S. 129. D. J. 1868.

Head Qrs Post of Bethel
Bethel Tennessee Feby 5. 63

S 77 A.G.O.
Dept. of Jackson
Sanford

Col W. W. Comdg Post.

Ask the approval of the General
Commanding of measures
taken by Col Comdg Post of Bethel
in regard to the arrest of Willis
Arnold Jr by Rebel Newham

Returned

Head Quarters Post of Bethel
Bethel Tenn Febry 5th 1863.

Capt T. H. Harris A. A. Genl
Head Quarters Dist of Jackson.

Mess O. McCullum R. J. Basham Thos Crook R. F. Hendrix and O. F. Hendrix parties assessed under special Order No 15 sec IV Dec. 12th for Twenty eight hundred dollars of the amt ordered to be assessed are absent from home and were at the time the assessment was made and have no property out of which the amt can be made W. A. Brummer who was assessed for $1630 has had his assessment upon a review of his case reduced to $1000 dollars which will leave the amt ordered to be collected short those amts. Shall I proceed to assess and collect this amt from other parties living in the same vicinity who have not been assessed.

When Capt. Newsham made his raid back of Henderson station he seized and carried off Willis Arnold jr. a loyal citizen of the U.S. and who was one of the commission who made the assessment for the raid on Henderson. Capt Newsham stated to Arnolds family that he would hold him Arnold until he gave bonds to return the amt ordered to be assessed on Rebel Sympathizers.

Upon hearing of this I ordered Dr J. Smith Newsham's father in law J. Crook and G. F. Ross also relations of Newsham's to be arrested and held as

hostages for his safe return in six days. They at first declined to get him back but upon notifying them that if he was not in the time specified they would be sent to Alton Military prison they at once sent after him and stated they could get him back but wanted two days longer time, which I gave them they in the mean time remain prisoners in my charge. I hope my action in the matter will meet with the approval of the General Commanding.

I have collected for the use of troops at Corinth under command of Genl Dodge 2500 bushels of corn which is now in cribs awaiting shipment.

Wm W. Sanford
Col 48 th Ills
Comdg Post.