

Part A: Summary of Project Request

Compiling the data necessary for writing a definitive study on the role of the predominantly Latino New Mexico Volunteers and Territorial Militia in the Civil War is a lengthy project that will take three to four years. Since there is little secondary scholarship available on the subject, the work will need to be completed entirely from primary sources located at a number of different archives and history depositories. These include the National Archives and the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C., the New Mexico State University Library at Las Cruces, the Center for the Southwestern Studies that is attached to the Zimmerman Library at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, and the New Mexico State Archives and the Library of the Museum of New Mexico, both in Santa Fe.

When time permits, a few of the more important county depositories will be visited (Socorro, Valencia, Bernalillo, Santa Fe, San Miguel, and Taos) Some of the valuable records of the National Archives are available on microfilm and it is possible to obtain some of these, such as the 46-roll, very voluminous "Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers who Served in Organizations from the Territory of New Mexico" (Record Group 94), directly from the National Archives. The most important data, however, such as Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs from the New Mexico Superintendency, Letters Sent by the Department of New Mexico and the District of New Mexico, Letters Received by the Headquarters of the Department of New Mexico, Returns from Military Posts in the territory during the period under consideration, and Interior Department Territorial Papers for New Mexico, will need to be accessed at the National Archives. The individual muster rolls that contain the names of the

soldiers, as well as their ages, places of enlistment, and other valuable information, will need to be reviewed at the New Mexico State Archives.

Work undertaken in the first year of the project will be work at four primary depositories in New Mexico and the gathering of as much data as possible. Muster rolls, regimental returns, and the various letters and documents relative to the roles of the volunteers and militia will be studied and photocopied, when necessary. During the academic year, presuming release time is awarded, the "Compiled Service Records" of the individuals will be studied and compiled. One of the objectives of the project is the listing of all individuals, approximately 5,000 in all, that will be placed in an appendix of a book that will be published by a university press. The University of New Mexico Press has expressed a keen interest in the manuscript. In addition to a book on the subject, at least two scholarly papers and one or two conference presentations will be possible.