



UNITED STATES ARMY  
**CMH**  
CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY



***History and Heritage***  
***Module B – The Battle of Antietam Creek***  
***From the Wars of Independence into the American Civil War***  
***1815 - 1865***



# Lesson Introduction



## Tasks:

- Acquire basic knowledge of the US Army's history
- Identify Army Values highlighted during the American Civil War
- Develop a sense of pride and heritage as members of the US Army

## Conditions

- **Timeframe:** 20-minute block of instruction
- **Location:** Classroom environment
- **Equipment:** Projectors, Speaker System, Slide Deck, and Videos
- **Student Resources:**
  - Note taking materials
  - Water source
  - Sensory Systems (Eyes and Ears)
  - Cognitive Functions (Brain)
  - Response Mechanism (Voice)





# Terminal Learning Objective

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## Standards

### Pre-Requisite Reading:

- Trainees read pages 1-17 of *“Army History and Heritage, CH-2”*

### Key learning points:

- What were the Army’s concerns prior to the Civil War
- What led to the outbreak of the Civil War
- Key events prior the Battle of Antietam
- Why was the Battle at Antietam Creek so important
- How the highlighted individuals displayed Army Values

### Lesson validation:

- Verify knowledge through checks on learning





# The Army Values



## Duty

**Definition:** *Fulfill your obligations. Duty is the legal and moral obligation to do what should be done without being told.*

### Why is Duty important?

*The fulfillment of your obligations is essential  
to the success of the Army team  
and the accomplishment of its missions*

**>> Remember: the Army Values transcend circumstance <<**



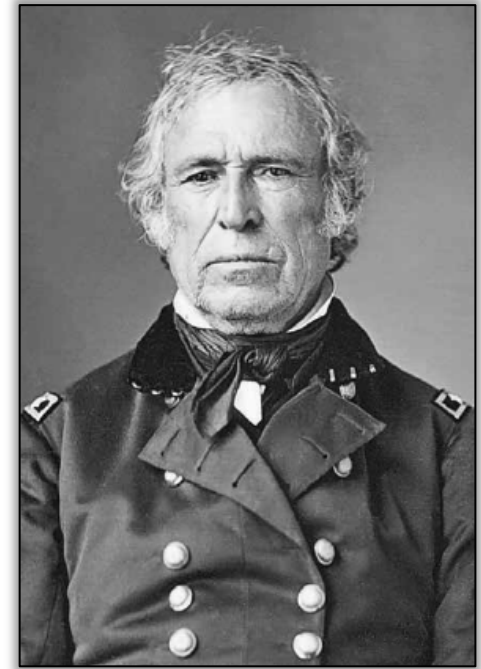


# A New Nation, Proved and Growing



After the War of 1812, the Army's concerns included:

- ***A third British invasion*** from the east
- ***Threats from natives and bandits*** to the west
- Coastal forts were built along the east coast
- Colonel Stephen Kearny's Army secured territory in present California, Arizona, and New Mexico
- General Zachary Taylor's Army was posted along the Rio Grande River as the US/Mexican border



General Zachary Taylor





# The Mexican American War



The Mexican Government refused to accept the Rio Grand River as the national border

- General Winfield Scott led a third American Army to invade Mexico
- Several **young Officers** expertly led quality units across several disciplines
- 02 February 1848: The US and Mexico sign the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo**
- Mexico ceded half of its territory to the United States



General Winfield Scott



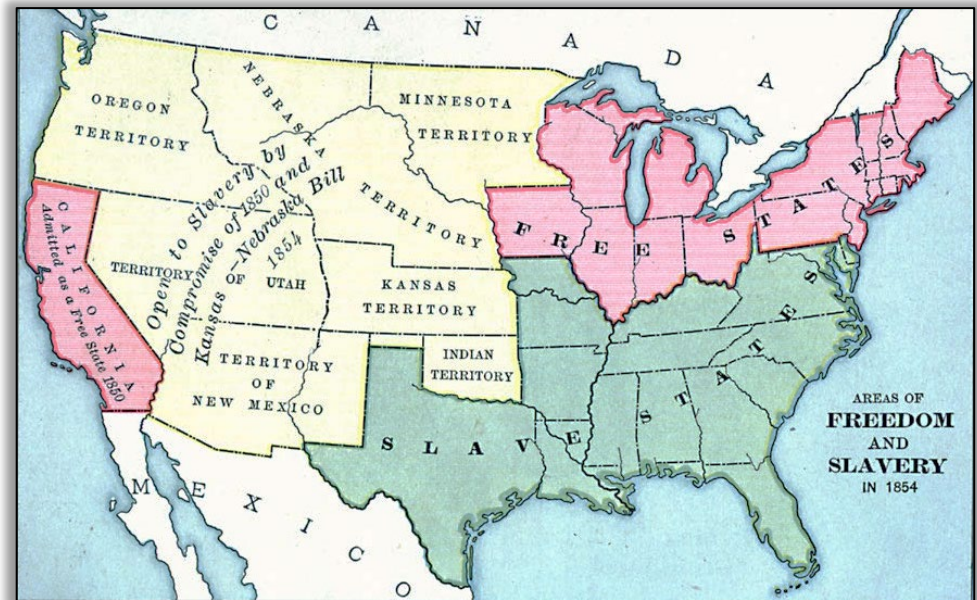


# Outbreak



Political disputes increased over newly formed States accepting the *institution of slavery*

- 06 November 1860: **Abraham Lincoln** is elected **President**
- Lincoln's *anti-slavery perspectives* prompted Seven States to secede
- 12 April 1861: Confederates fire on Fort Sumter, SC
- Lincoln calls for volunteers to “put down the insurrection”
- Four more states secede



Early map of Free States, Slave States, and the New Territories





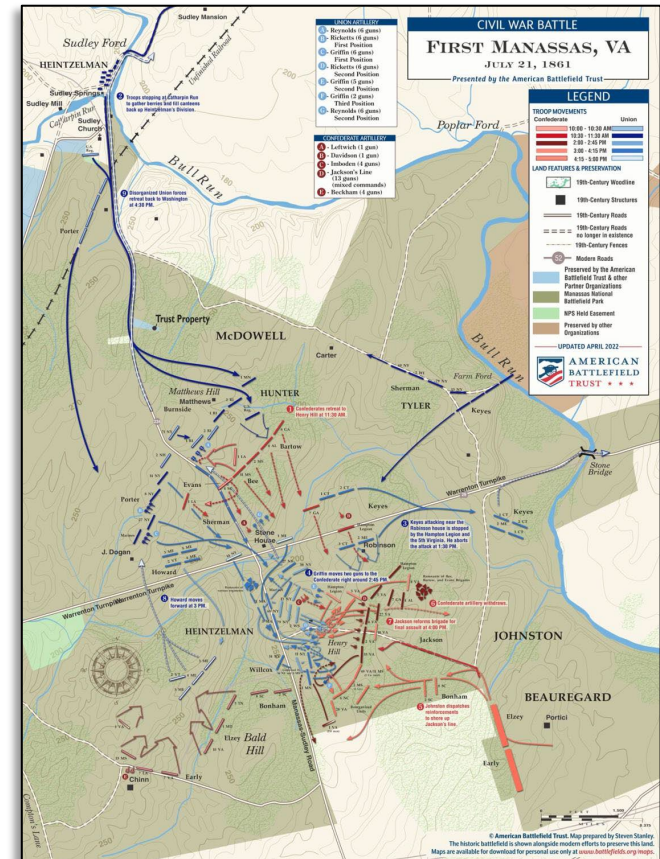
# The Battle of Bull Run



- The **Battle of Bull Run** was the first full-scale battle of the war
- Southern forces emerged victorious
- The gravity of the war was now realized



The Battle of Bull Run Creek, 16 July 1861



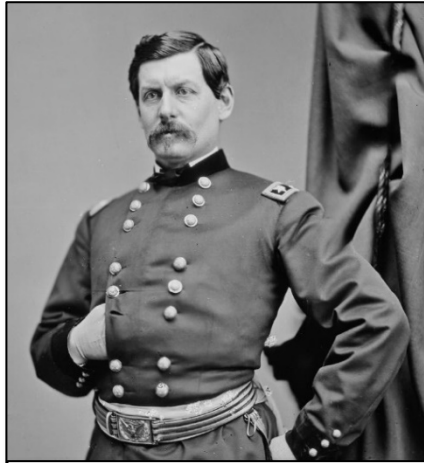
The Battle of Bull Run Creek Strategic Map







# Union Struggles



General George McClellan

- McClellan's Peninsula Campaign: Attempt to capture Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia
- Seven Day's Battle: Stalemate leading to a Union retreat



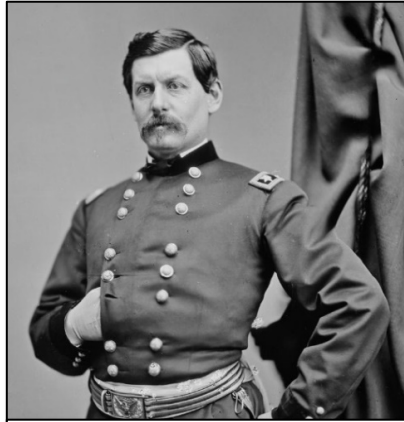
Peninsula Campaign Map

- Second Battle of Bull Run: Complete withdrawal of Union forces back north into Washington D.C.
- Confederate Army seizes initiative and pushes North



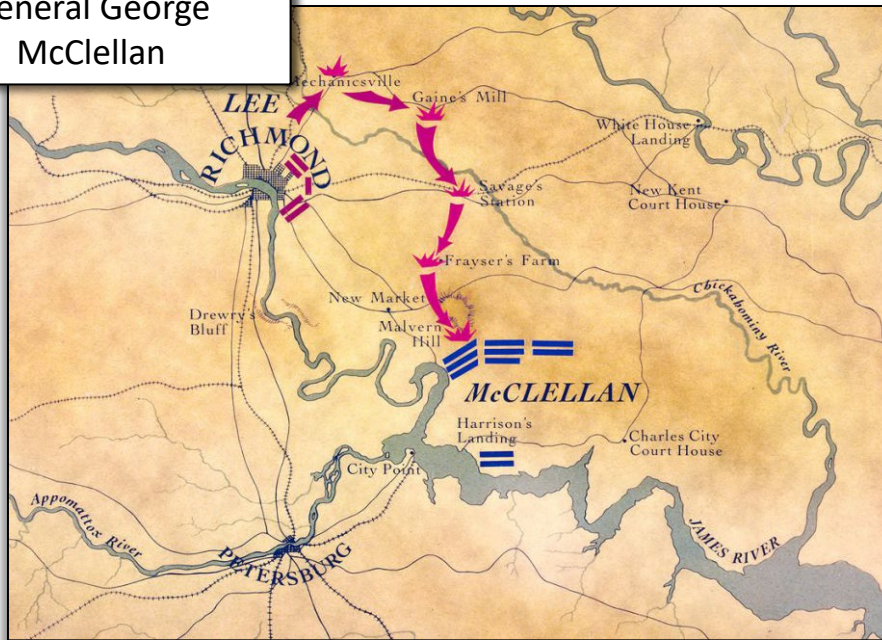


# Union Struggles



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Seven Day's Battle

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# The South Takes the Offensive



Victories at Richmond and Manassas prompted General Robert E. Lee to invade the north with the ***“Army of Northern Virginia”***:

- ***Put the north on the defensive*** and hold the advantage
- ***Encourage European intervention*** with a show of military power





# The South Takes the Offensive



General McClellan's "*Army of the Potomac*" set out from Washington D.C. with two goals:

- **Prevent** the south from *capturing Washington D.C.*
- **Defeat** General Lee's "*Army of Northern Virginia*" to *end the war*





# VIDEO CLIP

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- 1c. Module B - Battle of Antietam Video (Short)

(5:00 length)

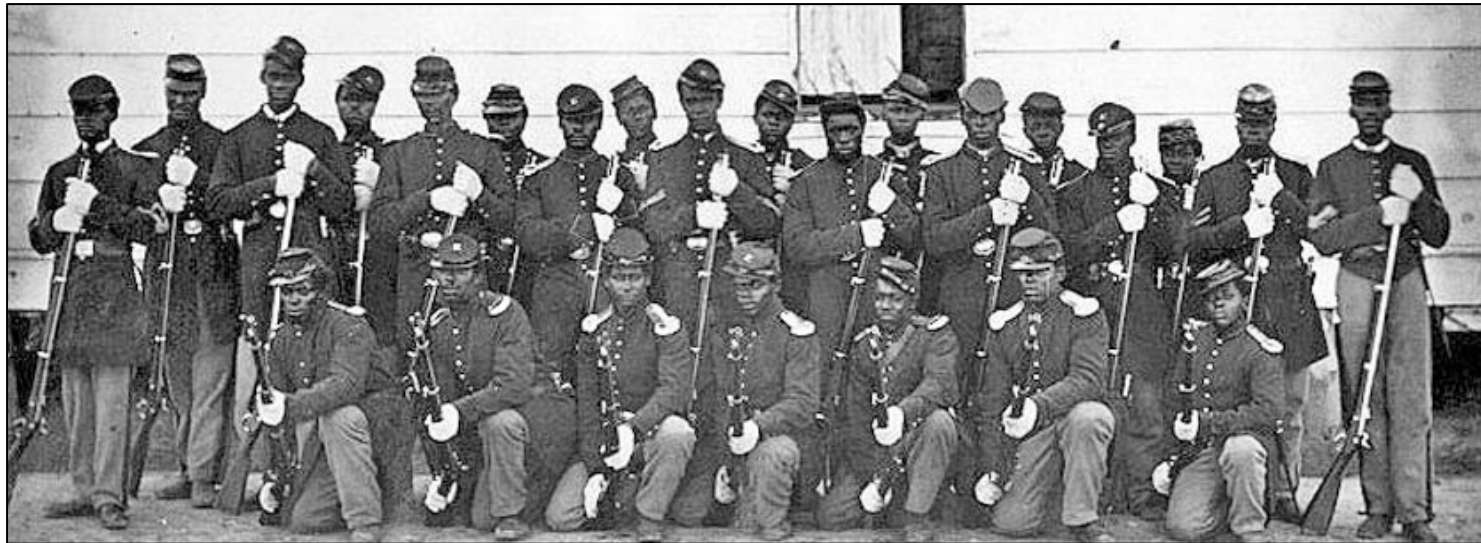




# Antietam Aftermath

The Battle of Antietam was a strategic victory for the Union Government

- **General Lee** was *obliged to withdraw* back to Virginia
- Southern defeat *discouraged European intervention*
- 22 September 1862: President Lincoln issued the *Emancipation Proclamation*, legally *freeing all slaves in the rebel states*





# Army Values - Duty



## Sergeant Major Christian A. Fleetwood

- A free-born and educated black business owner
- Enlisted into the Union Army in August 1863
- Promoted to Sergeant Major of the 4<sup>th</sup> Colored Infantry due to his education

*The 4th fought in the Battle of Chaffin's Farm on 29 September 1863. The color-bearers carrying the regimental and the national flags fell wounded. Fleetwood and another Soldier seized the colors and led the attack.*



*Fleetwood was one of fourteen Black Soldiers to receive the Medal of Honor for their heroic actions during the battle.*

*As a free, educated, and successful Black man in the era of slavery, Christian Fleetwood chose to enlist and lead.*

*In the face of fire and death, he chose to keep going.*

- Duty





# Army Values - Duty



## Doctor Mary E. Walker

- Experienced doctor before the Civil War
- Volunteered to be a surgeon in the Union Army; rejected because of her gender
- Determined to assist regardless of rejection

*To contribute in any way she could, Walker initially served as a nurse at the Battle of Bull Run, as well as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the Battles of Fredericksburg and Chickamauga.*

*In September 1863, the Army of the Cumberland hired Walker as a contract surgeon.*

*She treated both Soldiers and civilians, sometimes crossing enemy territory to do so; this led to her capture in April 1864.*

*After the war, President Andrew Johnson presented Walker with the Medal of Honor in recognition of her service.*

- Duty







# *Another Three Years of War*

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As significant as the Battle of Antietam was, the war continued for another three years:

- 15 December 1862: Union defeat at Fredericksburg, VA
- 03 July 1863: Union Victory at Gettysburg, PA
- 04 July 1863: Confederate surrender at Vicksburg, MI
- Through 1864: Overland, Petersburg, and Atlanta Campaigns significantly weakened the south strategically and economically
- Spring 1865: Confederate Armies surrender in three locations, ending the Civil War





# *Check on Learning*

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- What were the Army's concerns prior to the Civil War?
- What led to the outbreak of the Civil War?
- What key events led to the Battle of Antietam?
- Why was the Battle at Antietam Creek so important?
- What is the importance of Duty?



# TIMELINE

## First, Second, and Third Seminole Wars (1817–1818, 1835–1842, 1855–1858)

### Black Hawk War (1832)

### Second Creek War (1836)

#### 1842–1845

John C. Frémont Expeditions

## Mexican-American War (1846–1848)

#### 1846

8 May: Battle of Palo Alto

9 May: Battle of Resaca de la Palma

21–24 September: Battle of Monterrey

#### 1847

22–23 February: Battle of Buena Vista

9–29 March: Siege of Veracruz

18 April: Battle of Cerro Gordo

19–20 August: Battles of Contreras and Churubusco

8 September: Battle of Molino del Rey

12–13 September: Battle of Chapultepec

14 September: Capture of Mexico City

#### 1848

2 February: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo signed

#### 1853–1855

U.S. Army Transcontinental Railroad Surveys

## Civil War (1861–1865)

#### 1861

12–13 April: Battle of Fort Sumter

21 July: Battle of Bull Run

10 August: Battle of Wilson's Creek

#### 1862

6 February: Battle of Fort Henry

15–16 February: Battle of Fort Donelson

6–7 April: Battle of Shiloh

31 May–1 June: Battle of Fair Oaks

25 June–1 July: Seven Days Battles

29–30 August: Second Battle of Bull Run

17 September: Battle of Antietam

13 December: Battle of Fredericksburg

#### 1863

29 March–4 July 1863: Vicksburg Campaign

1–4 May: Battle of Chancellorsville

1–3 July: Battle of Gettysburg

18–20 September: Battle of Chickamauga

23–25 November: Battle of Chattanooga

#### 1864

4 May–14 June: Overland Campaign (includes Battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse)

7 May–2 September: Atlanta Campaign

15 June–2 April 1865: Petersburg Campaign (includes Battles of the Crater and Chaffin's Farm)

15 November–21 December: Savannah Campaign (Sherman's March to the Sea)

30 November: Battle of Franklin

15–16 December: Battle of Nashville

#### 1865

15 January: Second Battle of Fort Fisher

1 February–16 April: Carolinas Campaign (includes Battle of Bentonville)

9 April: General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse

16 April: Battle of Columbus, Georgia

26 April: General Joseph E. Johnston surrenders to Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman at Bennett Place

26 May: General Edmund Kirby Smith surrenders the Trans-Mississippi Department to Maj. Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, the last major Confederate troop surrender of the war

## Dakota War (1862)

## Reconstruction in the South (1865–1877)

## Red Cloud's War (1866–1868)

#### 1866

21 December: Fetterman Fight

## Modoc War (1872–1873)

## Red River War (1874–1875)

## Black Hills War (1876)

25–26 June: Battle of the Little Bighorn

## Nez Perce War (1877)

30 September–5 October: Battle of Bear Paw

#### 1878

Posse Comitatus Act

#### 1881

7 May: Command and General Staff College established

## Final Apache Campaign (1886)

## Ghost Dance Campaign (1890)

29 December: Wounded Knee Massacre

Period Covered

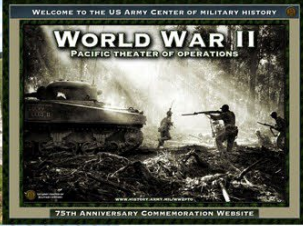
Period Covered



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VICTORY STARTS HERE!



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