Texas and Texans in the Civil War

War in the East

Three units from Texas fought in the east as part of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia

First, Fourth, and Fifth Texas infantry regiments

These regiments were reorganized into the Texas Brigade under the leadership of Brig.Gen. Louis T. Wigfall after it arrived in Virginia

The brigade became known as Hood's Texas Brigade after Wigfall resigned and John Bell Hood took command

Hood was from Kentucky, attended West Point, and served in the army in Texas

After Ft. Sumter Hood decided to serve his adopted state of Texas instead of his home unionist state of Kentucky

Hood's Brigade fought in thirty-eight battles between 1862-1865

Many other Texans served in the east west of the Appalachian Mountains

Four regiments of Texans were sent to western Kentucky under Albert Sidney Johnson

Johnson went to West Point, was secretary of war in the Texas Republic, and served in the Mexican American War

Johnson was famously killed at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee

Another four Texas cavalry units joined the fight after Shiloh under the leadership of Gen. Earl Van Dorn and fought at Vicksburg

Several thousand Texans also helped defend Atlanta in 1864

Another three regiments including Terry's Texas Rangers helped fight against Sherman in the Carolinas

War in the West

In 1861 Texas mounted regiments secured the state's boundaries with Indian Territory

Texans under the leadership of John R. Baylor led the Second Texas Rifles to El Paso and into New Mexico at Mesilla

He created the Confederate Territory of Arizona

Gen. Henry Sibley was then sent to conquer New Mexico, Colorado, and California

Defeated at Glorieta Pass in 1862

Texans also fought in Missouri, Indian Territory, Arkansas, and Louisiana

War in Texas

Texans fought against US Navy operations along the coast of Texas

In 1862 Maj. Alfred M. Hobby defended Corpus Christi from a Union force

In Spring 1862 frontier German unionists were defeated at the Battle of the Nueces

In October 1862 forty-two unionists were hanged at Gainesville

Union forces destroyed Confederate defenses at Sabine Pass in 1862

Texas Confederate forces defended Galveston from Union attack January 1, 1863

In September 1863 Union naval forces returned to the Sabine and were defeated