I. Bull Run Ends the “Ninety-Day War”

- Bull Run (Manassas Junction)
  - Lincoln concluded an attack on a smaller Confederate force might be worth a try:
    - If successful, would demonstrate superiority of Union arms
    - Might lead to capture of Confederate capital at Richmond, 100 miles to south
    - If Richmond fell, secession would be discredited and Union could be restored without damage to economic and social system of South

- Raw Yankee troops left Washington toward Bull Run on July 21, 1861:
  - At first, battle went well for Yankees
  - But forces of Thomas J. (“Stonewall”) Jackson held firm, and Confederate reinforcements arrived
  - Union troops fled in panic
  - “Military picnic” at Bull Run:
    - Though not decisive militarily, bore significant psychological and political consequences
    - Victory was worse than defeat for South because it inflated an already dangerous overconfidence

- Thinking war was over, many Southern soldiers promptly deserted
  - Southern enlistment fell off sharply
  - Defeat was better than victory for Union:
    - Dispelled illusions of a one-punch war
    - Caused Northerners to buckle down to staggering task
  - Set stage for a war that would be waged:
    - Not merely for cause of the Union
    - Eventually for abolitionist ideal of emancipation
II. “Tardy George” McClellan and the Peninsula Campaign

- In 1861 General George B. McClelland given command of the Army of the Potomac
  - Embodied curious mixture of virtues and defects:
    - Superb organizer and drillmaster
    - Injected splendid morale into Army
    - Hating to sacrifice his troops, he was idolized by his men, who affectionately called him “Little Mac”
    - He was a perfectionist

- He consistently but erroneously believed enemy outnumbered him
- He was overcautious
  - A reluctant McClellan decided to approach Richmond
    - Which lay west of a narrow peninsula formed by James and York Rivers
    - Hence name given to historic campaign: the Peninsula Campaign (see Map 21.1)
      - McClellan inched toward Confederate capital, spring 1862, with 100,000 men

- After a month to take Yorktown; McClelland came within sight of Richmond
- But Lincoln diverted McClelland’s reinforcements to chase Jackson, who was moving toward D.C
- Stalled in front of Richmond, “Jeb” Stuart’s Confederate cavalry rode completely around McClelland’s army on reconnaissance
- General Lee launched devastating assault—the Seven Days’ Battles—June 26-July 2, 1862
- Confederates slowly drove McClellan back to sea
II. “Tardy George” McClellan and the Peninsula Campaign (cont.)

- The Peninsula Campaign:
  - Union forces abandoned Campaign as costly failure
  - Lincoln temporarily abandoned McClellan as commander of Army of the Potomac
- Lee:
  - Achieved a brilliant, if bloody, triumph
  - Ensured that war would endure until slavery was uprooted and Old South destroyed
  - Lincoln began to draft emancipation proclamation

II. “Tardy George” McClellan and the Peninsula Campaign (cont.)

- Union now turned toward total war (see Map 21.2)
- Finally developed Northern military plan:
  - Slowly suffocate South by blockading coasts
  - Liberate slaves and hence undermine economic foundations of Old South
  - Cut Confederacy in half by seizing control of Mississippi
  - Chop Confederacy by sending troops to Georgia and Carolinas
  - Decapitate it by capturing capital Richmond
  - Try everywhere to engage enemy's main strength and grind it into submission

III. The War at Sea

- The blockade:
  - 3,500 miles of coast impossible to patrol for Union navy
  - Blockading simplified by concentrating on principal ports and inlets used to load cotton
  - Britain recognized blockade as binding and warned its shippers they ignored it at their peril
  - Blockade-running risky but profitable
  - But lush days of blockade-running passed as Union squadrons
pinched off leading Southern ports

III. The War at Sea (cont.)

- Union navy enforced blockade with high-handed practices
- Seized British freighters on high seas, if laden with war supplies
- Justification was obviously these shipments were “ultimately” destined by devious routes for Confederacy
- London acquiesced in disagreeable doctrine of “ultimate destination” or “continuous voyage”
- Britain might need to use same interpretation in future war (in fact they did in WWI)

III. The War at Sea (cont.)

- Most alarming Confederate threat to blockade came in 1862
- Resourceful Southerners raised and reconditioned a former wooden U.S. warship, the Merrimack:
- Plated its sides with old iron railroad rails
- Renamed it the Virginia:
  - Easily destroyed two wooden ships of Union navy in Virginia waters of Chesapeake Bay
  - Threatened catastrophe to entire blockading fleet

III. The War at Sea (cont.)

- The Monitor:
  - For four hours, March 9, 1862, little "Yankee cheesebox on a raft" fought Merrimack to a standstill
  - A few months after historic battle, Confederates destroyed Merrimack to keep it from advancing Union troops
IV. The Pivotal Point: Antietam

- Second Battle of Bull Run (Aug. 29-30, 1862):
  - Lee encountered a Federal force under General John Pope
    - Lee attacked Pope's troops and inflicted crushing defeat
    - Lee daringly now thrust into Maryland
  - He hoped to strike a blow that would:
    - Encourage foreign intervention
    - Seduce the still-wavering Border State and its sisters from Union
  - Marylanders did not respond to siren song

IV. The Pivotal Point: Antietam (cont.)

- Antietam Creek, Maryland, a critical battle:
  - McClellan restored to command:
    - Found copies of Lee's battle plans
    - Succeeded in halting Lee at Antietam on September 7, 1862, in one of the bloodiest days of the war
  - Antietam more or less a draw militarily:
    - Lee withdrew across Potomac
    - McClellan relieved of command for failing to pursue Lee
    - Battle of Antietam one of the divisive engagements of world history; most decisive Civil War battle

IV. The Pivotal Point: Antietam (cont.)

- Antietam long-awaited “victory” Lincoln needed for launching Emancipation Proclamation
  - By midsummer 1862, Border States safely in fold and Lincoln ready to move
    - Lincoln decided to wait for outcome of Lee's invasion
    - Antietam served as needed emancipation springboard
    - Lincoln issued preliminary Emancipation Proclamation on September 23, 1862
    - Announced that on January 1, 1863, President would issue a final proclamation
IV. The Pivotal Point: Antietam (cont.)

- On schedule, he fully redeemed his promise
  - Civil War became more of a moral crusade against slavery
  - On January 1, 1863, Lincoln said,
    - “the character of the war will be changed. It will be one of
      subjugation . . . . The (Old) South is to be destroyed and
      replaced by new propositions and ideas.”

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation

- Lincoln's Proclamation of 1863 declared “forever free” slaves in
  Confederate areas still in rebellion:
  - Bondsmen in loyal Border States not affected
  - Nor were those in specific conquered areas in South
  - Tone of document was dull and legalistic
  - Lincoln concluded proclamation as “an act of justice” and called
    for "the considering judgment of mankind and the gracious
    favor of Almighty God"

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)

- Presidential pen did not formally strike shackles from a single
  slave:
  - Where Lincoln could free slaves—in loyal Border States—he
    refused to do so, lest he spur disunion
  - Where he could not—in Confederate states—he tried to
  - In short, where he could not, and where he could not

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)

- Emancipation Proclamation stronger on proclamation than
  emancipation
  - Thousands of do-it-yourself liberations occurred
  - By issuing Proclamation, Lincoln:
    - Addressed refugees' plight
• Strengthened moral cause of Union at home and abroad
• Clearly foreshadowed ultimate doom of slavery (see Map 21.3)

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)
– Ultimate end of slavery was ratification of Thirteenth Amendment (see Appendix)
– Emancipation Proclamation fundamentally changed nature of the war:
  • Removed any chance of a negotiated settlement
  • Both sides knew war would be fight to the finish

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)
– Public reactions to long-awaited proclamation of 1863 varied:
  • Abolitionists complained Lincoln had not gone far enough
  • Many Northerners felt he had gone too far
  • Opposition mounted in North against supporting an “abolition war”
  • Volunteers had fought for Union, not against slavery
  • Desertions increased sharply

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)
• Congressional elections of 1862 went heavily against administration—esp. New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio
• South claimed Lincoln trying to incite slave rebellion
• Aristocrats of Europe inclined to sympathize with Southern protests
• European working classes, especially in Britain, reacted otherwise
• Gradually diplomatic position of Union improved

V. A Proclamation Without Emancipation (cont.)
• North now had much stronger moral cause:
  – In addition to preserving Union,
  – It had committed itself to freeing slaves
  – Moral position of South correspondingly diminished
VI. Blacks Battle Bondage

- As Lincoln moved to emancipate slaves, he took steps to enlist blacks in armed forces:
  - Black enlistees finally allowed
  - By 1865, some 180,000 blacks served in Union army, most from slave states, but many from free-soil North
  - Blacks accounted for about 10% of total enlistments in Union forces on land and sea
  - Two Mass. Regiments raised largely through efforts of ex-slave Frederick Douglas

VI. Blacks Battle Bondage (cont.)

- Military service offered chance to prove manhood and strengthen claim to full citizenship at war's end
- Received 22 Congressional Medals of Honor
- Casualties extremely heavy:
  - More than 38,000 died
  - If captured, often executed

VI. Blacks Battle Bondage (cont.)

- Confederacy and slaves:
  - Could not bring itself to enlist slaves until a month before war ended
  - Tens of thousands forced into labor battalions:
    - Built fortifications and other war-connected activities
    - Slaves were “the stomach of the Confederacy”:
      - Kept farms going while white men fought
      - Involuntary labor not imply slave support for Confederacy

VI. Blacks Battle Bondage (cont.)

- In many ways Southern slaves hamstrung Confederate war efforts:
In many ways Southern slaves hamstrung Confederate war efforts:

- Fear of slave insurrection necessitated “home guards,” keeping many white men from front
- Slave resistance (slowdowns) diminished productivity
- When Union troops neared, slave assertiveness increased
- Slaves often served as Union spies
- Almost 500,000 revolted “with their feet”
- Slaves contributed powerfully to collapse of slavery and disintegration of antebellum way of life

VII. Lee’s Last Lunge at Gettysburg

- Lincoln replaced McClellan with General A.B. Burnside:
  - Burnside removed after rash frontal attack on Lee’s strong position at Fredericksburg, Virginia on December 13, 1862 cost more than 10,000 Union casualties
  - Burnside yielded command to Joseph Hooker
  - At Chancellorsville, VA, on May 2-4, 1863, Lee divided his forces and sent Jackson to attack Union flank.
  - Victory over Hooker was Lee’s most brilliant, but it was dearly bought with Jackson’s death

VII. Lee’s Last Lunge at Gettysburg (cont.)

- Lee now prepared to invade North again:
  - Win would strengthen those Northerners who wanted peace
  - Also encourage foreign intervention—still a Southern hope
  - Three days before battle, Union general George Meade informed he would replace Hooker
- Meade took stand near quiet little Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (see Map 21.4):
  - His 92,000 men locked in furious combat with Lee’s 76,000
  - Battle seesawed across rolling green slopes for three agonizing days—July 1-3, 1863

VII. Lee’s Last Lunge at Gettysburg (cont.)

- Pickett’s charge:
  - Failure of General George Pickett’s magnificent but futile
charge broke back of Confederate attack—
• And broke heart of Confederate cause
• Has been called “high tide of the Confederacy”
• Northernmost point reached by any major Southern force and real last chance for Confederates to win war
• As Battle of Gettysburg raged, Confederate peace delegation moved under flag of truce toward Union lines near Norfolk, Virginia

42 VII. Lee’s Last Lunge at Gettysburg (cont.)
– Victory at Gettysburg belonged to Lincoln
  • Refused to let peace mission pass though Union lines
  • From then on, Southern cause doomed, yet Dixie fought for two more years
  • In fall of 1863, while graves still fresh, Lincoln journeyed to Gettysburg to dedicate cemetery
    – Following a two-hour speech by former president of Harvard, Lincoln read a two-minute address
    – Gettysburg Address attracted little attention at time, but president was speaking for the ages

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45 VIII. The War in the West
– Ulysses S. Grant
  • First success in northern Tennessee (see Map 21.5)
  • Captured Fort Henry and Fort Donelson on Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers in February 1862
    – When Confederate commander at Fort Donelson asked for terms, Grant demanded “an unconditional and immediate surrender”
    – Grant’s triumph in Tennessee crucial:
      » Riveted Kentucky to Union
      » Opened gateway to strategically important region of Tennessee, Georgia and heart of Dixie

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VIII. The War in the West (cont.)

– Battle at Shiloh (April 6-7, 1862):
  • Just over Tennessee border from Corinth
  • Grant's counterattack successful, but impressive Confederate showing confirmed no quick end to war in West
  • Other western events:
    – 1862 David Farragut's ships joined with Northern army to seize New Orleans

VIII. The War in the West (cont.)

– Vicksburg, Mississippi:
  • South's lifeline for supplies from west
  • Grant commanded Union forces at Vicksburg:
    • His best-fought campaign
      – Union victory at Vicksburg came day after Confederate defeat at Gettysburg
      – Reopened Mississippi quelled Northern peace advocates
      – Twin victories tipped diplomatic scale in favor of North
      – Britain stopped delivery of Laird rams to Confederates (see Chap. 20)
    – Confederate hope for foreign help irretrievably lost

IX. Sherman Scorches Georgia

– Grant transferred to east Tennessee:
  • Confederates won battle of Chickamauga, near Chattanooga, to which they laid siege
  • Grant won series of desperate engagements in November, 1863:
    – Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain
Confederates won battle of Chickamauga, near Chattanooga, to which they laid siege.

Grant won series of desperate engagements in November, 1863:

- Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain
- Chattanooga liberated, state cleared of Confederates
- Way opened for invasion of Georgia
- Grant rewarded by being made general in chief

IX. Sherman Scorches Georgia

Georgia's conquest:

- Entrusted to General William Tecumseh Sherman
- Captured Atlanta in September 1864
- Burned city in November 1864
- Sherman with 6,000 troops cut a sixty-mile swath of destruction through Georgia
- Major purposes of Sherman's march:
  - Destroy supplies destined for Confederate army
  - Weaken morale of men at front by waging war on their homes (see Map 21.6)

Sherman a pioneer practitioner of "total war":

- Success in "Shermanizing" South attested by increasing numbers of Confederate desertions
- Although methods brutal, Sherman probably shortened struggle and hence saved lives
- But discipline of his army at times broke down
- After seizing Savannah, his army veered north into South Carolina, where destruction was even worse
- Sherman's army rolled deep into North Carolina by time war ended

X. The Politics of War

- Presidential elections come by calendar, not by crisis:
  - Political infighting added to Lincoln's woes
    - Factions within his party, distrusting his ability or doubting his commitment to abolition, sought to tie his hands or remove him from office
    - Conspicuous among critics was overambitious Secretary of
Political infighting added to Lincoln’s woes

- Factions within his party, distrusting his ability or doubting his commitment to abolition, sought to tie his hands or remove him from office
- Conspicuous among critics was overambitious Secretary of Treasury, Salmon Chase

X. The Politics of War (cont.)

- Congressional Committee on the Conduct of War formed in late 1861:
  - Dominated by “radical” Republicans who
    - Resented wartime expansion of presidential power
    - Pressed Lincoln zealously on emancipation
- Most dangerous to Union cause were Northern Democrats:
  - Tainted by association with seceders
  - Tragedy befell when leader Stephen Douglas died

X. The Politics of War (cont.)

- Lacking a leader, Democrats divided:
  - “War Democrats” supported Lincoln administration
  - Tens of thousands of “Peace Democrats” did not
  - Extreme were Copperheads—openly obstructed war by:
    » Attacks against draft
    » Against Lincoln
    » Especially, after 1863, against emancipation
    » Denounced president as “Illinois Ape”
    » Condemned “Nigger War”
    » Commanded considerable political strength in southern parts of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois

X. The Politics of War (cont.)

- Notorious was congressman from Ohio, Clement Vallandigham:
  » Publicly demanded end to “wicked and cruel” war
  » Convicted by military tribunal in 1863 for treasonable utterance and sentenced to prison
  » Lincoln thought Vallandigham liked Confederates so much, he ought to be banished to their lines; this was done
  » Vallandigham inspired Edward Everett Hale to write his moving, fictional story of Philip Nolan in The Man Without a
Lincoln thought Vallandigham liked Confederates so much, he ought to be banished to their lines; this was done.

Vallandigham inspired Edward Everett Hale to write his moving, fictional story of Philip Nolan in *The Man Without a Country* (1863).

Nolan a young army officer found guilty of participation in the Aaron Burr plot of 1806 (see Chap 11).

Condemned to life of eternal exile on American warships.

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**XI. The Election of 1864**

Election of 1864:

- Lincoln's precarious authority
  - depended on retaining Republican support
- while spiking threat from Peace Democrats and Copperheads
- Fearing defeat, Republican party executed clever maneuver:
  - Joining the War Democrats, it proclaimed itself to be the Union party (see Figure 21.1)
  - Thus Republican party temporarily out of existence

**X. The Politics of War**

Lincoln's renomination at first encountered opposition:

- Faction wanted to shelve "Old Abe" in favor of Chase
- But "ditch Lincoln" move collapsed
- Nominated by Union party without serious dissent
- Running mate was Andrew Johnson, loyal War Democrat from Tennessee:
  - Small slaveowner when conflict began
  - Placed on Union Party ticket to "sew up" election
  - With little regard for possibility that Lincoln might die in office

**X. The Politics of War**

Democrats:
The Politics of War (cont.)

Democrats:
- Nominated deposed and overcautious war hero General McClellan:
  - Plank denounced prosecution of war as a failure
  - McClellan repudiated this defeatist declaration
- Campaign:
  - Noisy and nasty with numerous slogans
  - Lincoln’s reelection at first gravely in doubt

Anti-Lincoln Republicans tried again to “dump” Lincoln in favor of someone else
- Atmosphere changed by series of Northern victories
- President pulled through, but nothing more than necessary left to chance:
  - At election time many Northern soldiers furloughed home to support Lincoln at polls
  - Some soldiers permitted to cast their ballots at front
  - Lincoln achieved 212 electoral votes
  - 21 for McClellan

The Election of 1864 (cont.)
- Lincoln lost Kentucky, Delaware, and New Jersey (see Map 21.7)
- “Little Mac” ran closer race than electoral count indicates
- Netted healthy 45% of popular vote, 1,803,787 to Lincoln’s 2,206,938
- Crushing defeat for Northern Democrats in 1864
- Removal of Lincoln was last hope for a Confederate victory
- After Lincoln triumphed, Confederate desertions increased sharply

Grant Outlasts Lee
- Wilderness Campaign:
XII. Grant Outlasts Lee

• Public opinion in North:
  – Critics cried “Grant the Butcher”
    • Grant’s reputation undeserved, while Lee’s overrated
    • Lee’s rate of loss (20%) highest of any general in the war; by contrast, Grant lost 10% to casualties
    • Grant had intended to fight battles out in open
    • Lee turned eastern campaign into war of attrition fought in trenches

• With fewer men, Lee could no longer seize offensive
• Defensive posture forced Grant into brutal arithmetic
• Grant could trade two men for one and still beat enemy
• In February 1865 Confederates tried desperately to negotiate for peace between the two “countries”
  – Lincoln met with Confederate representatives aboard Union ship at Hampton Road, Virginia, to discuss peace
  – Lincoln could accept nothing short of Union and emancipation
  – Southerners could accept nothing less than independence
  – Tribulation wore on to terrible climax

• Appomattox Courthouse:
  – End came with dramatic suddenness:
    • Northern troops captured Richmond and cornered Lee at
Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, April 1865

- Grant met with Lee on April 9th, Palm Sunday
  - Granted generous terms of surrender
  - Hungry Confederates allowed to keep horses for spring plowing
  - Tattered Southern veterans wept as they took leave of their beloved commander

74 XII. Grant Outlasts Lee (cont.)

- Lincoln traveled to Richmond and sat in Davis’s evacuated office just forty hours after Confederate president left it

75 XIII. The Martyrdom of Lincoln

- Lincoln’s death:
  - On April 14, 1865 (Good Friday) only five days after Lee's surrender, Ford’s Theater in Washington witnessed its most sensational drama
  - Pro-Southern actor, John Wilkes Booth, slipped behind Lincoln and shot him in the head
  - Great Emancipator died following morning
    - Expired in arms of victory, at very pinnacle of his fame
    - Dramatic death erased memory of his shortcomings and caused his nobler qualities to stand out in clearer relief

76 XIII. The Martyrdom of Lincoln (cont.)

- Full impact of Lincoln's death not at once apparent to South:
  - As time wore on, increasingly Lincoln's death was perceived as calamity for South
  - Belatedly, they recognized his kindliness and moderation
  - Assassination increased bitterness in North, partly because of rumor that Jefferson Davis plotted it

77 XIII. The Martyrdom of Lincoln (cont.)

- Lincoln’s murder set stage for wrenching ordeal of Reconstruction.
- Lincoln would have had clashes with Congress after war, but he
was a victorious president, and there is no arguing with victory. 
• Unlike Johnson, Lincoln's powers of leadership refined in war crucible:
  – Possessed in full measure tact, reasonableness and an uncommon amount of common sense

78

79 XIV. The Aftermath of the Nightmare 
– Civil War's grisly toll: 
  • More than 600,000 men died in action or of disease  
  • Over a million killed or seriously wounded 
  • Dead amounted to 2% of entire nation's population 
  • Nation lost cream of its young manhood and potential leadership 
  • Tens of thousands of babies unborn because potential fathers at front

80

81 XIV. The Aftermath of the Nightmare (cont.) 
– Direct monetary costs: 
  • Total cost—$15 billion 
  • Not include continuing expenses—pensions and interest on national debt 
  • Intangible costs—dislocations, disunities, wasted energies, lowered ethics, blasted lives, bitter memories, and burning hates—cannot be calculated

82

83 XIV. The Aftermath of the Nightmare (cont.) 
– Greatest Constitutional decision written in blood and handed down at Appomattox Courthouse: 
  • Extreme states' rights crushed 
  • National government emerged unbroken 
  • Nullification and secession laid to rest 
  • Civil War supreme test of American democracy 
  • Preservation of democratic ideals subconsciously one of major objectives of North
Nullification and secession laid to rest
Civil War supreme test of American democracy
Preservation of democratic ideals subconsciously one of major objectives of North

Victory for Union provided inspiration to champions of democracy and liberalism
Reform Bill of 1867, under which England became a true political democracy, passed two years after Civil War ended
– American democracy proved itself
– An additional argument used by disfranchised British masses in securing similar blessings for themselves

“Lost Cause” of South was lost:
Shameful cancer of slavery sliced away by sword
African Americans at last in position to claim rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness
Nation once again united politically
Great dangers adverted by Union victory:
– Indefinite prolongation of “peculiar institution”
– Unleashing of slave power on weak Caribbean neighbors
– Transformation of area from Panama to Hudson Bay into an armed camp with heavily armed and hostile states constantly snarling and sniping at one another

America still had long way to go to make promises of freedom a reality for all its citizens, black and white
Emancipation laid necessary groundwork:
– United and democratic United States free to fulfill destiny as dominant republic of hemisphere—and eventually of world