

Draft Memorandum of the formation of a Native Contingent

Archives NZ Reference ACHK 16569 G13/3 122

Taking the number of men to be 12, of these one might be chosen in the first instance by his comrades as sergeant for which he would receive _ extra pay per diem, he should be liable to be reduced by order of His Excellency the Governor in case of misbehaviour and a man would be promoted from the ranks by His Excellency to fill his place. A Corporal might also be appointed under similar conditions.

Punishments

The punishments should be almost entirely fines the more readily to enforce which the men should be paid a month in arrear. The last and most severe punishment should be dismissal by His Excellency the Governor from the Corps, such dismissal to be notified in the 'Maori Messenger' or otherwise. Minor offences might be disposed of by the European officer who should have supervision of the Corps, any punishments ordered to be entered in a defaulters book for the inspection of the Governor.

The uniform should be comfortable and yet smart, a short cavalry tunic which might be either scarlet with black, a blue piping at the collar and cuffs, green with red piping or blue with white piping, metal buttons... a broad stripe of scarlet. If scarlet or green is the colour selected for the tunic, or a white stripe if the tunic is blue the overalls to be booted and strapped with leather ½ Wellington boots and steel spurs. At first the only head dress necessary would be a forage cap without a peak and with a band of yellow scarlet or white, light helmets of felt or other material might subsequently be obtained from Europe. Each man should also have a good sized waterproof cape or coat.

Each man should be armed with a sabre and a revolver the latter to be carried in a holster attached to the sword belt which should be of brown leather. A small pouch to contain [end]