

# COWPENS STAFF RIDE

## **BRIEFING SCHEDULE**

1. Students will participate in briefings on the Battle of Cowpens on Friday, 4 April 1997.
2. Each of the two Small Groups will meet separately between 1300-1530. Each Small Group will be divided into five (5) briefing presentations. Each briefing presentation will be twenty-five minutes in length (15 minutes for the presentation and 10 minutes for questions).
3. Each briefing presentation will be the responsibility of 2 students. The student composition and presentation structure of each briefing will be left up to the participants.
4. Both Group I and Group II will meet together for a battle review between 1545-1700.
5. The key research source to be used is: The Cowpens Staff Ride and Battlefield Tour, by Lieutenant Colonel John Moncure. The USACHCS Library has approximately fifty volumes dealing with the American Revolution. There are also a number of general reference works available, including the Dictionary of American Biography.
6. The Historian will be available in Room A29 to answer any questions relating to the staff ride, including help with your research for the briefings.

### **GROUP I (Chaplain Davis)**

- I American Field Commander - Morgan (Biographical background; Strategic situation; Topographical situation; Composition of forces; Disposition of forces) (1300-1325)
- II British Field Commander - Tarleton (Biographical background; Strategic situation; Topographical situation; Composition of forces; Disposition of forces)(1330-1355)
- III Opening Phase Of Battle - Skirmishers drive back Tarleton's cavalry, sent forward to examine the Morgan's lines. Skirmishers withdraw. Tarleton forms line of battle and begins attack. (1400-1425)

- IV Middle Phase Of Battle - The British advance on Picken's militia line, who deliver the promised two rounds and then fall back around the American left. They are pursued by British dragoons. Washington's cavalry charges into action and drives them off. (1430-1455)
  
- V Final Phase Of Battle - Howard's Continentals fall back, but hold their line. British drawn in. Picken's comes back around the Morgan's right flank - Washington's cavalry attacks from the left flank. A double envelopment or "purse string" is created. British surrender. Tarleton escapes. (1500-1525)

**GROUP II (Chaplain Egert)**

Students in Group II will follow the same outline as Group I.

**Note: In III, IV, and V, one student should brief from the American side, the other from the British side.**

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### **Administrative Sheet**

1. The Staff Ride of the Battle of Cowpens will take place on Monday, 7 April 1997.
2. The bus will leave from the USACHCS parking lot at 0730.
3. The uniform of the day will be BDU's.
4. At the Cowpens Visitor's Center there are Rest Rooms, a small Gift Shop, a Museum, and a Video Presentation. A small fee (fifty cents) is required to view the latter. One individual from each group will collect the fee from those in the group who wish to view the Video Presentation.
5. Participants may wish to bring a brown bag lunch with them. There is a soft drink machine and a water fountain available at the Visitor's Center.
6. During the Staff Ride students will make themselves available to be called upon to elaborate their area of research.
7. Staff Ride Schedule:

0730-1030	Bus To Cowpens (Brief Rest Stop On Way)
1030-1100	Battlefield Orientation
1100-1230	Walk Battlefield
1230-1300	After Action Review/Lessons Learned
1300-1400	Visitor's Center/Lunch
1400-1700	Bus To Fort Jackson (Brief Stop On Way)