

## War Clash in Arkansas That Took Place in March of 1862 (Battles of the Civil War) by Captivating History

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English  
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 71 pages  
Lending : Enabled



### Background and Significance

In 1861, Missouri declared its neutrality in the conflict, but pro-Union and pro-Confederate factions within the state clashed. Confederate General Earl Van Dorn led an invasion to seize Missouri and gain access to its resources. Meanwhile, Union General Samuel R. Curtis gathered an army to protect the state.

The Battle of Pea Ridge was crucial as it:

- \* Prevented Confederate control of Missouri, maintaining its bFree Download status
- \* Boosted Union morale and strengthened their position in the West
- \* Demonstrated the Union's ability to win major battles outside of the East
- \* Contributed to the Federal blockade of the Mississippi River

### Prelude to the Battle

Van Dorn's army of about 15,000 men faced Curtis's force of approximately 10,500 Union soldiers. Van Dorn planned to surprise the Union army by

attacking from two directions. On March 6, 1862, Confederate troops under Brigadier General Benjamin McCulloch engaged Union forces near Pea Ridge.

## **The Battle Begins**

On March 7, the battle escalated as Union and Confederate forces engaged in fierce fighting. McCulloch's division launched a surprise assault on the Union left flank, causing initial setbacks. However, Union artillery halted the Confederate advance.

Meanwhile, on the Union right flank, General Franz Sigel's division repelled Confederate attacks. As the battle progressed, General Curtis Free Downloaded a counterattack, driving back Van Dorn's forces and forcing them to retreat.

## **Second Day of Battle**

On March 8, the Confederates attempted to regain lost ground, but the Union army held its positions firmly. After hours of intense fighting, Van Dorn Free Downloaded a general retreat.

## **Aftermath and Impact**

The Battle of Pea Ridge ended in a decisive Union victory. Van Dorn's army lost over 2,000 men killed, wounded, or captured. Union casualties were about 1,300. The battle marked a significant turning point in the Western Theater, securing Missouri for the Union and bolstering their overall position.



Union soldiers played a pivotal role in the battle

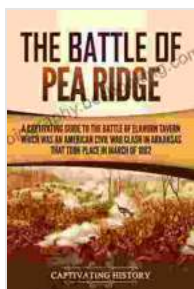
## **Legacy and Commemoration**

The Battle of Pea Ridge is commemorated at the Pea Ridge National Military Park in Arkansas. The park encompasses the battlefield and offers historical exhibits and guided tours. The park serves as a reminder of the battle's significance and the sacrifices made by both sides during the American Civil War.

The Battle of Pea Ridge was a critical engagement that reshaped the course of the Civil War in the West. It solidified Union control over Missouri and weakened Confederate ambitions in the region. The battle

demonstrated the Union's growing strength and tenacity, ultimately contributing to the Union victory in the war.

Today, the Battle of Pea Ridge remains a testament to the courage and determination of the soldiers who fought on both sides. The national park and historical accounts ensure that this pivotal conflict is remembered and honored for generations to come.



## **The Battle of Pea Ridge: A Captivating Guide to the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern, which was an American Civil War Clash in Arkansas That Took Place in March of 1862 (Battles of the Civil War)** by Captivating History

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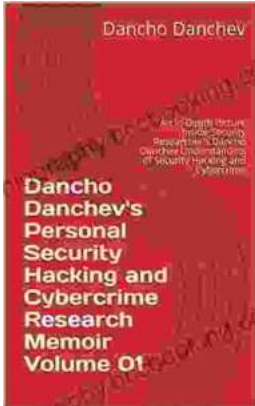
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