

The Battle of Arkansas Post ~ January 9-11, 1863

Overview and troop positions

From Fort Hindman, at Arkansas Post, Confederates had been disrupting Union shipping on the Mississippi River. Maj. Gen. John McClernand, therefore, undertook a combined force movement on Arkansas Post to capture it. Union boats began landing troops near Arkansas Post in the evening of January 9, 1863. The troops started up river towards Fort Hindman. Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's corps overran Rebel trenches, and the enemy retreated to the protection of the fort and adjacent rifle-pits. Rear Adm. David Porter, on the 10th, moved his fleet towards Fort Hindman and bombarded it withdrawing at dusk. Union artillery fired on the fort from artillery positions across the river on the 11th, and the infantry moved into position for an attack. Union ironclads commenced shelling the fort and Porter's fleet passed it to cutoff any retreat. As a result of this envelopment, and the attack by McClernand's troops, the Confederate command surrendered in the afternoon. Although Union losses were high and the victory did not contribute to the capture of Vicksburg, it did eliminate one more impediment to Union shipping on the Mississippi.

For more information on this and other topics, please contact the park:
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The Battle of Arkansas Post: Overview
 ARPO-SB-005
 September 2003
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Confederate forces

Principal Commander: Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill

19th Arkansas Infantry	18th Texas Cavalry
24th Ark Infantry	24th Texas Cavalry
6th Texas Infantry	25th Texas Cavalry
10th Texas Infantry	Richardson's Texas Cavalry
	McKays Texas Cavalry
2nd Arkansas Artillery	Denson's Louisiana Cavalry
	Nutt's Louisiana Cavalry
15th Texas Cavalry	
17th Texas Cavalry	Johnson's Texas Spy Company

United States Forces

Principal Commanders: Rear Adm. David D. Porter and Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand

Thielman's Illinois Cavalry	108th	34th	32nd
3rd Illinois Cavalry	113th		
15th Illinois Cavalry	116th	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Kentucky</i>
4th Indiana Cavalry	118th	16th	3rd
6th Missouri Cavalry	127th	42nd	19th
10th Missouri Cavalry	131st	48th	22nd
		54th	
Chicago Mercantile Artillery	<i>Indiana</i>	57th	<i>Regulars</i>
1st Illinois Light Artillery	16th	58th	13th U.S.
1st Iowa Light Artillery	49th	76th	
1st Missouri Horse Artillery	54th	83rd	<i>Wisconsin</i>
2nd Missouri Light Artillery	60th	96th	23rd
7th Michigan Light Artillery	67th	114th	
4th Ohio Light Artillery	69th	120th	
8th Ohio Battery	83rd		Gunboats
17th Ohio Battery	89th	<i>Missouri</i>	USS New Era
1st Wisconsin Light Artillery		3rd	USS Black Hawk
	<i>Iowa</i>	6th	USS Lexington
Infantry	4th	8th	USS Louisville
<i>Illinois</i>	9th	12th	USS Cincinnati
13th	25th	17th	USS DeKalb
55th	26th	29th	USS Monarch
77th	30th	30th	USS Glide
97th	31st	31st	USS Rattler