

## Ch 11 Section 2 The Politics of War

### Britain Remains Neutral

#### Britain Pursues Its Own Interests

- Britain has cotton inventory, new sources; does not need South
- Needs Northern wheat, corn; chooses neutrality

#### The Trent Affair

- Confederate diplomats travel on *Trent* to get British, French support
- U.S. Navy arrests them; Lincoln frees them, averts war with Britain

#### Proclaiming Emancipation

##### Lincoln's View of Slavery

- Federal government has no power to abolish slavery where it exists
- Lincoln decides army can emancipate slaves who labor for Confederacy
- Emancipation discourages Britain from supporting the South

#### Emancipation Proclamation

- **Emancipation Proclamation**—issued by Lincoln in 1863:
  - frees slaves behind Confederate lines
  - does not apply to areas occupied by Union or slave states in Union

#### Reactions to the Proclamation

- Proclamation has symbolic value, gives war high moral purpose
- Free blacks welcome ability to fight against slavery
- Northern Democrats claim will antagonize South, prolong war
- Confederacy becomes more determined to preserve way of life
- Compromise no longer possible; one side must defeat the other

#### Both Sides Face Political Problems

##### Dealing with Dissent

- Neither side completely unified; both sides face divided loyalties
- Lincoln suspends **habeas corpus**:
  - order to bring accused to court, name charges
- Seizes telegraph offices so cannot be used for subversion
- **Copperheads**—Northern Democrats advocating peace—among arrested
- Davis denounces Lincoln, then suspends habeas corpus in South
- Lincoln expands presidential powers, sets precedent

##### Conscription

- Casualties, desertions lead to **conscription**—draft to serve in army
- Both armies allow draftees to hire substitutes to serve for them
- Planters with more than 20 slaves exempted
- 90% eligible Southerners serve; 92% Northern soldiers volunteer

##### Draft Riots

- White workers fear Southern blacks will come North, compete for jobs
- Angry at having to free slaves, mobs rampage through New York City