

Chapter 11: The Civil War (1861–1865)

Section 1: From Bull Run to Antietam

- What was the significance of the First Battle of Bull Run?
- How did the North and the South prepare for war?
- Why were the battles in the West important?
- What was the outcome of each of the battles in the East in 1862?

I. The First Battle of Bull Run

- The first major battle of the Civil War ended in a victory for the Confederacy.
- It became known as the First Battle of Bull Run because the following year a battle occurred at almost exactly the same site.
- Approximately 35,000 troops were involved on each side.
- The Union suffered about 2,900 casualties, the military term for those killed, wounded, captured, or missing in action.
- Confederate casualties were fewer than 2,000.

II. Preparing for War

A. Strengths of the North and the South

1. Northern Advantages

- More railroads
- More factories
- Better balance between farming and industry

iv. More money

v. A functioning government, an army, and a navy

vi. Two thirds of the nation's population

2. Southern Advantages

- Leadership: Most of the nation's military colleges were in the South; most officers sided with the Confederacy.
- Military tactics: Because the South was defending its borders, its army needed only to repel Northern advances rather than initiate military action.
- Morale: Many Southerners were eager to fight to preserve their way of life and their right to self-government.

III. Preparing for War- Military Strategies

A. Union Military Strategies

- Union commanders wanted a military blockade of seceded states.
- They hoped to gain control of the Mississippi River.
- They planned to cut the Confederacy in two, along the Mississippi River.

B. Confederate War Strategies

- Jefferson Davis hoped that Lincoln would let the Confederacy go in peace.
- The South planned for a war of attrition.

C. Tactics and Technology

- Outdated muskets were replaced with more accurate rifles.
- Artillery improved with the invention of shells, devices that exploded in the air.
- Artillery often fired canisters, special shells filled with bullets.

IV. War in the West-Map

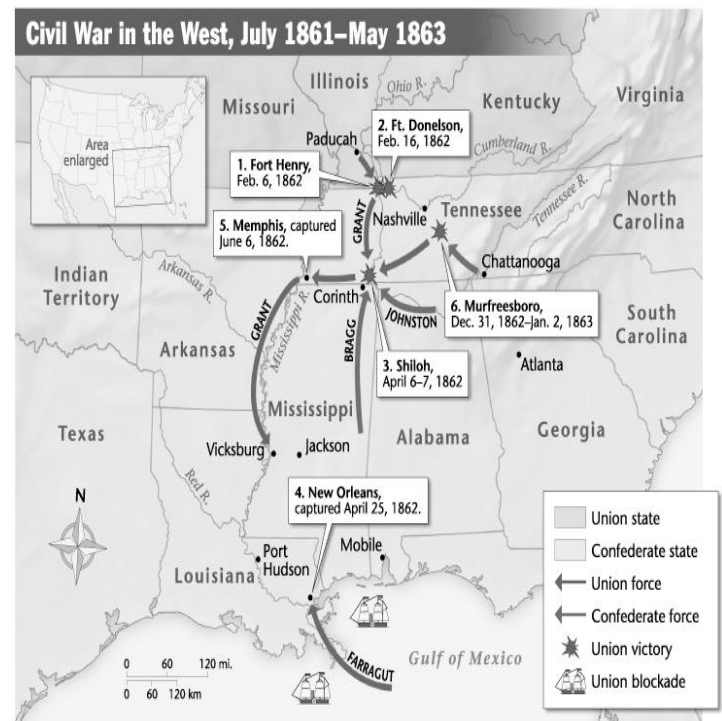
V. War in the East

A. The *Monitor* and the *Merrimack*

- March 9, 1862, the ships met off the Virginia coast.
- Neither ship was able to do serious damage to the other.
- These ships made the wooden navies of the world obsolete.

B. The Battle of Seven Pines

- Union General McClellan took some 100,000 troops by boat to attack Richmond. They landed southeast of Richmond.
- The Union troops were met by 15,000 Confederate forces.
- The Confederate forces retreated toward Richmond.
- As McClellan's army neared the capital, the Southerners turned and attacked.
- The North claimed victory, but both sides suffered heavy casualties.



VI. The South Attacks

A. The Battle of Antietam

1. The Confederate forces invaded the North.
2. The Union army learned of General Lee's strategy.
3. On September 17, 1862, the two armies met at Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland.
4. The Union forces had more than 75,000 troops, with nearly 25,000 in reserve. The Confederate forces numbered about 40,000.
5. By the day's end, the Union casualties numbered more than 12,000. The Confederate casualties were nearly 14,000, more than a third of the entire army.
6. The Battle of Antietam became the bloodiest day of the Civil War.

Section 2: Life Behind the Lines

- How did wartime politics affect the Confederate and Union governments?
- How did the Emancipation Proclamation affect both the North and the South?
- What were the causes and effects of African Americans joining the Union army?
- What kinds of hardships befell the North and the South during the war?

I. Politics in the South

A. The Confederate Government

1. Had to persuade people to give up personal interests for the common good
2. Wanted to centralize economic decisions based on the war effort
3. Called for a draft, or required military service, of three years
4. Authorized the army to seize male slaves for military labor
5. Failed to gain recognition, or official acceptance as an independent nation

B. States' Rights Advocates

1. Resisted sacrificing personal interests
2. Claimed that a draft violated states' rights. Almost 25 percent of men eligible for the draft refused
3. Resented the borrowing of slaves for the army because it disrupted work on their plantations, even though they received a monthly fee

II. Politics in the North

A. The Union Government

1. Shut down opposition newspapers
2. Prevented Maryland's secession by arresting all disloyal members of the legislature
3. Put Kentucky under martial law to prevent its secession. Martial law is an emergency rule during which some guarantees under the Bill of Rights are suspended.
4. Suspended the writ of habeas corpus, which protects people from unlawful imprisonment, to ensure loyalty to the Union
5. Created a national currency, called greenbacks. This paper money was not backed by gold, but it was declared to be acceptable as legal payment.

III. Emancipation and the War

- A. On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln issued the final Emancipation Proclamation.
- B. The Emancipation Proclamation freed all of the slaves in states under Confederate control.
- C. Although the proclamation did not bring an immediate end to slavery, it promised that enslaved people would be free when the North won the war.
- D. The most significant reaction to the proclamation came from Europe. Europeans felt very strongly about ending slavery and the Emancipation Proclamation ended any chance that France and Great Britain would aid the Confederates.

IV. African Americans Join the War

- A. Early in the war, General Butler said that slaves captured by the Union army were contraband, property of one side seized by the other. If, as the Southerners claimed, slaves were property, then the Union could consider them contraband, take ownership, and give them their freedom.
- B. Congress authorized Lincoln to accept African Americans into the military after McClellan's defeat in Virginia.
- C. By 1865, nearly 180,000 African Americans had enlisted in the Union army.
- D. Many African Americans viewed the chance to fight against slavery as a milestone in their history.

V. The Hardships of War

A. The Northern Economy

1. Northern farms and factories produced almost all of the goods needed by the army and civilian populations.
2. Women filled critical jobs in factories and on farms.
3. Profiteers paid women lower wages than male workers and sold inferior products at inflated prices.

B. The Southern Economy

1. Many planters refused to grow food instead of cotton.
2. Due to the Union blockade, cotton piled up in warehouses while food riots erupted in Southern cities.
3. Even though production increased, the South was never able to provide all the goods its army needed.
4. Labor shortages and a lack of goods contributed to inflation.
5. Women filled many of the factory jobs.

VI. The Hardships of War

A. Medical Care

1. Approximately 25 percent of Civil War soldiers did not survive the war. Disease killed many of them.
2. Poor nutrition and contaminated foods led to dysentery and typhoid fever. Malaria and pneumonia were also killers.
3. A Union soldier was three times more likely to die in camp or in a hospital than he was to be killed on the battlefield.
4. Some 4,000 women served as nurses for the Union army. By the end of the war, nursing was no longer only a man's profession.
5. Sanitation was non-existent. Rotting food and garbage littered the ground. Human and animal waste polluted water supplies.

Section 3: The Tide of War Turns

- What was the importance of Lee's victories at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville?
- How did the Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg turn the tide of the war?
- Why was 1863 a pivotal year?
- What is the message of the Gettysburg Address?

I. Major Battles of 1863

Battle	Union Officer	Confederate Officer	Victor/ Why
Fredericksburg	Burnside	Lee	South/Burnside crossed right in front of Lee's army; kept charging into gunfire.
Chancellorsville	Hooker	Lee/Jackson	South/Lee split his army and sent Jackson around to attack; surprised Hooker; Jackson died after the battle.
Gettysburg	Hooker	Lee/Longstreet/Pickett	North/General Pickett charged the Union unsuccessfully. Confederates lost more than a third of their troops.
Vicksburg	Grant	Pemberton	North/Union army laid siege to Vicksburg. Confederate army surrendered.

II. War in the West-Map

III. The Importance of 1863

A. On July 4, 1863:

1. 30,000 Confederate troops defending Vicksburg laid down their arms and surrendered.
2. Former slaves celebrated Independence Day for the first time.
3. Four days later, the Mississippi River was in the hands of the Union army, effectively cutting the Confederacy in two.

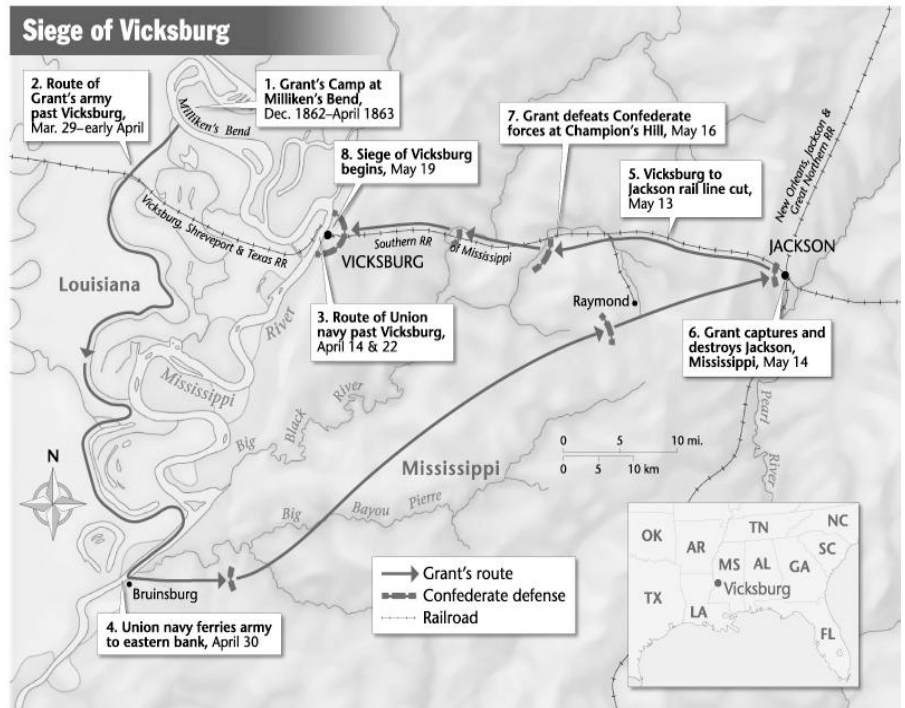
IV. The Gettysburg Address

A. On November 19, 1863, some 15,000 people gathered at Gettysburg to honor the Union soldiers who had died there just four months before.

B. President Lincoln delivered a two-minute speech which became known as the Gettysburg Address.

C. He reminded people that the Civil War was being fought to preserve a country that upheld the principles of freedom, equality, and self-government.

D. The Gettysburg Address has become one of the best-loved and most-quoted speeches in the English language. It expresses grief at the terrible cost of war and the importance of preserving the Union.



Section 4: Devastation and New Freedom

- What was General Grant’s strategy for defeating the South, and how did he and General Sherman implement it?
- What were the issues and results of the election of 1864?
- How was the South finally defeated on the battlefield?
- How and why did John Wilkes Booth assassinate President Lincoln?

I. Grant Takes Command

A. The Battles

1. In an effort to exhaust the Confederate troops, General Grant headed toward Richmond with some 115,000 troops.
2. In May and June of 1864, the Union and Confederate armies clashed in three major battles:
 - i. The Battle of the Wilderness began on May 5, 1864. The armies met in a dense forest in a battle that lasted two days.
 - ii. May 8, 1864, the Confederates caught up with the Union army near Spotsylvania Court House. The fighting that took place over nearly two weeks is called the Battle of Spotsylvania.
 - iii. In early June, the armies clashed again at the Battle of Cold Harbor, just eight miles from Richmond.

II. The Siege of Petersburg

- A. Unable to reach Richmond or defeat Lee’s army, Grant moved around the capital and attacked Petersburg.
- B. He knew that if he could cut off shipments of food to Richmond, the city would have to surrender.
- C. The attack on Petersburg failed, and Grant’s army suffered some 65,000 casualties.
- D. Grant then turned to the tactic of siege that he had used in Vicksburg. On June 18, 1864, Grant began the siege of Petersburg.

III. Sherman Marches to the Sea

- A. In early September, the Confederate army was forced to leave Atlanta.
- B. General Sherman vowed to “make Georgia howl.” Sherman ordered Atlanta evacuated and burned. He left the city in ruins.
- C. He led some 62,000 soldiers on a march to the sea to capture Savannah.
- D. On December 21, 1864, the Union army entered Savannah without a fight.
- E. Sherman’s message to Lincoln read: “I beg to present you, as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah.”

IV. The Election of 1864

A. Abraham Lincoln

1. Republicans changed their party name to the Union Party.
2. Dropped Vice President Hannibal Hamlin from the ticket.
3. Replaced Hamlin with Andrew Johnson of Tennessee. Johnson was a Democrat and a pro-Union Southerner.
4. Sherman’s capture of Atlanta showed the North that victory was near.
5. In November, Lincoln won an easy victory.

B. George McClellan

1. Democrats nominated General George McClellan.
2. McClellan was happy to oppose Lincoln, who had twice fired him.
3. McClellan was still admired and respected by his soldiers.
4. Lincoln feared that McClellan would find wide support among the troops.
5. McClellan promised that if elected he would negotiate an end to the war.

V. A New Birth of Freedom

- A. The Thirteenth Amendment was ratified by the states and became law in December 1865.

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except

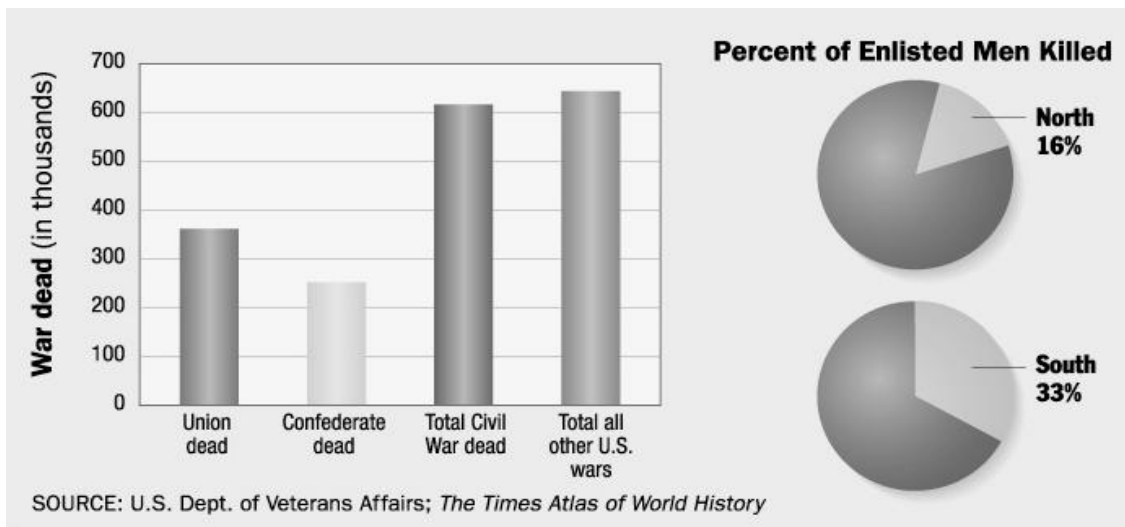
as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

- B. Lincoln noted in his Second Inaugural Address that slavery had divided the nation, but he also laid the groundwork to “bind up the nation’s wounds.”

VI. Surrender at Appomattox

- A. On April 2, 1865, Lee tried to slip around Grant’s army. He planned to unite his troops with those of General Johnston. Lee hoped that together they would be able to continue the war.
- B. On April 9, 1865, Lee’s forces came to the Virginia town of Appomattox Court House. They were surrounded by a much larger Union force.
- C. Lee’s officers suggested that the army could scatter and continue to fight as guerrillas—soldiers who use surprise raids and hit-and-run tactics. Lee rejected this idea.
- D. That afternoon Generals Lee and Grant met in a private home. Lee surrendered, and the two men signed the surrender papers.

VII. Civil War Deaths



VIII. Lincoln Is Assassinated

- A. Abraham Lincoln did not live to see the official end of the war.
- B. Throughout the winter of 1864–1865, a group of Southern conspirators in Washington, D.C., had plotted to kidnap Lincoln and exchange him for Confederate prisoners of war.
- C. After several unsuccessful attempts, their leader, John Wilkes Booth, assigned members of his group to assassinate top Union officials.
- D. On April 14, 1865, Booth shot President Lincoln while he was watching a play at Ford's Theater.
- E. Booth was shot to death after he had fled from the theater and was found hiding in a tobacco barn.
- F. Lincoln's funeral train took 14 days to travel from Washington, D.C., to his hometown of Springfield, Illinois.