

150 Years Ago in the Civil War, August 1864

Aug 2 Cavalry skirmish at Hancock, Maryland

Aug 4 Operations around Brazos Santiago, Texas

Aug 5 Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama begins. A combined Union force initiated operations to close Mobile Bay to blockade running. On August 5, Rear Admiral David Farragut's Union fleet of eighteen ships boldly entered Mobile Bay and received a devastating fire from Forts Gaines and Morgan and other points. After passing the forts, Farragut engaged in a slow-motion slugfest with the Confederate ironclad CSS Tennessee, under the command of Adm. Franklin Buchanan. After forcing the Tennessee to surrender, Union forces besieged Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan, which controlled the mouth of Mobile Bay. By August 23, Fort Morgan, the last big holdout, fell, shutting down the strategic port.

Aug 6 CSS Tallahassee departs Wilmington, North Carolina on a 3-week cruise

Aug 7 Engagement at Moorefield, West Virginia

Aug 9 Confederates detonate bomb aboard ship at City Point, Virginia

Aug 16 Engagement at Guard Hill (Front Royal), Virginia

Aug 18 Battle of Globe Tavern (Weldon Railroad), Virginia begins

Aug 20 Cavalry combat at Lovejoy's Station on the Macon & Western Railroad in Georgia

Aug 21 Battle of Globe Tavern (Weldon Railroad), Virginia concludes Skirmish at Summit Point, West Virginia

Aug 23 Fort Morgan, at the entrance to Mobile Bay, Alabama, falls to the Federals

Aug 25 Second Battle of Reams' Station, Virginia

Aug 31 Battle of Jonesborough, Georgia. Sherman had successfully cut Hood's supply lines in the past by sending out detachments, but the Confederates quickly repaired the damage. In late August, Sherman determined that if he could cut Hood's supply lines—the Macon & Western and the Atlanta & West Point Railroads—the Rebels would have to evacuate Atlanta. Sherman, therefore, decided to move six of his seven infantry corps against the supply lines. The army began pulling out of its positions on August 25 to hit the Macon & Western Railroad between Rough and Ready and Jonesborough. To counter the move, Hood sent Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee with two corps to halt and possibly rout the Union troops, not realizing Sherman's army was there in force. On August 31, Hardee attacked

two Union corps west of Jonesborough but was easily repulsed. Fearing an attack on Atlanta, Hood withdrew one corps from Hardee's force that night. The next day, a Union corps broke through Hardee's troops which retreated to Lovejoy's Station, and on the night of September 1, Hood evacuated Atlanta. Sherman did cut Hood's supply line but failed to destroy Hardee's command.

Aug 31 Union Gen. McClellan nominated for President by Democrat Party at Chicago convention