

WEEK IN REVIEW:

April 12, 1862: The Great Locomotive Chase, also known as Andrews' Raid, took place in northern Georgia. Civilian scout James J. Andrews leads 22 volunteer Soldiers from the 2d, 21st and 33d Ohio Infantry behind enemy lines to steal a train and damage vital rail and telegraph lines. The raiders were captured and some executed as spies. A portion of the Soldiers would become the first recipients of the Medal of Honor.

April 12, 1983: The Aviation Branch is established as a basic branch by the Department of the Army.

April 15, 1861: President Lincoln calls for 75,000 troops to serve for three months following the Confederate bombardment of Fort Sumter, SC. By April 18, 20 independent militia companies organized into the 1st and 2d Infantry, Ohio Volunteer Militia and departed for Washington D.C. the following day.

<u>April 16, 2006</u>: **Company C, 237th Support Battalion** is constituted in Akron.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

MUSTERING OF OHIO TROOPS IN COLUMBUS FOR THE CIVIL WAR. AN ACCOUNT FROM THE HISTORY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO

"Columbus at once became a center of military preparation. Every train brought a new contingent. The newspapers found it impossible to announce all enrollments. Their offices were besieged by eager inquirers, day and night. The crisis was so imminent and tremendous that there was at first confusion and fear, but with the announcement of a decided policy came order and calm. Following the President's proclamation, the General Assembly appropriated \$1,000,000 for war purposes and authorized the Sinking Fund Commission to borrow money at 6% interest on certificates exempt from state taxation. Cincinnati took one-fourth of the amount, D.W. Deshler's Bank \$100,000, and the remainder was soon disposed of. Thirteen regiments of troops constituted the first quota; in two days' time, men for twice the number had offered themselves. No adequate provision had been made for feeding and sheltering so large a body of men. Volunteers came in gala attire, as if to a political convention or celebration; some wore their best suits and high hats and there were no uniforms for which to exchange civilian garb. Various styles of soldier garb appeared, but that most favored consisted of a red shirt, blue trousers and a felt hat. There were no tents, and the recruits were quartered at hotels and private houses at from .75 cents to \$1.25 a day for board. The construction of barracks at Goodale Park (Camp Jackson) was begun, and in the meantime, the Capitol, benevolent institutions, Starling Medical College and even the Ohio Penitentiary, the largest buildings in the city, were used for sleeping purposes. Though most of the men were patient to a remarkable degree, postponing their breakfasts till dinner-time and their dinners till bedtime, some appropriated what food they found at hand and on one occasion 1,000 men made a raid on the hotels and restaurants."