

Sir. By different letters we have received from St. Marys and Calvert we are informed, that the Fleet under Sr. Dunmore, have appeared in the mouth of Potowmack and it is apprehended they may attempt a landing on some part of that River or in the Lower Counties on this shore, we therefore think it expedient that you should give directions to the Militia of your District to hold themselves in readiness to oppose the enemy in case they should attempt any hostilities, we think it expedient that in this emergency you should yourself take the command and remain with them till you hear further from us as the Militia for the Flying Camp are not in readiness, we conceive it will not interfere with your duty as Brigadier of that Corps and your presence will be much wanted at this time in your district, Captain Beall with his independent Company is now in St. Marys County, ready to oppose the enemy, he and his Company will likewise be subject to your command, we shall be glad to hear from you.

To Brigadier General Dent  
Charles County

In Council of Safety  
July 15<sup>th</sup> 1776.

Sir. we have yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> and are glad you sent for Capt. Bealls Company, which we have the pleasure to hear marched immediately to you, we would have that Company remain with you to watch the motions of the enemy and assist you in case they should attempt a landing. we have wrote to Brigadier Dent to have all the Militia in his District kept in readiness to march to your assistance if there should be a necessity, he will also take on him the Command of the Independent Company, you will on all occasions send us up notice of the motions of the enemy and we shall order you every assistance in our power.

To Col. Richard Barnes  
St. Marys County

we are

In Council of Safety July 15<sup>th</sup> 1776.

Sir. we have just received Intelligence that makes it necessary for us to stop your proceeding up the Bay with your Company, we therefore desire you will immediately return with it to Annapolis.

we are &c.

To Captain John Allen Thomas.

In Council of Safety July 15<sup>th</sup> 1776.

Sir. we have just now received Intelligence that Sr. Dunmore with the Fleet under his command is in motion about the Bay, and as his designs are uncertain, we think it necessary for the service of the Province that you and the Company under your command instead of proceeding up the Bay to march for Philad<sup>a</sup>. should direct with your Company come to Annapolis where you may receive further orders.

we are &c.

To Capt. James Bindman.

In Council of Safety July 15<sup>th</sup> 1776.  
15<sup>th</sup> July 1776

We have just rec<sup>d</sup> information by exp<sup>res</sup> from St. Marys & Calvert.

(Continued)