



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569**

Volume X Number IV

April 2011



Honoring the Gray

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Commander's Comments

If you missed last month's meeting, you missed a real treat. Our own 1st Lt. Commander Bucky Sutton administered a 25 question trivia quiz to the camp; all the while keeping the members of the B.G. Micah Jenkins Camp scratching their heads trying to answer the questions. Good job Bucky.....

Our ranks will be thin this month, as several of our camp members will be in Charleston commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Sumter. Our very own Vernon Terry will be the overall artillery commander at Patriot's Point and will give the order to open fire on the fort. Laddie Parrish, Chris Sims, and Jerry Brown will be garrisoning Fort Moultrie on the other side of the harbor. This surely will be a once in a lifetime event, so if you can make it please be sure to check it out.

I would personally like to thank one of our newest camp members, Mr. Crawford for bringing several post cards from the 1950's of the Kings Mountain Military School in York. If any camp member would like to have one for their scrapbook please see me after the camp meeting.

In closing if you have a family member, neighbor, co-worker, or anyone who is interested in the War Between the States or has a Confederate ancestor please ask them to come to one of our meetings.

*Your humble & obedient servant,
Brad Blackmon; Commander*

Brent McCants Award

The Brigadier General Micah Jenkins Camp will be presenting the Brent McCants award to the family of Brent McCants at our monthly meeting on April the 12th.

Deputy James McCants was shot and killed during a traffic stop on September 25th 1992. Deputy McCants had been employed with the York County Sheriff's Department for 18 months. He was 23 years old.

Honoring the Gray Editor

Jerry Brown
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Camp Meeting

Tuesday, April 12th 2011

Regularly scheduled meeting at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant @ 7:00 PM.

Come early join the fellowship and eat.

April's speaker is Rob Chumley, "The Constitutionality of Secession".

Mr. Chumley is a 1992 graduate of Clemson University, and past commander of the Clemson student SCV Camp. He has also been the Commander of the Camp in Spartanburg. After college, he continued his education and received a law degree. He ran for the South Carolina state house, but failed in the bid. This past year, his father ran for the office and won. Mr. Chumley is now a judge, a magistrate in Spartanburg County, and serves as Vice Chairman of the Spartanburg County Republican Party

2011 Camp Fund Raiser

This is the way the onion fund raiser goes for SCV Educational Historical Society works for Micah Jenkins Camp.

Please contact people in your circle of friends, church, manager at the restaurant you frequently go to, that person that asks you to support their children's baseball team or the people you buy BBQ from each year.

Keep a list of the names that placed orders and when you deliver the onions you will then collect the money. We will pick up your orders the last Saturday in April.

We appreciate your help with the fund raiser for the camp. It helps with the finances. Let's beat last year's order of 165 bags. The bags are \$12 each for a 10 pound bag.

The money can be paid for your order at the 2nd Tuesday in May 2011 at the camp meeting.

Please email me your order at jwfloyd@comporium.net or call 803-324-3532.

*We appreciate your help,
Jim Floyd, Past Commander*

Help save your SCV Camp money!!

Do you have internet and email?
Are you still receiving *Honoring the Gray*
by US Mail?

Take a try at getting *Honoring the Gray*
by email.

Send me your email address and
I'll send you the newsletter by email.
If you are not happy with receiving by email, you
can always switch back to "snail mail".

Send to: jenkinsscv@yahoo.com

Honoring the Gray

Needs your input each month.

**Do you have an article you would
like to see in the the newsletter?**

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at
jenkinsscv@yahoo.com or call Jerry at 803-
327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as
long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the
SCV. Please limit the size of articles for
mailing purposes.



Prayer Closet

- Continue to pray for our those effected by the economy; especially those unemployed.
- Please continue to keep Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep 5 month old, Ansley Grace. Ansley has already had several surgeries and is scheduled for more.
- Please add Compatriot Jimmy Owens to your prayers. Due to his diabetes, his legs began to swell terribly. He was admitted into hospital last month and unfortunately lost part of his foot and still not in the clear.
- Also add Anthony Gonzalez (a member of the 6th SCVI). He has not been doing well.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Lindsay Waldrop. Lindsay can be contacted by phone (803-329-5921) or by email (lindsayw@comporium.net).

Web Site Update:

If you haven't checked out the web site lately, please do soon. Our web master, Chris Brown, has done a lot of work and made several additions.

The web site now contains all the past newsletters from January 2009 to present and a list with all the articles has been added. The list gives the titles of each of the articles and what month and year the article appeared in.

A page has been added for our Chaplain and another page "Join Us" has been added with information on joining the Micah Jenkins Camp.

www.bgmicahjenkins.org

Time Line: April 1861

April 1st - Secretary of State Seward sends a message to Lincoln indicating his willingness to assume responsibility in dealing with the Confederacy and advises that Fort Sumter be abandoned while Federal occupation of other forts should continue.

April 3rd - In Charleston Harbor, the Federal schooner Rhoda H Shannon is fired on by Confederate batteries.

April 4th - Lincoln writes to Major Anderson, informing him of the upcoming relief of Fort Sumter, saying "the expedition will go forward". Virginia votes 89-45 against holding a referendum on secession.

April 5th - The authorities at Charleston were informed that an unarmed supply ship was to be sent to Fort Sumter. Fearing that the Federal fleet would enter the harbor, they signaled their intent to fire upon the ship should it enter the harbor, but the United States sent the ship anyway. The ship was reported off Charleston on April 10, 1861. In response to the presence of the ship, the Southern military in Charleston prepared to attack the Fort, anticipating the use of force by the Federal fleet to send reinforcements to the fort.

April 10th - Beauregard receives word from Confederate Secretary of War Leroy Pope Walker that he is to require the surrender of Fort Sumter.

April 11th - Major Anderson receives messengers from General Beauregard, Colonel James Chesnut, Colonel A R Chisolm and Captain Stephen D Lee. These three men convey to Anderson that Beauregard is "ordered by the Government of the Confederate States of America to demand the evacuation of Fort Sumter".

April 12th - The three messengers: Chesnut, Chisolm and Lee return to Major Anderson to ask for a time of probable evacuation of the fort. Anderson indicates April 15th is the target date providing he is not resupplied. Knowing help is on the way to resupply Anderson; the Confederacy refuses this and gives Anderson written notification of the attack to commence. Fort Sumter, South Carolina is shelled by the Confederacy. The war begins.

April 13th - The Federal garrison at Fort Sumter surrenders.

April 14th - President Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion.

April 17th - Virginia secedes from the Union.

April 19th - President Lincoln declares a blockade of the ports of the Confederate States from South Carolina to Texas. For the duration of the war, the blockade limits the ability of the rural South to stay well supplied in its war against the Industrialized North.

Timeline continued at right

1st Lt Commander's Comments

We often hear about our ancestors, generals and the common soldier in the War. But for a moment, let's talk about an animal that served nobly for the Cause.

Traveller, originally named Jeff Davis, is an American Saddlebred, and, as a colt, took the first prize at the Lewisburg, Virginia, fairs in 1859 and 1860. As an adult gelding, he was a sturdy horse, 16 hands high and 1,100 pounds, iron gray in color with black points, a long mane and flowing tail.

In 1861, he was purchased by a quartermaster of the 3rd Virginia Infantry. When Robert E. Lee was transferred to South Carolina, he bought him for \$200 in February, 1862 (that's \$4,200 in today's money). Lee named him "Traveller".

At the Second Battle of Bull Run, Lee had dismounted and while holding Traveller by the bridle, the horse became frightened, pulled Lee down on a stump, breaking both of his hands.

In 1870, during Lee's funeral procession, Traveller was led behind the caisson bearing the General's casket, his saddle and bridle draped with black crepe, just as Presidents are done. Not long after Lee's death, in 1871, Traveller stepped on a nail and developed tetanus. There was no cure, and he was euthanized to relieve his suffering.

Traveller was initially buried behind the main buildings of the college, but was unearched by persons unknown and his bones were bleached for exhibition in Rochester, New York, in 1875/1876. In 1907, they were returned to Washington & Lee University. They were used to carve students initials, and finally in 1971, Traveller's remains were buried in a wooden box encased in concrete next to the Lee Chapel on the campus, a few feet away from the Lee family crypt inside, where his master's body rests.

*Bucky Sutton
1st Lt Commander*

April 20th - Federals evacuate Norfolk, Virginia and Gosport Navy Yard. Robert E. Lee resigns from the United States Army.

April 22nd - Robert E. Lee nominated and confirmed as commander of Virginia forces.

April 27th - Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus in an area stretching from Philadelphia to Washington City, and leaves General Scott in charge of supervising any incidents arising from the suspension.

Fort Sumter

Named after General Thomas Sumter, Revolutionary War hero, Fort Sumter was built following the War of 1812, as one of a series of fortifications on the southern U.S. coast. Construction began in 1827, and the structure was still unfinished in 1860, when the conflict began. Seventy thousand tons of granite were imported from New England to build up a sand bar in the entrance to Charleston harbor, which the site dominates. The fort was a five-sided brick structure, 170 to 190 feet (58 m) long, with walls five feet thick, standing 50 feet (15 m) over the low tide mark. It was designed to house 650 men and 135 guns in three tiers of gun emplacements, although it was never filled near its full capacity.

On December 26, 1860, six days after South Carolina declared its secession, U.S. Army Major Robert Anderson abandoned the indefensible Fort Moultrie and secretly relocated companies E and H of the 1st U.S. Artillery to Fort Sumter without orders from Washington, on his own initiative. He thought that providing a stronger defense would delay an attack by South Carolina militia. The Fort was not yet complete at the time and fewer than half of the cannons that should have been available were not, due to military downsizing by President James Buchanan. Over the next few months, repeated calls for the United States evacuation of Fort Sumter from the government of South Carolina and later Confederate Brigadier General P.G.T. Beauregard were ignored. United States attempts to resupply and reinforce the garrison were repulsed on January 9, 1861 when the first shots of the war, fired by cadets from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina prevented the steamer *Star of the West*, a ship hired by the Union to transport troops and supplies to Fort Sumter, from completing the task.

Again in early April 1861, President Lincoln ordered a fleet of ships, under the command of Gustavus V. Fox, to attempt entry into Charleston Harbor to resupply and reinforce Fort Sumter. The ships assigned were the steam sloop-of-war USS *Pawnee*, steam sloop-of-war USS *Powhatan*, transporting motorized launches and about 300 sailors (secretly removed from the Charleston fleet to join in the forced reinforcement of Fort Pickens, Pensacola, Fla.), armed screw steamer USS *Pocahontas*, Revenue Cutter USRC *Harriet Lane*, steamer *Baltic* transporting about 200 troops, composed of companies C and D of the 2nd U.S. Artillery, and three hired tug boats with added protection against small arms fire to be used to tow troop and supply barges directly to Fort Sumter. By April 6, 1861 the first ships began to set sail for their rendezvous off the Charleston Bar. The first to arrive was the *Harriet Lane*, before midnight of April 11, 1861.

On April 11, 1861, Beauregard sent three aides, Colonel James Chesnut, Jr., Captain Stephen D. Lee, and Lieutenant A. R. Chisolm to demand the surrender of the fort. Anderson declined, and the aides returned to report to Beauregard. After Beauregard had consulted the Secretary of War, Leroy Walker, he sent the aides back to the fort and authorized Chesnut to decide whether the fort should be taken by force. The aides waited for hours while Anderson considered his alternatives and played for time. At about 3 a.m., when Anderson finally announced his conditions, Colonel Chesnut, after conferring with the other aides, decided that they were “manifestly futile and not within the scope of the instructions verbally given to us”. The aides then left the fort and proceeded to the nearby Fort Johnson. There, Chesnut ordered the fort to open fire on Fort Sumter.



On April 12, 1861, at 4:30 a.m., Confederate batteries opened fire, firing for 34 straight hours, on the fort. Edmund Ruffin, noted Virginian agronomist and secessionist, claimed that he fired the first shot on Fort Sumter. His story has been widely believed, but Lieutenant Henry S. Farley, commanding a battery of two mortars on James Island fired the first shot at 4:30 A.M. The garrison returned fire, but it was ineffective, in part because Major Anderson did not use the guns mounted on the highest tier, the barbette tier, where the gun detachments would be more exposed to Confederate fire. On April 13, the fort was surrendered and evacuated. No Union soldiers died in the actual battle though a Confederate soldier bled to death having been wounded by a misfiring cannon. One Union soldier died and another was mortally wounded during the 47th shot of a 100 shot salute, allowed by the Confederacy. Afterwards the salute was shortened to 50 shots. Accounts, such as in the famous diary of Mary Chesnut, describe Charleston residents along what is now known as The Battery, sitting on balconies and drinking salutes to the start of the hostilities.

Stephen Dill Lee September 22, 1833 – May 28, 1908

Stephen Dill Lee was an American soldier, planter, legislator, and author. He was the youngest Confederate lieutenant general during the American Civil War, and later served as the first president of Mississippi A&M College. Late in life, Lee was the commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans.

Lee was born in 1833 in Charleston, South Carolina, to Thomas Lee and his wife Caroline Allison. He possibly volunteered for service with the United States Army during the Mexican-American War. Lee entered the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1850, graduating four years later and standing 17th out of 46 cadets. On July 1, 1854, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 4th U.S. Artillery Regiment. Lee was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant on October 31, 1856. He served as the 4th's Regimental Quartermaster from September 18, 1857, to February 8, 1861.

Lee was serving as adjutant of Florida as well as his regiment's quartermaster in 1857 during the Seminole Wars. From 1858 to 1861 he was assigned to the western frontier, posted in Kansas and then in the newly-created Dakota Territory. Lee then resigned his U.S. Army commission twelve days later to enter the Confederate service.

Major Anderson receives messengers from General Beauregard, Colonel James Chesnut, Colonel A R Chisolm and Captain Stephen D Lee. These three men convey to Anderson that Beauregard is "ordered by the Government of the Confederate States of America to demand the evacuation of Fort Sumter".

After resigning from the U.S. Army in 1861, Lee entered the Confederate forces as a captain in the South Carolina Militia. On March 6 he was assigned as the Assistant Adjutant General and Assistant Inspector General of the Forces at Charleston, and on March 16 he was appointed a captain in the Regular Confederate States Artillery. Beginning on April 11 Lee was aide-de-camp to Brig. Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard. That same day he delivered an ultimatum from Beauregard to Union Maj. Robert Anderson, demanding the evacuation

of Fort Sumter, which was refused and after bombardment the fort fell on April 14, precipitating the start of the Civil War. When Beauregard received permission to organize two regular companies of artillery on May 11, Lee was assigned to command one of them (the other went to Capt. Charles S. Winder.) Lee's company was assigned to Castle Pinckney until May 30, when it was sent to Fort Palmetto on Cole's Island, arriving June 1.

In June 1861 Lee resumed his position in the South Carolina Militia, and then in November he was promoted to the rank of major in the Confederate Army. Lee commanded a light battery in Hampton's Legion in Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's army later in 1861. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in March 1862, and was the artillery chief for Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws's division of the Army of Northern Virginia from April to June 17, and then in the same role under Brig. Gen. John B. Magruder until July. Lee participated in the 1862 Peninsula Campaign, notably during the Battle of Seven Pines on May 31 and June 1, the Battle of Savage's Station on June 29, during the Seven Days Battles from June 25 to July 1, and the Battle of Malvern Hill also on July 1. He briefly served in the 4th Virginia Cavalry in July, was promoted to colonel on July 9, and assumed command of the artillery battalion of Maj. Gen. James Longstreet's Corps that same month. Under Longstreet, Lee fought in the Second Battle of Bull Run that August and then Battle of Antietam on September 17, where his guns played a prominent role in defending the ground near the famed Dunker Church. The following is a summary of Lee's involvement at Antietam:

...he deployed late on the 15th on the West side of Antietam Creek. He exchanged fire with the Federal batteries [across] the creek on the 16th the fight becoming more intense as sundown approached. On the morning of the 17th he positioned his batteries on the high ground near the Dunkard Church, and was heavily engaged against the assaults of the Federal I and XII Corps through the Cornfield and to the West Woods. About 10AM, he was ordered to the vicinity of Sharpsburg in the face of Burnside's afternoon drive from the Lower Bridge, and was furiously engaged there as well.

On November 6, 1862, Lee was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Leaving the artillery branch, Lee briefly led an infantry division during the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou from December 26-

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Stephen Dill Lee (continued)

29, where he repulsed the attacks of Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman. Beginning in January 1863 he led a brigade in the Department of Mississippi & Eastern Louisiana until that May, when he was ordered to take command of Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton's artillery defending access to the Mississippi River at Vicksburg. Lee fought notably during the Battle of Champion Hill on May 16, where he was wounded when he was hit in a shoulder. Military historian Jon L. Wakelyn praises Lee's performance in this action, saying "he was the hero of the battle of Champion Hills."

Lee served throughout the 1863 Siege of Vicksburg until Pemberton's surrender to Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant on July 4, becoming a prisoner of war. While on parole, he was promoted to the rank of major general on August 3, 1863. Beginning on August 16 Lee was assigned to command the cavalry of Department of Mississippi & Eastern Louisiana, and he was officially exchanged on October 13. He was then given command of the Department of Alabama & East Louisiana on May 9, 1864. Troops in Lee's department under Maj. Gen. Nathan B. Forrest scored a victory at the Battle of Brice's Crossroads on June 10, and seriously threatened Union supply lines supporting Sherman in Georgia. Lee personally reinforced Forrest but the combined Confederate force was defeated at the Battle of Tupelo, ensuring the safety of Sherman's supply lines.

Lee was promoted to lieutenant general on June 23, 1864, making Lee the youngest at this grade in the Confederate Army. On July 26 he was assigned to lead the Second Corps, Army of Tennessee, commanded by John B. Hood. During the Atlanta Campaign, Lee fought at the Battle of Ezra Church on July 28 and the Battle of Jonesborough on August 31 and September 1. Lee fought in the Franklin-Nashville Campaign and was severely wounded in the foot at the Battle of Spring Hill on November 29, but did not give up the command until an organized rearguard took over the post of danger. In regard to the confused and disappointing fight at Spring Hill, Lee considered it "one of the most disgraceful and lamentable occurrences of the war, one that is in my opinion unpardonable." He then participated in the Battle of Franklin on November 30. Lee's men arrived at Franklin at 4 p.m. with orders from Hood to support Benjamin F. Cheatham's force if necessary. Meeting with Cheatham, Lee decided the situation was dire and attacked at 9 p.m., taking serious losses from the Union position and from Confederate artillery as well. Following the campaign's

Battle of Nashville on December 15–16, Lee kept his troops closed up and well in hand despite the general rout of the rest of the Confederate forces. For three consecutive days, they would form the fighting rearguard of the otherwise disintegrated Army of Tennessee. Lee was wounded in the foot by shell fragments on December 17.

Upon recovery, Lee joined Gen. Joseph E. Johnston during the 1865 Carolinas Campaign. On February 9 he married Regina Harrison, with whom Lee would have one child, a son named Blewett Harrison Lee. When the remnants of the Johnston's Army of Tennessee was re-organized in early 1865, Lee was left without a command matching his rank, and his commission as a lieutenant general was canceled on February 23; however, on March 23 he was appointed a "temporary" lieutenant general. Lee surrendered at that rank with Johnston's forces in April and was paroled on May 1.

After the war Lee settled in Columbus, Mississippi, which was his wife's home state and during the greater part of the war his own territorial command, and devoted himself to planting. He served as a state senator in 1878, and was the first president of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Mississippi (modern-day Mississippi State University) from 1880 to 1899. Lee served as a delegate to the state's constitutional convention in 1890, was the head of the Vicksburg National Park Association in 1899. He also was an active member (and from 1904 commander-in-chief) of the United Confederate Veterans society. In 1887 Lee wrote an article for the first volume of *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, and he published Sherman's Meridian Expedition and Sooy Smith's Raid to West Point in 1880.

Lee fell sick after giving a speech to former Union soldiers from Wisconsin and Iowa, four of the regiments whom he had faced in battle 45 years earlier at Vicksburg. The cause of his death was attributed to a cerebral hemorrhage. At the time Lee was also planning the next reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, held on June 9, 1908. Lee died in 1908 in Vicksburg, Mississippi, and was buried in Friendship Cemetery located in Columbus.

Based on Lee's familiarity with the three major arms of an Civil War-era army, military historian Ezra J. Warner summarized him as an able and versatile corps commander, saying "Despite his youth and comparative lack of experience, Lee's prior close acquaintanceship with all

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Stephen Dill Lee (continued)

three branches of the service — artillery, cavalry, and infantry — rendered him one of the most capable corps commanders in the army.”

Lee is also memorialized with a statue in the Vicksburg National Military Park, as well as a bust in the center of the Drill Field at Mississippi State University. The Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee Camp #545 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Vicksburg as well as the Stephen D. Lee’s Caledonia Rifles Camp #2140 in Caledonia were named in his honor.

Stephen Dill Lee’s influence in both the United Confederate Veterans and in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is very much in evidence today. General Lee was one of the first to realize the old veterans were rapidly passing away. He recognized that a new generation would have to pick up the torch to tell the true history of the War Between the States. In 1896, in Richmond, VA at the annual Reunion of the UCV, the Sons of Con-

federate Veterans organization was formed. Both the United Confederate Veterans and the Sons of Confederate Veterans continued to meet together annually but it was in 1906 at the United Confederate Veteran Reunion in New Orleans that General Lee addressed the Sons of Confederate Veterans on the need to preserve Confederate history and the good name of the Confederate soldier. It was from that address that The Charge of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is derived. General Lee could not have put it any clearer than he did:

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought: to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, and the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”

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Order of Confederate Rose Update

Since voting on to sponsor an auxiliary group to help support the Camp called the Order of Confederate Rose, the initial organizational meeting has been held. To date thirteen ladies have signed up as Charter Members. A Chapter name was voted on and approved, Caroline Jamison Jenkins Chapter #7. Linda Sutton has accepted the position of temporary Chapter President, Kimberly Herndon as Vice President, Glenna Hubbell as Secretary and Nicki Gatton as Treasurer. The Chapter will be officially Chartered April 9th at the SCSCV Convention being held at the Rifle Club in Charleston.

This will be good in getting the member’s wives and family involved to help YOUR SCV Camp grow and keeping YOUR Southern Heritage alive. By the time you receive this newsletter it will be too late to sign up as a Charter Member, BUT anyone interested can still submit an application at any time for membership. Membership in the United Daughters of the Confederacy is NOT required. There are no restrictions for membership until the Chapter sets up it’s own restrictions.

Information on the Order of Confederate Rose can be found at the South Carolina Order of Confederate Rose web site: <http://www.scocr.org/>.

For further information of if interested in submitting an application, please contact Linda Sutton at linda.sutton23@yahoo.com.





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Stephen Dill Lee September 22, 1833 – May 28, 1908