

The Civil War (1861-1865)

A Presentation based on the
Georgia Standards of Excellence
(GSE) Objectives for High School
History Students

About the Civil War

- The Civil War is also known as “The War Between The States”
- Sides:

The United States of America (*also known as the USA, the Union, the North, the Yankees, the Federals, or the Blue*)

The Confederate States of America (*also known as the Confederacy, the CSA, the South, the Rebels, or the Gray*)

A nickname for Union soldiers is “Billy Yank”; for Southern soldiers it’s “Johnny Reb”

The 11 States of the CSA

- Alabama
- Florida
- Georgia
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Arkansas
- North Carolina
- Tennessee
- Virginia

The 20 States of the Union

- California
- Connecticut
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Nevada (1864)
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Wisconsin

The 5 Border States of the Union

- Delaware (slave state that did not secede)
- Kentucky (slave state that did not secede)
- Maryland (slave state that did not secede)
- Missouri (slave state that did not secede)
- West Virginia (part of Virginia until 1863)

SSUSH9 Evaluate key events, issues, and individuals related to the Civil War.



The Civil War (1861-1865)

Events leading to the start of the Civil War:

- tensions increased between the North and the South over slavery and other sectional issues
- Lincoln won the 1860 Presidential election
- Reacting to Lincoln's election, South Carolina seceded from the Union in December 1860
- The first battle began on April 12, 1861 at Fort Sumter (Charleston, South Carolina)
- By June 1861, a total of 11 Southern states had seceded and formed the Confederate States of America



SSUSH9a. Explain the importance of the growing economic disparity between the North and the South through an examination of population, functioning railroads, and industrial output.

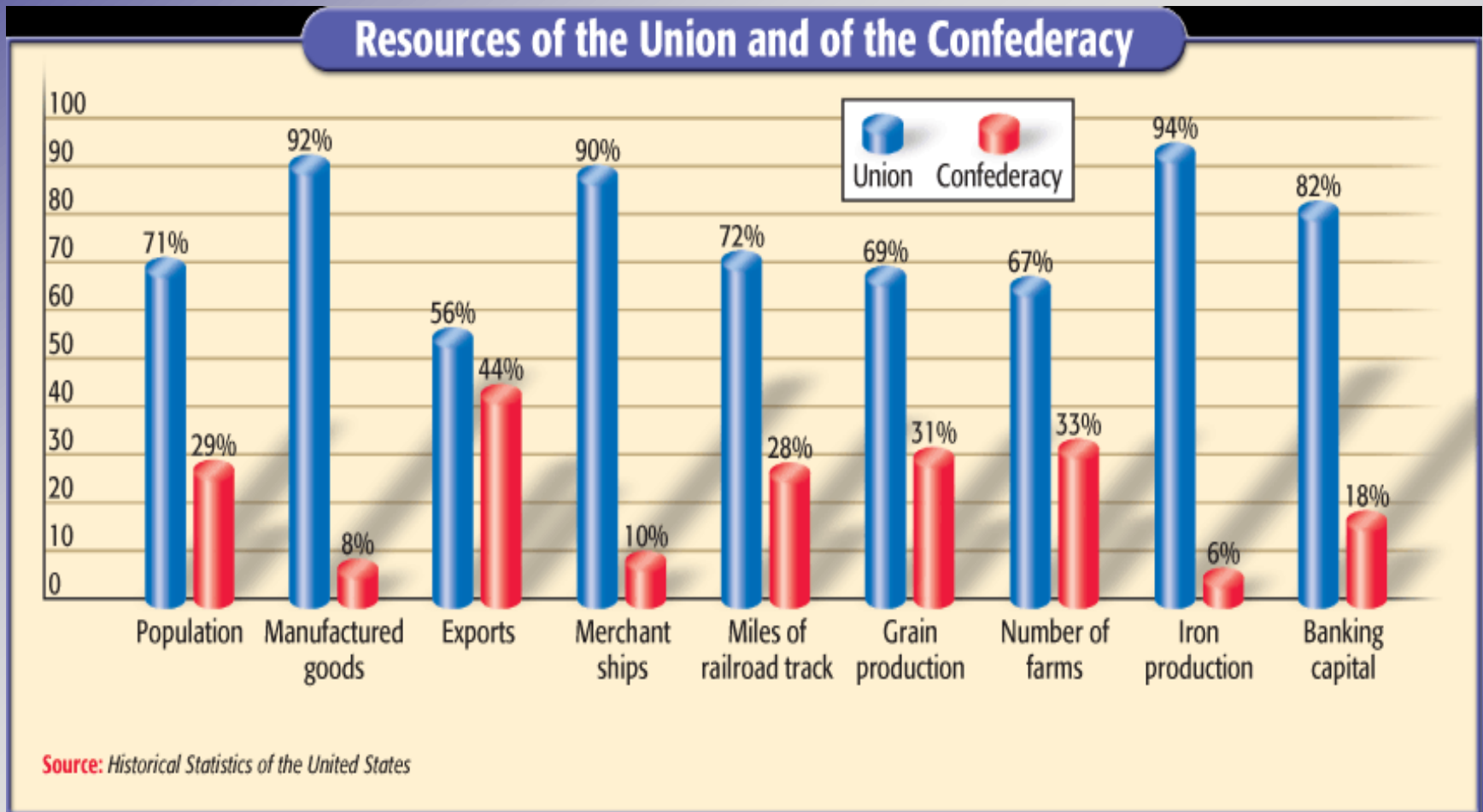


A Comparison of Selected Resources: North and South ca. 1861

	North	South
Population:	22 million	9 million (6 M. free/3 M. slaves)
Share of all factories in Nation:	80%	20%
Railroad lines*	21,005 mi.	9,512 mi.

* <http://facweb.furman.edu/~benson/docs/rr5060.htm>

Northern and Southern Resources



Advantages of the Union

1. **Greater population:**
22 million in North Vs. 9 million in South
2. **Greater natural resources:**
(e.g., iron, food crops, capital, etc.)
3. **Greater Manufacturing capability,**
esp. for armaments (weapons) and ammunition
4. **Better trained and equipped navy**
5. **Better railroad transportation to supply forces**
6. **Strong central government, esp. compared to South's commitment to states' rights**
7. **Better financial situation**
 - tariff income
 - greater gold and silver reserves
 - successful bond issues
 - lower inflation rate (80% in North Vs. 9000% in the South)

Advantages of the Confederacy (The South)

- 1. More trained military officers than the North**
- 2. Most of the fighting was on familiar territory (“home turf”)**

Military Strategies

- Many Northerners, at first, thought the war would be brief. However, after the first major battle (Bull Run, July 1861), it became clear that the war would be lengthy and costly
- Ultimately, the strategies chosen by each side were to a large extent dictated by economic and financial circumstances

The Northern Strategy

- The original Union strategy, developed chiefly by General Winfield Scott, was a multi-tiered strategy called the **Anaconda Plan**, which was to isolate and choke the South by cutting off resources (esp. supplies, food, & money). They sought to achieve this with:
 1. a blockade of Southern ports preventing European trade for income or supplies, and
 2. a division of the Confederacy along the Mississippi River, leading to a shut down of internal transportation in the South, esp. railroads and shipping.
- Eventually the North achieved these aims, but the strategy evolved into one of **total war**, wherein the North not only aggressively pursued military interests, but civilian and economic ones, preventing the South from using them to aid their war effort.

The Southern Strategy

- A *defensive war of attrition* (like Revolutionary War) to compensate for smaller army & supplies
- Intended to:
 - pick their battles carefully
 - avoid large battles
 - attack or retreat when advantageous
 - wear out the other side and force a negotiated settlement

Notable Military Tactics & Technologies

The Civil War has been called **the first “modern” war**, partly because of the following new technologies:

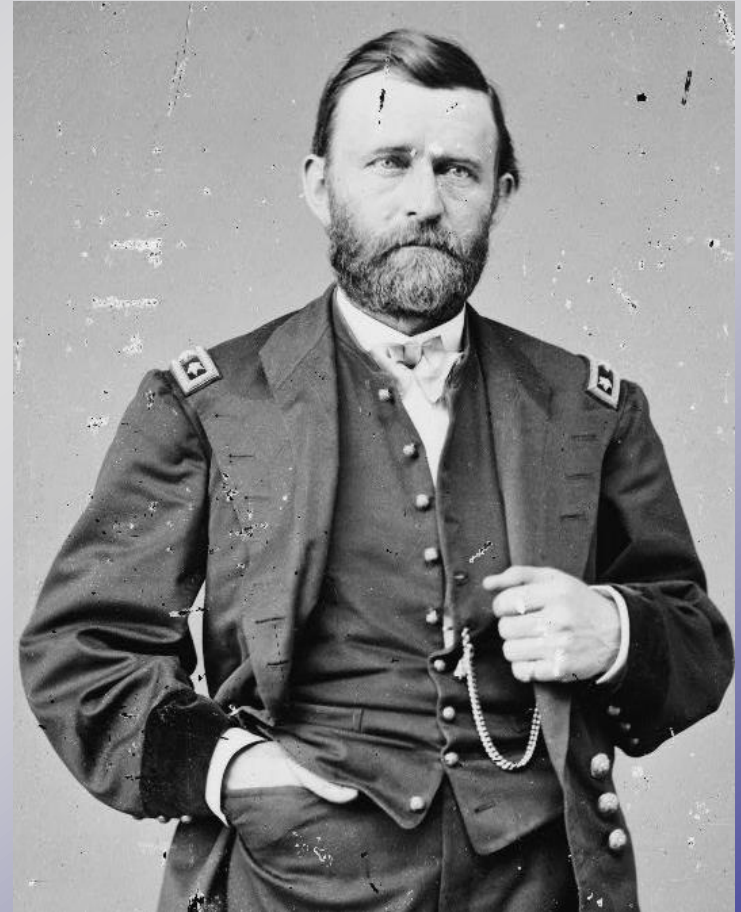
- tight columnar assaults
- trench warfare
- repeating rifles & Minie balls (accurate conoidal bullets)
- Gatling guns
- photography
- submarines and torpedoes (mines)
- balloons
- telegraphs and locomotives

SSUSH9c. Examine influences of Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, William T. Sherman, and Jefferson Davis.

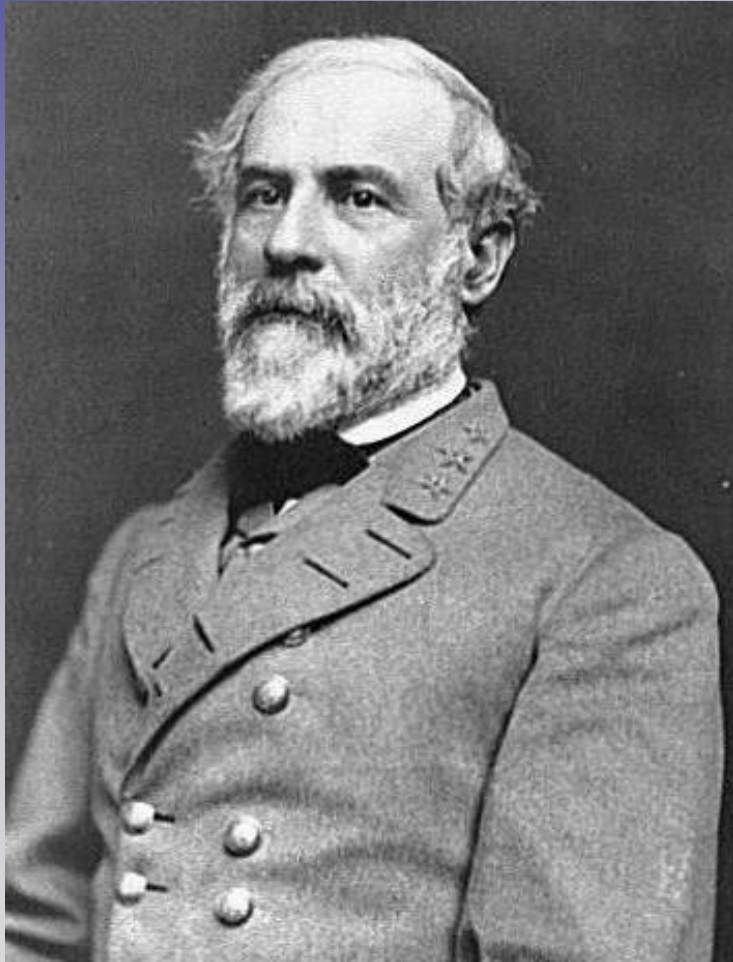


Ulysses S. Grant (Union-North)

- Had early success fighting in the west (TN, LA, MS)
- Captured Vicksburg, MS giving the Union control of the Mississippi River
- Lincoln promoted him to commander of the entire Union Army in 1864
- Fights Lee in a series of battles ending in Lee's surrender at Appomattox in 1865



Robert E. Lee (Confederacy-South)

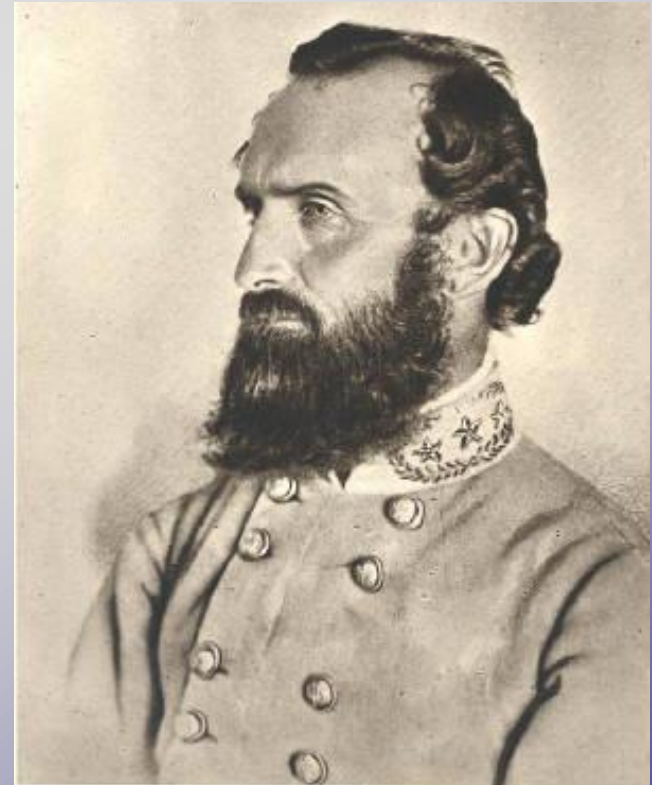


- Resigned from the US Army to fight for the Confederacy: was against slavery but didn't want to fight against the South
- Named commander of the Army of Northern Virginia in 1862
- Lee invaded Maryland (1862) and lost a major battle at Antietam, forcing him to retreat back into Virginia
- After two major victories against the Union, Lee again decided to invade the North, this time into Gettysburg (PA) where he lost a 3 day battle to the Union: after the loss, Confederate forces had to remain on the defensive for the rest of the war

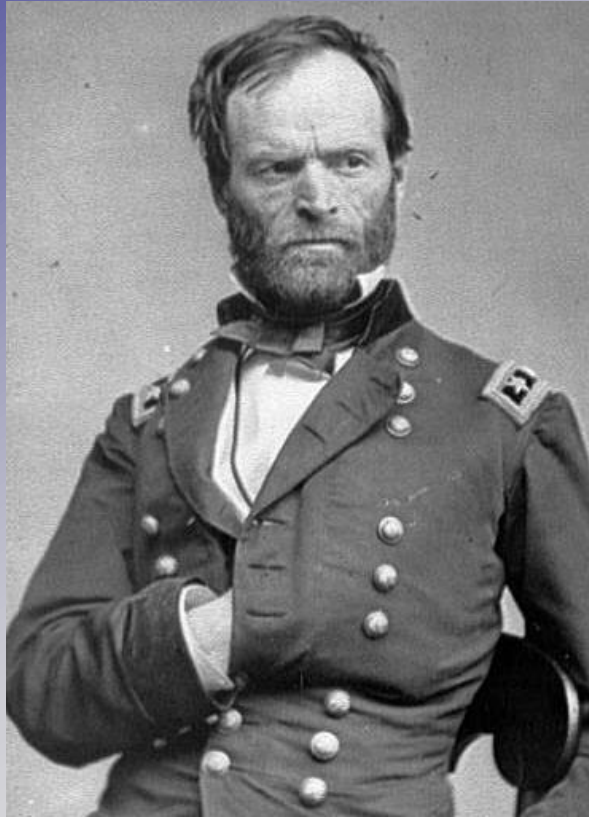
Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson

(Confederacy-South)

- Played a major role in defeating the Union Army at the first major battle of the war (Bull Run-1861), the loss at Bull Run made the Union realize that it would be a prolonged war
- Fought with Lee at Antietam
- Helped defeat the Union Army at Fredericksburg (1862) and Chancellorsville (1863)
- Was accidentally shot at night by his own men at Chancellorsville and died 8 days later



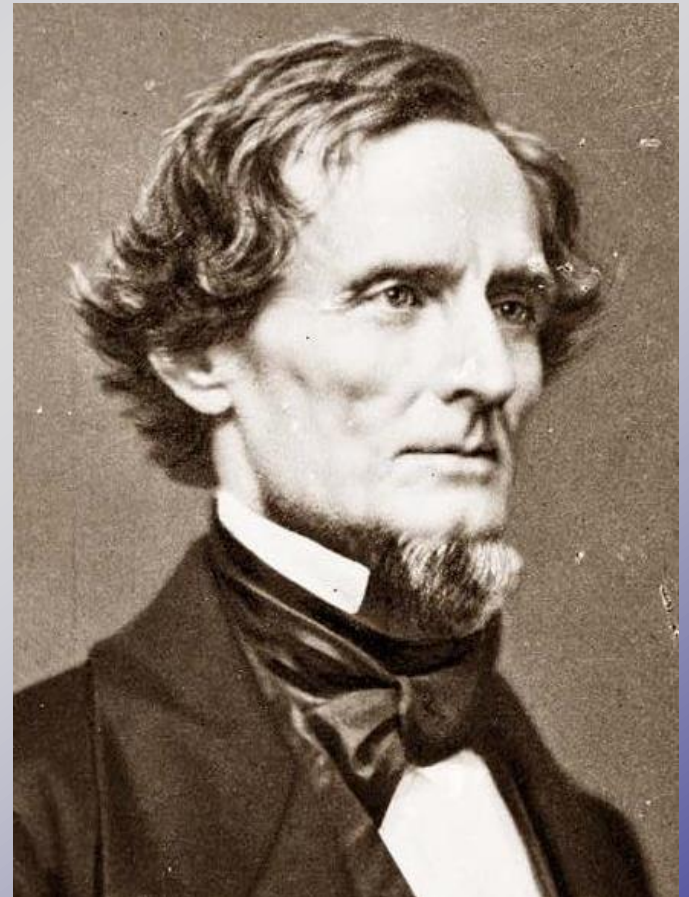
William T. Sherman (Union-North)



- Fought with Grant at Vicksburg
- Named Union Commander of the West (1864)
- Attacked and destroyed the city of Atlanta, a major southern railroad center, in the fall of 1864
- The victory secured the political support that helped Lincoln win reelection in 1864.
- After Atlanta, Sherman and his troops continued on with his “March to the Sea”

Jefferson Davis (Confederacy-South)

- Was the first and only President of the Confederate States of America (1861-1865)
- Appointed Robert E. Lee commander of Army of Northern Virginia in 1862
- Davis was captured in 1865 by Union forces in Georgia as he tried to make his way toward Mississippi

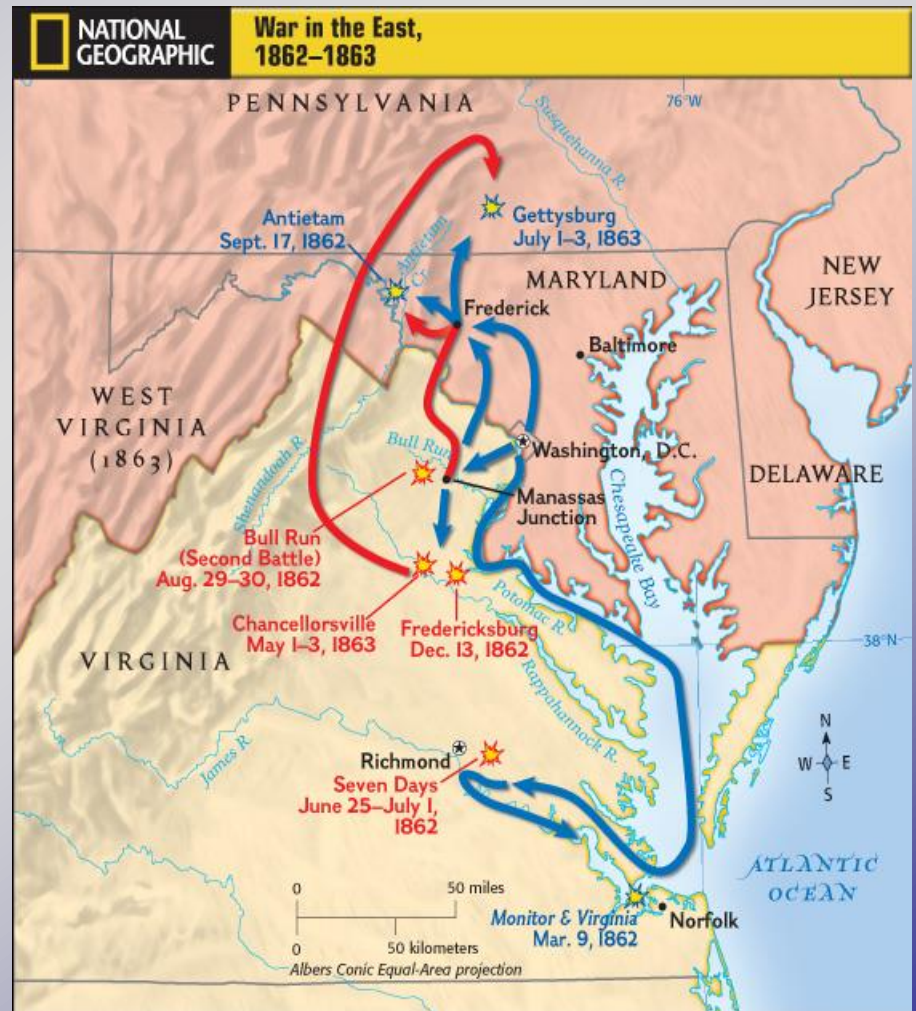


SSUSH9d. Explain importance of Fort Sumter, Antietam, Vicksburg, Gettysburg, and Atlanta, and the impact of geography on these battles.

SSUSH9 e. Describe the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation.



Major Battles of the Civil War



Major Battles, Campaigns and Events: 1861

- **Ft. Sumter (C)**
- **Manassas /1st Bull Run (C) (indicated war w/not be short)**
- **Grant's armies to KY & MO (U)**
- **Northern blockade of the South's Atlantic ports (U)**

Key: (C) = Confederate victory or accomplishment; (U) = Union victory or accomplishment; (D) = battle to a draw

Fort Sumter, Charleston, SC

- The first battle of the Civil War began on April 12, 1861 at Fort Sumter.
- Fort Sumter, a Union **fort in Charleston Harbor**, was surrounded and cut off from supplies after South Carolina seceded in December 1860.
- The Union refused to surrender the fort, and in April 1861 Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, ordered Southern troops to bombard the fort.
- The battle began on April 12 and ended when union forces surrendered 33 hours later.



Major Battles, Campaigns and Events: 1862

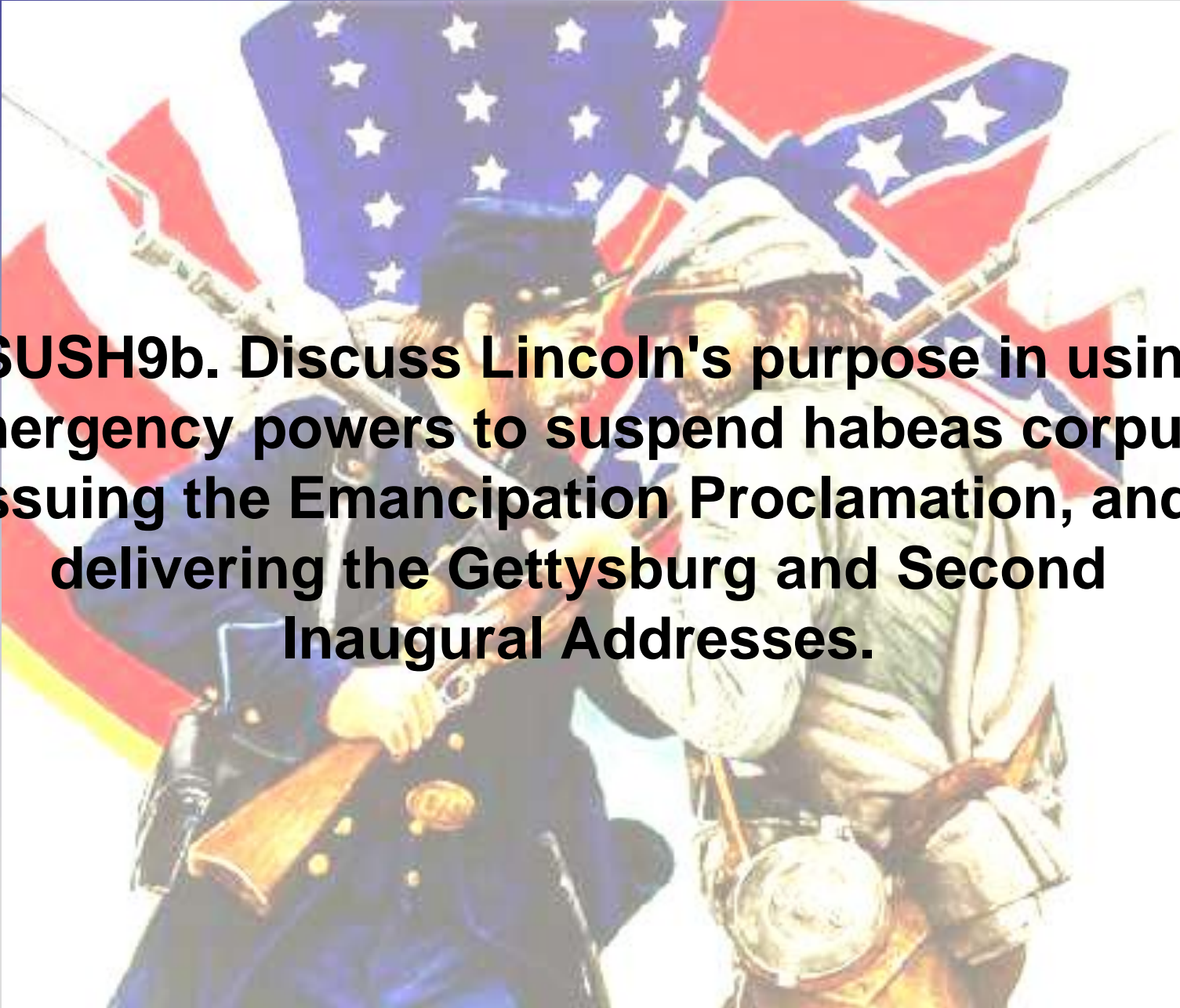
- **Farragut's naval forces capture New Orleans (U)**
- **Shiloh (April 6-7): >20K casualties (U)**
- **Murfreesboro (U)**
- **Seven Days' Battle (D)**
- **2nd Bull Run (C)**
- **Antietam/Sharpsburg (U)**
- **Nation-wide suspension of habeas corpus**
- **British decline to support South**

Antietam (Sharpsburg): September 17, 1862

- Lee marched into the border state of Maryland hoping that a Southern victory would convince Maryland to secede or the North to settle for peace, or Britain to support the CSA. Lee also hoped to find food for his soldiers.
- The two armies fought at Antietam, which became **the bloodiest one-day battle in American history** (6,000 dead, 16,000 wounded)
- Lee was forced to retreat back into Virginia.
- This Union victory also led Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation.



What might have happened if Lee defeated the Union Army at Antietam?



SSUSH9b. Discuss Lincoln's purpose in using emergency powers to suspend habeas corpus, issuing the Emancipation Proclamation, and delivering the Gettysburg and Second Inaugural Addresses.

Lincoln suspends *habeas corpus*, 1861-1862

- Writs of habeas corpus are people's rights not to be imprisoned unless charged with a crime and given a trial
- Lincoln suspended these rights in an effort to stop anyone from supporting the Confederate cause and to prevent those who encouraged others to resist the draft (conscription)
- The suspension of habeas corpus was the result of draft riots in many Northern cities.
- The suspension in 1861 applied only to Maryland and parts of the Midwest; in 1862 he issued a nation-wide suspension



Major Battles, Campaigns and Events: 1863

- **Emancipation Proclamation takes effect**
- **Siege of Vicksburg (July) (U)**
- **Battle of Gettysburg (July) (U)**
- **Tide turns in North's favor**
- **Gettysburg Address**
- **Grant takes Chattanooga (U)**

The Emancipation Proclamation

- Lincoln, amid growing war casualties, used the Union victory at Antietam to issue the Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862.
- The Proclamation, which officially went into effect on January 1, 1863:
 - freed only those slaves in the states in rebellion
 - did not free slaves in the border states (DE, MD, KY, MO)
 - gave the Union Army another reason to fight: the liberation of slaves.

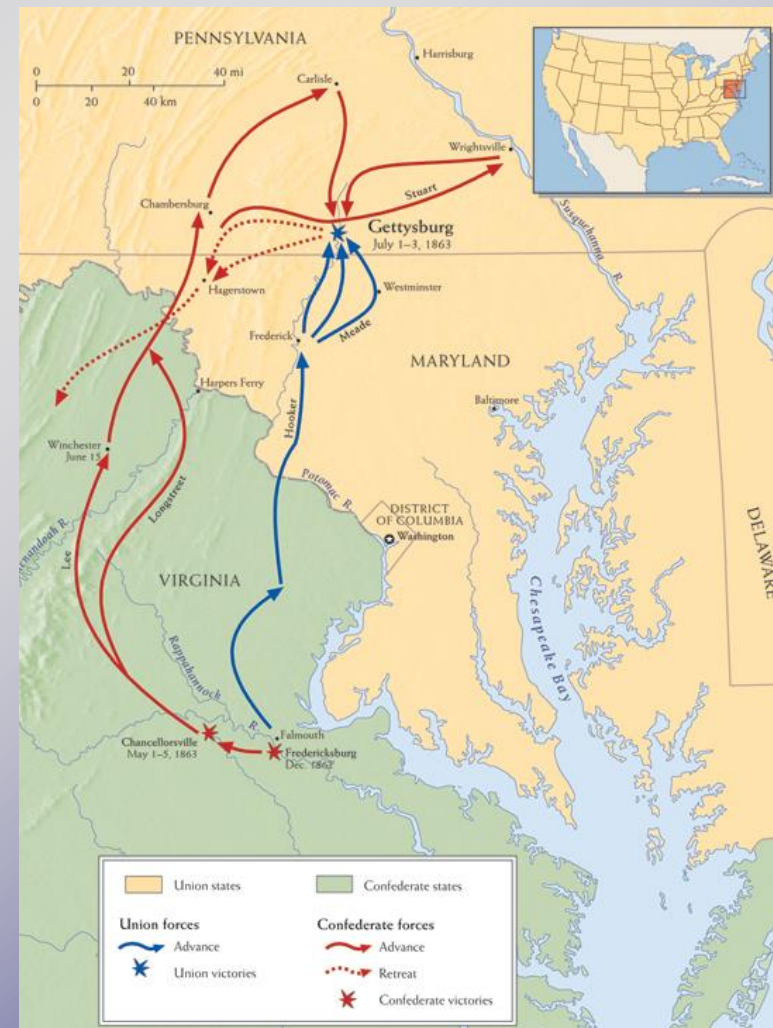
- Which slave states were unaffected by the Proclamation?
- Why did Lincoln plan this?



Gettysburg (PA): July 1st - 3rd 1863

- Lee again decided to invade the North in hopes that the North would settle for peace.
- “The small town of Gettysburg is surrounded by steep hills and rugged terrain. Once the Union forces secured the high ground, it was difficult for the Confederates to overpower the enemy.”
--from “GSE Teacher Notes”

Which state did Lee invade the first time he attacked the North? What were the results?





Pickett's Charge from a position on the Confederate line looking toward the Union lines, Ziegler's Grove on the left, clump of trees on right, painting by Edwin Forbes

Gettysburg (PA): July 1st-3rd 1863

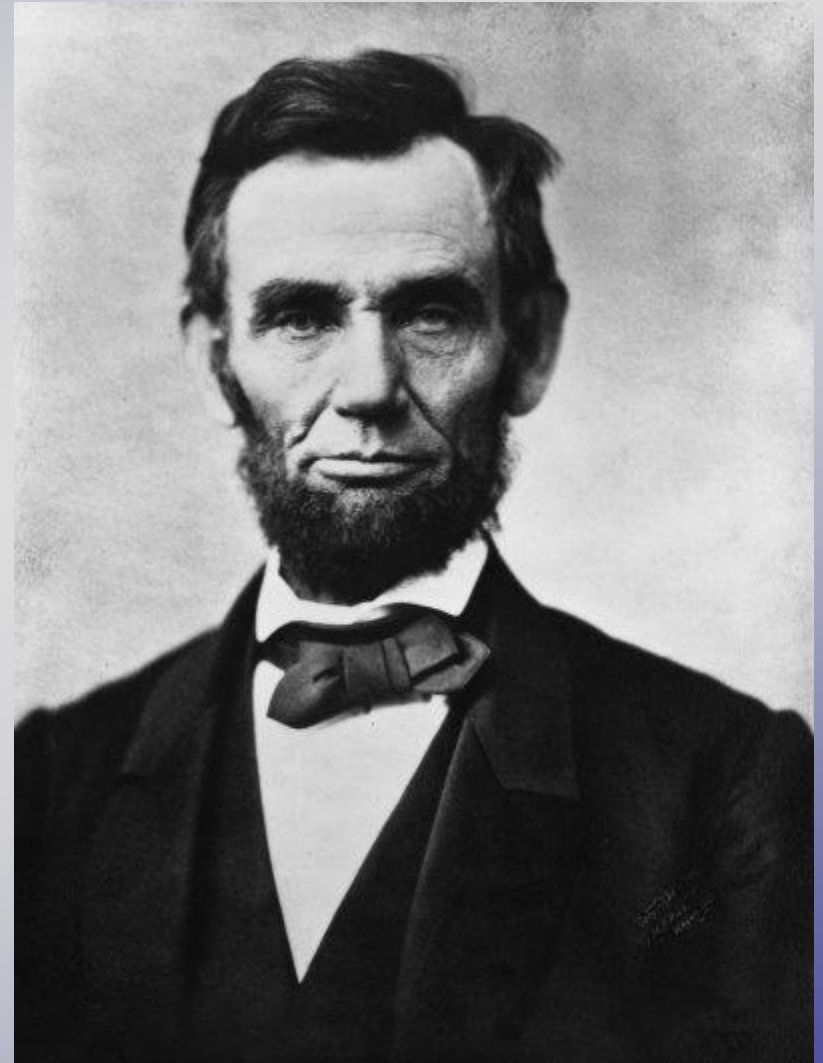
- On July 3rd, Lee ordered an attack, known as “Pickett’s Charge” on the Union forces.
- The South lost 7,000 men in under 30 minutes of fighting.
- Lee retreated from the battlefield on July 4th, having lost 1/3 of his entire fighting force.
- This loss forced the South to fight a defensive war and strengthened the will of the North to continue the fight.

Why do you think
Gettysburg is considered
the turning point of the war?



Gettysburg Address

- In November 1863, Lincoln gave his now famous speech at Gettysburg to dedicate the Gettysburg National Cemetery
- Lincoln used the speech to redefine the purpose of fighting the war: the reunification of the Union
- Hear it online at <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/gettysburgaddress.htm>



Lincoln's Gettysburg Address (November 1863)

- See handout with text and review questions

Vicksburg (MS) July 4th 1863

- Vicksburg, located on a sharp bend in the Mississippi River, was the last major Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi by 1863.
- Grant launched a siege of the city in May 1863 cutting off it's food supply and placing it under constant bombardment.
- Confederate forces surrendered on July 4th 1863.
- Control of Vicksburg gave the Union complete control of the Mississippi River and cut the Confederacy into halves.

Which Confederate states were isolated from the rest of the South with the fall of Vicksburg?

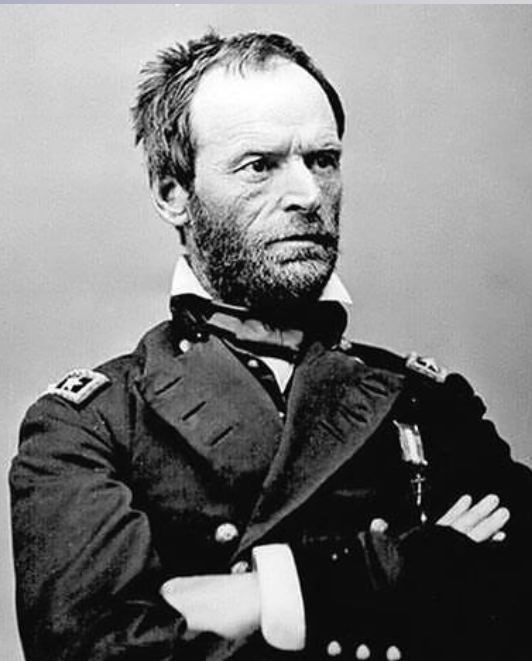


Major Battles, Campaigns and Events: 1864

- **Grant takes command of Union forces**
- **Battle of the Wilderness (VA) & Battle of Cold Harbor (C)**
- **Siege of Petersburg (U)**
- **Atlanta falls; Sherman's March to the Sea (U)**
- **Lincoln re-elected**

Battle for Atlanta: August 1864

- Sherman marched his army south towards **Atlanta**, a **major railroad and manufacturing center in the South**.
- He ordered all civilians out of the city and then took, burned or destroyed everything of military value. This was part of the Union's ***total war*** strategy.
- Atlanta was the beginning of Sherman's "March to the Sea" and helped the Republican Party gain strength.



Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address (March 1865)

- See handout with text and review questions

Major Battles, Campaigns and Events: 1865

- **Lee surrenders at Appomattox Courthouse, April 9, 1865 (U)**
- **Lincoln Assassinated, April 14, 1865**

Why the North Won

- **Greater resources**, esp. in population and manufacturing for the war effort.
- Early on, Lincoln refused to allow his military leaders the authority and flexibility they wanted. Despite early disagreements with his military leaders, Lincoln finally developed a **leadership team** or “**high command**” that effectively coordinated the efforts and greater resources of the Union.
- {more: see PHUSH and EB}

Legislation & Presidential Decrees Regarding Slavery, 1861-1870

- **Emancipation Proclamation (1863):** Presidential decree freeing all enslaved people in the seceded states only.
- **13th Amendment** (proposed and ratified in 1865): Banned slavery in the entire United States.
- **14th Amendment** (proposed in 1866; ratified 1868): Declared all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. to be citizens of the country and the state in which they resided, that life, liberty or property could not be taken from a citizen without due process, and no state could deny any citizen equal protection under the law.
- **15th Amendment** (proposed in 1869; ratified 1870): Declared the right to vote could not be denied to anyone based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude