The Civil War Begins

The Civil War broke out in 1861 over the right of states to secede, or withdraw, from the United States.

- ★ Soon after Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860, 11 slave states seceded to form the Confederate States of America.
- ★ Lincoln believed that individual states could not leave the nation. The North fought to preserve the Union—the United States of America.

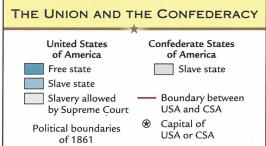
★ The Confederate army fought with skill and determination. It dealt the Union army many early defeats.

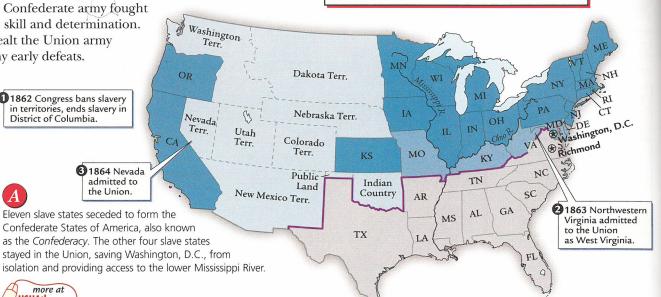
> 1862 Congress bans slavery in territories, ends slavery in District of Columbia.

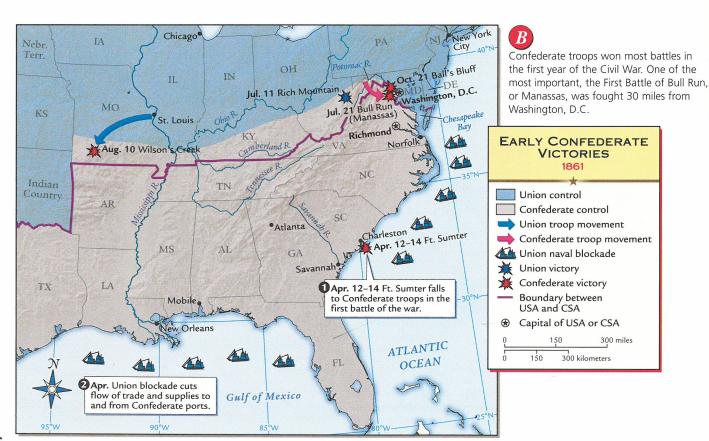
the Union. Eleven slave states seceded to form the Confederate States of America, also known as the Confederacy. The other four slave states stayed in the Union, saving Washington, D.C., from

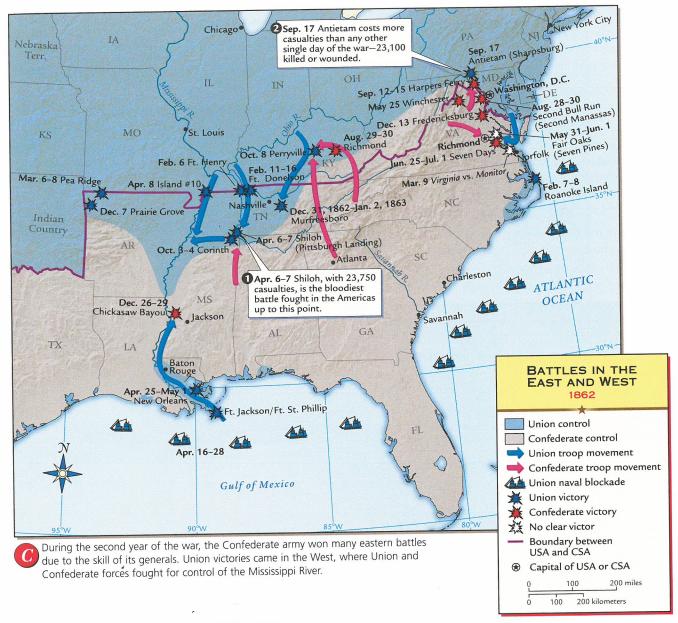
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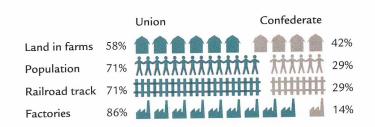








Confederate troops, called "rebels" by Northerners, wore gray uniforms, such as the ones in this battle reenactment. Union troops, called "Yankees" by Southerners, wore blue.



The resources of the Union made it better able to withstand a long, destructive conflict than the Confederacy, which had more troops with prior training and experience.

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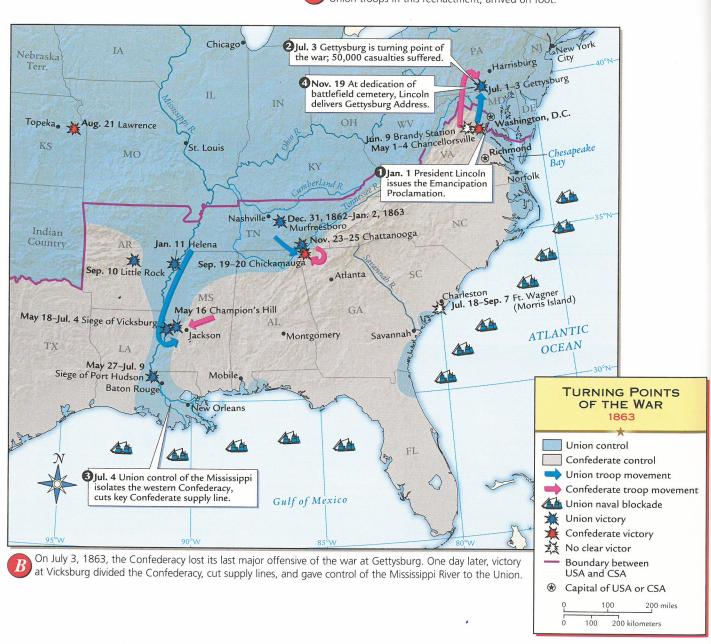
The Civil War Continues

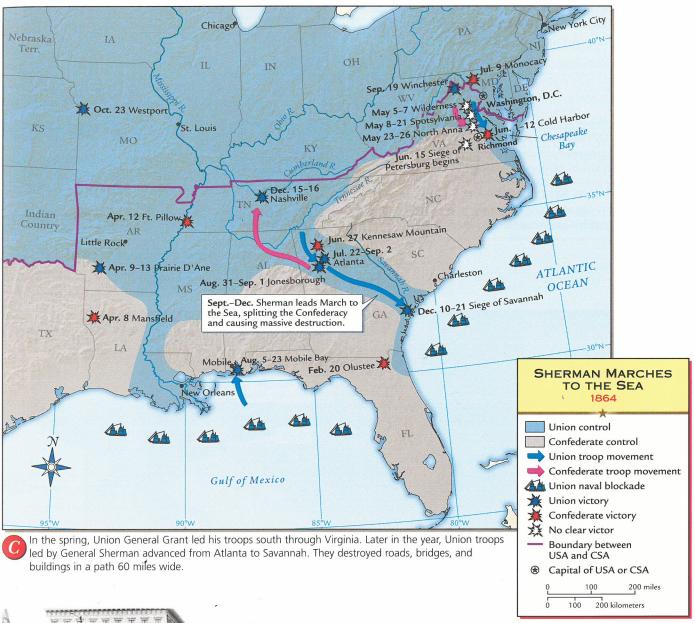
The Union gained decisive advantages in 1863.

- ★ On January 1 President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared enslaved people in the Confederacy free.
- ★ Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, along with the Union cutoff of Confederate trade, weakened the South's ability to fight.
- ★ The Confederacy had expected support from Britain and France. After the Emancipation Proclamation, the Europeans saw the war as a conflict over slavery and honored the Union *blockade*.
- ★ By 1864 the Confederate army was short of men and supplies, but it continued to fight.



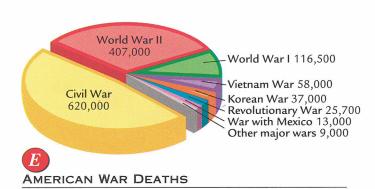
Many Civil War battles were fought in farm fields. Most soldiers, like the Union troops in this reenactment, arrived on foot.







Charleston, South Carolina, was one of many Southern cities damaged during the war. Most Northern cities were far from the fighting and suffered no physical damage.



Medical practices of the 1800s were overwhelmed by the deadly *tactics* and weapons of the Civil War. Loss of blood, shock, and infection cost thousands of lives. Disease cost many more.