

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, September 29, 1862.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 72. }

I. The President having approved an Act of Congress requiring the Secretary of War "to transfer any private or non-commissioned officer, who may be in a regiment from a State of this Confederacy other than his own, to a regiment from his own State, whenever such private or non-commissioned officer may apply for such transfer, and whenever such transfer can be made without injury to the public service, and that the Secretary of War shall make regulations to facilitate such transfer, provided that this act shall not apply to any person who has enlisted as a substitute"—it is ordered, that all such applications for transfers as are contemplated by the foregoing act, shall be addressed to the General commanding the army in which the applicant is serving, and shall be granted by him, without reference to the War Department, whether the transfer is within his own military department or not, provided the written consent of the commandant of the company to which the transfer is sought to be made, shall first be given, and the transfer can be made without injury to the public service. In all cases in which the Commanding General shall think proper to refuse such application, he shall endorse the reasons for such refusal, and forward the application to the department.

II. Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 31, current series; paragraph IX, General Orders, No. 38, current series, and clause 3, paragraph I, General Orders, No. 58, current series, are hereby revoked.

III. The ration issued to hospitals will not hereafter be subject to the reduction authorized April 28th, 1862, but will remain as prescribed by paragraph 1107, General Regulations.

IV. For the prompt relief of the sick and wounded of posts and general hospitals, not including those in the City of Richmond, it is ordered:

1. That the commandant of the post shall cause to be established a board, to consist of two or more medical officers at each post or general hospital, for the examination of all soldiers who may be considered fit subjects for furlough or discharge.

2. That in the absence of any regularly appointed officer, the Senior Surgeon of the post or general hospital will act as commandant of the post.

3. That a certificate of disability, with a recommendation for furlough, signed in due form by the Examining Board, and approved by the Senior Surgeon of the post, shall entitle the soldier to a furlough, to be granted by the commandant of the post.

4. That a certificate of disability, with a recommendation for discharge, signed in due form by the Examining Board, and approved by the Senior Surgeon of the post, shall, if the soldier is declared to be unfit for service in the field, or in any department of the government, entitle him to his discharge, which will be signed by the commandant of the post; and in all cases where the descriptive list and final papers cannot be obtained, the patient will be mustered for payment upon hospital rolls, by the Surgeon in charge, on his affidavit that he has not received pay for the period for which he claims it to be due, and that he is not indebted to the C. S. government beyond the amount stated by him.

V. In all cases of application for furlough or discharge under the foregoing paragraph, the applicant will be required to explain satisfactorily his absence from the regiment, battalion or squadron to which he belongs.

VI. Due notice of all furloughs and discharges granted under this order, will be forwarded through department commanders, to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

By order.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*