

"I... am now quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land will never be purged away but with blood."
--John Brown, December 1859

"War is at best barbarism. Its glory is all moonshine. It is only those who have neither fired a shot, nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded who cry aloud for blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell."
--William T. Sherman, 1879

The Civil War

A. I Don't Think They're Ready for This Jelly

1. Union
 - a. Army
 - i. 16,000 men
 - ii. Scattered throughout country
 - iii. Most in West
 - b. One-third of officers resigned to join Confederacy
2. Confederacy
 - a. No tax structure
 - b. No navy
 - c. Two tiny gunpowder factories
 - d. Poor transportation infrastructure (i.e. railroads)

B. It Was Over Before It Started

1. Union
 - a. 23 states (more added during the war)
 - b. Population: 22 million, 4 million men of combat age
 - c. 100,000 factories employing 1.1 million workers
 - d. 20,000 miles of railroad (70% of US total)
 - e. 96% of all railroad equipment
 - f. Banks held:
 - i. \$189 million, 81% of nation's deposits
 - ii. \$56 million in gold
2. Confederacy
 - a. 11 states
 - b. Population: 9 million, including 3.5 million slaves, 1.2 million men of combat age
 - c. 20,000 factories employing 101,000 workers
 - d. 9,000 miles of railroad
 - e. Lacked equipment & factories to build railroads & weapons
 - f. Out-produced agriculturally as well except for cotton
 - g. Banks held:
 - i. \$47 million in deposits
 - ii. \$27 million in gold
3. Differences became major factors in the outcome of the war
 - a. Confederacy had difficulty moving and feeding its troops
 - b. Confederacy couldn't supplying troops with weapons and other necessities such as ammunition and boots

C. Theaters of Pain:

1. In the East (mostly Virginia)
 - a. The Virginia campaigns:
 - iii. struggle between the two capitals

- iv. Washington and Richmond
 - v. approximately 100 miles apart
 - b. The eastern theater pitted each side's strongest armies against one another.
 - i. Robert E. Lee led the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia
 - ii. long stream of Union generals commanded the Union Army of the Potomac
 - 2. In the West, the Union goal was to reopen the Mississippi River
- D. Hit Me With Your Best Shot – April 12, 1861
- 1. Fort Sumter, Federal Garrison in harbor of Charleston, SC
 - 2. SC militia commander Gen. Pierre G.T. Beauregard
 - 3. Fort's commander surrender
 - 4. Lincoln:
 - a. declares a state of "insurrection"
 - b. calls for 75,000 volunteers 3 months' service
 - 5. VA secedes – April 17, 1861
 - 6. Lincoln sees Stars & Bars flying across Potomac in Arlington, VA
 - 7. Richmond is 100 miles from DC
- E. You Ain't Got No Alibi – Plug Uglies
- 1. 6th MA Militia rushes to defend DC
 - 2. Led by Benjamin Butler
 - 3. As passes through Baltimore on April 19 taunted
 - 4. Pro-secessionist plug-uglies
 - 5. Plug-Uglies throw bricks, rocks, stones
 - 6. militia fires on them
 - 7. MD threatens secession – so what?
 - 8. Lincoln issues limited suspension of writ of habeas corpus
 - 9. Mayor, police chief, 9 members of legislature in MD arrested
 - 10. 13,000 Americans arrested during war – mostly Democrats
 - 11. Chief Justice Taney
 - a. issued writ for John Merryman
 - b. says Lincoln broke law
- F. Take Me to Your Leader
- 1. Gen Winfield Scott
 - a. 75 years old
 - b. arthritic
 - c. overweight
 - d. commander of US Army
 - e. suggests Robert E. Lee to Lincoln
 - 2. Robert E. Lee resigns US Army commission – April 20, 1861
 - 3. Assumes commission in Confederate Army
 - 4. Many battle-tested generals join Confederacy
 - 5. Union army now led by political appointees
- G. The Anaconda Plan - It's Not Just a Bad Movie with J Lo & Ice Cube
- 1. Developed by Winfield Scott
 - 2. complete blockade of Atlantic & Gulf
 - 3. 80,000 men & gun boats down Miss. River
 - 4. envelope insurgent states
 - 5. economic strangulation

6. most favored a grander, more romantic notion of war
7. becomes basis for ultimate econ. & military defeat of Confederacy
8. Blockade cripples the Confederacy:
9. Inflation: Salt: \$2/bag - \$60/bag in 1862

H. Let's Get Ready to Rumble – 1861

1. The First Battle of Bull Run - July 21, 1861
 - a. Manassas, Virginia
 - b. first important encounter in the East
 - c. Confederate Generals:
 - i. Thomas J. Jackson – “Stonewall”
 - ii. Pierre Beauregard
 - d. won by the Confederates
 - e. established the immense scale of the conflict
 - f. shocked by casualty rates & the fierceness of fighting
 - g. insured that the Civil War would be more brutal than anything America had ever witnessed
2. Union realizes will not be “90 day” war
3. to pay for war, Congress passes first income tax law
4. enlistment periods increase from 3 months to 2 years
5. Wilson’s Creek, MO – Aug 10-30
 - a. Union defeated
 - b. Gen. Fremont
 - i. withdraws, surrendering much of MO
 - ii. declares martial law
 - iii. announces slaves of secessionists free
 - c. Lincoln removes him from command
6. Battle of Ball’s Bluff (VA) – Oct 21
 - a. Union routed
 - b. 1,900 Union troops killed
 - c. Confederate ambush
 - d. destroyed an ill-planned Union reconnaissance patrol
 - e. Radical Republicans took advantage of the fiasco to attack Lincoln's "softness" towards the Confederates
7. Lincoln forces Scott to resign
8. George B. McClellan now general-in-chief
9. The Trent Affair – Oct 11
 - a. Would Queen Victoria’s GB recognize the Confederacy?
 - b. England manufacturers needed cotton – blockade hurt them
 - c. British shipbuilders built blockade runners to deliver & return goods from the South
 - d. James Mason & John Slidell to London & Paris
 - e. Get on the Trent (UK mail ship) in Havana
 - f. Captain Charles Wilkes meets Trent in Int’l waters fires 2 shots at bow & boards
 - g. Demands surrender of M & S, takes them to Boston & jails them
 - h. UK outraged demanded their release – or else war
 - i. 8,000 soldiers sent to Canada
 - j. On Jan 1, 1862 – Lincoln releases them to British

I. Round 2 – 1862

1. General War Order No. 1
 - a. Called for Union offensive

- b. McClellan ignored the order
- 2. Union offensive in the West
 - a. Gen Ulysses S. Grant
 - b. Campaign in Mississippi Valley
 - c. Captures Fort Henry on Tennessee River – Feb 6
 - d. Captures Fort Donelson near Nashville – Feb 16
 - e. Demanded "unconditional and immediate surrender"
 - f. Led to the largest surrender to date on the North American continent: 15,000 Confederate soldiers were captured
- 3. Battle of the Ironclads
 - a. USS Monitor v. Virginia (USS Merrimac)
 - b. Off Hampton Roads, VA
 - c. Battle inconclusive
 - d. Virginia scuttled to prevent capture
- 4. Henry Halleck made general-in-chief by Lincoln
- 5. McClellan made head of Army of Potomac
 - a. begins Peninsular Campaign – April 4
 - b. aimed at Richmond
 - c. Stonewall Jackson ties up Union troops for 2 months
- 6. Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburg Landing, TN) – April 6 & 7
 - a. Gen Albert S. Johnston (C) attack Grant's army
 - b. Union nearly defeated
 - c. Reinforcements arrive
 - d. Drive off Confed Army
 - e. 2 day losses are staggering:
 - i. 13,000 Union troops
 - ii. 11,000 Confed soldiers
 - iii. together more than total lost in Rev, 1812 & Mex combined
- 7. McClellan takes Yorktown & Williamsburg
- 8. McClellan waits for reinforcements instead of pressing on
- 9. Seven Days' Battles – June 26 – July 2
 - a. Lee attacks McClellan
 - b. Drives him from Richmond
 - c. Peninsular Campaign ended
- 10. Battle of Cedar Mountain (VA) – Aug 9
 - a. Stonewall Jackson
 - b. Union defeated
- 11. Second Battle of Bull Run – Aug 30
 - a. Confed Gens: Lee, Jackson & James Longstreet
 - b. Union Gen John Pope
 - c. Union troops evacuate all the way to DC
 - d. In less than 2 months Lee pushed 2 armies twice his size from Richmond back to DC
 - e. Pope is sacked & McClellan reinstated
- 12. Battle of Antietam – Sept 17
 - a. Sharpsburg, MD
 - b. Single bloodiest day of the war (& US History)
 - c. Lee takes offensive
 - d. Copy of Lee's orders fall into Union hands
 - e. McClellan's forces meet Lee's advancing army
 - f. Dead & wounded exceed 26,000
 - g. Lee pulls back
 - h. McClellan fails to pursue retreating Confed army

- i. Crucial Turning Point:
 - i. Lee's offensive stalled
 - ii. Less likely to get European recognition of Confederacy
- 13. The Emancipation Proclamation – Sept 22
 - a. Lincoln issues from a position of strength
 - b. Due to victory at Antietam
 - c. Published in Northern papers next day
 - d. Dry, legislative document
 - e. All slaves in non-rebelling areas are free
 - f. It is up to Congress to address universal emancipation
 - g. Doesn't free a single slave
 - h. Changes character & course of the war
 - i. Confirms southern beliefs about Lincoln
 - j. Seen as incitement for slave rebellion
 - k. Stiffens Southern Resolve
 - l. GB & FR resolve to not recognize Confederacy
 - m. Makes war less popular in the North
 - n. Forces passage of Conscription Act of 1863
 - i. All men b/t 20 & 45
 - ii. Can pay substitute
 - iii. Leads to later violence
 - o. Proclamation signed Jan 1, 1863
- 14. McClellan replaced as head of AoP by Ambrose Burnside – Nov 5
 - a. Disastrous move
 - b. Burnside had early amphibious success on NC coast
 - c. Even Burnside felt he was in over his head
- 15. Battle of Fredericksburg (VA) – Dec 13
 - a. Overwhelming numerical advantage for Union
 - b. Burnside routed by Lee
 - c. 12,000 Union losses
 - d. 5,000 Confederate losses
 - e. At the time, worst defeat in US history

J. The Tide is Turning – 1863

- 1. General Joseph Hooker replaces Burnside
- 2. SoWar authorizes MA Governor to recruit black troops
 - a. 1792 law barred blacks from army
 - b. 54th MA Volunteers
 - c. 185,000 black soldiers in Union army, 166 all-black regiments
 - d. Nearly 70,000 came from LA, KY & TN
 - e. 16 receive Medal of Honor
 - f. Navy: 1 in 4 sailors is black, 4 receive Medal of Honor
- 3. Battle of Chancellorsville (VA) – May 2-4
 - a. Losses for both = 10,000 men
 - b. Lee defeats Hooker
 - c. Stonewall Jackson mistakenly shot & dies of pneumonia
- 4. Battle of Jackson (MS) – May 14
- 5. Siege at Vicksburg (MS) – May 22
 - a. Gen's Grant & Sherman begin long siege
 - b. Citadel key to controlling the Miss River
 - c. Ends in victory for Union – July 4
 - d. Unconditional Surrender Grant (US Grant)
 - e. 29,000 Confeds surrender

- f. Union controls Miss River
- 6. US War Dept. establishes Bureau of Colored Troops
 - a. Supervise recruitment
 - b. Enlist black soldiers
- 7. West Virginia admitted as 35th State – June 20
- 8. General George Meade replace Hooker
- 9. Battle of Gettysburg (PA) – July 1-3
 - a. Shift in Confed strategy – go north to capture DC
 - b. Confed troops in search of shoes meet Union cavalry
 - c. Reinforcements pour in
 - d. 3 days of ferocious fighting
 - e. Final turning point of the war
 - f. Union turns back repeated assaults
 - g. Confed losses = 28,000 dead, wounded or missing
 - h. Lincoln wants Confeds destroyed
 - i. Meade fails to press after Lee
 - j. Lee retreats to VA
- 10. NY Conscription Riots – July 13-16
 - a. Resentment against Union Conscription Act
 - b. Rioters turn on and lynch blacks
 - c. Federal troops quell riots
 - d. Similar riots occur in other northern cities
 - e. Angry for 2 reasons
- 11. Battle of Chikamauga (GA) – Sept 19-20
 - a. 16,000 Union casualties
 - b. 18,000 Confed casualties
 - c. Union retreats to Chattanooga, TN
- 12. Grant given command of Western Union forces – Oct 16
- 13. Gettysburg Address – Nov 19
- 14. Lincoln’s Proclamation of Amnesty & Reconstruction – Dec 8

K. I Smell Victory – 1864

- 1. General Sherman
 - a. Begins march across the South at Sheridan, MS – Jan 14
 - b. Strategy: Total War
 - c. Burns & destroys railroads, buildings, supplies...
 - d. Defeats Johnston in GA – May 13-15
 - e. Takes Atlanta, sets city on fire – Sept 2
 - f. Begins march to the sea at Savannah – Nov 16
 - g. Destroys all in his path
 - h. Cuts 40 mile wide swath through the heart of the South
 - i. Earns him title “Attila of the West” in South
 - j. Marches into Savannah unopposed – Dec 22
 - k. “We have devoured the land...To realize what war is, one should follow our tracks.”
- 2. Grant replaces Halleck as commander of Union armies – Mar 10
- 3. Grant suspends prisoner of war exchanges – April 17
 - a. To further weaken Confed army
 - b. Union soldiers now kept in camps with little food supplies
- 4. Grant begins assault on VA – May 4
 - a. Union army of 100,000
 - b. Plan: War of Attrition
- 5. Naval Assaults

- a. Union attacks Mobile. AL – Aug 5
 - b. Admiral David Farragut orders attack
 - c. Mines sink one of his ships
 - d. “Damn the torpedoes. Full speed ahead!”
 - e. Union closes the port
 - f. Cuts off South from vital supplies from blockade runners
6. Election of 1864
- a. Northern morale boosted by Atlanta & Mobile victories
 - b. Two Gens Lincoln fires oppose him
 - i. John C. Fremont
 - ii. George McClellan
 - c. Fremont withdraws
 - d. Lincoln wins by less than 1/2 million pop votes
 - e. Wins sweeping margin in electoral votes
- L. The Fat Lady’s Singin’ – 1865
1. Fort Fisher (NC) – Jan 15
 - a. Falls to Union
 - b. Closes off another Southern port
 2. Sherman’s Army turns north thru the Carolinas – Jan 16
 - a. Columbia, SC burned
 - b. Sherman occupies Charleston, SC
 3. Wilmington (NC) – Feb 22
 - a. Last open Southern Port
 - b. Falls to Union forces
 4. Battle of Five Forks (VA) – April 1
 5. Lee withdraws from Petersburg – April 2
 6. Union troops take Petersburg & Richmond – April 3
 7. Lee surrenders to Grant – April 8
 - a. Confed troops surrounded & starving
 - b. Surrenders at Appomattox Courthouse (VA)
 - c. Terms are generous
 - i. Officers & men free to go home w/horses
 - ii. Officers may retain sidearms
 - iii. Equipment must be surrendered
 8. Lincoln urges spirit of conciliation during the reconstruction
 9. Good Friday, April 14, 1865:
 - a. Lincoln lifts blockade on the South
 - b. preaching reconciliation
 - c. took his wife & friends to see *Our American Cousin* at Ford’s Theater
 - d. “Thus be it ever to tyrants” or “the South Shall Live”
 - e. Sec. of State Seward attacked at home with knife
 - f. attacks on Grant & Johnson not carried out
 - g. Sec. of War Stanton took charge
 - h. issued martial law in DC
 10. John Wilkes Booth
 - a. Actor
 - b. Fanatical supporter of South
 - c. Never joined Confederate army
 - d. Shot & killed near Bowling Green, VA – April 26
 - e. Military tribunal sentenced conspirators to hanging:
 - i. 3 men
 - ii. boardinghouse owner Mary Surratt

11. Wrap It Up
 - a. Jefferson Davis captured in GA – May 10
 - i. Presumed conspirator in Assassination
 - ii. Held for 2 years without trial, then released
 - b. Major Henry Wirz executed for war crimes – Andersonville
 - c. President Johnson grants amnesty to all southerners – 1868
 - d. Jefferson Davis declines amnesty

M. USA, USA, USA!!!

1. Civil War Irreversibly Transformed the Nation
 - a. Ended slavery
 - b. Dealt a severe blow to states' rights
 - c. Introduced modern warfare to the world
 - d. Increased central government's power
 - e. Led to creation of many of America's well-established institutions:
 - i. the draft
 - ii. a national currency
 - iii. the IRS
2. With the defeat of the South, Thomas Jefferson's dream of a pastoral nation receded into irrelevance
3. The concept of a national identity began to emerge, one that would help bring America to the forefront of world politics in the twentieth century
4. Industrialization
 - a. Civil War did not modernize America on its own
 - b. US was in the process of industrializing long before 1860
 - c. Quickened industrialization - sudden and massive need for:
 - i. Uniforms
 - ii. Weapons
 - iii. Supplies
 - iv. new medical practices (amputation – prosthetics)
 - d. Accelerated construction of factories & the production of goods
 - e. By war's end, America had emerged as a modern industrial nation
5. The first American war to see the use of:
 - a. Railroads
 - b. ironclad-ship warfare
 - c. heavy artillery
 - d. large-scale entrenchment techniques
6. What did the CW cost US
 - a. Union enlisted 2.3 Million (360,000 killed)
 - b. Confed enlisted 1 Million (260,000 killed)
 - c. Union spent > \$6 million
 - d. Confed spent \$3 million
7. Why did the Union Win?
 - a. Confed outmanned 2 to 1
 - b. worn away by Grant's tactics of attrition
 - c. blockade of ports reduced supplies of
 - i. munitions
 - ii. food
 - iii. other necessities
 - iv. brought South to starvation
 - d. failed to gain foreign recognition
 - e. "The Confederacy fielded 18th Century army, to fight a 19th Century War against a 20th Century power"