

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 191. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, June 25, 1863.

FOR RECRUITING VETERAN VOLUNTEERS.

In order to increase the armies now in the field, volunteer infantry, cavalry, and artillery may be enlisted, at any time within ninety days from this date, in the respective States, under the regulations hereinafter mentioned. The volunteers so enlisted, and such of the three years' troops now in the field as may re-enlist in accordance with the provisions of this order, will constitute a force to be designated "Veteran Volunteers." The regulations for enlisting this force are as follows:

I..The period of service for the enlistments and re-enlistments above mentioned shall be for three years, or during the war.

II..All able-bodied men, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, who have heretofore been enlisted, and have served for not less than nine months, and can pass the examination required by the mustering regulations of the United States, may be enlisted under this order as Veteran Volunteers, in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth.

III..Every volunteer enlisted and mustered into service as a Veteran, under this order, shall be entitled to receive from the United States one month's pay in advance, and a bounty and premium of four hundred and two (\$402) dollars, to be paid as follows:

1. Upon being mustered into service, he shall be paid one month's pay in advance..... \$13 00  
First installment of bounty ..... 25 00  
Premium ..... 2 00  

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Total payment on muster..... 40 00
  
2. At the first regular pay day, or two months after muster-in, an additional installment of bounty will be paid..... \$50 00
  
3. At the first regular pay day after six months' service, he shall be paid an additional installment of bounty..... \$50 00

4. At the first regular pay day after the end of the first year's service, an additional installment of bounty will be paid.....	50 00
5. At the first regular pay day after eighteen months' service, an additional installment of bounty will be paid.....	50 00
6. At the first regular pay day after two years' service, an additional installment of bounty will be paid.....	50 00
7. At the first regular pay day after two and a half years' service, an additional installment of bounty will be paid.....	50 00
8. At the expiration of three years' service, the remainder of the bounty will be paid.....	75 00

IV..If the government shall not require these troops for the full period of three years, and they shall be mustered honorably out of service before the expiration of their term of enlistment, they shall receive, upon being mustered out, the whole amount of bounty remaining unpaid, the same as if the full term had been served. The legal heirs of volunteers *who die in service* shall be entitled to receive the whole bounty remaining unpaid at the time of the soldier's death.

V..Veteran Volunteers enlisted under this order will be permitted at their option to enter old regiments now in the field; but their service will continue for the full term of their own enlistment, notwithstanding the expiration of the term for which the regiment was originally enlisted. New organizations will be officered only by persons who have been in service, and have shown themselves properly qualified for command. As a badge of honorable distinction, "service chevrons" will be furnished by the War Department, to be worn by the Veteran Volunteers.

VI..Officers of regiments whose terms have expired, will be authorized, on proper application, and approval of their respective Governors, to raise companies and regiments within the period of sixty days; and if the company or regiment authorized to be raised shall be filled up and mustered into service within the said period of sixty

days, the officers may be recommissioned of the date of their original commissions, and for the time engaged in recruiting they will be entitled to receive the pay belonging to their rank.

VII.. Volunteers or militia, now in service, whose term of service will expire within ninety days, and who shall then have been in service at least nine months, shall be entitled to the aforesaid bounty and premium of \$402, provided they re-enlist, before the expiration of their present term, for three years or the war; and said bounty and premium shall be paid in the manner herein provided for other troops re-entering the service. The new term will commence from date of re-enlistment.

VIII.. *After the expiration of ninety days from this date*, volunteers serving in three years' organizations, who may re-enlist for three years or the war, shall be entitled to the aforesaid bounty and premium of \$402, to be paid in the manner herein provided for other troops re-entering the service. The new term will commence from date of re-enlistment.

IX.. Officers in service, whose regiments or companies may re-enlist, in accordance with the provisions of this order, before the expiration of their present term, shall have their commissions continued, so as to preserve their date of rank as fixed by their original muster into United States service.

X.. As soon after the expiration of their original term of enlistment as the exigencies of the service will permit, a furlough of thirty days will be granted to men who may re-enlist in accordance with the provisions of this order.

XI.. Volunteers enlisted under this order will be credited as three years' men in the quotas of their respective States. Instructions for the appointment of recruiting officers and for enlisting Veteran Volunteers will be immediately issued to the Governors of States.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

E. D. TOWNSEND,  
*Assistant Adjutant General*