

Sir

69 The Col. of the 8th Light Battalion without  
 waiting for your Excellency's Orders upon the Enemy's  
 78 appearing off the Mouth of Gunpowder ordered down two  
 Companies to prevent the Enemy's landing and plundering  
 the Country ~~thence~~ One of the Companies attended yesterday  
 morning but had not above five Guns among forty Men  
 they had scarcely arrived before they and the whole  
 of the Battalion were ordered up by the Lieutenant of  
 the County to Swan Creek to oppose the Enemy who  
 have landed there

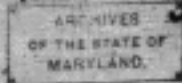
Your Excellency will no Doubt conclude that  
 Men unarmed can be of no Service to repel an Enemy they  
 may assist the Inhabitants in removing their Stock & portable  
 Effects and they march with great Alacrity without Arms  
 in full Confidence you will supply them at least to do  
 all they can.

We hope your Excellency can immediately  
 furnish the Militia with Arms and will acquaint  
 us by the Return of the Express when we may expect  
 them.

A little Fort is throwing up at this Place and  
 We have got four four pounders and We hope to be able  
 for a Tender if she comes but We have got but 13.  
 Muskets if your Excellency can spare a few for this  
 Place it will contribute more to our Safety We could  
 arm 20. Men more

Necessity ~~has~~ and actual Invasion has  
 compelled us to take up Arms without immediate Orders  
 from Government but as it has the best of Motives for its  
 Cause I hope it will meet with your Excellency's  
 Approbation

24. Aug. 1777  
 Joppa



I am  
 Your Excellency's  
 most humble Serv.  
 Benjamin Rumsey