

17516

Head Quarters, Providence 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1741

Gentlemen

I think it my duty to give you early information, that the time of service, for which the Regiments, Commanded by Colonels Wade, Jacobs, and Peabody, are engaged, will expire on the first of January next - when they disband, my numbers will be reduced to 3541 - with this force, I have an extensive Coast of 120 Miles, to secure against the Invasions of an Enemy, whose numbers (ascertained by accurate Returns, lately taken in Captured Vessels) amount to 7000 - you will readily conceive, how inadequate, this force is, to answer the expected purpose - Were they all on Guard at the same time, they

Letter from Gen. Johnson  
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would scarcely be sufficient to prevent, a ~~surprise~~  
surprise, much less repel an invasion —  
I must therefore beg, that you will as soon as  
possible, replace the Regiment from your  
state, as duty must be very severe on the Regular  
Troops, and their situation, in some measure  
precarious, untill I receive an addition of  
Men —

I am Gentlemen  
with Respect & Esteem  
your Most Obedt<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J<sup>o</sup> Sullivan,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Messrs Warriner  
Presidents of Council