

Fort Sullivan Eastport 21 Sept 1813

Sir

This day I was called on by Capt Brown — to give permission for him to proceed to the British dominions with several passengers (non combatants) captured in his Britanic Majestys Brig Boxer — they had a pass from you which I duly respected — soon however a gentleman called at my quarters & informed me that one of the gentlemen thus permitted to pass as having been only a passenger on board the boxer was in fact a Lieut in the 64th Reg. of British Inftry — which the Lieut Allen readily confessed to me: but added that he did not conceal his being in the enemys employ from you — my doubts were so strong on this subject. that I thought proper to detain him as a prisoner of war, and have parolled him at his request he is now gone to S^t Johns — The cartel regulations require that in case an officer be paroled, immediate information be given to the agent of government appointed for the exchange of prisoners — presuming that you are the agent I have addressed this — There are at Fort Orbrun ~ (Machias) nearly thirty prisoners of war: your deputy in that place has refused to be at any trouble respecting them & does not receive them nor receipt for them when landed — I am not instructed to take charge of them & have directed the commanding officer at Machias to receive no more unless he was called on to do it by you or your deputy or the collector or his deputy — or some person specially appointed by government as agent — I am under the necessity of keeping a larger force at Fort Orbrun than I should were these prisoners not there, which incommodes me much — I have heard it regretted that some of your deputies did not show a greater disposition to attend to business & have heard their negligence attributed to their known disaffection towards ~

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MMN #36271

Date: Sept. 21, 1813

Description: Letter concerning "Boxer" prisoners, Eastport

towards government — Motives of friendship towards
you have induced me to inform you of this common
rumor — I have stated L^t Allens case to the proper
authority
I have the honor to be most
Respectfully your Obed^t Serv^t
Th. Thornton Esq^r
Major of 34th of Infy.
comy. at Eastport

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Tho M Vinson

Th. Thornton Esq^r.

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