

6-1860

# The Confederate military commissions of Edwin G. Lee, 1860-1864

Commonwealth of Virginia

Robert E. Lee  
*Confederate States Army*


Jefferson Davis  
*President of the Confederate States of America*

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Confederate States of America

John Withers  
*Secretary of War, Confederate States of America*

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Commonwealth of Virginia; Robert E. Lee; Jefferson Davis; Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Confederate States of America; John Withers; James Seddon; John K. Mitchell; Paymaster's Office, Confederate States Army, Staunton, Virginia; and Edwin G. Lee

**General Edwin G. Lee - Confederate Military Commissions  
A Complete Set of Commissions from 1st Lt. to Brig. General**

**2 Gen. Edwin G. Lee - 7 Confederate Military Commissions - complete.** Extremely rare, documenting a Confederate general's rise in ranks as follows:

**Virginia Militia commission as 1st Lt. of the 55th Virginia Regiment, signed by Governor John Letcher,**

**Virginia Volunteer Forces as Major of the 10th Virginia Regiment,**

**Confederate States commission as Lt. Col. of the 33rd Virginia Regiment, signed by James Seddon - Secretary of War,**

**Confederate States commission as Lt. Col. in Adj't. Gen'l's Department to report for duty to Brig. Gen'l Rains,**

**Confederate States commission as Major - Assistant Adjutant General,**

**Confederate States commission as Colonel of Cavalry assigned to Maj. Gen'l Elzey's Command,**

**Confederate States commission as Brigadier General to command Reserve Forces in the Valley District of Virginia.**

**Accompanied by three manuscript directives, as follows: July 27, 1861 to report for duty to Gen. J.E. Johnston at Manassas, December 31, 1862 resignation as colonel of the 33rd Virginia is accepted by the President, July 21, 1863 CS Navy Department resignation as Acting Master in the Navy of the Confederate States is accepted by the Secretary of the Navy.**

**Also accompanied by his calling card 'Brig. Gen'l Lee - C.S. Army' (for use in Canada), as well as his pay voucher as a brigadier general, signed and dated at Staunton, Va. Oct. 31, 1864 by the paymaster. Altogether 12 items, consecutively documenting Gen. E.G. Lee's rise in rank, most with notations on verso by Gen. Lee. I can find no record of another consecutive run of a Confederate general's commissions ever having been offered before. Unique - Historical (12)**

Commonwealth



of Virginia,

To

*Edwin G. Lee.*

Greeting:

Know You, That from special trust and confidence reposed in your fidelity, courage and good conduct, our GOVERNOR, in pursuance of the authority vested in him by the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth, doth commission you a *First Lieutenant of Light Infantry* in the *50th* Regiment of the *10th* Brigade and *third* Division of the VIRGINIA MILITIA, to rank as such from the *twelfth* day of *June* 18 *60*



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name as Governor, and caused the seal of the Commonwealth to be affixed, this *18th* day of *June* 18 *60*.

*John C. Hunter*

Commonwealth



of Virginia,

To

*Edwin G. Lee*

Greeting:

Know You, That from special trust and confidence reposed in your fidelity, courage and good conduct, our GOVERNOR, in pursuance of the authority vested in him by an Ordinance of the Convention of the State of Virginia, doth commission you a

*Major*

in the ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FORCES of the State, to rank as such from the 26th day of *July* 1861

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name as Governor, and caused the Seal of the Commonwealth to

be affixed, this 26. day of *July*. - 1861

*John Letcher*



*10/2/21*

Virginia



Commonwealth

Greeting:

To

Know You, That from special trust and confidence reposed in your  
fidelity, courage and good conduct, our GOVERNOR, in pursuance of the authority vested  
in him by an Ordinance of the Convention of the State of Virginia, hath commissioned

you a

in the ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FORCES of the State, to rank as such from

1861

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my hand as  
Governor, and caused the Seal of the Commonwealth to

be affixed, this 20 day of July 1861



Head-Quarters of the ~~Virginia~~ Forces.  
Richmond Va 27<sup>th</sup> July 1861

Special Order

No. 254.

III. Major Edwin Lee, Va Vols, is assigned  
to the <sup>3rd</sup> ~~10th~~ Regt, Col Cummings, &  
will report for duty to Genl J. E. Johnston  
at Manassas.

By order of General Lee  
L. G. Beas  
A. C. G.

Head-Quarters of the ~~XXXXXX~~ Forces

Richmond Va 27th Sep 1861

Special Order  
No 201

Assignment to  
Capt as Major

The Major General has the honor to inform  
you that you are assigned to the  
command of the 1st Battalion of the  
1st Regiment of Cavalry of the Army of the  
Potomac. You will report for duty to the  
Major General at Chambersburg on the  
1st day of October next.

1861



[Extract.]

Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,

Richmond, Dec 31st 1862.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }  
No. 206. }

No. 206. }  
✓

11. The resignation of Colonel B. G.

Lee, 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Virginia Volunteers, is accepted  
by the President, to take effect February 1st 1863.

By Command of the Sec. of War.  
Geo. W. Mather,  
Asst. Adj. Genl.

Col G. Lee

Lexington

2/1<sup>st</sup>

Accepted of  
Receipt

See  
Receipt

Confederate States of America,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Richmond, January 14 1863.

Sir:

You are hereby informed that the President has appointed you

Lieutenant Colonel  
Thirty third Virginia Regiment

In the Provisional Army in the service of the Confederate States: to rank as such from the twenty second day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty two. ~~Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.~~

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, your acceptance or non-acceptance of said appointment; and with your letter of acceptance, return to the Adjutant and Inspector General the OATH, herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, reporting at the same time your AGE, RESIDENCE when appointed, and the STATE in which you were BORN.

Should you accept, you will report for duty to Commanding Officer

James A. Seddon

Secretary of War.

✓ Lieut Col P. G. Lee

33<sup>d</sup> Virginia Regiment  
P. G. Lee

App<sup>ts</sup> of H. Col.

Confederate States of America,  
WAR DEPARTMENT,  
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

Richmond, Va. *March 13* 1863.

This Certifies, That

*B. J. Lee*

has been nominated by the President *Lieut Col in Adj Genl*  
*Department* to report for duty to *Brig Genl Davis*  
in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, to take rank as such  
from the *first* day of *February* 1863, subject  
to confirmation by the Senate, at their present session.

By command of the Secretary of War.

*Sam. W. Melton*

Major G. A. General.

Transcript furnished from Secy of State  
to Richardson March 19 5 1863

The US Stationer  
Copy 7 a 2 m

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly a letter or official communication.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly a signature or address.]*



Confederate States of America,  
WAR DEPARTMENT.

Richmond, April 11th 1863.

Sir:

You are hereby informed that the President has appointed you

Major  
Assistant Adjutant General,

In the Provisional Army in the service of the Confederate States: to rank as such from the First day of February one thousand eight hundred and sixty three. ~~Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.~~

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, your acceptance or non-acceptance of said appointment; and with your letter of acceptance, return to the Adjutant and Inspector General the OATH, herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, reporting at the same time your AGE, RESIDENCE, when appointed, and the STATE in which you were BORN.

Should you accept, you will report for duty to Brigadier G. J. Rains

James A. Seddon

Secretary of War.

Major E. G. Lee

Asst Adj't Genl

T. A. G. S.





Confederate States of America

WAR DEPARTMENT.

General Order No. 100

For the purpose of...

to the Revolutionary Army in the service of the Confederate States: a man in each...

Respectfully  
Obedient

James M. Smith  
Major General



Office of Ordnance & Military  
Navy Department  
Washington 21<sup>st</sup> July 1863.

Sir,

The resignation tendered in your letter of  
to day, as an Acting Master in the Navy of the  
Confederate States, is hereby accepted.

By Command of Sec of the Navy  
I am, very respectfully,  
Yours &c  
J. K. Mitchell  
Commander in Charge &c.

E. I. See, Esq.  
Lexington,  
Virginia

Confederate States of America,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Richmond, November 19 1862.

Sir:

You are hereby informed that the President has appointed you

**Colonel of Cavalry.**

*Under Art. 104 of the Constitution*

In the Provisional Army in the service of the Confederate States: to rank as such from the thirtieth day of November one thousand eight hundred and sixty three. Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, your acceptance or non-acceptance of said appointment; and with your letter of acceptance, return to the Adjutant and Inspector General the OATH, herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, reporting at the same time your AGE, RESIDENCE when appointed, and the STATE in which you were BORN.

Should you accept, you ~~will report for duty~~ are assigned to duty as Member of Military Court attached to Major Gen. Edgley's Command.

James A. Sedgwick

Secretary of War.

Col Edwin G. Lee

Military Court  
P. A. S.

Accepted Nov 19 1862.

E. G. Parfery  
St. Charles

Nov 20  
Dec 2. 63

Confederate States of America,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Richmond, September 23, 1864

Recd.

You are hereby informed that the President has appointed you

**Brigadier General.**

In the Provisional Army in the service of the Confederate States: to rank as such from the Twenty-third day of September one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, your acceptance or non-acceptance of said appointment; and with your letter of acceptance, return to the Adjutant and Inspector General the OATH, herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, reporting at the same time your AGE, RESIDENCE when appointed, and the STATE in which you were BORN.

Should you accept, you will report for duty to Major Gen. J. L. Kemper to Command Reserve Forces in the Valley District of Virginia } (Signed) James A. Seddon

Secretary of War.

Brig. Gen. E. G. Lee

Yc. Yc.

P. A. C. S.

Official Copy  
A. S. D. G. O.  
Oct. 25, 1864

E. A. Puryear

W. C. R. A. G.

Paymaster's Office, Staunton, Va.,

Oct 21, 1864.

I hereby certify that I have this day paid *Brig Genl. E. G. Lee*  
Co. *P. A. Co. B* Regiment, Volunteers, C. S. A.,

*Five hundred & forty four* 100 Dollars, amount pay due  
him from *1<sup>st</sup>* day *Sept 1864*, to *31<sup>st</sup>* day of *Oct*  
1864.

*[Signature]*  
MAJ. & P. Q. M., C. S. A.

Brig. Gen. Lee.

C. S. Army.