Arkansas Post National Memorial

Battlefield of Arkansas Post
January 10-11, 1863

Troop Positions
5:00PM, January 11, 1863

Note: Background image of present park landscape not 100% to scale. Some minor discrepancies exist.

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National Park Service
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.

Confederate forces
Principal Commander: Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill
19th Arkansas Infantry
24th Ark Infantry
6th Texas Infantry
10th Texas Infantry

2nd Arkansas Artillery

15th Texas Cavalry
17th Texas Cavalry

United States Forces
Thielman’s Illinois Cavalry
3rd Illinois Cavalry
15th Illinois Cavalry
4th Indiana Cavalry
6th Missouri Cavalry
10th Missouri Cavalry

Chicago Mercantile Artillery
1st Illinois Light Artillery
1st Iowa Light Artillery
1st Missouri Horse Artillery
2nd Missouri Light Artillery
7th Michigan Light Artillery
4th Ohio Light Artillery
8th Ohio Battery
17th Ohio Battery
1st Wisconsin Light Artillery

Infantry
Illinois
13th
55th
77th
97th

4th
25th
26th
30th
31st

5th
12th
17th
29th
30th
31st

34th
32nd
Ohio
Kentucky
Indiana
Wisconsin
Missouri

Regulars
3rd
3rd
6th
6th
6th
6th
3rd
USS New Era
USS Black Hawk
USS Lexington
USS Louisville
USS Cincinnati
USS DeKalb
USS Monarch
USS Glide
USS Rattler

For more information on this and other topics, please contact the park:
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The Battle of Arkansas Post: Overview
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