Top Site FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q1. What did Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Bailey do after the war?

After the Red River Campaign, Joseph Bailey was promoted to the position of colonel of the 4th Wisconsin Cavalry. He soon had other commands in the Gulf Coast region until the war's end. After the war, Bailey moved with his family to Vernon County, Missouri, where he became sheriff. On March 21, 1867, Joseph Bailey was killed by two prisoners he had arrested. Within weeks of his passing, Bailey received the brevet grade of Major General of Volunteers. General Bailey was buried with honors and now rests at Evergreen Cemetery in Fort Riley, Kansas.

Q2. What did Rear Admiral David D. Porter do after the war?

Following the Red River Campaign, Porter was sent to the Atlantic Coast where he commanded the North Atlantic Squadron. Later, he was the superintendent of the Naval Academy in Annapolis. After earning the title of Admiral, the second man in the U.S. Navy to do so, Porter devoted his energies to reforming the Navy. He eventually retired from service and passed away on February 13, 1891.

Q3. What did Major General Nathaniel P. Banks do after the war?

General Banks suffered great humiliation after the failure of the Red River Campaign. Though he tried to assist in the reconstruction of Louisiana, he was largely ineffective due to political divisions in New Orleans. He resigned from the Army in 1865 and returned to Massachusetts, where he was from. Banks served in the U.S. Congress, where he promoted women's suffrage, the Alaska Purchase and Manifest Destiny. He was, however, also involved in several financial scandals. Banks died on September 1, 1894.

Q4. What did Major General Richard Taylor do after the war?

Soon after the Red River Campaign ended, General Taylor was recognized by the Confederate Congress for defeating Banks. He was promoted to Lieutenant General, and was later given command of the Departments of Alabama and Mississippi. He surrendered his post to Union forces in May of 1865. After the war, Taylor was involved in politics and later wrote a book recounting his role in the war and reconstruction. Lt. General Taylor passed away in New York on April 18, 1879. His body was returned to New Orleans for burial.

Q5. Is there any way to see the dam today?

Today, the dam is under water and out of sight. However, the public can view the spot where soldiers built the dam at the Forts Randolph and Buhlow State Historic Site.

Q6. What did the people of Alexandria think of Union soldiers in their city?

Feelings towards Union soldiers were somewhat mixed. While most people were glad to see Union forces depart, some had formed friendly relations with some Union soldiers. In fact, some people from Alexandria even kept in touch with Union soldiers after the war.