

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

The Battles of Iuka and Corinth

By **Daniel T. Davis**

Resources

If you can read only one book

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Cozzens, Peter	<i>The Darkest Days of the War: The Battles of Iuka and Corinth</i> . Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1997.

Books and Articles

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Hamilton, Charles S.	“The Battle of Iuka,” in Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Buel, eds., 4 vols. <i>Battles and Leaders of the Civil War</i> (New York: The Century Co. 1887-1888), 2:734-6.
Mildred Throne, ed.	<i>The Civil War Diary of Cyrus F. Boyd, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry 1861-1863</i> . Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1998.
United States War Department	<i>The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies</i> , 128 vols. (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), Series I, volume 7 and 17.

Organizations

Organization Name	Description, Contact information including address, email
Shiloh National Military Park	<p>The National Park Service operates the Corinth Interpretive Center located at 501 West Linden Street, Corinth MS 38834 662 287 9273 near Battery Robinett. The Center is open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. all year except Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Their website is: https://www.nps.gov/shil/planyourvisit/index.htm</p>
Iuka Battlefield	<p>Iuka Battlefield consists only of a few spots marked on the official guide to the Corinth Campaign, which can be acquired at the main Visitor's Center in Corinth, Mississippi. Few of these stops on the driving tour contain anything of note, besides a road-side marker or two located in and around the town. The one exception is a small cemetery which is located off of a minor road in town, and located on the Corinth map. The cemetery contains a mass grave site, where many Confederate soldiers who died in the battle were buried afterwards. Although a visit to this small battlefield would correspond well to the Corinth Campaign driving tour, the site does not warrant a long drive. (From Civil War Battlefields). http://cwbattlefields.com/battlefields/iuka.html)</p>
Corinth Battlefield	<p>The Corinth Battlefield Unit contains 14 historic sites associated with the siege and battle of Corinth. The NPS website is: https://www.nps.gov/shil/planyourvisit/corinth.htm</p>

Web Resources

URL	Name and description
http://www.civilwarfieldtrip.com/Battle_of_Iuka_MS.html	The Civil War Field Trip is a website/photo journal which explores what is left of the sites of various Civil War battles including Iuka and Corinth.
http://www.civilwarfieldtrip.com/Battle_of_Corinth_MS.html	The Civil War Field Trip is a website/photo journal which explores what is left of the sites of various Civil War battles including Iuka and Corinth.

Other Sources

Scholars

Name	Email
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Topic Précis

Major General Henry Halleck took command of the western armies following the Union victory at Shiloh in April 1862. In May he captured the city of Corinth Mississippi after it was abandoned by Confederate forces under General P. G. T. Beauregard. Shortly thereafter Halleck was promoted to General-in-Chief and returned to Washington leaving Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant in overall command with Brigadier General William Rosecrans in command of the Army of the Mississippi and Brigadier General Don Carlos Buell in command of the Army of the Ohio. Beauregard took a leave of absence after abandoning Corinth and Lieutenant General Braxton Bragg was left in command of Confederate forces in the west. Bragg led his army to Chattanooga and then northward through Tennessee to Kentucky. He was followed by Don Carlos Buell and his army. To cover his western flank Bragg directed two Confederate armies led by Major General Sterling Price in North Mississippi and Major General Earl Van Dorn at Vicksburg to strike north into Tennessee. Price reached Iuka, several miles west of Corinth in September and Grant ordered an attack on the Confederate forces there, which was carried out on September 19. The engagement was short with roughly comparable casualties of under 1,000 men for both sides. That evening Price slipped away from Iuka, rendezvousing with Van Dorn northwest of Corinth at Pochontas Tennessee. The combined Confederate force marched on Corinth where Rosecrans waited in defensive positions. On October 3, 1862 the Confederates attacked in what became known as the Second Battle of Corinth. Averting disaster when a gap opened in the Federal lines, Rosecrans held on until at about 6:00 p.m. Van Dorn called off the assault for the day. October 4 saw a renewal of the Confederate

attack with the fiercest fighting occurring at Battery Robinett. Confederate forces were able to bypass Robinett and entered the town of Corinth but were thrown back and by 1:00 p.m. Van Dorn was forced to withdraw. Confederate casualties were just under 5,000 and Union just over 2,500. The Confederate advance into Tennessee had failed. Bragg's invasion of Kentucky and Lee's invasion of Maryland ending at Antietam occurred at the same time and overshadowed the battles at Iuka and Corinth. Strategically, however, these two battles solidified Federal control of northern Mississippi and gave Grant a springboard to begin the campaign to capture Vicksburg, which began a few weeks after the Second Battle of Corinth.
