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Ethnic Groups-Blacks

BLACKS & MILITARY, 1800-1860

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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MEXICAN WAR

Few blacks served in this war because of Army regulations and Congressional sentiment against their enlistment. The Senate on 29 Jul 1842 expressed the desire to exclude Negroes from service, except as servants, cooks, and stewards, by vote of 24 to 16. The various offices of the War Dept explained to the Secretary two weeks later that Army Regulations already forbade the enlistment of Negroes as soldiers. See US Congress, The Negro in US Armed Forces (E185.63.U53) and James M. Guthrie, Camp-Fires of the Afro-American (Philadelphia: Afro-American, 1899, E185.63.G98).