

Maj. Gen. A. Mackenzie to Hd. C. Somerset.

Enclosure

41086-7

Brighton Wednesday May

11th 1808

(Copy)

Private

My dear Lord

I had the honor of receiving your note of yesterday, in reply to it, I beg leave to say, that I found myself obliged, consistent with the Regulations which I had formed & the orders which I found necessary to issue, to resist the application for Major Davis's leave of absence, until it was laid before me conformable to these regulations & orders.

In strictly adhering to, & invariably requiring due attention & obedience to those instructions, which my duty renders necessary to communicate, I am persuaded I shall at all times receive your Lordship's sanction & approbation; at all events I make to myself a rule of conduct, from which I never deviate, that in every instance of military duty the most implicit

Lord Charles Somerset —

Obedience of orders becomes indispensably
~~unavoidable~~ requisite, previous to any other step
that can be taken - If therefore Brig. Genl.
Montrose or in his absence the Officer commanding
that Brigade will recommend, that Major Davis
sho^d. have leave of absence, in consequence of the
application made to him by the Officer in
Command of the Regiment at Haverham, I will
with pleasure ask for it at Head Quarters -
but I never can be induced to act on a
Communication from Governor Agnew, as
considering it officially made by the Commanding
Officer of the Monmouth & Bacon Militia -

This alone constituted my original objection,
when it is removed, I shall consider myself
at liberty to attend to your wishes, which I
shall always have much pleasure in doing,
when they may not militate against what
I conceive professional duties, & then I am
persuaded you would never urge me to

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an observance of them - I trust it must be quite unnecessary to observe, that my not attending to the application made by the Duke of Beaufort cannot possibly proceed from any want of respect for his Grace, for it is impossible I conceive not to feel the greatest both for his private & military character.

I have the Honor to remain
Yr, Sr, &c.

(Signed) A. Mackenzie -

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