Major Battles of the Civil War 1861-1865

The Tale of the Tape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North, Federal, Union</th>
<th>South, Confederate, Rebel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Names</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>Richmond, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States</td>
<td>23, plus the territories</td>
<td>11 States (13 stars in flag)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>22 million</td>
<td>9 million (3.5 million slaves)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Resources</td>
<td>75% of nation’s resources; wealth invested in industry</td>
<td>25% of nation’s resources; wealth in land and slaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Strong Political; weak military</td>
<td>Strong Military; Weak political</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motivation</td>
<td>Initially: Preserve the Union Later: ending slavery added</td>
<td>Defend homes and land; Preserve Southern way of life</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Ft. Sumter and the beginning of hostilities

► Confederacy called for the Federal Government to turn over control of federally held forts
► Lincoln refused and attempted to resupply Ft. Sumter in Charleston, S.C., with food
► On April 12, 1861, Confederate forces fired on the fort effectively beginning the Civil War

Fort Sumter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Leaders</th>
<th>Victor &amp; importance of outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 12, 1861</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Anderson Beauregard</td>
<td>Confederate victory led to Lincoln calling for 75,000 militiamen for 90 days Began the war</td>
</tr>
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</table>
April 15, 1861, Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers from the states to serve for 90 days to put down the rebellion.

This lead to the secession of Virginia, N.C., Arkansas and Tennessee.

Lincoln offers Lee command

Winfield Scott suggested to President Lincoln that Robert E. Lee should be chosen to lead the Federal forces.

Lee was called to Washington and offered the command, which he turned down.

“Lee, you have made the greatest mistake of your life…”

– Winfield Scott

Lincoln calls for volunteers

Army of the Potomac
Army of the Tennessee
Army of the Ohio
Battle of Bull Run
Battle of Antietam

Army of Northern Virginia
Army of Tennessee
Army of the Northwest
Battle of Manassas
Battle of Shapsburg

The Union named its armies and many battles after bodies of water.

The Confederates named its armies by region and battles by city/town.

Naming of Armies and Battles

Army of the Potomac

Control the Mississippi River
Capture Richmond
Blockade the Confederate coastline

Union army in the east, responsible for guarding Washington, D.C. and attacking Richmond, Virginia

George McClellan
George Meade
Ambrose Burnside
Ulysses S Grant
Joseph Hooker

Army of the Potomac

Scott's Great Snake
Army of Northern Virginia

Confederate army in the east, responsible for defending Richmond

P.G.T. Beauregard
Joseph Johnston
James Longstreet
Robert E Lee
Stonewall Jackson

First Battle of Bull Run
First Battle of Manassas

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<tr>
<td>July 21, 1861</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Irvin McDowell</td>
<td>Confederate victory – increased southern morale led the Union army to ask for 500,000 volunteers. Both sides realized it would not be short war.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>P.G.T. Beauregard</td>
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Confederate victory – increased southern morale led the Union army to ask for 500,000 volunteers. Both sides realized it would not be short war.

Ruins of a stone bridge over Bull Run Creek
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<td>Sept 17, 1862</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>George McClellan, Robert E Lee</td>
<td>Military draw; seen as political victory for Union when Lee retreats south&lt;br&gt;Bloodiest day of the war (and in American History)– 25,000 casualties&lt;br&gt;Increased Union confidence led to Emancipation Proclamation</td>
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**Antietam Sharpsburg**

**The Death of Stonewall Jackson**

- After the first day of fighting at Chancellorsville, Jackson was shot by friendly fire while returning to camp.
- Jackson lost his left arm from his wound and it was buried near Chancellorsville; he died a 8 days later on, May 10, from his wounds.
- With Stonewall Jackson’s death, Lee lost one of his best generals.
- Lee: “I have lost my right arm, and I am bleeding at the heart.”
### Siege of Vicksburg

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<td>May 18 to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4, 1863</td>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Ulysses S Grant</td>
<td>Union victory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>John Pemberton</td>
<td>Union control of Mississippi River (fulfilled a major part of the Anaconda Plan)</td>
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Gettysburg Campaign

- Fighting lasted 3 days on the hills and fields around Gettysburg, PA • July 1-3, 1863
- 90,000 Union troops were commanded by Gen. George Meade
- 75,000 Confederate troops were commanded by Gen. Robert E. Lee
- As much as 51,000 total casualties were estimated in the battle
- Bloodiest battle in American History
- Union Confederacy

Bloodiest battle in American History
Gettysburg Day 1
- Skirmishes begin North of town as advanced scouting parties of the two armies converge
- Lee knows he needs to control the high ground. He orders General Ewell to take Culp’s Hill “If Practicable…”
- Ewell decides it is not practicable, and the Union controls the high ground

Gettysburg Day 2
- The Union army forms a fishhook defensive position
- Confederates under James Longstreet attack the Southern end of the fishhook along the hills Round Top and Little Round Top
- Joshua Chamberlain’s 20th Maine defends Little Round Top preventing the Confederates from destroying the Union line

Gettysburg Day 3
- Lee’s last ditch effort to win the battle and perhaps the war
- George Pickett’s Division is ordered to attack the Union line in what is known as “Pickett’s Charge”
- The attack fails and Pickett’s Division is wiped out
- Lee retreats, never to invade the North again. The bloodiest battle of the war is over
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**Gettysburg**

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| July 1 - 3, 1863 | Pennsylvania | George Meade, Robert E Lee | Union victory
High Water Mark of the Confederacy
As many as 51,000 combined casualties
Bloodiest battle of the war
the South would never invade North again |

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**The Atlanta Campaign**

- Summer of 1864: William Sherman pushes confederate forces form the Georgia-Tennessee border to Atlanta
- Confederates burn Atlanta as they abandon it
- Atlanta is captured and the success helps propel Lincoln to victory in the election of 1864.
- It was a crushing defeat for the morale of the South.

**The Atlanta Campaign**

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| July 16 – Sept 2, 1864 | Georgia | William Sherman, John Bell Hood | Union victory
captured the “heart of the South”
launched the “march to the sea”
Use of “total war” |

**Sherman’s March to the Sea**

"I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the City of Savannah, with one hundred and fifty guns and plenty of ammunition, also about twenty-five thousand bales of cotton." - William Sherman to Abraham Lincoln
### Sherman’s March to the Sea

![Image of Sherman’s March to the Sea](image)

### Siege of Petersburg

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<td>June 15, 1864 – April 2, 1865</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Ulysses S Grant, Robert E Lee</td>
<td>Union victory open the door to Richmond, led to Lee’s surrender</td>
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![Image of Union trenches at the siege of Petersburg](image)

![Image of Union created “crater”](image)
Richmond falls to the Union

- Confederate lines broke at Richmond on April 2, 1865
- Lee and his army retreated west of Richmond
- Union blocked his escape route
- On April 3, 1865 they took Richmond
- Confederates attempted to burn it

There is nothing left for me to do but go & see General Grant, & I would rather die a thousand deaths.” – Gen. Robert E. Lee

Lee surrenders to Grant
Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia
April 9, 1965

Surrender @ Appomattox Courthouse

- Lee surrendered to Grant on April 9
- Grant gave favorable terms to the Lee’s soldiers
- Jefferson Davis was captured on May 10

“...one of the worst for which a people ever fought, and one which there was the least excuse.” – Gen. Ulysses S. Grant