

CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE ADJUTANT
GENERAL.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING,

BY THE DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
IN RESPONSE TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 415, COPIES OF ALL
RECORDS ON FILE IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT BEARING ON THE
EXTRACTS QUOTED FROM COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ADJUTANT
GENERAL OF THE ARMY IN ORDER OF FEBRUARY 14,
1912, RELIEVING HIM FROM DUTY.

MARCH 13, 1912.—Letter of transmittal ordered printed and, with accompanying
papers, referred to Committee on Military Affairs.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 12, 1912.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In response to House resolution 415, of February 23, 1912, requesting the Secretary of War to furnish copies of all records on file in the War Department bearing on the extracts from the communications of The Adjutant General of the Army, quoted in the order of February 14, 1912, relieving him from duty, I have the honor to say that I am directed by the President to transmit to your honorable House these copies, as being public documents on the files of the War Department, the disclosure of which will not, in his opinion, be detrimental to the public interests.

I am, however, directed by the President to say that these papers relate to a matter of military discipline and executive action which, by the Constitution, is confided exclusively to the President as Commander in Chief of the Army, and that their transmittal is not to be construed as a recognition of the authority or jurisdiction of the House or of any of its committees to require of the Chief Executive a statement of the reasons of his official action in such matters or a disclosure of the evidence upon which such official action is based.

Very respectfully,

HENRY L. STIMSON,
Secretary of War.