

CHAPTER 21

Furnace Of Civil War, 1861–1865

(Note: The review in this chapter of the military leaders, strategies, and key battles can't fully convey the sheer magnitude of the conflict or the often horrendous human aspects of the Civil War. However, it is important to have a solid overview of the military strategies involved and of those turning points that could have gone either way and thereby greatly influenced the world we live in today.)

1. Strategy and Early Battles (pp. 451–456) The authors contend that had the North prevailed at the first “picnic-like” Battle of _____ Run (just south of Washington) in July 1861, southern states might have been re-admitted on easy terms. But after the bloody _____ Campaign, in which Union forces under young General George _____ failed to take the Confederate capital of _____, Virginia, the Union strategy turned to “total war.” List the six elements of the new northern strategy mentioned on pp. 455–456?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

2. Antietam and Emancipation, 1862 (pp. 456–462)

a. Note the importance of the embargo on southern ports (keeping cotton in and war supplies out). Southerners tried to get around the embargo, partially through the use of their ironclad ship named the _____, which in 1862 was challenged by the Northern “cheesebox on a raft,” the _____.

b. Emboldened by his successes, Confederate Gen. Robert E. _____ advanced his army into northern territory and, in September 18_____, was engaged at Antietam Creek, in the western part of the state of _____. This bloody battle was militarily a draw. However, list the two reasons why the authors call this engagement “the most decisive of the Civil War.”

- (1)
- (2)

c. What were Lincoln’s objectives in issuing the Emancipation Proclamation? How did this proclamation signal a change in northern war aims?

(1) Objectives:

(2) Changed war aims:

d. Why was the proclamation technically less than it appeared? Why do the authors summarize by saying “. . . where he *could* he would not, and where he *would* he could not”?

e. About _____ blacks joined the army after Emancipation, representing about ____ percent of Union forces, including the famed Massachusetts 54th, which attacked Fort Wagner in South Carolina (dramatized in the feature film *Glory*).

3. **War at Midpoint (pp. 462–468)** After Antietam, Lincoln tried a variety of new generals, who proceeded to chase Lee’s army around northern Virginia. Lee and his brilliant lieutenant “Stonewall” _____ were then encouraged by a stunning victory at C _____ to advance into the North again in the hope of breaking the Union will to fight. For three days in July 18____, at the Pennsylvania town of G _____, his troops assumed the unaccustomed offensive role against dug-in Union Army troops under General George G. _____. After the famous “charge” by troops under Confederate General George _____ on the last day, Lee was forced to withdraw. His army would fight on for two years but was never again a real threat. In the west, the Union strategy was to capture the mouth of the Mississippi at New Orleans and then for General Ulysses S. _____ to move south and capture the rest of the river. This was accomplished with the Union victory at V _____ on the day after the Confederate defeat at Gettysburg. The remainder of the western strategy involved the brutal march under Union Gen. William Tecumseh _____ from the Cumberland Mountains, through the burning of A _____ (*Gone With The Wind*), finally reaching the sea at Savannah.
4. **Politics of War (pp. 468–471)** Objections to the war were always strong in the North, especially among “Peace” Democrats mostly in the Midwest and the so-called _____ (a poisonous snake), who openly obstructed the war (using many tactics perfected later by Vietnam War protesters). Lincoln treated these critics harshly and, in 1864, formed a political coalition between Republicans and “War” Democrats called the _____ Party, which - to balance the ticket - chose as Lincoln’s running mate the “War” Democrat from Tennessee, Andrew _____. Lincoln was re-elected against the Democratic candidate, the erstwhile General _____.
5. **War’s End and Lincoln’s Death (pp. 471–474)** After Gettysburg, Grant was made commander of all Union armies and proceeded to chased Lee around the Virginia countryside in a series of bloody battles until Lee was forced to surrender at _____ Court House in April 18 _____. Less than two weeks later, Lincoln was killed at _____ Theater by southern sympathizer John Wilkes _____. Lincoln and his Vice President Johnson had many of the same views about quickly binding up the wounds of war and letting the Southern states back into the Union on relatively easy terms. Why then do the authors argue on p. 473 that the highly contentious battle with Congress over a harsh or gentle “reconstruction” policy after the war would have turned out much differently (**and better!**) had Lincoln lived? *** Any thoughts on this hypothetical conclusion?

6. **Reflections (pp. 474–475)** Over _____ men were killed or seriously wounded in this war (**more than in ALL other U. S. wars combined!**) and \$ _____ billion was spent. Despite this toll, the authors reflect a northern perspective and are pretty positive about the outcome. List three positive results of the war cited by the authors. *** Then, on the right side, come up with two or three counterarguments or differing interpretations that might be put forward by skeptics or southern partisans.

Positive Results

Counterarguments

(1)

(2)

(3)

CHAPTER 21 TERM SHEET

Furnace of Civil War

Pages 451–456

“On to Richmond!”

Bull Run (July 1861)

Gen. “Stonewall” Jackson

Gen. George McClellan

Peninsula Campaign (spring 1862)

Gen. Robert E. Lee

Seven Days’ Battles

Pages 456–462

Merrimack (1862)

Monitor

Second Battle of Bull Run (August 1862)

Gen. John Pope

Antietam (September 1862)

Emancipation Proclamation (September 1862)

Thirteenth Amendment (1865)

Pages 462–468

Gen. Ambrose Burnside

Fredericksburg (December 1862)

Gen. “Fighting Joe” Hooker

Chancellorsville (May 1863)

Gen. George Meade

Gettysburg (July 1863)

Pickett’s Charge

Gettysburg Address (November 1863)

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant

Forts Henry and Donelson (February 1862)

Shiloh (April 1862)

Adm. David Farragut

New Orleans (spring 1862)

Vicksburg (July 1863)

Chattanooga (fall 1863)

Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman

Burning of Atlanta (September 1864)

“March to the Sea”

Savannah (December 1864)

Pages 468–471

Election of 1864

“Peace Democrats”

“Copperheads”

Clement Vallandigham

Union Party

Andrew Johnson

Dem. George McClellan

Pages 471–474

Wilderness campaign (May-June 1864)

Appomattox (April 1865)

Lincoln assassination (April 1865)

John Wilkes Booth

Pages 474–475

Death toll

Monetary cost