

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXIX Battlefield Tour Number

Chicago, Illinois

April, 1969

## 19th BATTLEFIELD TOUR--TENNESSEE--MISSISSIPPI May 1-4, 1969



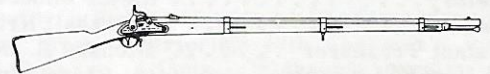
BATTLE OF SHILOH—Chicago Historical Society

By CLYDE C. WALTON

The 19th Annual Civil War Round Table Battlefield Tour leaves for Tennessee and Mississippi at 9:05 A.M. on Delta's breakfast flight #387 on May 1, 1969. We are going to spend an entire day looking at the battle of Shiloh (including Savannah and Crump's Landing), then look at the battle of Tupelo (or Harrisburg), trace the classic action of Forrest's cavalry at Brice's Cross Roads, follow the battle of Iuka, see Ripley and Van Dorn's raid on Holly Springs, go over part of Grierson's raid, see Okolona and look into Forrest's great raid into Memphis, Tennessee. All in all, there ought to be enough action to satisfy the most enthusiastic Civil War buff!

Those going on the trip are requested to check in with Registrar Margaret April at 8:00 A.M. at the Delta ticket counter at O'Hare. Here your luggage will be tagged and you will receive your tour kit. In the kit will be additional information about the tour, a number of maps of the battles we are going to examine, plus several pamphlets which detail military activity in the area we are visiting. Ground transportation will be in air conditioned Greyhound busses of the type that has aboard all of the conveniences necessary. We will eat lunch in Memphis, then travel to Corinth, and on the way see such towns of Civil War interest as Collierville, La Grange and Pocohontas. When we get to Corinth we will check in to the Holiday Inn Motel, and there will be time enough to unpack and relax a bit before reporting to the Command Post. Following the fellowship of the Command Post, we will have dinner in another motel: the Cannoneer; our speaker for the evening is that well known Civil War scholar Dr. John K. Bettersworth, Vice President of Mississippi State University.

Veterans of earlier campaigns will be delighted to



### COST OF TOUR

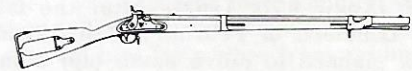
\$185, Two to a room (\*), \$195 Single

(\*) Indicate person with whom you wish to share room.

**INCLUDES:** Round trip plane fare, bus ground transportation, hotel room, Command Posts, lunches and dinners (breakfast is "on your own"), group service tips, group admission fees where required, tour literature in packet, and \$10 registration fee to cover promotional and overhead expenses.

**FOR VARIATIONS:** Portions of tour, joining en route, individual meetings, meals or rooms, write or phone, Registrar Margaret April, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Phone (area 312) Whitehall 4-3085.

Local CWRT groups and others joining in lunches or dinners, please make reservations through registrar so that caterer can be notified of number to prepare for and payment can be made.



learn that we will base in the Holiday Inn at Corinth for the remainder of the trip--none of that checking in and checking out of a different motel in a different city each day! It is worth pointing out that all seasoned campaigners will be watching the weather reports the last week in April, and will be prepared both for the possibility of rain or for the possibility of unusually warm weather. It has been known to be very warm in Mississippi in May! Bring field glasses, cameras and lots of film, and especially bring a good, well broken in pair of walking shoes. Ladies note: high heels are a menace while walking across a battlefield.

The details of the trip appear later in this announcement. Because of conditions beyond our control, this announcement appears a little later than usual. For this reason, we will not accept deposits for the tour, but ask instead that you send the entire fee at once. Accommodations are limited both in motel space and dining facilities, so please make your reservation as soon as possible. There have been many advance inquiries about this tour, and every indication is that it may attract unusually large numbers. Get your reservation and check in to Margaret April promptly, and we'll be looking for you at O'Hare airport at 8:00 A.M. May 1st!



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,  
Chicago 11, Illinois  
Phone: WHitehall 4-3085

## OFFICERS

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## THE BATTLES

**SHILOH** (April 6-7, 1862). After the fall of Forts Henry and Donelson in February, 1862, General Henry W. Halleck planned to move south (up) along the Tennessee River to the area of Corinth, Mississippi, using Savannah, Tennessee, as his base. His troops were organized into five divisions: 1st division, General John A. McClernand; 2nd division, General C. F. Smith (but commanded the first day of the battle by General W. H. L. Wallace of Illinois); 3rd division, General Lewis (Lew) Wallace; 4th division, General Stephen A. Hurlbut; and 5th division, General William T. Sherman. Before the battle a 6th division, led by General Benjamin M. Prentis, was added to these forces. General Ulysses S. Grant, who had been temporarily superceded by Smith, was restored to command of these divisions after Smith had been wounded; W. H. L. Wallace took over Smith's division. Altogether, Grant would lead slightly more than 40,000 men.

All of the Union troops were in a series of camps at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee, on the west side of the Tennessee River (except for Lew Wallace's 3rd Division, which was at Crump's Landing about four miles to the north), and since they believed themselves beyond the reach of substantial Confederate forces, were not dug in against attack. Halleck was waiting for General Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio (some 20,000 soldiers) to march from Nashville and join him, but Buell's advance had been held up by rivers that were above flood stage.

Meanwhile, Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston had concentrated his Army of the Mississippi at

Corinth, Mississippi. With General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard as second in command, Johnston's army consisted of four corps of perhaps 40,000 men, led by Generals Leonidas Polk, Braxton Bragg, William J. Hardee and John C. Breckinridge. Johnston intended to surprise Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing and destroy it before Buell could march to Grant's aid. Accordingly, he moved his army secretly towards Pittsburg Landing; first contact was made on the night of the 5th but the significance of this contact was not understood. The troops remained relaxed and unsuspecting in their camps, and Grant did not leave his quarters at Savannah, about 9 miles away.

There is no doubt that Johnston's attack achieved almost complete surprise when it was launched about 5:00 AM Sunday morning, April 6, 1862; the federal troops were pushed back out of their unfortified camps towards the River. Grant rushed to Pittsburg Landing after arranging for the vanguard of Buell's army to march there from Savannah, and took active command. Prentis set up a defensive position at what came to be known as the "Hornet's Nest." He held out here until late in the afternoon when he was finally forced to surrender. Heavy fighting continued around Shiloh church. Grant, however, had rallied some of his troops and formed the ultimate defense line near the river, where he was protecting the Hamburg-Savannah road and the landing itself. Here, aided by his artillery and the fire from two gun boats in the river, Grant was able to repulse the last attack of the day. Some of General Jacob Ammen's men (from Buell's Army) arrived in time to help beat off this last attack.

W. H. L. Wallace was killed near the "Hornet's Nest" and Johnston bled to death after being hit while directing his troops on the far right. Lew Wallace, ordered to march to the battlefield and enter the fight, somehow got lost, and by the time he arrived, it was too late for him to be of any help.

All was confusion on the riverbank during the rainy night of April 6-7, but by morning the Union troops had been reorganized and many of Buell's fresh soldiers had crossed the river and were ready to enter the fight. Grant attacked early on the 7th and the fighting raged back and forth near the Peach Orchard, Water Oaks Pond and the cross roads at the Shiloh Church. After delaying as long as he dared, Beauregard (who continued to hope he might be joined by General Earl Van Dorn's soldiers coming from west of the Mississippi) had to retreat. He directed his exhausted men to start back towards Corinth and as they left the field without opposition, the battle of Shiloh came to an end. There had been about 24,000 casualties and "bloody Shiloh" had been the largest engagement -- to that time -- that had been fought on the North American continent.

On the 8th, Federal pursuit was halted at Fallen Timbers. Halleck then took personal command and with his army reinforced by Pope (who had captured Island No. 10 on the 7th), started on the 29th towards Corinth. Moving with extreme care (taking a month to march 20 miles) and fighting at Farmington, Seven Mile Creek and Russell's House, he reached Corinth on May 25th. Beauregard, however, did not intend to fight there and evacuated the town on May 24-30.

**IUKA** (September 19, 1862). With Bragg and Buell in Tennessee, the contending forces in Mississippi continued maneuvering and fighting. Believing that General Rose-





crans was going to reinforce Buell, General Sterling Price started out to help Bragg, reaching Iuka, Mississippi, on September 14. Learning he was mistaken about Rosecrans, Price decided to wait for Van Dorn and with him attack Grant in western Tennessee. But Grant, in turn, decided to attack Price at Iuka before Van Dorn could come up. Grant ordered General Edward O. Ord to attack Iuka from Corinth while Rosecrans was to come around behind Iuka to block Price's retreat. Things did not work out as planned, however, and on the 19th Rosecrans fought Price alone, even though Ord was only a few miles away. Although the fighting was rather inconclusive, the Confederates suffered 1,516 casualties to 782 for the Union. Aware that Ord would join quickly with Rosecrans and the two would attack together on the 20th, Price had to evacuate Iuka during the night of September 19-20.

CORINTH (October 3-4, 1862). After evacuating Iuka, Price joined Van Dorn at Ripley; Grant's troops were strung out with Ord at Bolivar, McPherson at Jackson, Rosecrans at Corinth, Sherman at Memphis. Van Dorn and Price with 22,000 men attacked Rosecrans' 23,000 troops at Corinth on October 3rd, and after putting up a stout defense using the old Confederate works, Rosecrans fell back to a previously prepared second line of defense which was closer to the city. On the 4th Van Dorn tried again but could not break the line; the toughest fighting centered on Battery Robinett. But since Grant was concentrating his scattered forces, Van Dorn had to break off the action and started his retreat from Corinth early in the afternoon. Grant sent Ord and McPherson after Van Dorn. Van Dorn, who had moved first to Pocahontas, found his way blocked there at the Hatchie River and so turned south to Ripley and finally west to Holly Springs. The Union pursuit stopped at Ripley. Casualties had been 2,500 for the Union and about 4,200 for the Confederates; General Richard J. Oglesby, who would be elected Governor of Illinois, was wounded in this battle.

HOLLY SPRINGS (December 20, 1862). Grant now received permission from Halleck to attack "when you please," and started for Vicksburg, moving from Bolivar, Tennessee, to Holly Springs, Mississippi, to Oxford and then towards Grenada; Van Dorn had retreated ahead of him from Holly Springs to Grenada. Meanwhile, Sherman had advanced on Vicksburg, where he would shortly be repulsed first at Chickasaw Bluffs and then at Hayne's Bluff. On the 20th of December, however, Van Dorn with some 3,500 men left Grenada, went around Grant, and captured Holly Springs (General Forrest at this same time was raiding further north in the Jackson, Tennessee, area.) Van Dorn surprised and captured most of the troops at Holly Springs and destroyed the considerable amount of supplies concentrated at this important base. Grant, living off the land, had to move back north to LaGrange-Grant to attack Vicksburg by way of the Mississippi. Stephen A. Hurlbut to defend the area while Grant prepared to go to Vicksburg to command the siege of the city in person. The Holly Springs raid, in effect, caused Grant to attack Vicksburg by the way of the Mississippi River, rather than by means of an extended overland route which would be vulnerable to continued raids by mounted infantry or Forrest's cavalry.

BRICE'S CROSS ROADS (June 10, 1864). Both Brice's Cross Roads and Tupelo are part of the Atlanta campaign. Sherman had arranged for General Samuel D. Sturgis and about 8,000 men to prevent General Nathan B. Forrest from "breaking into Tennessee from some quarter," tearing up the railroads and destroying supplies destined for the army closing in on Atlanta. General Benjamin H. Grierson's cavalry ran into Forrest's men at the place where the Ripley-Guntown road crossed the Boonville-Baldwin-Pontotoc Road; at this crossing a Mr. William Brice had built a two story house. Forrest's plan was to engage the Union cavalry and through bluff and by ag-

gressive movements, hold it in check and if possible defeat it before the infantry could come up. He assumed the infantry, since they would have to force march some 5 miles on a very sultry, hot day, would be easily defeated when they reached the crossroads.

Forrest's scattered units, numbering only half the Union total, arrived at the battlefield just as they were needed, and the battle was fought as he planned. About 5 PM, Sturgis's men began a retreat that rapidly became a complete rout. Forrest pursued all the way to Ripley, capturing 16 of 18 cannon, the entire wagon train and more than 1500 prisoners. Altogether in this unqualified Southern victory, Sturgis lost 2,240 men and Forrest only 492; Sturgis never commanded again in the field during the war.

TUPELO (July 13-15, 1864). Following Forrest's crushing defeat of Sturgis at Brice's Cross Roads, another expedition was sent from Memphis to try to put the elusive Confederate cavalry leader out of action. This new force of some 14,000 men was led by General Andrew J. ("Baldy") Smith, and its objective was to prevent Forrest from interfering with Sherman's vulnerable supply line to Atlanta. Grierson's cavalry captured Tupelo, Mississippi, on July 13, 1864 in very hot, dry, unpleasant weather. By 9:00 P.M. the rest of the Union troops had come up and worked hard to construct a strong line of intrenchments, and by 3:00 A.M. on the 14th were ready for Forrest.

General Stephen D. Lee was the ranking Southern officer and for reasons outside the local situation felt compelled to attack. It appears that Forrest was not in accord with this decision, but did follow orders once they were given. The morning of the 14th the Confederates began their attack, but things did not go according to plan, and the assault was made piecemeal, one unit at a time, and it was repulsed with very heavy Confederate casualties. Of the four brigades that actually charged, more than 40% were killed or wounded; 3 of 4 brigade commanders were injured and in 7 of Buford's regiments every field officer was a casualty. The totals seem to be Union about 675 and Confederate about 1,375.

On the next day, Smith started back for Memphis giving as his reason that his supplies had spoiled in the heat. There was a sharp fight at Old Town Creek (in which Forrest was painfully but not seriously wounded) and the Confederates were successful until they ran into Mower's men, who repulsed them handily. While Smith's force neither killed Forrest nor destroyed his command, they did prevent him for a time from raiding Sherman's vulnerable supply line.

**PLEASE MAKE**

**YOUR**

**RESERVATIONS**

**IMMEDIATELY.**

**RESERVATION FORM**

**ENCLOSED**



# THE SCOUTS REPORT

by E. B. (Pete) Long.

Arm chair generalship once again comes into its own, as we prepare to refresh our memories before field operations begin. There is a vast literature about "bloody Shiloh" and we suggest here only a few of the more important and readily available materials.

## GENERAL

- Bearss, Edwin. Decision in Mississippi.  
Catton, Bruce. The Centennial History of the Civil War, 3 vol. Excellent for general background information.  
Henry, Robert S. The Story of the Confederacy.  
Foote, Shelby. The Civil War, 2 vol. For general background.  
Horn, Stanley. The Army of Tennessee. A basic study.  
Connelly, Thomas L. Army of the Heartland, the Army of Tennessee, 1861-1862. Basic, but specially useful for Shiloh.  
Cromie, Alice. A Tour Guide to the Civil War.  
Fiske, John. The Mississippi Valley in the Civil War.  
Confederate Military History, volume VII, Mississippi; and volume VIII, Tennessee.  
Williams, Kenneth P. Lincoln Finds a General, 5 vol. See particular volumes 3-4.  
McWhiney, Grady. Braxton Bragg and Confederate Defeat.

## SHILOH

- Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. 4 vol. Volume I has articles by some of the participants, including Grant, Buell and Beauregard.  
For CONFEDERATE BIOGRAPHIES consult: Johnston, William P. The Life of General Albert Sidney Johnston; Roland, Charles P. Albert Sidney Johnston; Roman, Alfred. The Military Operations of General Beauregard; 2 vol. Williams, T. Harry, Beauregard, Napoleon in Gray; McWhiney, Grady, "Braxton Bragg at Shiloh", Tennessee Historical Quarterly, March, 1962.  
For UNION BIOGRAPHIES consult: Grant, Ulysses S., Memoirs; Catton, Bruce, Grant Moves South; Conger, A.L., The Rise of U.S. Grant; Sherman, William T., Memoirs; Lewis, Lloyd, Sherman Fighting Prophet; Ambrose, Stephen, Halleck.  
Dillahunt, Albert. Shiloh National Military Park. This is the National Park Service's historical handbook.  
Eisenschiml, Otto. The Story of Shiloh. Provocative and exciting, this is one of our own Roundtable publications.  
Force, Manning F. From Fort Henry to Corinth. From the Scribner's Campaigns of the Civil War series.  
Rich, Joseph W. The Battle of Shiloh.  
Steele, Matthew F. American Campaigns.  
Van Horne, Thomas B. History of the Army of the Cumberland, 2 vol. See volume I.  
Williams, Kenneth P. Lincoln Finds a General, volume 3.  
Military Historical Society of Massachusetts. Papers, volume VII: Henry Stone, E. Dawes, E. Otis on Shiloh.

## IUKA-CORINTH

- Bearss, Edwin C. Decision in Mississippi. Particularly good for Iuka.  
Castel, Albert. General Sterling Price.  
Cockrell, Monroe, editor. The Lost account of the Battle of Corinth.  
Dudley, W. The Battle of Iuka.  
For GENERAL GRANT consult the Grant sources listed under Shiloh.  
Greene, Francis V. The Mississippi. From the Scribner's Campaigns of the Civil War series.  
Hartje, Robert G. Van Dorn.

- Lamers, William M. The Edge of Glory: A Biography of General Williams S. Rosecrans.  
Rhea, Ralph. Sterling Price.  
Sunderland, Glen W. "The Bloody Battle of Corinth," Civil War Times Illustrated, April, 1967.  
Williams, Kenneth P. Lincoln Finds a General, volume 4.  
Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, see volume II, which has articles by Buell, Rosecrans, T. L. Sned, Hamilton and others.

## MEMPHIS

- Capers, Gerald, M. The Biography of a River Town.  
Fiske, John. The Mississippi Valley in the Civil War.  
Gosnell, Harpur A. Guns on the Western Waters.  
Greene, Francis V. The Mississippi.  
Jones, Virgil C. The Civil War at Sea, 3 vol. see volume 3, The River War.  
Mahan, Alfred T. The Gulf and Inland Waters.  
Pratt, Fletcher. Civil War on Western Waters.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. History of the Confederate States Navy.  
Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. see volume I, which has articles by Alfred W. Ellet and Henry Walke.

## HOLLY SPRINGS

- Bearss, Edwin C. Decision in Mississippi.  
Deupree, J. G. "The Capture of Holly Springs", Mississippi Historical Society Publications, volume 4.  
Hartje, Robert G. Van Dorn.  
For GENERAL GRANT consult the Grant sources listed under Shiloh.

## BRICE'S CROSS ROADS AND TUPELO

- Brown, D. Alexander. "The Battle of Brice's Crossroads", Civil War Times Illustrated, April, 1968.  
Henry, Robert S. "First with the Most" Forrest. Also consult As They Saw Forrest.  
Jordan, Thomas P. and J. P. Pryor. Campaigns of Lieut. Gen. N. B. Forrest.  
Lee, S.D. "Brice's Cross Roads and Tupelo", Mississippi Historical Society Publications, volume 6, 1902.  
Lytle, Andrew N. Bedford Forrest and his Critter Company.  
Wyeth, John A. That Devil Forrest.  
Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. see volume 4 which has articles by George E. Waring, E. Hunn Hanson and W. S. Burns.

## - BULLETIN BOARD -

CHECK-IN-TIME: 8:00 A.M., Thursday, May 1, 1969, at the Delta Airlines Counter, O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois. Registrar Margaret April will be there to check you in and to give you your luggage tags and tour packet.  
DEPART: 9:05 A.M. on Delta's Breakfast Flight #387, arriving Memphis Metropolitan Airport at 10:26 A.M.

ACCOMMODATIONS: We will return each evening to the Holiday Inn at Corinth, Mississippi.

WHILE ON THE TOUR: Promptness will be appreciated. Bus Marshalls will be on hand. Please notify them if you leave the bus to make a side excursion.

MEMPHIS CHECK-IN-TIME: We will check out of the Holiday Inn at Corinth, Mississippi, at 9:00 A.M., Sunday, May 4, 1969, departing for Ripley and Holly Springs, arriving at Memphis in time to board Delta Airlines' Dinner Flight #796 at 5:50 P.M., arriving at O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois, at 8:00 P.M. N.B. Arrivals and departures are given in local times.



## TOUR SCHEDULE—BATTLE PLANS

All scheduling is on local time. Any variations or changes in these plans will be announced at meal-time.

MAY 1, 1969

- 8:00 A.M. Check in with Registrar Margaret April at the Delta Airlines counter in O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois.
- 9:05 A.M. Depart on Delta Flight #387 for Memphis, Tennessee.
- 10:26 A.M. Arrive Metropolitan Airport, Memphis, Tennessee. Meet out-of-town members and board air-conditioned buses for Memphis.
- 12:00 A.M. Lunch with guest speaker (to be announced).
- 1:30 P.M. Board buses for tour of historic Memphis.
- 3:00 P.M. Leave Memphis for Collierville, Tennessee (where Sherman was almost captured), La Grange (the start and base for Grierson's Raid), Pocahontas (the battle of the Hatchie) and on to Corinth, Mississippi.
- 5:30 P.M. Arrive at Corinth and check in at the Holiday Inn.
- 6:30 Command Post
- 7:30 Dinner at the Cannoneer Motel Dining Room. Speaker: Dr. John K. Bettersworth, Vice President, Mississippi State University.

May 2, 1969

Breakfast on your own.

- 9:00 A.M. Board buses for tour to Savannah, Tennessee (Grant's Headquarters), Crump's Landing and follow Lew Wallace's route to Shiloh.
- 11:35 A.M. Historical program at Shiloh National Park Headquarters.
- 12:00 A.M. Lunch.
- 1:00 P.M. Return to Shiloh Park for guided bus tour of the park and commentary on the battle. Weather permitting, the balance of the afternoon will be spent in roaming the park at will and viewing special demonstrations.
- 4:00 P.M. Board buses for trip back to Corinth.
- 6:30 P.M. Command Post. (continued)

- 7:30 P.M. Dinner at the Cannoneer Motel Dining Room. Special guest speaker (to be announced).

MAY 3, 1969

Breakfast on your own.

- 8:30 A.M. Board buses for Tupelo, Mississippi.
- 9:15 A.M. Stop at Baldwyn, Miss., and visit Claude Gentry Museum.
- 10:00 A.M. Tour the area of the battle of Brice's Cross Roads.
- 10:45 A.M. Follow part of the Grierson raid from New Albany, Mississippi, to Pontotoc, Mississippi.
- 11:30 A.M. View the battle at Okolona, Mississippi, and follow Andrew J. Smith's advance to Tupelo, Mississippi.
- 12:00 A.M. Trace the battle of Tupelo.
- 1:00 P.M. Lunch at the Natchez Trace Inn.
- 2:00 P.M. Visit Natchez Trace Park Visitors Center.
- 2:20 P.M. Drive to the site of the battle of Iuka.
- 4:00 P.M. Follow the battle of Iuka.
- 5:00 P.M. Return to Corinth.
- 6:30 P.M. Command Post.
- 7:30 P.M. Dinner at the Cannoneer Motel Dining Room. Address by the Hon. James P. Coleman, former Governor of Mississippi, and present Justice of the United States Court of Appeals. Fun nite to follow.

MAY 4, 1969

Breakfast on your own.

- 9:00 A.M. Check out of the Holiday Inn and board buses for guided tour of the battle of Corinth, Mississippi.
- 10:00 A.M. Depart for Ripley and follow Van Dorn's route to the raid on Holly Springs.
- 12:00 A.M. Lunch at Holly Springs.
- 1:00 P.M. Tour Holly Springs and visit the historic Ante Bellum Homes of the Confederacy.
- 4:00 P.M. Board buses and depart for Memphis Tennessee.
- 5:50 P.M. Arrive Memphis Metropolitan Airport and check in with Registrar Margaret April before boarding Delta Dinner Flight 796 for trip back to Chicago.

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