelling of his name. Third, proper records of his service may not have been made; or, if made, they may have been lost or destroyed in the confusion that often attended the initial mobilization, subsequent military operations, and disbandment of troops. Fourth, the references to the soldier in the original records may be so vague that it is not practicable to determine his correct name or the unit in which he served.

The National Archives has other records that may contain information relating to Union soldiers from the Territory of Utah. Other series of compiled service records for volunteer soldiers are (1) an alphabetical series of records of Union staff officers, (2) medical records for volunteer Union and Mexican War soldiers, and (3) records for non-State organizations, such as U.S. Sharp Shooters, Signal Corps, and Veterans Reserve Corps. Information relating to soldiers who served in the Regular Army is recorded in Registers of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798-1914 (reproduced as Microcopy 233), and in other records of The Adjutant General's Office. If an application for a pension was made, additional information about the soldier may be among the pension application files of the Veterans Administration in Record Group 15. Supposed Union military service is sometimes shown by the records to have been civilian service as a scout, guide, or spy. Evidence of such service may be among the records of the Provost Marshal General in Record Group 110.

The price of the one roll of film comprising Microcopy 692 is \$1.