The Civil War: The Third Year (1863)
Dr. Joseph Fitzharris

The Tullahoma-Chattanooga Campaign

The battle of Stone’s River in 1862/1863 began the second Chattanooga campaign. For months, Rosecrans sat at Murfreesboro, Lincoln fretted, and Bragg waited. When Rosie moved – the Tullahoma Campaign – he moved quickly and, almost bloodlessly, cleared the Rebs out of Middle Tennessee. Taking Chattanooga, he over-reached at Chickamauga, and was besieged in Chattanooga. Grant, Sherman, Thomas, and Hooker broke the siege on November 25.

OUTLINE

I. The Strategic Situation in the West and the Battle of Stones River
   A. Strategy and Stones River
   B. Rosecrans’ and Bragg’s Plans
   C. The Battle Joined
   D. Bragg’s Officers Revolt as he Retreats on Tullahoma

II. The Logistics of Campaigning in Tennessee
   A. Terrains and Movement
   B. Logistic Requirements

III. Rosecrans’s Tullahoma Campaign
   A. Strategy, the Operational Art, and Rosecrans’ Plans
   B. Deception and Movement
   C. Turned, Nearly Enveloped, Bragg Retreated back on Chattanooga

IV. Taking Chattanooga
   A. Rosecrans’ September Campaign: Over-Extending His Supply Lines
   B. Bragg Abandons Chattanooga
   C. Significance of Chattanooga

V. Over-reach: Chickamauga
   A. Rosecrans Pursues Bragg South: Too Fast, Too Far (relative to supplies)
   B. Bragg Picks a Superb Defensive Location
   C. The South Sends Longstreet Who Arrives Just in Time
   D. The Gap That Wasn’t and the Gap Created
   E. Retreat: the “Rock of Chickamauga”

VI. Besieged In Chattanooga
   A. Rosecrans Relieved; Grant Takes Command
   B. The Situation: the Cracker Line; Hooker is Sent West
   C. Wauhatchie Battle and Feuding Confederates
   D. Orchard Mtn, Lookout Mtn, Missionary Ridge
   E. Retreat and Pursuit

VII. Burnside’s Knoxville Campaign and Longstreet
   —— ? If Longstreet was so good, why did Burnside beat him?

VIII. The Indian Campaign of 1863 [Time Permitting]

Good Reading:

Course Web Site: http://personal2.stthomas.edu/jcfitzharris/CivilWar/
Matt Spruill, ed., *Guide to the Battle of Chickamauga* (Kansas, 1993)
Steven Woodworth, ed., *The Chickamauga Campaign* (So. Ill., 2010)

Larry Daniel, *Battle of Stones River: The Forgotten Conflict Between the Confederate Army of Tennessee and the Union Army of the Cumberland* (LSU, 2012)
Christopher Kolakowski and Douglas Bostick, *The Stones River and Tullahoma Campaigns: This Army Does Not Retreat* (History Press, 2011)
Peter Cozzens, *No Better Place to Die: The Battle of Stones River* (1990)
Michael Bradley, *Tullahoma: The 1863 Campaign for the Control of Middle Tennessee* (White Mane, 1999)
------, *The Shipwreck of Their Hopes: The Battles for Chattanooga* (Illinois, 1994)
------, *This Terrible Sound: The Battle of Chickamauga* (Illinois, 1996)
John Bowers, *Chickamauga and Chattanooga: The Battles that Doomed the Confederacy* (Harper, 2001)

David Moore, *William S. Rosecrans and the Union Victory* (Mcfarland, 2013)

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