

ORDERS TO DEFEND PARLIAMENT

General George Monck (1608–1670), Governor of Scotland (1653–1659)

to Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Wilkes

19 October 1659

That whereas his Lordship is informed that the Parliament of England has been interrupted and broken up, and being the officers of the army have engaged to be true and faithful to them and have now broken their faith with them, and there being many in this country which I find have not been faithful to the Parliament's interest; and therefore for the more security of these forces to the Parliament and of our liberties and religion, these are to authorize and require you to displace such officers of your regiment of whose fidelity to the Parliament you doubt, and to place others in their rooms of whose faithfulness you have assurance, and to return his Lordship the names of those you dismiss and of such as you place in their rooms.

to Lieutenant-Colonel Mayer, Governor of Berwick

19 October 1659

That being appointed, etc., to authorize you for the better security of the garrison of Berwick to the Parliament, to apprehend all such officers belonging to the said garrison of whose fidelity to the Parliament you have just cause to doubt or that have declared themselves against the interest of the Parliament or Commonwealth, and to send them in safe custody to Captain Thomas Johnson, of his Lordship's regiment of Horse at Anderwick, to be secured till further orders, and you are to place other officers in their rooms of whose faithfulness you have assurance.

to Captain Coulson

19 October 1659

Understanding that the Parliament is broken up by some officers,... his Lordship cannot conceive otherwise but their attempting an action of so great concernment against the privileges of the nation can be to no other end then setting up themselves, and therefore the officers here have considered of it, and his Lordship has thought fit to write to my Lord Fleetwood and my Lord Lambert to desire them that the Parliament may be called to sit again, that the country may not lose their privileges, and to keep us from running into confusion. What effect those letters will have we know not, but we are resolved, all on this side the water, to stand for the government by the Parliament without a king, kingship, single person, or House of Lords, and for the liberties of the people and a godly ministry. His Lordship thought fit to acquaint you with this, lest you might be mis-informed by some others, and his Lordship desires you to acquaint the officers of your regiment with it, and to send your Lordship your resolution whether you intend to join in it or no. His Lordshippe thinks we are bound to do it both in duty towards God and our country, and to declare as they have, being we shall be out of hopes ever hereafter to see a Parliament unless we stand to it now. And therefore his Lordship desires you to acquaint your officers and to send the names of those that are not free to it, and he shall give you orders what shall be done with them.