American Civil War Part I
Confederate States of America Formed

- Established February 4, 1861
- AKA Confederacy, the gray, Rebels, secesh, rebels, rebs, Johnny Rebs
- Capital: 1st was Montgomery Alabama, later moved Richmond Virginia
- New government made up of the states that seceded from the union
- JEFFERSON DAVIS – president of the Confederacy
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confederate States</th>
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<td>Virginia</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
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<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
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Border States

- Slave states that bordered the North and South remained part of the Union
- Maryland was a key state to protect Washington DC
- Union success depended on these states remaining loyal
- None seceded from the Union

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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
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The North and Their Response to the Secession

- AKA: Union, the Blue, Yankees, Billy Yank, Feds (Federals), Union
- Capital: Washington DC
- Felt secession was unconstitutional
- Lincoln had little political experience
  - Lincoln assured the South he had no intentions of abolishing slavery
  - Lincoln wanted to keep the country together “Preserve the Union”
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<th>Union States</th>
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NORTH VS SOUTH

- 22 states
- 23,000,000 population
- Industrial economy
- Majority of transportation
- Lincoln, a military novice.
  - Asks Robert E. Lee to command Union troops and declines
- Belief war is about *slavery* and *preserving the Union*.

- 11 states
- 10,000,000
  - includes 4 million slaves
- Agricultural economy
  - Exports, not food
- Limited manufacturing and railroad lines.
- Davis, military experience.
  - Better military leaders
- Belief war is about *states rights, independence* and preserving their war of life.

“The North’s major advantage would be its *economy* and the South’s main disadvantage was its *economy*”
Union Military Strategy

- **Anaconda Plan** – Created by Winfield Scott, Northern plan to surround the Southern states and cut them off
  - Control river systems: Ohio and Mississippi
  - Naval blockade of the Southern coast (block cotton out, manufactured goods in)
  - Cut the Confederacy in two
  - Capture Richmond VA as quickly as possible (Confederate capital)
Confederate Strategy

► Goal was to fight a defensive war
► Prepare and wait
► Peace by release
► War of attrition – a war in which one side inflicts continuous losses on the enemy in order to wear down its strength
► Reliance on cotton for support
Tactics and Technology

► Massed infantry assaults (inaccurate weapons and slow rates of fire)
► Officer “training” during the Mexican War
► Rifling and the Minnie Balls (accuracy of muskets increased from 40 to 500 yards)
► Improvements in artillery
  ▪ Explosive shells and canister
Artillery of the Civil War
Fort Sumter

- U.S. fort in Charleston harbor (South Carolina) under the command of Major Robert Anderson
- Running low on supplies, request help from Lincoln
  - Dilemma for Lincoln: Use force to reenforce the fort and start a war OR surrender fort and legitimize the confederacy
  - Chooses to resupply the fort peacefully, make the South fire the first shot
- April 12, 1861 Southern forces bombard the fort
- Anderson forced to surrender after 33 hours
- Bloodless opening to the bloodiest war in U.S. history
In Charleston, all activity came to a complete stop. Citizens crowded rooftops to watch the battle.

The first shot fired on Fort Sumter was fired from Fort Johnson.

Shots fired at the ironclad battery did little damage.

Fort Sumter was strategically placed to control Charleston Harbor.
First Battle of Bull Run

- First Major battle of the Civil War
- 25 miles from DC, Washington’s high society turned out to watch the battle
- Both sides expected the battle to decide the war
- Both sides not prepared to fight
- Irvin McDowell (Union)
- P.G.T. Beauregard (Confederate)
- Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson saves the Confederates from defeat.
- Union army is routed, disorganized retreat to DC
- Confederates had an opportunity to pursue to DC and possibly end the war
  - Win the battle, but loose the war
- 2,900 Union casualties, 2000 confederate

“There is Jackson standing like a stonewall, rally around the Virginians!”
“I saw officers... majors and colonels who had deserted their commands pass me galloping as if for dear life... For three miles, hosts of Federal troops... all mingled in one disorderly rout. Wounded men lying along the banks... appealed with raised hands to those who rode horses, begging to be lifted behind, but few regarded such petitions.”

- New York World correspondent
Ulysses S. Grant

► U.S. Grant (Unconditional Surrender)
  ▪ West Point graduate
  ▪ Served in the Mexican War
  ▪ Most successful of the Union commanders both in the west and east

► Commander of the Union Army in the west at the beginning of the war
Early Union Victories in the West

► Fort Henry and Donelson
  - February 1862
  - Protected Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers (vital waterways for the Confederacy)
  - Both surrender to Grant
  - “no terms except unconditional and immediate surrender will be accepted”
  - First major victories in the war for the North

► Battle of Shiloh
  - April 6-7 1862 Union victory in Tennessee
  - 25,000 casualties, illustrates the need to change tactics

► Capture of New Orleans by Admiral David Farragut.
Monitor and the Merrimack

- March 9, 1862 off the coast of Virginia
- First ships made of iron called “ironsides”
- Fight has no clear cut winner, very little damage is done to either vessel
- Changes the face of naval warfare, makes wooden navies obsolete
Robert E. Lee

- West Point grad with a distinguished career in the U.S. Army
- Refused command of Union forces at the beginning of the war
- 1862, Robert E. Lee takes command of the Army of Northern Virginia
- Loved by his troops
- Excellent military commander, one of the best of the war
- Nicknames: “Granny Lee” and “King of Spades” for defensive strategies
George McClellan takes command of the Union Army after defeat at First Bull Run.

Well liked by his troops.

Excellent strategist, but over cautious and slow to move.

- Has several opportunities to defeat Lee and the Confederates, but doesn’t take advantage, specifically Antietam.

Nickname: “Little Napoleon”
The Peninsular Campaign

- Union goal to capture Richmond
- March of 1862 McClellan takes 100,000 troops by boat south of Richmond
- McClellan waits for reinforcements and is defeated in a series of battles (Seven Days Battle) by Robert E. Lee
Battle of Antietam

- September 1862 Lee advances into Maryland to relieve pressure off the South
- McClellan is clueless of Lee’s plan to invade the north
  - Union soldier finds a copy of Lee’s plans wrapped in around 3 cigars, turns over to McClellan
- September 17, 1862 Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg) occurs
- Confederates outnumber 2 to 1
- Union launches 3 separate, uncoordinated attacks, this allows the Confederates to move troops into position
Battle of Antietam con’t

► Lee retreats back into Virginia
► Union “victory”, they are left in control of the battlefield
► Bloodiest single day of the Civil War
  ▪ 12,000 Union casualties, 14,000 Confederate casualties (1/3 of Lee’s army)
► Lincoln orders McClellan to pursue and destroy Lee and his army, but he does nothing
  ▪ McClellan removed from command
Emancipation Proclamation

- Issued January 1, 1863 Lincoln proclaims all slaves free in the areas that were in rebellion (Confederate states)
- Does not free the slaves in the border states
- South condemns the measure
- Ends hopes of European assistance for the Confederates