

The Butler Ranger Uniform. Fact vs. Opinion.

A conservative interpretation of the Butler Ranger uniform based on primary evidence.

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Introduction.

This essay presents primary historical facts and related arguments concerning the uniform and accoutrements of Butler's Rangers. The facts herein were compiled by the author, but he freely admits that he was converted to this way of thinking also, largely through the patience of various individuals listed at the end of the document, but mostly by the weight of evidence. The author researched the issues diligently himself, but he freely admits that some of the research is not newly discovered. However the argumentation and conclusions related to it herein lead to a different conclusion than what has been decided in the past by other Ranger units. In drawing conclusions about the uniform, the author takes a conservative approach and gives conclusions based on what the historical record reveals chiefly from primary documents. People may speculate whether "X" may have been used, or would the Rangers have done "Y." The author tries to steer away from speculation and draw conclusions based mainly on primary evidence. The uniform description written here is what the author believes to be the correct uniform for Butler's Rangers, however as new research comes forward the opinions here may become outdated. This document will be updated whenever significant findings come to light and necessitate comment. Nonetheless, as it stands now, this is what we believe the correct Butler Ranger uniform should be and we encourage all other Ranger groups to change their impressions to reflect what is outlined here. We invite you to consider the evidence and then derive your own opinion. We acknowledge that this document challenges many assumptions that have been made about the Rangers since 1893, but we exhort you to remember that history is not static. It evolves and becomes more dynamic as new evidence emerges. Sometimes small changes are revealed and others, like the ones discussed in this paper, are more significant. The overall question we would ask you to consider is: what do we know from fact, from primary historical documents, versus what do we believe from secondary sources and assumptions. Which will you trust?

Part A: The Coat. Our unit, Colonel John Butler's Company of Butler's Rangers has chosen to wear a short, Light Infantry style regimental coat that was common to all Provincials in the Northern department. That coat is green, faced white. Perhaps before we get into the main part, we should state the obvious: that Butler's Rangers were likely in civilian garb upon enlisting in the Corps, and down the road a few days, weeks or months would have been issued a regimental. The main colour on that regimental has never been in question – green. In May 1780 after the interrogation of Daniel Uhlendorf by rebels, this report was generated: "He sat out from Niagara with about a hundred of Butler's Greens, and a small number of Regulars of the 34th on board a vessel. The same time, and in the same manner, Brant sat out with 300 Indians, as they said, but he believes they ere considerably inferior to that number."¹ Furthermore, in William Stone's book *Life of Joseph Brant*, the author comments on a loyalist, Mrs. Campbell, arriving in Montreal in June 1780 and finding her fourth child, a son, in the care of Mrs. Butler. The boy was apparently dressed in "the green uniform of Butler's Rangers."² Last, we know that they actually had these coats at some point, likely at various points of the war

¹ Clinton, George. *Public Papers of Albany*, 1900. Vol. 5, pp. 700-701.

² Stone, William. *Life of Joseph Brant* New York: 1838, pp. 391-392.

depending on when they joined. On 7 April, 1781, Brig. Gen. Henry Watson Powell writes to General Frederick Haldimand: “I saw the Rangers mustered; they were all new clothed and made a good appearance.”³

Thus, to clarify, we are not disputing the dominant colour of green on the coat; just the long-held assumption that the facings were coloured red or scarlet.

The Issue of Red facings.

The first appearance of the notion of red facings for Rangers came in 1893 from Mr. Ernest Cruikshank’s book *The Story of Butler’s Rangers*. In it, he states that in 1778 Walter Butler went to Quebec after his escape from prison and was assigned the duty of bringing back arms, accoutrements and clothing for the Corps of Rangers commanded by Major Butler.⁴ Later in that same book, Cruikshank tells us that these coats were green, trimmed in scarlet.⁵

The unfortunate part is, Mr. Cruikshank did not leave any notes for this book as to where he got his information from. There is nothing in his book that points to any primary evidence. Mr. Cruikshank was a respected historian in Canada who was later given the responsibility of collecting the records of the Canadian Corps in the Great War for the Canadian Archives. His works today are seen as a starting point, but by no means the absolute last word on everything. According to Mr. René Chartrand, Cruikshank’s later historical research and books were footnoted with references to primary documents. Mr. Chartrand has stated that he trusts Cruikshank’s writing and conclusions on the Rangers even if that book is not referenced with primary documents, largely because he trusts the quality of his other work published later on.^{6 7} The author of this document believes it to be a compromise of historical discipline to accept historical interpretation in what one wrote at a certain point in life because of what this person writes later in life. The two are unrelated. History departments at universities would not accept this fallacy of logic. It can be compared to accepting one’s conclusions in a high school essay, solely because the essays that person wrote later as a PhD candidate were superb. Cruikshank may have improved his research methods by the time he catalogued the Great War, but that does not mean his earlier works are of the same quality. They should be judged as what they are; a narrative (Cruikshank’s own words) without any documentation or references.

³ Smy, William A. *The Butler Papers : Documents and Papers Relating to Colonel John Butler and his Corps of Rangers, 1711-1777*. Compiled and Edited by William A. Smy. Imprint [Victoria, BC : s.n.], 1994. p. 512. Reference says “No Reference!!”

⁴ Cruikshank, Ernest. *The Story of Butler’s Rangers*. Niagara Falls: Renown Printing, 1988. Third Reprint Edition. Original, 1893. p. 43.

⁵ Ibid., p. 58.

⁶ Chartrand, René. “Sergeant Vrooman, Butler’s Rangers c1783.” *Military Collector & Historian*. Vol. 34, No. 4 (Winter 1982), pp. 180-182. Washington, D.C. p. 181.

⁷ Ibid, *American Loyalist Troops 1775 – 84*. (Men-at-Arms #450). Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2008. p. 44.

Not everything in *The Story of Butler's Rangers* is factual; in fact some of it is myth and cannot be substantiated. Given that there are some factual errors in the book, the issue of red facings could easily be one of them, and *is* in fact, according to this author. Furthermore, his work on the Great War was written twenty five years after his Ranger book, and that is a lot of time to improve one's research and writing technique. It has been pointed out that within its pages, whenever Cruikshank incorporates original documents about the Rangers in his writing, he puts those words in italics or quotation marks. When they are marked as such, those remarks *have* been found in original documents. **The statement on Rangers wearing a green coat with scarlet trim is not marked in this way.** To be fair to historical research, we must remove any bias or affinity we have toward his published works, and admit the obvious fact that Mr. Cruikshank's book on Butler's Rangers is a secondary source, only remotely based on primary evidence, and its conclusions therefore must be suspect until other primary documentation can validate them. If contrary primary documentation emerges, a good historian must *always* prefer that to secondary sources, and the secondary sources should be treated as opinion. Over one hundred years of pouring over the same information that Cruikshank had access to as well as newer discoveries, there is no validation revealed for his conclusions on the uniform based on primary records. Unfortunately, Cruikshank's book has so entrenched many people's thinking that it is difficult for some to consider alternate, yet factual information.

In 1926, Mr. Charles Lefferts published his famous work, *Uniforms of the American, British, French, and German Armies in the War of the American Revolution, 1775-1783*. This time, scarlet 'facings' (not just trim) are mentioned, but there are no notations or references to primary sources that would validate this conclusion. It has been asserted that Mr. Lefferts did in fact keep research notes on this book and that they are held in storage at the New York Public Library. However, this author enquired about those research notes with the NYPL and received an emailed reply stating that the NYPL is not aware of any of Mr. Lefferts' research notes held in their storage, or of their existence.⁸ Therefore, we must also conclude that, like Cruikshank, Mr. Lefferts' book is a secondary source; an opinion, not a fact. It is also worth noting that many modern day historians and reenacting groups disregard much of what Lefferts wrote as being out of date and inaccurate.

Regardless, these two men started the idea of Butler's Rangers wearing red facings, but it appears that there is no basis in primary evidence for doing so. Unfortunately this information has been recycled up into our modern day. The Osprey books on Provincials shows Rangers wearing red facings (*Men At Arms* #1 actually shows blue facings,⁹ while the updated one, #39 shows red facings,¹⁰ and the latest, #450 also argues for red

⁸ See email, histref@nypl.org to americantory@cogeco.ca, 21 April, 2007.

⁹ Katcher, Philip. *The American Provincial Corps 1775-1784*. Elms Court: Osprey Publishing Limited, 1973. Plate C, No. 2.

¹⁰ May, Robin. *The British Army in North America 1775-1783*. London: Reed Consumer Books Ltd., 1997. Plate F, No. 4.

facings).¹¹ Mr. William Smy's book lists scarlet as the facing colour as well.¹² The same bad information keeps getting recycled around and around so much that people believe it to be truth when it has no basis in documented evidence. It is bothersome that so many authors wrote about red facings, yet none of them have come up with any primary reference for that conclusion to this present day. In our modern age, with so many people pouring through historical documents, the hobby of reenacting being strong and pushing research forward – none of this effort has produced a single piece of evidence for red facings, either in what Cruikshank and Lefferts may have seen, or in anything new. Despite the famous (or infamous) reputation of the Corps during the war, one finds no primary reference of this celebrated regiment wearing red.

Since red has been assumed for so long, one may ask if there is any evidence of red facings from primary documents? Yes there is, but whether Rangers ever got those coats is the important question. Some of what is referred to next is found at the following web site:

<http://www.royalyorkers.ca/documents/A-MILITARYCLOTHINGQUEBEC.pdf>

Original documents show that the British army in Quebec had in their stores, several coats that they reserved for Provincials and Quebec Militia. These coats included ones that were green faced red, blue faced white, and brown (single colour). Apparently the blue coats were very unpopular because they could be confused with Rebel uniforms. Who was issued the green coats then? The previously mentioned article points to the conclusion that the KRRNY would have been issued them.¹³ The Yorkers were put on the rolls of the Quebec establishment and therefore had access to all the supplies the military would grant them. Furthermore, there is confusion in some documents, listing both "Provincial" and "Canadian Provincial" in the same document, implying a difference. It is uncertain how to interpret this, but it may be that there were different types of Provincials; some who were under the direct command of the Quebec establishment and others who had a looser affiliation. Certainly Butler's Rangers were paid in New York currency while other Provincials were not, indicating on a monetary level at least, a difference in the kinds of Provincial troops.

This author believes that Cruikshank and Lefferts knew about those green coats faced red, and may well have found their existence in some of the primary documents referred to in the Yorker research. Furthermore, they may have presumed that these are the coats

¹¹ Chartrand, René, *American Loyalist Troops 1775 – 84*. (Men-at-Arms #450). Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2008.

¹² Smy, Lt. Col. William A., OMM, CD, UE. *An Annotated Nominal Roll of Butler's Rangers 1777-1784 With Documentary Sources*. Friends of the Loyalist Collection at Brock University, 2004. p. 13.

¹³ In fairness to the situation, as of this date the KRRNY has not yet converted over their coats and after talking to one of their senior NCO's, they feel the evidence is not yet strong enough to warrant the change. Yet at the same time, they continue to host the article on their web site. Puzzling!

Butler's Rangers used because there was no evidence to the contrary, and it is a natural deduction considering that many Provincials from the Seven Years' War wore green coats as well. One would assume that they would continue the same policy for Provincials during the Revolution. But presumption can lead to faulty conclusions, and if there is no primary evidence, all conclusions are merely opinions or even fantasy.

Evidence for White Facings.

What then, is the evidence for white facings? Four evidences will be given here:

1. Obedience to the Beating Order.
2. List of Items Wanted for Rangers.
3. First Hand Account by an Eyewitness.
4. A Post-war painting.

1. Obedience to the Beating Order.

On September 15, 1777 John Butler received his commission and order to raise a Corps of Rangers under his name and command. In it, Butler is clearly instructed that the Rangers must clothe themselves: "... the whole to cloath and arm themselves at their own expense."¹⁴ Some may dismiss this part of the Beating Order as minor and irrelevant to the uniform question, but it is actually key. If Rangers were required to clothe themselves, then that means they would not have been issued any of those green faced red, blue faced white, or brown uniforms that were in storage in Quebec for Provincials. The army would not have sold them to Rangers, since they were holding them in reserve for use by other Provincials. When in Cruikshank it mentions Walter Butler travelling to Quebec for arms, accoutrements and clothing for the Corps, he could not have bought them from the army stores. The document already mentioned on the Yorker web site notes in several places, suppliers in Quebec who advertized in the *Quebec Gazette* as having cloth for sale. Since Walter Butler could not buy from the army, he must have bought from one or more of these suppliers for at least the first two companies of Rangers.

We cannot dismiss this part of the beating order as minor. As per normal military protocol, all parts of the Beating Order were to be obeyed. Other communiqués from the era validate the conclusion that Rangers were not allowed to purchase equipment from army stores, and that the Beating Order was to be enforced. Some examples include:

4 June, 1778. Capt. Walter Butler to Sir Guy Carleton. "The Rangers, when they joined the Corps, are nearly destitute of clothing and necessaries, and having no bounty allowed them confirmed by the General, their being obliged to pay for their arms brings them greatly into debt and subjects Major Butler to many losses, either by being killed or by natural losses."¹⁵ Walter Butler affirms that Rangers must clothe themselves and that he

¹⁴ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts, Add MSS 21700. Reel A-617.

¹⁵ Smy, William. Transcripts, BL, Add MSS 21756.

was not allowed to receive clothing or arms for them from the army. In fact it was so bad that some may have died from the elements because of this decision.

9 October, 1778. General Frederick Haldimand to Major John Butler. “With respect to arms, the great deficiency of that article at present in this province for any extraordinary emergency renders it impossible to supply you with any until we shall be furnished from England, and Colonel Bolton will provide you with the money you desire me to advance you in like matter as he has paid your expenses on other occasions. The great expense and difficulty attending the transporting of provisions to Niagara makes it much to be wished that your Indian excursions could be rendered useful to the place in that respect, as I apprehend that cattle often fall into the hands of the Indians ... or any other articles of provisions sent to Colonel Bolton who would pay a reasonable price for them to the captors.”¹⁶ Haldimand refuses to supply Butler with arms, cattle or other items and even if he had them, he would be reluctant to send them to Niagara because of the difficulty in transportation.

21 November, 1778. General Frederick Haldimand to Lord George Germain. “I also keep the Cloathing which Remains of General Burgoyne’s army for the supply of the Troops under my Command; considering the difficulty and Risk attending the problems the transporting of Supplies to the country.”¹⁷ Haldimand only issues supplies to troops under his direct command, i.e. British Regulars. Also, the risk of sending supplies is great, making him reluctant to do so even if he was so inclined which he does not appear to be.

25 December, 1778. General Frederick Haldimand to Lt Col. Mason Bolton. Regarding some expense charges by Major Butler put through to Sir Guy Carlton, Haldimand remarks that “... it ought not to be allowed for a Corps put upon so much more advantageous footing than any other, and therefore [Carleton] must omit that charge in his accounts ...”¹⁸ Rangers were paid more than other Provincials for the express purpose that they were to clothe and arm themselves, and here Haldimand is holding them to the clear instruction in the Beating Order.

31 March, 1779. Capt. Walter Butler, Memorandum. “Major Butler, therefore, wishes the pay might be levelled, and after duly considering the hardships the men are subject to, the very great expense they must be at for extraordinary clothing in service of this kind, the high price of every article in the quarter they serve and the losses they must meet with on service with Indians ...”¹⁹ Walter Butler admits that they must purchase their own clothing.

28 September, 1779. Capts. Walter Butler, William Caldwell, John McDonnell & Peter Hare to Major John Butler. “According to the Beating Orders for raising a Corps of Rangers, there is to be eight companies ... and each company is to have a Captain.”²⁰ These Ranger officers were writing about the need for more Captains in the regiment and their appeal is to the Beating Order, showing that they expected all aspects of it to be followed.

¹⁶ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21756. Reel A-679.

¹⁷ CO42/39, p. 65.

¹⁸ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts, Add MSS 21756. Reel A-679.

¹⁹ Great Britain. Public Record Office. British Headquarters Paper, Document 1886.

²⁰ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21765. Reel A-682.

11 November, 1779. Major John Butler to General Frederick Haldimand. “I would also beg your Excellency’s permission for Captain Butler to go to England this fall, if an opportunity offers, as well as to procure proper arms, clothing &c for the Corps as well to settle some family concerns.”²¹ Butler wanted to send his son to England and bring back clothing for the Corps, and did not draw from any reserves in Quebec.

27 December, 1779. Capt. Robert Mathews to Brigadier General Allan MacLean. “I am commanded by His Excellency, General Haldimand, to acquaint you that he has given orders to Captain Butler to discontinue enlisting men at Montreal for a Corps of Rangers commanded by Major Butler, whose beating order restricted him to the frontiers of this province for that service.”²² Rangers could recruit only in areas outlined in the Beating Orders, showing again that every aspect of the Beating Order was enforced.

12 Feb., 1780. General Frederick Haldimand to Major John Butler. Regarding bills and bounty money he writes “... I never thought it reasonable that Rangers should be entitled to every allowance made to other troops, who serve for half, and some for one fourth, of the pay. They receive their clothing and arms, being no means adequate to the disproportion of pay.” And later in the same letter: “You are not entitled by your Beating Order to a Quartermaster, as charged in your accounts, as you so strongly represent the necessity for having one, and for the reasons I have already mentioned, I shall confirm that appointment. I cannot see the necessity of your having an Adjutant.”²³ Since Rangers received higher pay, they were expected to clothe and arm themselves according to the Beating Order, which Haldimand writes to remind Butler of. Moreover, he states “*they* receive their clothing and arms ...” meaning Provincial troops *other than* Rangers. Ergo, Rangers were not included in any grouping of Provincials who received clothing or arms. Last, Haldimand is enforcing the Beating Order when he writes about the Quartermaster and Adjutant.

29 April, 1780. Lt. Col. John Butler to Gen. Frederick Haldimand. In response to the previous letter Butler writes “[I] am sorry you consider that of the Contingent men in that light, for the services they are generally employed in are of such a nature as to make them more liable to the losing or breaking their arms and accoutrements than any other Corps or Regiment whatever, and renders an allowance on that score at least equally necessary.”²⁴ Butler pleads again for some change of mind and/or of policy regarding the financial state of his Corps. Butler did not receive any help not prescribed in the Beating Order.

15 Aug., 1780. Lt. Col. John Butler to Capt. Robert Mathews. Regarding the issue of appointing people of his own choice to the Rangers’ officer roles, he writes: “I was convinced from my Beating Orders that I had the right to appoint my own Officers as every company is directed to be raised, completed and reported so, before another can begin.”²⁵ Butler seems to desire to follow the directives in his Beating Orders.

[Undated]. Brig. Gen. Henry Watson Powell to Gen. Frederick Haldimand. “I hope the want of clothing will not again be made the plea for the Rangers at Detroit not acting

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid, MSS 21791. Reel A-690.

²³ Ibid, MSS 21756. Reel A-679.

²⁴ Ibid, MSS 21765. Reel A-682.

²⁵ Ibid.

against the enemy as clothing of all kinds, as well as the donations, have been sent up this fall.”²⁶ The British establishment had little patience or sympathy for the Rangers’ need of clothing, making the chances of them receiving regimental “suits” very unlikely. They had to clothe themselves and had great difficulty doing so.

6 May, 1781. Capt. Walter Butler to Major Lernault, Adjt Genl, Niagara. “Lieutenant Colonel Butler, having ordered out on his private credit a complete stand of arms and accoutrements and this year’s clothing for his Corps, without having any stoppages in his hands to enable him to pay therefore, which said arms and clothing were ordered out in the very first running ship for this province and bills promised payment on their landing.”²⁷ Butler purchased clothing for his troops, and was not supplied by the army.

25 July, 1781. Capt. Walter Butler to Capt. Robert Mathews. “As our arms, clothing, &c, Mr. Phyn writes, were shipped on board the *Uretta*, who was to sail with the fleet, may be in soon, and bills for the payment of them to be sent him, Colonel Butler by the next vessel will take the liberty to draw five thousand pounds from the Paymaster General on account, which he hopes will meet with His Excellency’s approbation.”²⁸ Butler bought and paid for clothing and arms for his Corps out of his own pocket and did *not* draw from the reserves that were in storage in Quebec for Provincials.

Answering Objections to Evidence in this Section. Some may say that since the Rangers were constantly asking for things, or for their expenses to be paid for, that this indicates that at some point the War Office changed its mind and instructed Haldimand to start covering expenses for the Corps. Certainly, it is a little puzzling that Rangers are still asking for compensation for their equipment throughout the war. However, the historical record does not have a single entry that we are aware of, showing such a change in policy. The Rangers may have asked for some reprieve, and likely they deserved it, but that does not mean that they got it. The important fact here is, there is no primary reference showing that Haldimand authorized any expenses for Rangers other than food provisions, and often much of those provisions went to the Indians anyhow.

Conclusion for this part. Many people point back to the Beating Order when they need something enforced. Haldimand did, Bolton did, other British officers did, Col. Butler did, and other Ranger officers did. They all referred back to the Beating Order at one point or another, which shows that they expected it to be followed in every respect, including Rangers clothing and arming themselves. Obedience to orders is underlined from the creation of the Corps when Carleton remarks: “... you are carefully to obey and follow such orders and directions as you shall receive from me or the Commander in Chief for the time being or any other, your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust hereby reposed in you.”²⁹ Therefore, it is nearly impossible that Rangers would have been issued coats by anyone, and Haldimand appears to have faithfully enforced the language and instructions in the Beating Order.

²⁶ Ibid, MSS 21761. Reel A-681.

²⁷ LAC. MG 12, B 53. War Office Records 28, Vol. 4.

²⁸ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts, Add MSS 217675. Reel A-682.

²⁹ Ibid, Add MSS 21700. Reel A-617.

2. List of Items Wanted for Butler's Rangers, dated 9/Sept/1779.

This list of items wanted for Rangers is common knowledge and is included at the end of this document, marked "Appendix A." The actual title of the document is "A List of Sundry Articles Wanted for the Use of Major Butler's Corps of Rangers."³⁰ In it, the only fabric mentioned for coats is fine and middling green cloth, as well as fine white cloth. Immediately after this cloth, a request for 360 suits is made. Presumably they would be of the same colour scheme as what has been ordered for the officers and Sergeants, as that was the standard practice of the army at the time. Officers and NCO's wore the same colour cloth as the enlisted men, but of better quality wool. Though one cannot say with absolute certainty that those "suits" are green faced white, probability would indicate that this is the most likely scenario.

Furthermore, scarlet is not mentioned at all. One would think that if this was part of the Ranger uniform, it also would be requested but it is not. It is possible that they may have had enough of it in supply already, but that is just an assumption. The fact of the matter is that scarlet is not mentioned. Another interesting consideration is the title. It says that it is a list of items **wanted** (as in lacking) for the Rangers. If red is not mentioned, then we can infer that red was **not needed** for use by the Rangers. That very likely could be because they did not use it on their uniforms.

Answering Objections to Evidence in this Section. Others may say that the list might not be complete since part of the title is "Sundry Articles ..." "Sundry" means various, so it is true there is at least the possibility that the list is not complete. However, there is no evidence to show it is incomplete or that part of the document was torn off. Moreover, one would think that all the cloth would be listed next to each other; certainly cloth for the same purpose, i.e. for a coat. Scarlet is simply not mentioned. It is true that this is just one list that survived from the war and there may have been others that did not survive and which may have said something different, however to conclude anything beyond existing documentation is just speculation. One last item to point out. This list is dated Sept. 9, 1779, when Butler was still a Major and not a Colonel. Scarlet is not mentioned in the early years of the Rangers when Butler was a Major and there is no evidence that scarlet was introduced near the end of the war. There are some who speculate that white facings may have been a late war change for Rangers, however it seems by the date of this document and by the rank of John Butler, that a white faced coat was both an early and a late war colour used on Butler Ranger coats. In other words, the uniform did not change.

3. First Hand Account by an Eyewitness.

There is an account describing soldiers who were likely Butler's Rangers, and who were wearing green coats with white facings. This is taken from a primary source by Rebel intelligence. Lt. Col. Cornelius Dubois, 11th Albany County Militia to NY Governor Clinton; Catskill Landing, 24 June, 1780:

³⁰ Ibid, Add MSS 21760. Reel A-680.

Peter Plank said that the 14 of June last, that there came three men at his house dressed in green coats turned up with white; they demanded provition; Plank said he had none to spare; they tould him they would have som, and likewise took it; then Plank ask then if they had no Indians with them; they tould him no; Plank said I beleave you have, for I have seen one; then they called to the Indians and told them to com in; then they told Plank that they was a scout from Nigary sent by Coll. Bottoler, and that they was agoing to Beasex but Plank says he thinks they are gone bak. There was three white men and two Indians...³¹

There is good reason to believe Ft. Niagara is what is referred to by "Nigary" and that "Coll. Bottoler" was Col. Butler. Obviously few people could read or write well at this time, so we should not be troubled because of poor spelling. Furthermore, the men clearly identify themselves as Butler's men. Lastly, they are travelling with Indians, which was a very common thing for Rangers to do. We must consider this event factual and reliable since soldiers on both sides were expected to give accurate intelligence to their superiors.

Answering Objections to Evidence in this Section. There are some who may attempt to dismiss the interpretation of this passage as indicating white facings. Though the account may have been real, some say the white referred to is actually the turnbacks and tails of regimental coat. However, examining similar phraseology of the era seems to conclude that it is actually in reference to the collar, lapels and cuffs of the uniform. The phrase "turned up" is used in many ads of the time period as descriptions for deserters and runaways from various regiments. The ads refer to the coat colours that one would see quickly and would quickly identify an individual. Turnbacks and tails are inconsequential as far as identifying a deserter. Moreover, often these descriptions of "turned up" are used in reference with buttons as well, and there are no buttons on tails or turnbacks. Turnbacks are only mentioned in reference to the coat's lining.

For example, in *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*, March 8, 1777 there is this ad: "James Williams, alias White, did belong to Capt. Dorsey, is lately from Ticonderoga, a well made fellow, about five feet eight inches high, and black curly hair. He had on, when he went away, a brown uniform coat, turned up with green, the letters I P B on the buttons, and a cocked hat; his other clothes unknown." *The Pennsylvania Gazette* March 19, 1777: "Archibald McMichael, 5 feet 7 inches, well set, born in Ireland, by trade a Taylor; had on a blue coat, turned up with red, the buttons marked, D.B.; committed for an assault." Lastly, an ad dated March 10, 1779 in *The Pennsylvania Gazette* reads: TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS Reward. STOLEN out of the house of the subscriber, living in Somerset county, State of New Jersey, the 21st of February last, by a certain HENRY RUSH, a woman's GOLD WATCH, gold face, chased case, representing Pompey's head shewn to Caesar, maker's name supposed to be Wilsman, London; a blue regimental coat, turned up with red, white buttons flowered, lined in the back with white durant, the skirts and fore parts with red shalloon; a white serge vest and breeches, the vest lined with

³¹ Clinton, George. *Public Papers of George Clinton, First Governor of New York 1775-1795. 1801-1804.* New York. Vol. 5, p. 885.

white fustian, the breeches not lined; a full welted hunting saddle not half worn, the tree has been broken, and is mended by a piece of iron clenched on the inside, blue long ells saddle cloth, lined with town linen, with a strip of white cloth sewed round near the edge, and a bridle, the reins tied to the bit.

There are many ads similar to these few I have quoted. At times the phrase used is “facings” while most of the time it is “turned up” which seems to indicate the phrases are interchangeable. Buttons are not mentioned in every instance, but that is likely because they were plain buttons and were not worth mentioning. Regardless, it seems that whenever the phrase “turned up” is used, it is in reference to a facing colour in order to better describe the runaway and find him. “Turned up” is the phrase used to describe facing colour by everyone and to continue to insist it is referring to tails or turnbacks does not show sober contemplation of the facts or a willingness to accept plain evidence.

When turnbacks or tails are referred to, it is in connection to the lining of the coat and lining is clearly identified. For example, in *The Pennsylvania Gazette* Aug. 19, 1772 a description is given for a runaway: “[he has] a pale complexion, wide mouth, a little pitted with the smallpox, and has a large scar on the left side of his head, he is much given to swearing and lying; he had on, and took with him, a coat, of a red and blue drugget, lined with green, a yellow and white striped lincey jacket, an old felt hat, with a plad garter tied round the crown . . .” Therefore, there seems no other legitimate way of interpreting “turned up with” other than to say it is the facings of a coat.

Another objection is that the troops referred to here could be other Provincials. How likely is it that these could be other Loyalists? As the article on the Yorker web site points out, a Yorker was probably wearing red facings. They were not known to travel along with Indians to any degree close to what Butler’s Rangers did. These men may have been from the British Indian department, except that there is an original coat from the Revolutionary period on display at the Niagara Historical Museum in Niagara-On-The Lake, Ontario that is red faced blue. Other Indian Department coats of the era show green facings, but never white. The only possible match to other Loyalists with a green coat faced white could be some of the companies operating on Long Island, but how likely is it that just a few of them would leave their fortifications there, and travel so far up the Hudson river, and be travelling with Indians at the same time? It seems rather *unlikely* in fact. How likely is it that Butler sent men into this area and that they could have been his men referred to? Evidence shows that Butler regularly sent men into the area:

21 June, 1779. Extract from the Journal of Lt. Robert Parker, Canajoharie. “This day was executed a spy called Henry Hare, who said he was a private in Colonel John Butler’s regiment.”³²

Same date. Extract from the Journal of William McKenry. “June 21st. This day a man was hanged at the Mohawk River taken up for a spy that was viewing the stores as they

³² The Journal of Lieutenant Robert Parker” *Pennsylvania Magazine*. Philadelphia, 1903. p. 406.

passed up the river. He informed General Clinton that he was a Lieutenant in Butler's service which is now with the Indians; also informs that another Tory and 9 Indians came off with him."³³

6 July, 1779. Extract: Brig. Gen. James Clinton to Mrs. James Clinton. "I have nothing further to acquaint you of, except that we apprehended a certain Lieutenant Henry Hare and a Sergeant Newberry, both of Colonel Butler's regiment, who confessed that they left the Seneca Country with sixty Indians and two white men, which divided themselves in three parties; one party was to attack Schoharie, another party Cherry Valley and the Mohawk River, part of the Mohawk River to take prisoners and scalps."³⁴

July, 1779. Extract: Petition of William J. Newkirk. "This deponent also volunteered and actually went to take one Henry Hare, a British spy, whose family resided at Florida, while he had been engaged in travelling back and forth to and from Canada as a spy ..."³⁵

13 May, 1781. Brig. Gen. Henry Watson Powell to Gen. Frederick Haldimand. "I transmit some intelligence which arrived yesterday, and there are now five scouts out upon the Mohawk River, besides two Sergeants and three privates of the Rangers who were sent off in March for intelligence only to the neighbourhood of Schenectady and are expected back on the 25th instant."³⁶

Conclusion: Butler sent men into these areas on a regular basis, so it is entirely plausible that the men in green coats faced white with Indians were some of his Rangers; they identified themselves as his men, and could not have been in the Indian Department.

4. A Post-war painting.

Below is a period image showing a figure reportedly from Butler's Rangers, wearing what seems to be a green coat with white facings, black belting and gaitered trousers. He is identified in the painting as "Sgt. Vrooman of Butler's Rangers." The original picture has been stolen but black and white photocopies exist. The author of some of the books from Osprey, Mr. René Chartrand, has examined such a copy and has published his opinion.³⁷ Originally thought by him to be from 1783, others believe it to be closer to 1790. If one examines the picture closely, you can see that the cut of the uniform has some qualities consistent with clothing warrants from the Revolutionary period. The collar seems to be sitting and not standing, although even if it is standing slightly, that was part of new clothing warrants near the end of the war. The shirt collar is turned over the neck stock, and after the war shirt collars became shorter and did not cover the stock. The overalls he is wearing are not high-waisted, which is typical of the Regency period. His sash may have a white stripe through the middle of it indicating rank, and in the war

³³ Massachusetts Historical Society. *Journal of William McKendry* (May 1886), vol. 2, p. 459.

³⁴ Clinton, George. *Public Papers of Albany*. 1901. Vol. 5, p. 122.

³⁵ Archives of the United States of America. Pension Application of No. W24339 Private William J Newkirk.

³⁶ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21761. Reel A-681.

³⁷ For a thorough examination of the painting by Mr. Chartrand, see *The Military Collector & Historian*. Vol. 34, No. 4. (Winter 1982), pp. 180-182. Washington D.C.

Mr. Vrooman's rank was Sergeant. Furthermore, the uniform colours here are consistent with what has already been referred to for Rangers, thus making our conclusions believable. Coats and colour combinations they were familiar with and which were still serviceable would likely have still been used after the war was over for the Nassau Militia. In fact, in July 1794, militia officers were counseled to wear their Revolutionary War uniforms. They were told that "the Officers on half pay, if they choose it, will, agreeably to Military practice, wear out the uniform of their respective Corps, which were so honourably distinguished during the course of the late War."³⁸

Rangers in the Niagara region were absorbed into the Nassau Militia (sedentary) in 1788 after their settlement in the area after the war. They went on to serve in the Nassau Militia, and some also, (or their offspring), during the War of 1812 as members of Lincoln Militia. The county's name was changed in 1793 from Nassau to Lincoln county. It is obvious that he is wearing sideburns in the painting, however sideburns also were finding acceptance in the military at the end of this war (though shorter) and are referred to in some accounts as "runners." His cocked hat is worn in the "fore and aft" position, which was popular in the years after the war. Some may object to the fact that his son in the picture, Adam Jr., is wearing a post-war round hat. Though the son may be wearing such a hat, this should not necessarily imply that his father is wearing post-war clothing as well. It is entirely possible that each wore what they wanted for this painting. Do not forget also, that the title notes Vrooman as from Butler's Rangers, *not* Nassau Militia. This author believes this image could very likely be a post-war painting, but with Vrooman wearing his Revolutionary War uniform.

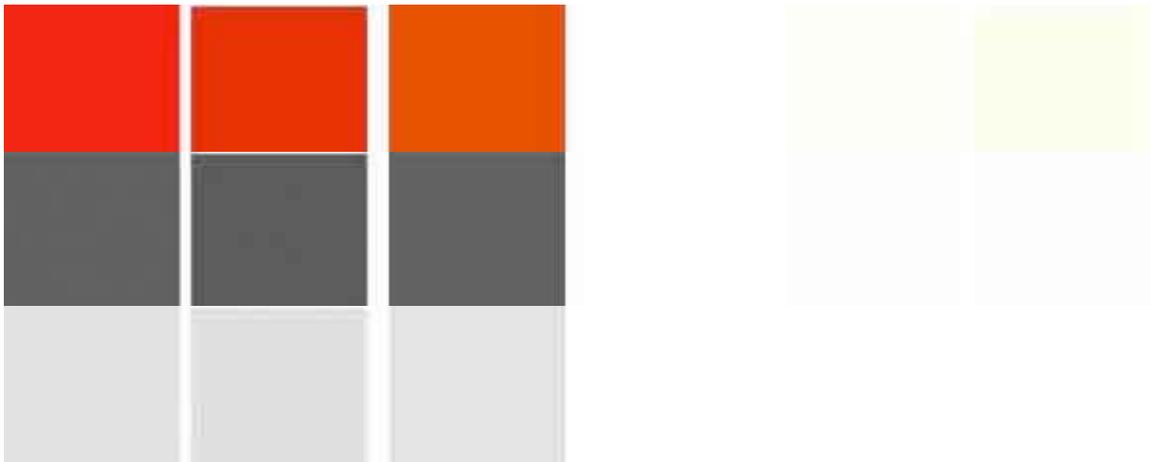


Recently this image has been discussed in a recent issue of Osprey's Men-At-Arms series.³⁹ The author asserted that since the colour on the lapels is slightly different than that of the waistcoat, and when this painting is converted to a black and white

³⁸ Simcoe, John Graves. *The Simcoe Papers* Vol II. p. 342-343.

³⁹ Chartrand, René. *American Loyalist Troops 1775 – 84*. (Men-at-Arms #450). Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2008.

photograph, this darker hue is an indication of red facings. First, the difference in hue is extremely slight. It could easily be that the waistcoat is newer and thus explains why it looks cleaner than the lapels. And since this is likely the coat Vrooman wore during the war, it is no wonder that his lapels are not perfectly white. To illustrate the point, I produced three images in Photoshop which I have copied below. The first image shows colours from left to right scarlet, madder red, and then an orangy madder red. After that is absolute white, a white going toward buff, and then a traditional buff colour. The second image has these exact same colours converted to grayscale. The third image has the same colours converted to grayscale but with the output level set at 128/255 and the brightness at +50.



I hope you will agree with me that when the red is converted to grayscale, it looks much darker than the lapels in the Vrooman image. Therefore, I cannot accept the premise to be true, that his lapels in colour are actually red and when photographed in black and white, look grey and that this is an indication of red colour in the original print. The lapels are very close in colour to the waistcoat, indicating that they also are white and are merely showing more wear than the waistcoat.

Part B: Small Clothes. There was likely some variety in what Rangers used for small clothes since they had to supply their own. However, it is common knowledge that Provincials in the Canadas were using white small clothes at least until 1780, and this is what the Vrooman image reveals. A white, likely linen shirt, a black neck stock made of either silk, linen, horse hair or leather, and a white weskit, likely made of wool at least on the front. The gaitered trousers, or overalls, appear to be white also. In the list of items wanted for the Rangers in 1779, it lists “Russia sheeting for trousers.” Thus, it is entirely likely that some Rangers wore these trousers at some stage of the war. It would be a stretch to say this is what they wore exclusively, so breeches may still be an option since it was the common pant article of the time. However, this primary document shows that trousers made from Russia sheeting are the preferred, authentic choice for Rangers. The footwear in the Vrooman image is difficult to identify however, it appears that there may be a buckle on his right foot. Certainly buckled shoes were the common footwear of the time, although since this Corps worked so closely with the Iroquois, moccasins are a legitimate option also.

Our unit chooses to follow these guidelines, as they seem the most likely conclusions based on primary documents. It should be noted however, that we are choosing to wear the Light Infantry pattern weskit that was approved by the King in 1771. An image of it is attached here. We believe this is more likely to have been chosen by Col. Butler for his men because it seems like the pattern he established. He seems to choose those things which were new, and which were the latest things used by the army. He seeks to have trousers for his men instead of breeches. He asks Bolton for short firelocks instead of Long Lands. Bear in mind that he is trying to create a corps of professional, elite Provincials. Due to the disagreement with the Johnson family clan and them speaking evil of Butler on a regular basis, John Butler must have been sensitive to that and how this may



influence Army officials. He would have been determined to put a professional set of troops on the field to prove to Carlton and Haldimand that they were correct to put their trust in him. Hence, he naturally would have sought out the best weapons, and embraced the latest fashion. The Light Infantry weskit is one expression of that sentiment.

Part C: Headwear. For this section also, we look to the Vrooman image and the list of wanted items from 1779. In the list, it shows a request for “hatts.” Furthermore, the Vrooman image clearly shows a cocked hat, albeit in the fore and aft position. One has to ask what a “hatt” is for this time period. All other Ranger groups have assumed a jockey cap was used, one similar in style to those used by Rangers during the Seven Years’ War. This is sometimes reproduced in leather and other times in black wool felt that is cut down from a blank. Apologists for this view will argue that this type of hat is what was used by Rangers during the French and Indian War, so it is likely that Ranger units continued the practice during the Revolution. Moreover, they will say, Light Infantry units of British Regulars wore a leather cap similar to these, and since Rangers fight in a similar style to Light Infantry, it seems natural that they use a similar hat. Practically, this hat is easy to travel through the woods with.

Those things may all be legitimate, but that does not mean they are correct. As far as we know, there are no surviving examples of headgear wore by Butler’s Rangers, and the jockey cap is an invention made up along the way as a “best guess” given the kind of work Rangers did. However, the historical record does not indicate the use of caps for Rangers. The wanted list refers to “hatts” and these jockey hats are properly referred to as

“caps.” Caps and hats are different types of headwear. What are period examples of hats? There are cocked hats or round hats with either the left side turned up so as to prevent the musket from knocking the hat off, or fantail style. A conservative interpretation that adheres to the language of “hatt” and cross-referenced with the example in the Vrooman image would lead to the conclusion of a cocked hat; certainly for a garrison impression. It is very possible that when Rangers left garrison on a mission, they let out two leaves of their hat in order to create a round (slouch) hat while on campaign. Round hats were sent from England to Provincials in 1778, and Butler may have copied this trend in order to demonstrate his adherence to the latest advances of the British army. As much as the caps would be good for travelling in the woods, these round hats have the advantage of keeping sun off the soldier’s faces and caps do not. When back in garrison, the cocking could be put back in the hat easily. This seems like the best, and most faithful interpretation of the word “hatt” based on what exists in primary documentation, and round hats are what we use for rank and file, while cocked hats are worn by NCO’s and officers.

Part D: Firearms & Accoutrements. Lefferts painted his image of a Ranger wearing white belting, and it is true that some Provincial units did use white. White belting matches nicely with the facing and weskit colour. However the Vrooman image shows black belting. Light Infantry units of the British army used black belting also. Admittedly, there is a possibility of either hue being correct for this decision. We are choosing to stay consistent with what is revealed in the Vrooman image, and believe that black is the more accurate choice. It is based on a piece of primary evidence while white is based on a presumption that Lefferts made, and we do not know why he assumed that and have not discovered any such reference in primary documents.

For firearms, we know that according to the Beating Order Rangers were expected to arms themselves. Later, on February 12, 1779, the commandant of Fort Niagara, Lt. Col. Mason Bolton of the King’s Reg’t, “lends” Major Butler “one hundred firelocks out of the Garrison Store.”⁴⁰ Later on, Bolton is reprimanded by Haldimand for doing so. On March 4, 1779 Lt. Col. Bolton writes to Gen. Haldimand that “we have not at this time a single good musket flint in the garrison.”⁴¹ Frederick Haldimand’s response a month later is to “send up armourers and other artificers to put everything in the best order they can.”⁴² Clearly, the small arms at Niagara were in want, and the ones present were often in very bad shape. According to a report generated a year later, April 6, 1780, of muskets that were serviceable, there were 107 “new musquets,” 70 old muskets, 14 short and 97 Dutch muskets. Related to that, repairable muskets included 85 new, 47 old, 87 short, and 61 Dutch muskets.⁴³ Likely the new muskets are the Short Land models, and the “old” muskets are any of the Long Land versions. Short muskets likely refers to fowlers and carbines, and Dutch speaks for itself; Dutch-made muskets.

⁴⁰ BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21756. Reel A-679.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² BL. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21764. Reel A-682.

⁴³ LAC. HP. Additional Manuscripts. Add MSS 21816.

Knowing the kinds of firearms that were in the King's Stores at Niagara, and that the muskets there were generally in a state of bad repair, does not really help us identify what Butler's Rangers used. We know they all were expected to report for duty with one, and we know that a hundred of them were issued out to Rangers in 1779. At one point Butler requests small, lighter arms for his men. The best deduction to make here is that there was likely some variety in what each individual Ranger used. Likely there was a generous mix of fowlers, carbines, Dutch muskets, and Long Land muskets. Some of those were brought from home while others were issued out by Lt. Col. Bolton. Therefore, for our unit we allow some flexibility in what each member wants to use for his personal firearm. The only musket that this author believes was unlikely to have been used by Rangers is the Short Land model. These were the new elite models of the British Army, and likely would have been kept in reserve for Regulars. Provincials tended to receive the hand-me-downs of arms and accoutrements.⁴⁴ Our unit's preferred firearm is the 1756 Long Land.

In Conclusion: An assumption has been made for over one hundred years that Butler Ranger uniforms were faced red. This assumption was made because of two influential books published just before, and just after the turn of the 20th century. Neither of these books appear to be based on any significant primary evidence. There is no proof that they were based on original documents and current research regarding the uniform question has not turned up any pieces of primary evidence for red facings. Where these authors got their information from and why they wrote what they did we will likely never know. In both cases they did not leave notes or any rationale for their conclusions. However there is evidence for white facings. Butler's Rangers did not have access to any coats supplied by the military and had to clothe themselves – which they did. As far as we know, they never, not once, asked for or purchased red cloth. Furthermore, there is an eyewitness account from the war stating that Rangers had white facings. Last, a post-war painting of a former member of Butler's Rangers shows a green coat faced white, which may have been carried over for militia use after the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. Therefore, to continue to believe red facings are correct for Butler's Rangers is precarious. Primary evidence shows white is the correct facing colour, and the conclusion for red facings has always had its only basis in secondary material. Primary evidence is *always* superior to secondary. We encourage all Ranger units to follow this research and switch to white facings. Unless primary evidence is revealed for red, that impression should be considered inaccurate and farby. On a final note, this research on the coat was submitted to the Inspector General of The Brigade of the American Revolution, and approved.⁴⁵ Later, he approved the other uniform items mentioned in this document, including the hat.⁴⁶ The BAR supports the idea of white facings over red for Butler Ranger units and may encourage its other member units to switch over based on this evidence. As you may know, the BAR is known for having high standards of authenticity and places a strong emphasis on research.

⁴⁴ Darling, Anthony. *Red Coat and Brown Bess*. Bloomfield: Museum Restoration Service, 1971. p. 23.

⁴⁵ See email: ackermann@hvi.net to americantory@cogeco.ca, 23 May, 2007.

⁴⁶ See email: ackermann@hvi.net to americantory@cogeco.ca 22 August, 2007.

We believe the Butler Ranger uniform needs a complete re-tooling on how they appeared, acted, and what John Butler was trying to form his Corps into. The fact that the 1779 wanted list shows Mr. Butler ordering hair powder and aromatic pomatum for his men's hair, seems to indicate a desire to shape them into more of a professional soldier rather than the merciless frontiersmen they have traditionally been typecast as. Aside perhaps from the two Indian-speaking companies, we believe that is the case. We believe we have carefully and correctly done that re-tooling and invite all to be moved by the evidence.

We do not consider this document to be static. If you have any questions or comments, or if you are aware of any other research regarding Rangers, please send it to us. It can be supportive or contradictory evidence, we do not mind. Whatever pushes us forward to greater excellence and authenticity is the important goal.

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The author has been a Butler Ranger reenactor since 1999, and has degrees in History, English and Education.

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Afterword. Otherwise known as "The Cruikshank Cult," or the "Defamation Dudes."

Speaking personally, I sincerely appreciate all the help I have received in compiling these proofs and also the positive encouragement I've received about the evidence ever since this document went public. Having said that, there has also been strong, dig-your-heels-in-the-sand kind of opposition from some who will simply not give up on Cruikshank's assertion of red facings. Some interpret what I've written as a personal attack on Mr. Cruikshank and of course *it is not!* I value his book's contents on a limited scale, but when I criticize him, I do not mean it personally against him. I take exception to his

research's (and Lefferts') lack of a paper trail. Neither of them can justify their assertions about the uniform from what we know in primary sources. Still, some people cannot, or choose not to see that difference. Their thinking on the issue has been that way since they became interested in Butler's Rangers, so much so that it is entrenched in their psyche and they are unwilling to bend. It is almost cult-like; mindless obedience to a leader, despite the evidence that is out there. Personally, I do not know what else to do however I do take comfort in the wisdom of Matt. 7:6 "Do not give dogs what is holy; and do not throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under foot and turn to attack you." I've come to the realization that some people will never change their minds, for all the wrong reasons, and there is no reason to continue expending time on them.

It is evident from some of these naysayers what their strategy is. Since they cannot argue anything intelligently from primary documents, they will seek to win the debate by going personal. Hence, I call them the "defamation dudes." Some have already spun an argument from emotion, saying that if I truly cared about the Rangers, I would not ask uncomfortable questions or draw these conclusions about the uniform. I would adhere to their supreme wisdom on the matter. Others call my research and efforts related to it "sillyness" [sic] and pontificate about being in the hobby longer than me, and having done more research than me. They remind me that much of what is presented in this essay is not new, when I have never claimed all of it to be mine alone. They like to isolate supporters of the conclusions in this essay by implying that we are alone, and in the minority on this issue (which is untrue). When you reply back with intellect they accuse you of being "confrontational" and withdraw from the debate like a small child who takes his toys and plays elsewhere. Then when it is convenient for them, they will be confrontational with you before they leave the conversation and give you threats and imply things they will do to attack your reputation if this is continued. To quote verbatim one such person: "If you want to stay in some sense of favour with those that have made this a passion and take in [sic] very seriously and with a great deal of respect for the actual rangers and their ancestors than [sic] please walk gently." So to curry favour with them and avert their anger, they expect me to abandon and ignore the research and logical conclusions, just to please them. Obviously, I will not submit to childish mafia techniques by these "dudes."

So I wanted to write this afterword as a warning to all who read this essay. I think the facts are clear, and I would remind you to make your decision based on the facts from primary evidence. You may in the future, hear rumblings about my name, character or reputation, but remember it is all a diversionary technique from these people because they do not know how else to fight the evidence. They are blinded by the Cruikshank cult and will defame anyone who suggests anything other than what they have decided to be truth. They will spin all kinds of negative stories about me and my person, just to try and discredit me and hope this discredits the research. Be watchful of them. Some of them are people you may have believed to be knowledgeable about Butler's Rangers and thought they were good, fun people. You will likely not see many of their comments in public forums, but rather these people will speak in private emails or conversations with others about this. I would appreciate you forwarding any communication in this regard to me. Furthermore, I encourage you to correct them if you agree with the conclusions I have

made. Though these people may appear to be friendly and nice, I encourage you to remember the words of Lady Macbeth to her husband as she counselled him to murder the Scottish King in Act 1, scene 5 of *Macbeth*: "... look like the innocent flower, but be the serpent under't." Tell me if that does not accurately describe these people!

Supporters. List of current supporters of this document's main conclusions.

John Butler's Coy, Butler's Rangers, James Kochan - author, Fred Lucas - researcher, Don Hagist – researcher, Fort Niagara (Eric Bloomquist, OFN's Rev War supervisor), Ron Dale (former Superintendent, Niagara Region, for Parks Canada, now the War of 1812 Bicentennial coordinator for the government of Canada), The Brigade of the American Revolution, various commanding officers of The British Brigade, individuals at The Lincoln and Welland Regiment.

Appendix A: List of Articles Required for the Rangers. Niagara, 9 September, 1779.

“A List of Sundry Articles Wanted for the Use of Major Butler’s Corps of Rangers.”

| | | | |
|------|--|------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 | pieces fine green cloth for officers | 60 | camp kettles |
| 4 | do white do | 60 | frying pans |
| 3 | do middling green for Sergeants | 15 | dozen scissors |
| | Buttons and trimmings suitable for the above | 10 | pieces russia drilling for knapsacks |
| 360 | suits of clothing for men | 3 | Cwt whitening |
| 360 | blanket coats or blankets in proportion | 3 | Cwt Starch |
| 50 | pieces of binding for ditto | 1 | Cwt blue |
| 1500 | pairs men strong shoes | 3000 | lbs cheese |
| 1500 | shirts | 3600 | lbs tobacco |
| 1440 | pairs stockings | 10 | dozen tobacco boxes |
| 60 | dozen handess | 30 | lbs shoemakers thread |
| 30 | do hatts | 10 | dozen shoemakers awls |
| 40 | pieces of russia sheeting for trousers | 360 | tin canteens |
| 30 | doz shoe buckles | 90 | lbs mustard |
| 30 | do knee do | 1 | dozen orderly books |
| 30 | do sleeve do | 6 | reams writing paper |
| 40 | thread different colours | 400 | quills |
| 2m | needles assorted | 100 | gallons vinegar |
| 30 | boxes soap | 12 | barrels molasses |
| 20 | do candles | 10 | boxes essence spruce |
| 4 | do chocolates | | |
| 300 | lbs coffee | | |
| 700 | lbs bohia tea | | |
| 200 | lbs green tea | | |
| 30 | barrels brown sugar | | |
| 3000 | lbs loaf sugar | | |
| 8 | dozen buckle brushes | | |
| 20 | do blacking balls | | |
| 20 | do ivory combs | | |
| 30 | dozen horn combs | | |
| 30 | do pomatum | | |
| 50 | lbs hair powder | | |
| 60 | lbs pepper | | |
| 30 | dozen clasp knives | | |

There will also be rum wanted, if a greater quantity should not be sent up than has already been done.