

A SESQUICENTENNIAL MOMENT

SEPTEMBER 1-7, 1861

A rash of skirmishes between Confederate and Union forces broke out across western Virginia during the first week of September in 1861.

Union troops continued to try to gain control of the region, but they met with resistance from Confederate troops under Generals Robert E. Lee, Henry A. Wise, and John B. Floyd, who were bolstered by residents' continued support of Virginia and the South.

Guerilla warfare was often the norm across western

Virginia as skirmishes erupted in Hampshire, Kanawha, Calhoun, and other counties.

The southern armies and guerillas often took advantage of the Union army's limited ability to police the area.

The Confederate resistance would continue throughout the war, and deep divisions among the region's populace would impact the state's early politics long after the war ended.



This sesquicentennial moment is brought to you by the Archives & History Section of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

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