

General George Armstrong Custer verses Major James Breathed/Iraq War

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The Civil War has been named differently by both the North and the South. For the North it was called the War of the Rebellion and for the South it has been named The War of Northern Aggression or The War Between the States or The War For Southern Independence. In the end the winner of a war has the privilege of naming the war. They also write the predominate history of the war. Over time historians sort out what the war was all about and then discern the war's meaning.

The Dictionary defines a rebellion or insurgency as: "The quality or circumstance of being rebellious." Following this thought is the definition of an insurgent, one who: "Rises in revolt against civil authority or a government in power."¹

The Revolutionary War for American Independence was an insurgency. The second American insurgency was called Shays Rebellion of 1786. Mr. Shay was an American Revolutionary War soldier who was a Massachusetts farmer after the War's conclusion. He was thrown into debtor's prison and when he was released he instigated an insurgency. He inspired 2,200 Americans to storm the Springfield, Massachusetts, Arsenal in order to acquire the arms and ammunition needed to equip the insurgents. 900 Federal men fired cannon canister shot over and then into Shay's men. This bloodshed stopped the insurgents and they fled in all directions – never to reform again.

The Whiskey Rebellion of 1791 could also be considered an insurgency or the third American Rebellion in which Americans fought against Americans.

On April 27, 2006, the *Alexandria Times* of Virginia, had a germane article to this subject of insurgency. The title of the article was *Tradition continues as war heroes receive their Purple Hearts*. The article gives the origins of the Purple Heart medal. George Washington created it as a distinction for "meritorious action" on August 7, 1782. It was "a purple cloth...awarded to three sergeants from a Connecticut regiment."² The Revolutionary War soldiers were American heroes and insurgents -- as were the Confederates of the Civil War. Due to the use of the word insurgent, in today's context of the Iraq War, some may be offended by calling the Confederate soldier an insurgent. However, General George Washington said "The road to glory in a patriot army is open to all."³ The Confederate patriots fought side by side, as insurgents, trying to free their nation from what they perceived to be a tyrannical government.

The greatest American tragedy of the 19th Century and possibly of all American history was the Civil War. This war was the fourth American insurgency. American Jeffersonian Democracy was born of a Rebellion against a Tyrannical Government – The British Empire. Many Southern Civil War soldiers modeled their fighting on the principles which resulted from The American Revolution. General George Armstrong Custer fought

for his government against the insurgent Major/Doctor James Breathed, Stuart Horse Artillery, of the Confederate States of America.

In the Civil War magazine *North & South* there was a recently published article entitled *Why the Confederate Insurgency Failed*. The author of this article stated that: "Military historians have identified four elements that are critical to the success of an insurgency: a conventional army, irregular forces, external assistance, and sanctuary."⁴ Today, I would like to focus not on what an insurgency is, but instead what are the characteristics of an insurgent person in a war. I will also discuss the behavior of a governmental warrior, as was General Custer, who fought against the insurgents. Three characteristics germane to both sides will be juxtaposed through this presentation.

First, individuals -- characteristically on both sides of a war -- believed that God is on their side and with them as they fought. The credo of the Confederacy was *Deo Vindice*, God Will Vindicate. In an interview of 1889 with a New Orleans resident, Thomas J. Semmes, the following was elaborated upon in relation to the Confederate Seal that had George Washington seated upon a horse. Quote, "As to the motto proposed by us, we concur with the House in accepting the word 'Deo' -- God. We do so in conformity to the expressed wishes of the framers of our Constitution, and the sentiments of the people and of the army." Semmes went on to say that: "The preamble of the Provisional Constitution declares that 'We, the deputies of the sovereign and independent States...invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain,'"⁵

It is clear that the Seal of the Confederate States of America was intentionally designed to evoke the fact that God was with the righteous people of the South in their plight to free themselves from the 'tyrannical government of the North' during the Civil War. The insurgent Major James Breathed was born into an Episcopal God-fearing family. The Breatheds took their faith very seriously. In 1848, the father of James Breathed moved from Virginia, to outside of Hagerstown, Maryland. James was then a young impressionable lad of ten years. The Breathed plantation home was across the street from The College of St. James, an Episcopal Seminary training school. Whether James Breathed liked it or not he was going to become a God-fearing young man as he was exposed to daily worship services and the rigorous study of the Bible.

Doubtless that James Breathed knew of the Confederate Seal and the credo "Deo Vindice." He would have believed that God was on the side of the Confederacy and his insurgent war acts of rebellion were justified through the Grace of God. Semmes went on to say of the Seal: "No word appeared more grand, more expressive or significant than this. Under God as the asserter of our rights, the defender of our liberties, our protector against danger, our mediator, our ruler and guardian, and, as the avenger of our wrongs and the punisher of our crimes, we endeavor to equal or even excel our ancestors. What word can be suggested of more power, and so replete with sentiments and thoughts consonant with our idea of the omnipotence and justice of God?"⁶ Through understanding the Southern mindset of God being the asserter of their rights, it is clear that Breathed would have taken up this same mantra as his fellow compatriots in arms.

In May of 1864, Custer's faith in God can be discovered through this very thoughtful statement he wrote to his wife Libbie, from Camp Libbie, during the Battle of the Wilderness: "On the eve of every battle in which I have been engaged, I have never omitted to pray inwardly, devoutly. Never have I failed to commend myself to God's keeping, asking Him to forgive my past sins, and to watch over while in danger...and to receive me if I fell, while caring for those near and dear to me. After having done so all anxiety for myself, here or hereafter, is dispelled. I feel that my destiny is in the hands of the Almighty. This belief, more than any other fact or reason, makes me brave and fearless as I am."⁷

It was November 25, 1862, I am proud to say, as an Ordained Presbyterian Minister of the Word and Sacrament, that George Armstrong Custer first saw the light of the Presbyterianism. He was twenty-four years old and twenty-one days when he followed Libbie Bacon into the Monroe, Michigan, Presbyterian Church -- Thanksgiving Day. Custer likely had God in the rear pew of his mind and Libbie in the front pew. What ever it takes to form a 'good-Presbyterian' is just fine with me!⁸ Later in the War Custer did have a 'Born-Again' religious experience and he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Custer's faith experience accompanied him unto the battlefields of the Civil War.

George Armstrong Custer was a man of principle and purpose. He once stated, "First be sure you're right, then go ahead!" I ask myself, 'Is that right?' Satisfied that it is so, I let nothing swerve me from my purpose."⁹ Custer always had a purpose in life, as did James Breathed. Both men fought with an intensity and purpose throughout the course of the Civil War. On at least thirteen major battlefields -- Custer with his 'Wolverine' troopers and Breathed with his artillerymen fought each other.

In the melee of The Battle of Brandy Station both God-fearing soldiers -- Breathed and Custer -- would have fought each other and visibly seen each other in the fourteen hour test of endurance. Both would have assumed that God was on their side, both men fought valiantly. Artillerist Henry H. Matthews said of Breathed on Fleetwood Hill: "Breathed was in his second heaven, rushing from piece to piece, cheering the men and urging them to fire faster, if such a thing were possible directing the fire of the guns...The fire was so terrific that the enemy, who were pursuing the 6th, [Virginia Cavalry] were compelled to retire in great confusion."¹⁰

In this exact same time period Custer was ordered by an excited Union Cavalry Commander -- Grimes Davis -- to attack Stuart Horse artillerist's Captain James F. Hart's -- South Carolina Battery, commanded by Breathed. Custer and Breathed would have seen each other eye-to-eye on the deadly battlefield. When Custer attacked the battery, all of a sudden Major Cabell E. Flourney sent 150 Stuart horse troopers out of the woods to protect the South Carolinian's battery. Custer's troopers had to yank back their mounts -- some of the men were thrown to the ground from the frantic reversal. This match of wits brought to a close a part of the day's battle and Stuart and Breathed were content to let Pleasanton escape back across the Rappahannock River, from which they came into the battle.¹¹

God was with both Custer and Breathed, according to their thinking. I can assure you that both the Union and the Confederate Armies claimed God as their over-seer in the Civil War.

Second, both the insurgent and the defenders of the established government characteristically hated their enemy. The insurgent hates the tyrannical invading aggressor. Consequently, he would have killed as many of the invaders as possible for his righteous Cause. On May 22, 1902, Confederate Cavalry commander William H. F. Payne wrote to one of Breathed's artillerymen – Mr. Matthews -- who lived in the 'Old Line Confederates Home' near Baltimore City. The letter Payne wrote was in relation to his comrade in arms, Breathed, quote: "I can say to you now -- what I have often said to others – that [Breathed] was the finest artillery officer that I met during the war. If any distinction can be drawn as to the valor of Confederate soldiers I would give the palm to Jim Breathed. He was born a soldier and an intense passionate patriot. I think he really enjoyed and exulted in battle. ... The sound of his guns and the shone of conflict excited him to madness. He fought artillery as if it was a side-arm. He considered any distance except muzzle to muzzle as being too far off. ... He fought the Yankees because he hated them." ¹²

When I first discovered this letter from Billy Payne I was shocked at its content. I wondered how this medical doctor, who's purpose initially was to save life from suffering, pain and even death, could hate an entire category of human beings -- Yankees. Hate is a powerful word and evokes all kinds of horrible connotations such as: to feel intense animosity or dislike for another human being, abhorrence, revulsion, disgust, loathe are all words in the Thesaurus that come to mind when one uses the word hate. Yet, hatred is a prime carnal motive that drove an individual to kill one's enemy. The soldier must first overcome his religious conviction of the commandment that says "You shall not kill" in order to take another human beings life on the battlefield. ¹³

Commander Payne went on to discuss in this same letter a skirmish that Breathed was in close to Dayton, outside of Harrisonburg, Virginia. Quote, "Amongst them was Jim Breathed. When he rode up to report to me he was very bloody. Lifting his hand with his sword in it he told me with great exultation and triumph that it was Yankee blood, and that he had 'thrusted' three of them through and through. ... I was afterward informed that he had, in fact, killed three Yankees." Payne went on to say: "Breathed died fortunately in some respect. He could not have comprehended the present state of affairs. He fought the Yankee because he hated them. When he entered a battle it was to kill. He never shed any tears nor canted in melee mouthed philanthropy but yet to unarmed and helpless [he] was chivalry itself. He fought for the independence of his country and caring more for constitution liberty than he did for the multiplication table or the rule of three. He would have thought it an insult to his dead comrades to dream in a nightmare that we were rightfully beaten and that they had died for a foolish cause." ¹⁴

General George Armstrong Custer also hated, to the degree that he could take vengeance upon the insurgent, by killing and even hanging the enemy in cold blood. A Michigan trooper who had been shot from his horse, was then shot by Mosby's troopers and

mortally wounded -- yet he lived to tell the tale to Custer. In retaliation, the enraged Custer, captured six of Mosby's Raider's and hanged them.

In *The Memoirs of Colonel John S. Mosby*, Mosby himself reflected in his autobiography after the War in relation to the hateful hanging of his men by General Custer. Mosby stated that: "I don't care a straw whether Custer was solely responsible for the hanging of our men, or jointly with others. If we believe the reports of the generals, none of them ever heard of the hanging of our men; they must have committed suicide. Contemporary evidence is against Custer. I wonder if he also denied burning dwelling houses around Berryville [Virginia]." ¹⁵

Mosby trooper, John W. Munson, wrote in his *Reminiscences* of 1906, that: "There are some things in the lives of all of us that we can't refer to with pleasure, and the hanging and shooting of some of our men, by order of General Custer, and in his presence, is one of those which Mosby's men rarely refer to. Neither it, nor what followed as a result of it, are happy memories to any of us. We want to remember General Custer, and I believe we all do remember him, as the gallant martyr who went down at Little Big Horn, surrounded, almost covered up, with the dead bodies of his foes; his pistols smoking hot; his blue eyes flashing defiance; his voice ringing out in command of his brave companions. This was the real hero, the real Custer." ¹⁶

However, history does not lie and the truth be told what General Custer did to the six Mosby Raider's deserves some attention in relation to the subject at hand, hatred of the enemy as a characteristic of the warrior. Munson went on to say that, "The Custer episode is part of our history, however, its recital reflects nothing but credit on our Command.... General Custer, still breathing fire and vengeance, captured some of Mosby's men and had some of them hanged and others shot with their hands tied behind their backs. This was in Front Royal, Va." ¹⁷ Clearly Custer, like Breathed, hated his enemy.

Of course it would not be respectful to either Custer or Breathed to think that they were the only soldiers of hatred in the Civil War. Colonel Mosby would also have his hand in the final hateful act of hanging and shooting six of Custer's Michigan Wolverines in the final act of retaliation. The victim's of this hatred were forced to draw lots to see who would be hanged. Mosby left his signature on the hanged bodies. This note sums up hatred in war, "These men have been hanged in retaliation for an equal number of Colonel Mosby's men hanged by order of General Custer at Front Royal. **Measure for measure.**" ¹⁸

Third, Adrenaline/rage in the midst of battle acts like a hallucinogenic drug which incites incredible acts of bravery, gallantry and courage. This characteristic of both insurgents and those defending established governments is exemplified by both Major Breathed and General Custer. On February 29, 1864, at Rio Hill, north of Charlottesville, Virginia, Union Cavalry commander Judson 'kill-cavalry' Kilpatrick proposed to Alfred Pleasanton a dangerous multi-pronged raid into Richmond to free Union prisoners of war from both Belle Island and Libby Prison. Brigadier-General Custer was dispatched to raid

Albemarle County to cut the Virginia Central Railroad and cause confusion as to the real purpose of the mission.

On February 29, as three hundred Stuart Horse Artillerymen lounged and relaxed, Lt. James N. Cunningham of the 1st Virginia Cavalry galloped into camp with the news that a large body of enemy cavalry was approaching. Cunningham had closely observed Custer's men and their movements, and had ridden directly to the Stuart Horse Artillery camp to report the danger. Artillery commander Captain Moorman reported that, "Camp was at once notified and pickets sent forward to Rio Bridge, 1¼ miles north, but before they arrived the enemy had crossed and held the bridge."¹⁹

About this same time, another column was revealed. Union horsemen were headed for Cook's Ford, not far from Rio Bridge. Moorman later stated that at the time he believed the whole command could not be assembled. Subsequently, he ordered his guns to open fire while the rest of the guns limbered up and moved to a safer location. Wandering horses were gathered up, hitched, and the guns were moved. The guns moved out quickly, except for four guns that remained in the camp. The rescued guns re-deployed on a hill above the campground while skirmishers armed with pistols went out to try and slow the Federal forces. These men soon came flying back to camp with a large body of enemy cavalry in their rear.

Moorman reported that he left mounted men to support the four guns remaining in the camp and then he galloped off with Chew and Breathed to guard the flank. He reported: "Just at the moment when the enemy's columns which had crossed at Cook's Ford had reached and set fire to our camp, their right, which had crossed at Rio, made a charge just in time to receive and mistake the explosion of one of Captain Chew's caissons for the reopening of our guns, for they had just ceased firing at that point."²⁰ The high of adrenaline/rage, infused hand-to-hand combat, prompting Chew and Breathed to rally their artillerists for a mounted charge. Custer opened up with two pieces of artillery and the men of the Stuart Horse Artillery left clothing, blankets and their personal belongings in order to man the guns in the melee.

The unexpectedly stout resistance of the artillerymen baffled Custer and his troopers. With 65 cavaliers, Captain Joseph P. Ash of the 5th U. S. Cavalry, was sent to find out what force lay in Custer's front. Spotting the mounted horse artillerists from a mile away, Custer believed that they were quote, "a superior force of the enemy's cavalry, four batteries of artillery, in position, and a heavy force of infantry."²¹ However, there was no Confederate cavalry or infantry. Three hundred Stuart Horse artillerymen were all that opposed Custer's five hundred hand-picked horsemen.

Ash's Regulars captured six caissons full of ammunition, two forges, and equipment, and destroyed the Confederate camp. Custer became convinced that his force was not strong enough to mount a counterattack with his back against the Rivanna River. Meanwhile, the Confederate artillerists steadily rained shot and shell on the Federal position. Breathed's part in the action was full of testosterone and rage. Quote, "Breathed had been lounging like the rest, laughing and talking with the men. Peril made him suddenly king,

and sabre in hand, he rushed to the guns, calling to his men to follow. Breathed wheeled a gun around, trained the piece to bear upon the Federal cavalry and drove home a charge.”²²

When the Federals drew within fifty yards of his position, Breathed rang out in an emphatic voice, “Men, you have fought around these guns in many battles! Your first and only duty is to die by them. **Will you do it?**”²³ A chorus of adrenaline filled voices rang out in support of Breathed, whose courage inspired the artillerymen to shred the oncoming Custer troopers with canister. Breathed was reportedly everywhere! He was impervious to the heavy fire of the Union artillery. Eventually the bravado of the Union troopers diminished. Breathed called out the command “**Mount!**” and 20 men followed his lead, armed themselves with sabers, clubs, and fence rails from the camp.

Captain John Esten Cooke, Stuart’s staff officer, reported what happened next: “Breathed seized the moment and jumped upon one of the hastily saddled horses. As the drivers disappeared, his own horse was shot [from] under him, staggered, sunk, and rolled upon him. Breathed dragged himself from beneath the bleeding animal, rose to his feet, and rushing to the lead horses of the gun, leaped upon one of them, and struck them jointly with his sabre to force them on.”²⁴

Upon finding another mount, Breathed came out of his adrenaline/rage and recovered his wits and roared out “**Charge!**” and at the forefront of his men he led a headlong gallop at Custer’s troopers. As enemy horsemen dashed in, one stopped at a caisson and shouted, “Ah, you dirty rebels, we’ve got your camp.”²⁵ Breathed, offended by the taunt, angrily retorted, “yes, you infernal scoundrels, you’ve got it; but you shall not hold it.”²⁶ With two of his gunners, Breathed opened fire upon the enemy horsemen with revolvers.

Breathed’s adrenaline/rage was so intense that he led the charge all the way to Barboursville, Virginia. He pursued the Federals for twenty-four hours. He was so blinded by his adrenaline/rage that he chased Custer’s troopers back across the Rivanna River.”²⁷ Chew, Breathed, and the proud Confederate artillerymen had routed an entire brigade of enemy cavalry.

The characteristic of both insurgent and government defenders is evident in this battlefield scenario. It is a blinding adrenaline/rage that moved the melee to a pitch battle. Men on both sides of the skirmish were overcome by a hallucinogenic drug called adrenaline. This naturally produced endorphin causes men to do unthinkable acts of bravery, gallantry and courage. It is this drug that enables a man to pull a car off of an entrapped child after an accident. It is this drug that enables a sense of bliss on the battlefield -- as if everything is **O.K.** -- when shells and bullets are raining all around a tried and true soldier. It is this high that most men, after experiencing it in battle, are not able to escape. Custer himself once said, “I must say that I shall regret to see the war end. I would be willing, yes glad, to see a battle every day during my life.”²⁸

I have personally experienced this high on the reenactment battlefields of Virginia. I have spent six years studying my uncle and what he did during four years of bloody conflict in

the American Civil War. I know this adrenaline/rage from my own first-hand experiences on the reenactment battlefields. The human body is able to endure incredible circumstances of danger and toil when infused with this drug, adrenaline. It is this drug that will likely have humankind in wars, until we can find a way to harness and redirect adrenaline/rage, for the good.

Professional athletics are an evolutionary step towards harnessing the adrenaline/rage which is produced on the battlefield. NFL football is a manifestation of the Civil War. One American state pitted against another, working to move the flag (ball) from one end of the battlefield (field) to another. The ultimate goal of NFL football is to kill (injure) as many of the opposing soldiers (players) as possible in order to win the battle (goal line). Once enough casualties have been inflicted on the battlefield (score) then the battle (game) ends and one state is victorious over another.

What NFL football represents is adrenaline/rage being worked-out, state against state, in an evolutionary advancement that does not require bloodshed. The adrenaline/rage is, today, channeled into a civil arena that does not require death on the battlefield to prove manhood. Men prove their manhood without mortal violence. Yet other nations around the world have not learned this lesson of civility, as their states or tribes continue to do battle on the killing fields of humanity.

In conclusion, we have explored three characteristics of an insurgent or rebel during the Civil War. First, insurgents believed that God was on their side in the war. Second, insurgents were full of hatred toward their enemies on the battlefield and off it. Third, insurgents are motivated by adrenaline/rage, which acts as a blinding hallucinogenic drug in combat. No question the Confederacy was an insurgency which for the fourth time in American history pitted Americans against Americans in a revolution. The Confederate soldier believed God was on their side, consequently they fought and killed with hateful adrenaline/rage through four long years of bloody American history.

Major Breasted had an ultimate fighting spirit of an insurgent. General Custer mirrored these insurgent characteristics, but he was considered a defender of his government and not an insurgent. Both Confederate and Union soldiers fought valiantly and no one thought the War would last four years when it began. In retrospect no one at that time understood how an insurgent would fight when their homelands were invaded by a force that was many times over their superior in warfare.

As a Historian, I would be remiss if I did not somehow analyze, compare and contrast our American Civil War to a war we are in the midst of today. The study of history is fruitless if we do not apply lessons learned in the past to today.

On April 26th of 2006, The Washington Post ran a story in which Abu Musab al-Zarqawi declared with an insurgent's righteousness and hatred that "America will go out of Iraq, humiliated, defeated"²⁹ which aired in a 34-minute video taped before he was killed in a bombing raid. Infused with adrenaline/rage, al-Zarqawi took an automatic machine gun and fired it into the empty desert. This scenario of an insurgent fighting against what he

perceived to be a tyrannical United States government parallels what took place in our American Civil War? The Union then and America today is thought to be a “tyrannical government power,” invading a foreign land, where they were not and today are not wanted.

What the American military leadership did not understand when we went into Afghanistan and Iraq was the insurgent characteristics which I have discussed today. America is a far superior military power and we quickly subdued and occupied these two Muslim countries. The Taliban and Alkida believe Allah-God is on their side, and they fight against American forces with hateful adrenaline/rage, to the extent that they do even blow themselves up in this Jihad Holy War. As a trained Historian, I foremost understand a very important principle in the study of history: history repeats itself, over and over and over, again. I do not condemn or condone what is happening in the Middle East today, only history in time can be the final judge of our military efforts in this particular area of the world.

After World War II there arose a group of German insurgents called the “Wolverines” who continued the war in Europe for many years after its conclusion. We may have militarily subdued two countries in the Middle East, but I do not think we understood the characteristics of insurgents and we certainly do not know how to handle these insurgents in Iraq today. The American Civil War, and it’s Confederate insurgents in hind sight, would have been a good paradigm to study before we went to war in the Middle East. Consequently, learning from history, so that we might have better handled the war after the “Shock and Awe” was over!

Endnotes

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- ² Alexandria Times, (Alexandria, Virginia) April 27-May 4, 2006, p. B10.
- ³ Ibid., B10.
- ⁴ Huber, Thomas M., "Compound Warfare: A Conceptual Framework," in *Compound Warfare: That Knot*, ed. (Fort Leavenworth, KA.: 2002), p.4.
- ⁵ Southern Historical Society Papers. (Richmond, VA.: January-December, 1888), Vol. XVI.
- ⁶ Ibid., 1888.
- ⁷ Hatch, Thom, *Clashes of Cavalry, The Civil War Careers of George Armstrong Custer and JEB Stuart*. (Mechanicsburg, PA.: Stackpole Books, 2001), p. 184.
- ⁸ Ibid., p. 61.
- ⁹ Ibid., p. 151.
- ¹⁰ Bridges, David P., *Fighting With JEB Stuart, Major James Breathed and the Confederate Horse Artillery*. (Arlington, VA.: Breathed Bridges Best, LLC, 2006) p. 155.
- ¹¹ Hatch, Thom. *Clashes of Cavalry, The Civil War Careers of George Armstrong Custer and JEB Stuart*. (Mechanicsburg, PA.: Stackpole Books, 2001), p. 77.
- ¹² Bridges, David P., *Fighting With JEB Stuart, Major James Breathed and the Confederate Horse Artillery*. (Arlington, VA: Breathed Bridges Best, LLC, 2006) p. 315-316.
- ¹³ The New Oxford Annotated Bible With The Apocrypha, Revised Standard Version, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1977) p. 93.
- ¹⁴ Bridges, David P., *Fighting With JEB Stuart, Major James Breathed and the Confederate Horse Artillery*. (Arlington, VA: Breathed Bridges Best, LLC, 2006) p. 316-317.
- ¹⁵ Russell, Charles Wells, *The Memoirs of Colonel John S. Mosby*. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1917 - in digital format.
- ¹⁶ Munson, John W., *Reminiscences of a Mosby Guerrilla*. (New York: Moffat, Yard and Company, 1906) in digital format.
- ¹⁷ Ibid., 1906.
- ¹⁸ Munson, John W., *Reminiscences of a Mosby Guerrilla*. (New York: Moffat, Yard and Company), 1906. in digital format.
- ¹⁹ Bridges, David P., *Fighting With JEB Stuart, Major James Breathed and the Confederate Horse Artillery*. (Arlington, VA.: Breathed Bridges Best, LLC, 2006), p. 199.
- ²⁰ Ibid., p. 200.
- ²¹ Ibid., p. 200.
- ²² Ibid., p. 201.
- ²³ Ibid., p. 200.
- ²⁴ Ibid., p. 201.
- ²⁵ Ibid., p. 201.
- ²⁶ Ibid., p. 201.
- ²⁷ Ibid., p. 202.
- ²⁸ Hatch, Thom. *Clashes of Cavalry, The Civil War Careers of George Armstrong Custer and JEB Stuart*. (Mechanicsburg, PA.: Stackpole Books, 2001), p. 57.
- ²⁹ Whitlock, Craig, *The Washington Post*. (Washington , DC: April 26, 2006), p. 1 and A20.