

Unit 5: Civil War and Reconstruction

Part 6: A Long, Difficult Struggle

Objectives:

- 1. Describe the military strategies each side adopted to try to win the war.*
- 2. Name the military goals of the North. (7.4.4.19.2)*
- 3. Explain why the Union failed to win major battles in the East.*
- 4. Identify victories of both the Confederates and the Union. (7.4.4.19.2)*

I. Strategies For Victory

A. Union Plans:

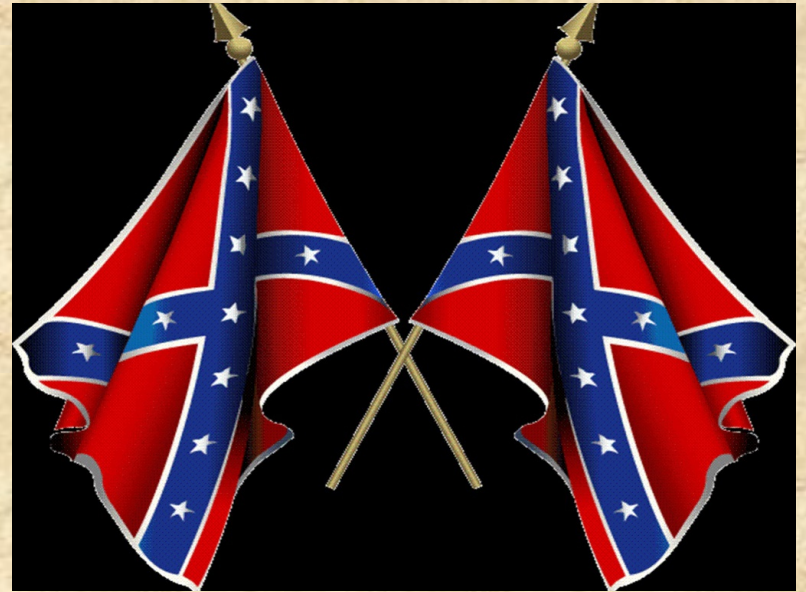
1. Use the navy to blockade southern ports.
2. In the East, seize the Confederate capital—**Richmond, Virginia**.
3. In the West, seize control of the **Mississippi River**. This would keep the Confederates from using the river to supply troops, and it would also separate **Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana** from the rest of the Confederacy.



I. Strategies For Victory

B. Confederate Plans:

1. Fight a defensive war until northerners tired of fighting and gave up.
2. Use European money and supplies to help fight the war. Southerners expected Europeans to recognize the Confederacy as an independent nation.



II. Early War Battles

Date	Battle	What Happened?	Results
July 21, 1861	Battle of Bull Run	Lincoln sent troops to attack the Confederate capital. Union and Confederate troops clashed between Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Virginia. Finally, the Union troops retreated.	Lincoln appointed a new commander of the Union army of the East, also called the Army of the Potomac, General George McClellan . In the end, he turned out to be too cautious.
March 1862	McClellan's troops moved toward Richmond	Robert E. Lee attacked McClellan's troops. At the same time, Lee sent Stonewall Jackson north to threaten Washington, D.C.	With Washington, D.C., threatened, Lincoln could not send the rest of the Union army to help McClellan. McClellan retreated.

II. Early War Battles

Date	Battle	What Happened?	Results
March 1862	<i>Monitor</i> and the <i>Merrimack</i> , or <i>Virginia</i>	Confederates covered a Union warship, the <i>Merrimack</i> , with iron plates and renamed it the <i>Virginia</i> . The Union also built an ironclad, the <i>Monitor</i> . The two vessels fought near Virginia.	In this first battle of ironclad ships, neither vessel seriously damaged the other, and both withdrew. However, ironclad ships changed naval warfare.
September 1862	Battle of Antietam	Hoping for a southern victory on northern soil, Lee marched into Maryland. McClellan learned of his plans, but was slow to attack. At last, the two sides met.	Both sides suffered great losses. Neither side won. Because Lee withdrew, northern morale was raised. Lincoln replaced the cautious McClellan with Ambrose Burnside .

III. Confederate Victories

Date	Battle	What Happened?	Results
December 1862	Battle of Fredericksburg	Lee's forces met Burnside's army. Lee's forces dug into the crest of a hill. As wave after wave of Union troops charged, Confederate guns mowed them down.	This was one of the Union's worst defeats.
May 1863	Battle of Chancellorsville	Lee, aided by Stonewall Jackson, outmaneuvered Union forces in a thickly wooded area. Lee and Jackson defeated the Union troops in a three-day battle.	A southern sentry shot Stonewall Jackson by mistake. Jackson died soon after.

IV. Union Victories

Date	Battle	What Happened?	Results
February 1862	Fort Henry and Fort Donelson	Union troops under Ulysses S. Grant captured the two Tennessee forts.	The Union gained control of two tributaries of the Mississippi.
April 6–7, 1862	Battle of Shiloh	Confederate forces surprised Grant's Union forces and drove them back toward the river. With the aid of fresh troops, Grant beat back the Confederates.	The Union won control of the Tennessee River . It was one of the bloodiest battles of the war.
April 1862	New Orleans	Union gunboats captured New Orleans. Other ships captured Memphis, Tennessee.	The Union now controlled both ends of the Mississippi River .