

Adj. Gen., Dept. of the Miss.,
Cornith, Miss., June 15, 1862.

Hon. E. W. Stanton,
Secty. of War,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I transmit herewith a topographical map of the plain of Shiloh, showing the various positions occupied by our troops between Shiloh Church, and Pittsburg Landing, in the battle of the 6th and 7th April last. This map has been made from careful surveys and the positions of the various Divisions are designated in the precise places which they occupied on the ground at the times indicated. It will enable the reader to understand the official reports of the battle which have already been forwarded to the War Department.

It is not my object in this

communication to offer any comments on the battle, beyond the remark that the impression which at one time seemed to have been received by the Department, that our forces were surprised on the morning of the 6th, - is entirely erroneous. I am satisfied from a patient and careful inquiry and investigation, that all our troops were notified of the enemy's approach some time before the battle commenced.

Again, our loss was overstated in the official reports, very many of those reported "missing" having subsequently reported for duty. The number taken prisoners by the enemy was also greatly exaggerated. There seems to have been a morbid desire on the part of some of our officers to make the loss of their particular commands much greater than it really was.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedt. Servt.,
H. W. Hallum
Major General Comdr.

Major Genl. Halleck

transmitting

map showing the disposition
of our forces during the
battle of Shiloh on the
6th & 7th of April 1862.

June 26. 1862

HENRY W. HALLECK
Gen in Chief

To. E. M. STANTON
Sec. of War.

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