

Private

Executive Mansion

Washington D.C. April 1. 1863.

Major General Hunter.

My dear Sir:

I am glad to see the accounts of your colored force at Jacksonville, Florida. I see the enemy are diving at them fiercely, as is to be expected.

It is important to the enemy that such a force shall not take shape, and grow, and thrive, in the South; and in precisely the same proportion, it is important to us that it shall. Hence the utmost caution and vigilance is necessary on our part. The enemy will make extra efforts to destroy them; and we should do the same to preserve and increase them.

Yours truly,

A. Lincoln

Private

Executive Messrs  
Washington D.C. April 1 1863

Major General Hunter  
My dear Sir

I am glad to see the account of  
your column force at Fredericksburg, Virginia, I see the  
very and timing of them fine, as it is in respect  
to its importance to the army that force was  
not taken place, and you see them in the battle  
and in finding in the same position, it is right  
and so in that respect. There is the whole center  
and position is necessary on our part. The enemy will  
make great effort to counter their own in position  
as the force to prevent our increasing them.

Yours truly  
Abraham Lincoln