

Ch 11 The Civil War

Section 1 The Civil War Begins

Abraham Lincoln

- Republican who wins 1860 presidency
- Lincoln's main goal at the beginning of the Civil War was to restore the Union

Confederates Fire on Fort Sumter

The Confederacy Takes Control

- Confederate soldiers take over government, military installations
- **Fort Sumter**—Union outpost in Charleston harbor
- Confederates demand surrender of Fort Sumter

Lincoln's Dilemma

- Reinforcing fort by force would lead rest of slave states to secede
- Evacuating fort would legitimize Confederacy, endanger Union

First Shots

- Lincoln does not reinforce or evacuate, just sends food
- For South, no action would damage sovereignty of Confederacy
- Jefferson Davis chooses to turn peaceful secession into war
 - fires on Sumter April 12, 1861

Virginia Secedes

- Fall of Fort Sumter unites North; volunteers rush to enlist
- Virginia unwilling to fight South; secedes from Union
 - antislavery western counties secede from VA
- Three more states secede; border states remain in Union

Americans Expect a Short War

Union and Confederate Strategies

- Union advantages: soldiers, factories, food, railroads
- Confederate advantages: cotton profits, generals, motivation
- **Anaconda plan**: Union strategy to conquer South
 - blockade Southern ports
 - divide Confederacy in two in west
 - capture Richmond, Confederate capital
- Confederate strategy: defense, invade North if opportunity arises

Bull Run

- **Bull Run**—first battle, near Washington; Confederate victory
- Thomas J. Jackson called **Stonewall Jackson** for firm stand in battle and won

Union Armies in the West

Protecting Washington, D.C.

- After Bull Run, Lincoln calls for 1 million additional soldiers
- Appoints General **George McClellan** to lead Army of the Potomac

Forts Henry and Donelson

- General **Ulysses S. Grant**—brave, tough, decisive commander in West
- Feb. 1862, Grant captures Confederate Forts Henry, Donelson

Shiloh

- March 1862, Confederate troops surprise Union soldiers at **Shiloh**
- Grant counterattacks; Confederates retreat; thousands dead, wounded
- Shiloh teaches preparation needed, Confederacy vulnerable in West

Farragut on the Lower Mississippi

- **David G. Farragut** commands fleet that takes New Orleans, April 1862
- This advanced the Union plan to split the Confederacy along the Mississippi River
 - takes Baton Rouge, Natchez

A Revolution in Warfare

Ironclads

- New ironclad ships instrumental in victories of Grant, Farragut
- Ironclads splinter wooden ships, withstand cannon, resist burning
- March 1862, North's *Monitor*, South's *Merrimack* fight to a draw

New Weapons

- Rifles more accurate, faster loading, fire more rounds than muskets
- Minié ball (more destructive bullet), grenades, land mines are used
- Fighting from trenches, barricades new advantage in infantry attacks

The War for the Capitals

“On to Richmond”

- McClellan waits to attack Richmond; drills troops for 5 months
- Spring 1862, **Robert E. Lee** takes command of Southern army
- Lee, McClellan fight Seven Days' Battle; Union leaves Richmond area

Antietam

- Lee wins Second Battle of Bull Run; marches into Maryland
- Lee, McClellan clash at **Antietam**—bloodiest single-day battle
- Battle a standoff; Confederates retreat; McClellan does not pursue
 - Lincoln fires McClellan for having the “slows”