MRNUSSBAUM
A THOUSAND SITES IN ONE

Grudge

The bitter Siege of Vicksburg lasted for nearly three months in the sweltering late spring and early summer of 1863. Union forces under General Ulysses S. Grant besieged the city (fortified high over the bluffs of the Mississippi River) because he found all-out assaults were repeatedly unsuccessful. Vicksburg was the last bastion of Confederate power along the Mississippi River. If the Union could win Vicksburg, it would control the entire river and split the Confederacy in two parts. Grant's siege quickly took its toll on the city's population and the starving Confederate forces inside. The constant bombardment destroyed much of the city. Some soldiers even began to feel the effects of Scurvy and would eventually resort to eating horses and dogs. When Vicksburg finally fell on July 4th, the city was in ruins. The population was so bitter that it refused to celebrate Independence Day until after World War II (more than 80 years). Have you ever held a grudge against someone? Why? Explain your reasoning below and whether or not the "score" was ever settled. You can also explain if someone has had a grudge against you. If you can't think of any, write about one you have read about or know about in sports.

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