

Chapter 4.2 *The Civil War Begins*

As soon as the Confederacy was formed, Confederate Commanders began seizing control over federal (Union) installations and forts throughout the south. One important fort that still lay in Union hands was Fort Sumter, on an island in Charleston South Carolina's harbor. At 4:30 A.M. on April 12, Confederate General **Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard** ordered the Confederate batteries to fire on Fort Sumter. Union Commander Major Robert Anderson had no choice but to surrender the fort. The war between the states had begun.



Union and Confederate Forces Clash

-What was Lincoln's response to the Fall of Fort Sumter? Called for volunteers or troops. How did the South react to Lincoln's response? Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee seceded, bringing the Confederate states to eleven

Strengths and Strategies

- -The Union and the Confederacy were unevenly matched. What were the Strengths of the North? Had more resources such as manpower, factories, railroad lines, and navy.
- What were the strengths of the South? Had cotton profits, good generals and the motivation of defending its homeland.
- -Where did the South move their capital to? Richmond, Virginia
- -Explain the Northern Strategy? The Union navy would blockade Southern ports, Union riverboats and armies would move down the MS river, and Union army would need to capture the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia.
- -The South's strategy was? Defensive. Defend the south and attack the North only if the opportunity arose.



Bull Run

- -The first major battle after the fall of Fort Sumter was the battle of Bull Run, just 25 miles from Washington, D.C. in July of 1861. Describe the beginning of the battle? The battle was a seesaw affair, the Union army would gain the upper hand, but the Confederates would hold firm. As the battle started to lean toward a Union victory, one Confederate General (General Bee), trying desperately to rally his tired men, said: "Look, there is Jackson standing like a stone wall, let us determine to die here today and we will conquer, rally behind the Virginians!" With the arrival of Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson, and thousands of Confederate reinforcements, the Confederate army was able to win the first major battle for the South.
- -Why didn't the Confederate army finish off the North? The Confederates were too exhausted, many thought the war was over and went home



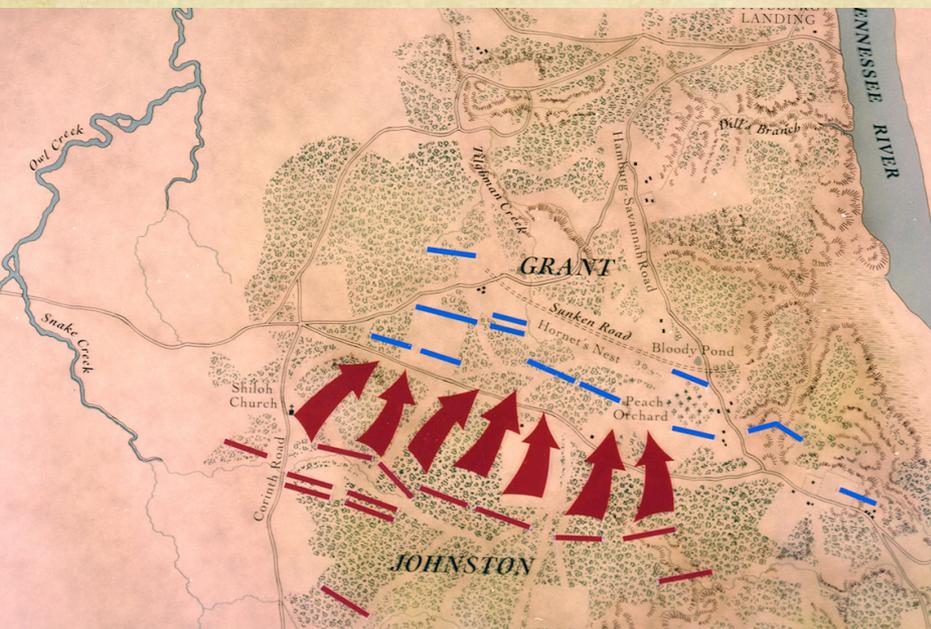
Union Armies in the West

- -Who did Lincoln appoint to command his Union army in the East? General George McClellan. How was this new general going to improve the Union army? By drilling his men.
- BUT! Think of McClellan as a good leader, but poor coach.

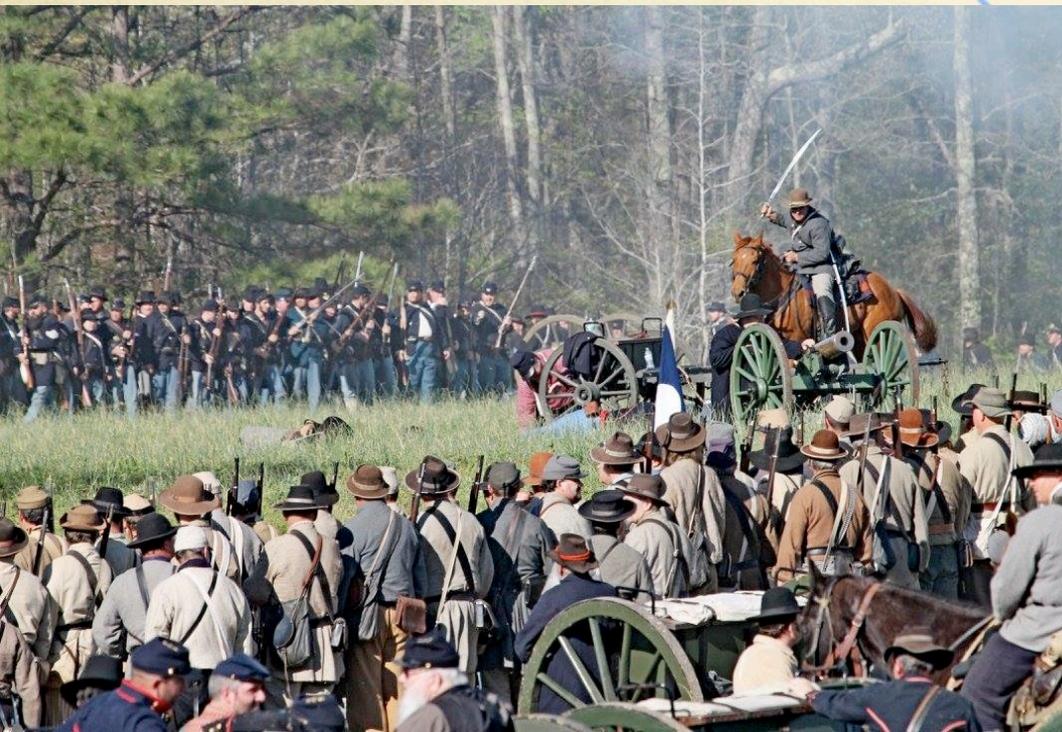
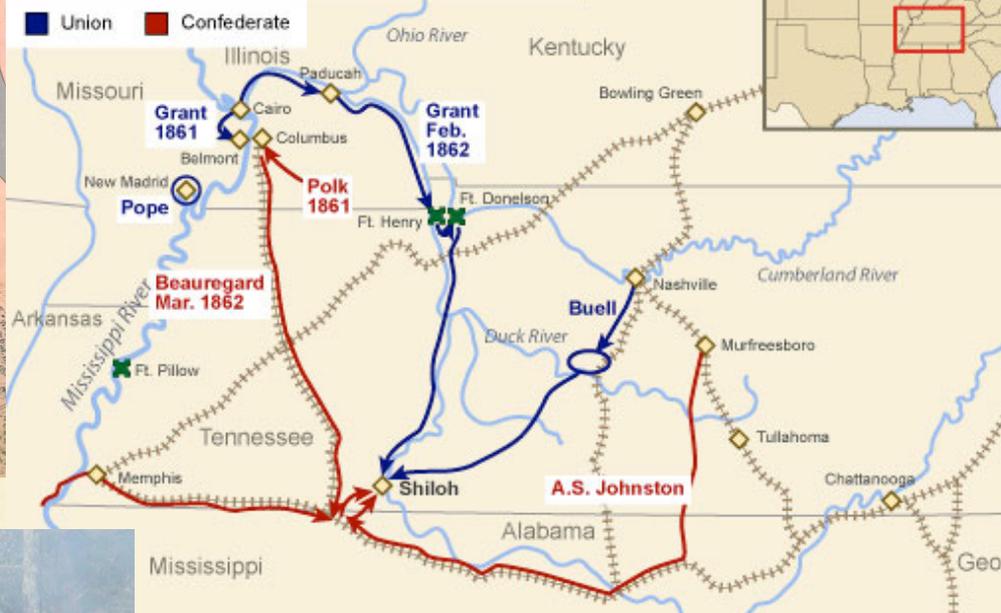


Shiloh-Place of Peace???

- -What was going on with the war in the west? Struggle for control of the Mississippi River. Union General Ulysses Grant and his army invaded western Tennessee and captured two Confederate forts. Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River. On the night of April 5, 1862 Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston and his army of the Mississippi was within one mile of Grant's position. Confederate pickets could hear Union bands playing music. The Union army was totally unaware of a Confederate army's presence. The Confederates surprised and attacked Grant at daylight on April 6, 1862 near a small Tennessee church called Shiloh that was located close to the Tennessee River. Johnston said: "We must this day conquer or perish." Johnston was killed later that day. He was shot in the lower leg and bled to death. Confederate General Beauregard assumed command. The Confederates forced the Union army to retreat, however, Grant was able to reinforce his last line at Pittsburg landing and wait for reinforcements. The next day on April 7, 1862, the Union army was able to force Beauregard and his army of the Mississippi to retreat back to Corinth, MS.
- - Describe the aftermath of the battle of Shiloh? It was a bloody slaughter. Nearly one-fourth of the 100,000 men who fought there were killed, wounded, or captured.

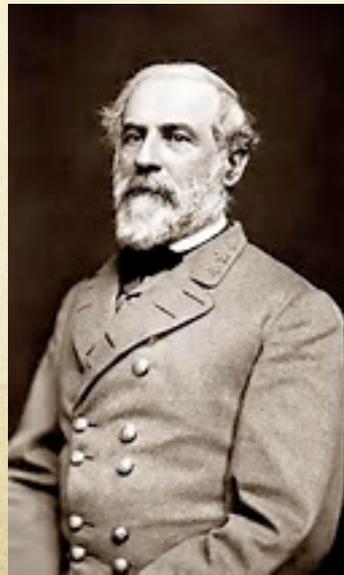


Battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862





- -As Grant pushed toward the MS river, David Farragut commanding the Union navy fleet, seized New Orleans, the Confederacy's largest city and busiest port.
- **The War for the Capitals**
- -As the campaign for the Union in the West was going well by capturing some of the MS river, war in the east was going slow. Why? Union General McClellan was too cautious. Lincoln said he would like to "borrow McClellan's army if the general himself was not going to use it."
- -McClellan finally led his army toward Richmond, where it met a Confederate army commanded by Robert E. Lee. How was Lee different from McClellan? Lee was very aggressive general, always going on the offensive. He was willing to go beyond military textbooks in his tactics. What did Lee do to McClellan's army? Drove it away from Richmond.



Battle of Antietam

- -It was now Lee's turn to move towards Washington. He believed if he could put pressure on the North, President Lincoln would have to negotiate terms to recognize the Confederacy. In September 1862, Lee moved his army into Maryland. What advantage did the timid acting McClellan have? He discovered Lee's and Jackson's plan by finding Lee's orders wrapped around some cigars. He knew the Confederate army was separated. What did McClellan do after discovering this? He aggressively attacked Lee. What was the name of this battle? Battle of Antietam. What did this battle prove to be? The bloodiest single-day battle in American history with casualties totaling more than 26,000. What were the results of the battle? The Confederate army retreated in Virginia, McClellan choose not to follow.

Images from Antietam



Confederate General Gordon's wounding at Antietam

- A ball struck Gordon in the leg, passing through his right calf. A second ball hit him in the same leg. An hour later another ball tore through his left arm, tearing tendons and muscles. A fourth struck his shoulder. Weak from loss of blood, Gordon struggled to lead his men. Seeing the right of his line in jeopardy from enfilading fire, he started to walk there but was struck by a fifth ball that slammed through his left cheek and shattered his jaw. Gordon fell face down into his hat. He noted later that he might have drowned in his own blood had not a “thoughtful Yankee” earlier given the hat a bullet hole that allowed the blood to drain out.
- Gordon told a friend later that as he lay on the battlefield, he imagined that half of his head had been shot away and that he was dead, but then he figured a dead man couldn't move his limbs. Gordon biographer Ralph Lowell Eckert said that the colonel crawled about 100 yards to the rear, where the Confederates were forming a new line, and passed out again.

General Gordon



○ -What did Lincoln do to McClellan? Fired him.



The Politics of War

-What country did the South believe that would finally come in on their side? Great Britain. What did Britain decide? To remain Neutral

- **Proclaiming Emancipation**
- -At the beginning of the war how did Lincoln feel towards slavery? He disliked it but was not prepared to destroy slavery. Lincoln's main objective was to save the Union.
- -On January 1, 1863, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. What did this Proclamation do? Freed the slaves in the south that was under Union Control. What did this emancipation do for the moral or the purpose of the war for the North? A war or fight to free the slaves.



○ **Conscription**

- -Both armies relied on volunteers at first, but heavy casualties, and desertions forced them to a Conscription, or a draft that would force certain members of the population to serve in the army.

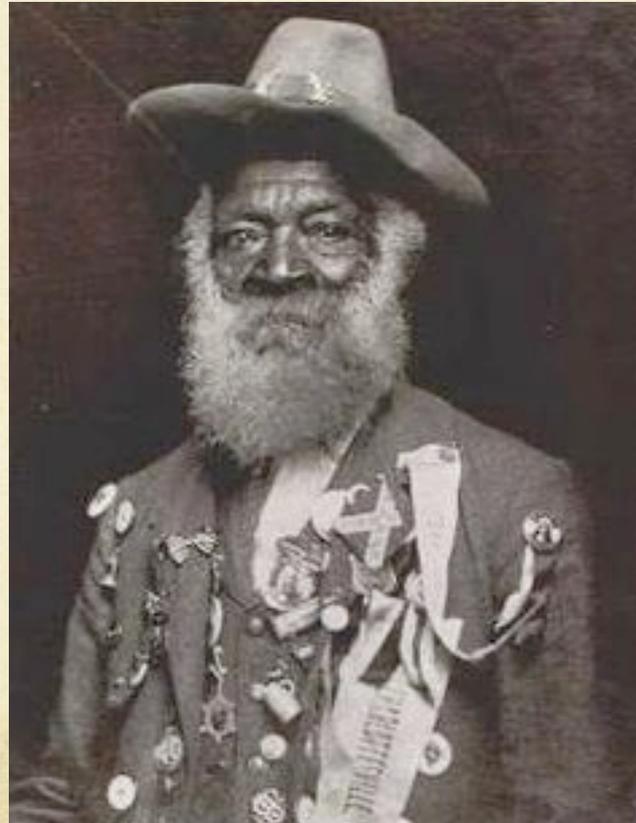
○ **African Americans Fight for Freedom**

- -In 1862 Congress passed a law allowing what? African Americans to serve as soldiers. By the war's end about 180,000 African Americans had fought for the Union. How were African American soldiers treated? Suffered discrimination, they served in separate regiments commanded by white officers and earned lower pay. They were also assigned to labor duties.

Famous African American Company during the Civil War: 54th Massachusetts



Some African Americans sided with the Confederacy



○ **The War affects Regional Economies**

○ -Describe the North's economy during the war? Expanded, North's economy was booming. What about the South's economy? Shattered. South faced a food shortage.

○ -What did Congress decide to do to help pay for the war? Collect the nation's first income tax.

○ **Soldiers Suffer on Both Sides**

○ -Both Union and Confederate soldiers thought this war would be a glorious affair. Explain why this became to be not true? Soldiers lived in unhealthy conditions, limited diet, and inadequate medical care. Soldiers had little regard for personal cleanliness. They had body lice, dysentery, and diarrhea .

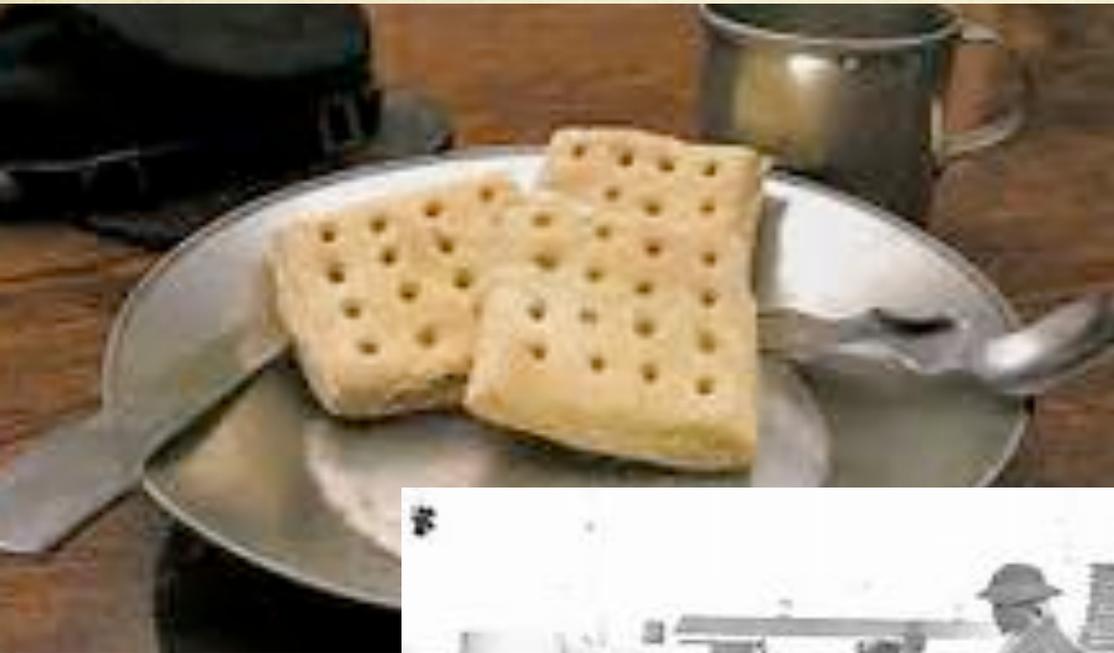
○ -What did Union soldiers eat? Beans, bacon, pickled beef, and hardtack

○ -What did Confederate soldiers eat? Cush, a stew of small cubes of beef and crumbled cornbread mixed with bacon grease.

Civil War wounds



Civil War Food



Women work to improve conditions

- -Why did a group of Northern women and doctors convince the federal government to set up the United States Sanitary Commission? To improve living conditions for the soldiers And what did this commission do? Taught soldiers how to avoid polluting their water supply, developed hospital trains, and ships to transport wounded men.
- -Clara Barton: Dedicated Union nurse who cared for the sick and wounded on the front lines of the battlefield.

