

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, August 6, 1862.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 56. }

I. Military Commanders have no authority to suspend the writ of habeas corpus; nor does martial law, when declared by the President, under the Act of Congress, justify the arbitrary establishment of the price of commodities in the trade of the citizens of the Confederate States.

II. Necessity alone can warrant the impressment of private property for public use; and wherever the requisite supplies can be obtained by the consent of the owners at fair rates, and without hazardous delay, the military authorities will abstain from the harsh proceeding of impressment.

III. Paragraph V, General Orders No. 33, current series, is hereby revoked; and all discharges will hereafter be made under the 11th Article of War and General Order No. 26, current series.

By order.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*