

Shortly after the Battle of luka, the 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry was called to play an important part in the Battle of Corinth that occurred on October 3-4, 1862. The Battle of Corinth was fought near the city of Corinth, Mississippi when General Earl Van Dorn's command attempted to capture the city which was held by the forces of General William Rosecrans. The 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri saw limited action on the afternoon of October 3, having marched for most of the night and day to get to the battle. At least one soldier from the regiment was killed on the afternoon of October 3. The Confederates dominated the battle on October 3, but Rosecrans prepared a formidable defense and met the enemy on the morning of October 4. The Union was victorious in their defense and the battle was over by noon the next day.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry was called to support the 63<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Infantry which assumed the majority of the assault from the Confederate forces during the morning. At the opportune moment, the 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry counterattacked the Confederate forces near Battery Robinette with great success. Within two weeks of the Battle of luka, the 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri would lose a significant number of men during the battle – seven killed, 62 wounded, and 5 missing. Again, the regiment demonstrated their ability to face and stand against a determined enemy.

O.R.-- SERIES I--VOLUME XVII/1 [S# 24]

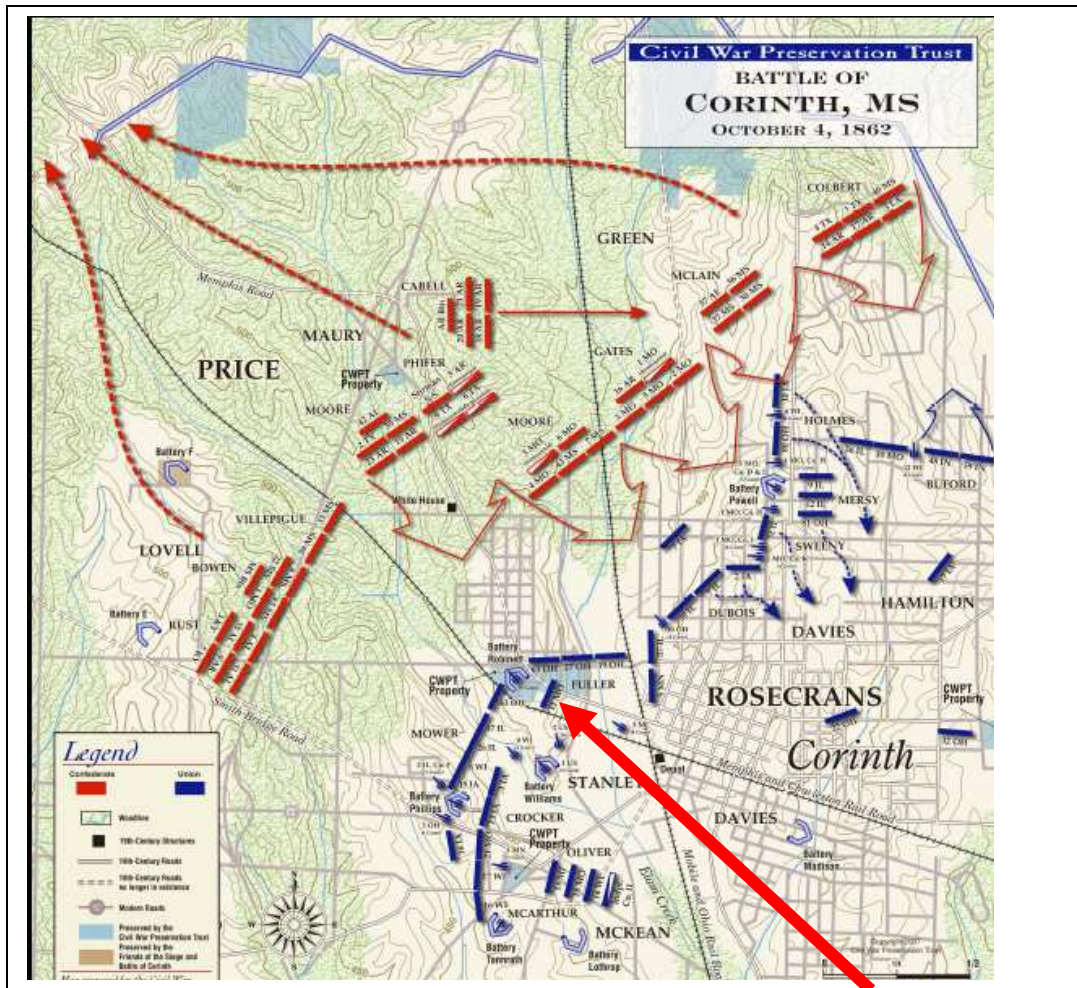
**OCTOBER 3--12, 1862.--Battle of Corinth, Miss., and pursuit of the Confederate forces.**

**No. 17.--Report of Maj. Andrew J. Weber, Eleventh Missouri Infantry.**

HDQRS. ELEVENTH MISSOURI VOLS., *Oct. 9, 1862.*

COLONEL: In regard to the part taken by the Eleventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry in the engagement of October 3 and 4 I have the honor to report the following:

On the 3d we took position (as the second regiment in the brigade) northwest of and about three-fourths of a mile from Corinth. After forming we were held for a few moments as a reserve for Colonel (or General) Sweeny's command. The regiment immediately in our front (I think the Fifty-second Illinois) became somewhat scattered and their ammunition was giving out, when we were ordered by Colonel Mower, commanding the brigade, to relieve them, which we did at once. We found ourselves in front of an open field, in which there was but few of the enemy, but their solid columns could be distinctly seen advancing on our right and left flanks, where were stationed the Twenty-sixth and Forty-seventh Illinois and Eighth Wisconsin respectively. The whole fire of my right wing was to the right oblique and that of my left left oblique. Just as our ammunition was expended Colonel Mower was informed from Colonel (or General) Sweeny that the forces on both our flanks had retired and unless we fell back at once we would be outflanked. We did so in good order and took position with the rest of the brigade between the two central forts, commanded by Captain Williams, of the First U.S. Infantry.



Location of the 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry

The morning of the 4th found us in the same position, facing the west. About 4.30 a.m. we were awakened by a shell from a 12-pounder howitzer, which the enemy had during the night succeeded in placing within 400 or 500 yards of us. The shelling was kept up until daylight, all the while briskly responded to by our own battery. The enemy were driven away, and the rest of our brigade was then placed on the right of the fort commanded by Captain Williams. The First Brigade was on either flank of the fort and we were left as a reserve for either side. The enemy's attack along our whole line was simultaneous. They advanced in solid column from the north. When I saw them coming I changed my front and laid down, with bayonets fixed, about 40 paces in rear of the Sixty-third Ohio. Quite a number of the officers and men of this regiment were killed or wounded. When they fell back the enemy took possession of the fort and were within 30 paces of my little line, when we arose with a yell and charged them. Though the enemy had thus far been successful, when met at the bayonet point he turned and fled ignominiously. We retook the fort and then fired our first shot, and having every advantage of the confusion of the enemy, piled the ground with his killed and wounded.

In front of our line fell Colonel Rogers, second Texas, commanding brigade; Colonel Moore, a lieutenant-colonel, an assistant adjutant-general, a chaplain, and quite a number of killed and wounded line officers.

I would state that when we advanced the Sixty third and Twenty-seventh Ohio Regiments were prompt in assisting us. I should have stated that before the action commenced two companies of my regiment, along with, I believe, two from each regiment of the brigade, were taken out as skirmishers by Colonel Mower in person, and after the engage-meet remained out as a grand guard, the colonel having been wounded and taken prisoner, but escaped, however, in the evening.

The conduct of my officers and men was universally of the most praiseworthy character. Capt. Charles Hollister, as gallant a man and officer as ever entered the field, was killed instantly while leading his company (E) in the charge.

In the two engagements we lost 7 killed, 62 wounded, and 5 missing. We remained on the right of the fort until night, when our two companies were called in by myself and all rested on our arms during the night.

Respectfully submitted.

**A. J. WEBER,**

*Major, Comdg. Eleventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry.*

Colonel HUBBARD,

*Comdg. Brigade, Second Division, Army of the Mississippi.*

O.R.-- SERIES I--VOLUME XVII/1 [S# 24]

**OCTOBER 3--12, 1862.--Battle of Corinth, Miss., and pursuit of the Confederate forces.**

**No. 13.--Report of Col. Joseph A. Mower, Eleventh Missouri Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.**

CORINTH, MISS., *October 15, 1862.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the engagement of the 3d and 4th instant at this place, as follows:

At about noon of the 3d my brigade, with the exception of the Fifth Minnesota Volunteers, which had been previously detached and continued so during that and the day following, together with the First Brigade of the division, were resting at the outer line of earthworks near the north Kossuth road. We remained there about one hour, when, pursuant to orders from General Stanley, I moved my command rapidly around to the right, and formed line of battle in the woods, about three-fourths of a mile from the town of Corinth, in front of Battery Robinett, the right resting on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and the left near the Chewalla road. On arriving there I found my front partially covered by another line already engaged with the enemy and for the first half hour only scattering shots were fired by my command but at the end of about that time I ordered my line forward and relieved the other line. The firing immediately became general and fierce. At this time I brought up the Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteers, which, arriving upon the field later than the other regiments, had not yet reached the front. Extending my line to

the left, at the same time moving the other regiments obliquely to the left, the Forty-seventh was exposed to a galling fire, and the lamented Thrush and the senior captain fell, together with many brave men. Soon after received an order to fall back.

It was upon the falling back of the infantry that Captain Spoor with his battery rendered invaluable service. Owing to the nature of the ground where the line had been formed he had been assigned a position on a bill in our rear near the road. As soon as he had an opportunity he opened upon the enemy with spherical-case and canister. One column charging upon his left, he drove the enemy back to the cover of the woods and for a considerable time held them all in check. His supports being gone, and being deceived by the appearance of a body advancing on the road, where he expected more of our own forces, till they were close upon him, he barely escaped in season to save his pieces from their grasp.

Upon the retirement of the troops the fight ceased for the day, and the infantry regiments were massed between Batteries Robinett and Williams and the battery of Captain Spoor sent to the town.

The contest of that afternoon lasted about two hours; and, if unsuccessful, I am satisfied it was not through the fault of the men under my command. None ever went under fire more willingly or contested ground with an outnumbering enemy more obstinately.

While I must refer you to the reports of regimental commanders for information as to meritorious conduct of line officers, of the others I will say that Lieutenant-Colonel Robbins and Major Jefferson, of the Eighth Wisconsin, were wounded early in the action while doing their duty gallantly. Later the heroic Colonel Thrush, of the Forty-seventh Illinois, fell to rise no more while leading his men to a charge upon the enemy, and Captain Andrews, his successor in command, soon succeeded also to his glorious fate. Major Weber, of the Eleventh Missouri, watched the enemy and directed the movements of his own command with as much coolness and care as if upon drill, as the clearness of his report evinces. Major Gillmore and the Twenty-sixth Illinois, being on the extreme right, were less exposed than the other regiments, and suffered less. When ordered to the rear they relinquished their position unwillingly.

At about 9 p.m. of the 3d three regiments of the brigade, the Forty seventh and Twenty-sixth Illinois and the Eighth Wisconsin, were moved across the Memphis and Charleston Railroad to the low ground between Batteries Williams and Phillips and there bivouacked for the night, and on the day following remained in this position during the battle, acting as a support to the batteries. The Eleventh Missouri remained on the north side of the railroad, and I am informed acquitted themselves honorably in repulsing the enemy in his attempt upon Battery Robinett.

During the 4th, at about 8 a.m. (the second day), I received an order through an aide-de-camp of General Stanley to take a body of skirmishers, consisting (of two companies from each regiment, to the front on the south of the Memphis Railroad and ascertain the position of the enemy in that direction, whose sharpshooters were at that time causing considerable annoyance. Accordingly, taking my skirmishers in front of the abatis, I advanced, driving their sharpshooters back

about three-fourths of a mile, when I found their main lines, and my men received several volleys from them, some shots reaching us from the rear of our left. Supposing them to come from friends by mistake, I rode out in that direction to prevent a continuance of the same, and suddenly found myself in the midst of a small party of the enemy. Attempting to escape, I was wounded and fell into their hands. Their precipitate retreat, however, in the subsequent part of the day left me free, and sundown found me again in camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

**JOS. A. MOWER,**  
*Colonel, Commanding Brigade.*

Lieut. W. H. SINCLAIR,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*