

On This Date

August 29, 1884

Born on August 29, 1884, **Adlai Wendell "Gus" Bono** first appears on a major league roster with the Washington Senators in mid-September of the 1920 season.

Over a three-week span with the sixth-place Senators, the 26-year-old Doe Run, Missouri, native appears in four games (one start), allowing 12 earned runs in 12 1/3 innings, on 17 hits, six walks and four strikeouts. He will finish his brief major league career with an 0-2 record and a 8.76 ERA.

A year earlier, in the first peacetime campaign following World War I, Bono plays a key role in a historic campaign for the Shreveport Gassers as it produces the first Texas League championship for the River City.

After missing the entire 1918 season while serving in World War I as a Marine in the United States military, Bono re-signs with Dallas of the Texas League in time for the 1919 season. However, due to an over-abundance of pitchers and Bono's wrenched back, manager Ham Patterson releases the "Shine" ball artist eight games into the season.

Expected to sign with Shreveport on May 1, the Gassers hesitate and he signs with Waco instead. Later released by the struggling Navigators on June 27, he signs with Shreveport on July 3 and becomes one of the team's favorite players, winning 13 games for the eventual league champion.

