

## To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis



The Mississippi River was a strategic priority for the Union army from the outset of the American Civil War. By controlling the Mississippi, the North's military forces could effectively split the Confederacy in two and create economic and logistical havoc for Confederate supply lines that relied on river transportation. A number of battles were fought for control of the Mississippi, and ultimately the combination of Union troops supported by Federal gunboats and armored paddle steamers culminated in the surrender of Port Hudson in July 1863 and Union dominance over the Mississippi waterways. The Battle of Memphis was one such fray waged for control of the Mississippi. It was a major victory for the Union, one that was over almost before it began because of luck and lessons the Union fleet learned at a hard-fought battle with the Confederate River Defense Fleet at Plum Point. Perhaps owing to its swift conclusion, the Battle of Memphis has not received the scholarly attention of other battles, such as Vicksburg and Forts Henry and Donelson. In *To Retain Command of the Mississippi*, Edward B. McCaul Jr. argues that the Battle of Memphis was pivotal in the Union's efforts to control the Mississippi River. The Union command, by narrowly escaping defeat at Plum Point, learned invaluable lessons about the Confederate River Defense Fleet and masterfully enacted those lessons in decisively defeating the Confederate fleet at Memphis. With the Confederacy's river forces severely crippled after the Battle of Memphis, the Union fleets pushed onward to eventual victory at Vicksburg. McCaul brings this pivotal river battle back into the American Civil War discussion by highlighting the Union gains and Confederate losses that led up to the Battle of Memphis and maintaining that had the battle gone differently, Grant's plans for taking Vicksburg would have been

drastically altered Edward B. McCaul Jr. is Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Assessment in the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University. He is the author of *The Mechanical Fuze and the Advance of Artillery in the Civil War*, and his articles have appeared in *Military History*, *Vietnam*, and *Aviation History*.

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**Vicksburg Campaign - Wikipedia** Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data McCaul, Edward B., 1951 To retain command of the Mississippi: the Civil War naval campaign for Memphis **First Battle of Memphis - Wikipedia** In To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis Edward B. McCaul Jr. argues that the battle at Memphis **BOOK REVIEW - To Retain Command of the Mississippi the Civil** The First Battle of Memphis was a naval battle fought on the Mississippi River immediately above the city of Memphis on June 6, 1862, during the American Civil War. Both sides entered the battle with faulty command structures. Six were retained below New Orleans to face the fleet of David G. Farragut, while eight were **10 Facts: The Vicksburg Campaign Civil War Trust** Naval Campaign for Memphis PDF by Edward B. McCaul Jr. : To Retain Command of the. Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis. **To Retain Command of the Mississippi University of Tennessee Press** In :To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis, Edward B. McCaul Jr. argues that the battle at **Battle of Memphis in the Civil War - ThoughtCo** **Naval Actions of the Civil War Civil War Trust** The capture of New Orleans (April 25 May 1, 1862) during the American Civil War was an This battle, though fought after the end of the War of 1812, enhanced the The Union countermove was to enter the mouth of the Mississippi River, after the Union Navy broke through the Confederate ring of fortifications and **Memphis, Key to the Mississippi Chapter 16** : To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis: Edward B., Jr. McCaul: ??. **Battle of Forts Jackson and St. Philip - Wikipedia** To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis [Edward B. McCaul Jr.] on . \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying **CSS Mississippi - Wikipedia** CSS Mississippi was a projected ironclad warship of the Confederate States Navy,

intended to be used on the Mississippi River in the vicinity of New Orleans during the American Civil War. on the Tennessee River, Arkansas and Tennessee on the Mississippi at Memphis, and Louisiana and Mississippi at New Orleans. **Capture of New Orleans - Wikipedia** When the Civil War started, the Mississippi and its tributaries proved highly places where artillery could readily command the river itself. Not surprisingly, the . a last-ditch naval defense of the city on 6 June, Memphis itself fell under Union . that supplies be stockpiled in Vicksburg sufficient to maintain a force of 17,500 **Download To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War** Victory and Defeat from the Appalachians to the Mississippi Earl J. Hess He nevertheless proved its worth in the naval battle near Memphis on June 6. a leg wound suffered during the battle, but his relatives continued to command the fleet as Lincoln wanted very much to seize eastern Tennessee as well as to keep all **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval** In **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis**, Edward B. McCaul Jr. argues that the battle at **Civil War Books and Authors: McCaul: TO RETAIN COMMAND OF** The Battle of Forts Jackson and St. Philip (April 1828, 1862) was the decisive battle for possession of New Orleans in the American Civil War. The two Confederate forts on the Mississippi River south of the city were attacked by a Union Navy fleet. As long as the forts could keep the Federal forces from moving on the city, . Farragut retained divisional command of the ships for himself. **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval** Naval Campaign for Memphis PDF by Edward B. McCaul Jr. : **To Retain Command of the. Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis. The Vicksburg Campaign, November 1862-July 1863 - US Army** The Battle of Memphis was fought June 6, 1862 during the **US Naval History & Command** Davis moved down the Mississippi River with a squadron of each ship retained its pre-war captain who was empowered to act **River Defense Fleet - Wikipedia** The Battle of Shiloh, also known as the Battle of Pittsburg Landing, was a major battle in the Western Theater of the American Civil War, fought Beauregard, his second in command, acknowledged how tired the army was from the supply line connecting the Mississippi River at Memphis, Tennessee to Richmond, Virginia. **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign - Google Books Result** The River Defense Fleet was a set of fourteen vessels in Confederate service, intended to assist in the defense of New Orleans in the early days of the American Civil War. All were merchant ships or tow boats that were seized by order of the War A portion of the fleet was retained in the south part of the Mississippi River **Albert Castel Book Award - Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table** Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Campaign for Memphis They were the Navys first ironclads, and among its hardest-fighting and **Project MUSE - To Retain Command of the Mississippi -** **To Retain Command of the Mississippi. The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis.** Author(s): McCaul Jr., Edward B. Series: Imprint: Univ **Siege of Vicksburg - Wikipedia** **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis** [Edward B. McCaul Jr.]. The Mississippi River was a strategic priority for the **Download To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War** The Mississippi River Squadron was the Union brown-water naval squadron that operated on the western rivers during the American Civil War. During the Red River Campaign, the Mississippi Squadron was composed of 10 ironclads, Eicher, John H. and Eicher, David J. (2001) **Civil War High Commands**, Stanford **Battle of Shiloh - Wikipedia** The Vicksburg Campaign was a series of maneuvers and battles in the Western Theater of the American Civil War directed against Vicksburg, Mississippi, a fortress city The campaign consisted of many important naval operations, troop . On the Confederate side, forces in Mississippi were under the command of Lt. Gen. **Download To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War** Pre-War 1861 186218631864 1865 January 20 - Mississippi state troops seize Ship Island in the Gulf of Mississippi July 27 - Union Major Isaac Lynde surrenders his command at San Augustine . May 11 - Confederate sailors blow up the CSS Virginia to keep her from falling June 6 - Battle of Memphis, Tennessee. **The Civil War in the West: Victory and Defeat from the - Google Books Result** In 2000, Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table newsletter editor Dave Bowers suggested **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis**, Memphis was critical to control the Mississippi. **To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval** The Civil War Trusts page describing some of the naval actions that shaped the With the Union Navy making relentless progress down the Mississippi River, the fleet of five ironclads and two rams at Memphis, Tennessee on June 6, 1862. Both sides suffered from incoherent command structures, and the battle soon **Mississippi River Squadron - Wikipedia** **To Retain Command of the Mississippi. The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis.** By Edward B. The Battle of Memphis was one such fra . . . show more. **This Day in the Civil War** **Civil War Trust** [To Retain Command of the Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for . In addition to the Plum Point and Memphis battle diagrams **Edward B. McCaul Jr. examines the Civil War struggle for control of** The Civil War Trusts history page describing the campaign and siege to capture The capture of the Confederate river fortress at

Vicksburg, Mississippi on July 4, By the summer of 1863, Union advances from the Memphis in the North and New giving Grant the naval power necessary to cross the Mississippi, which he Naval Campaign for Memphis PDF by Edward B. McCaul Jr. : To Retain Command of the. Mississippi: The Civil War Naval Campaign for Memphis.