## Section 1

# **The Civil War Begins**

## **Terms and Names**

Fort Sumter Union fort in Charleston, South Carolina

Anaconda plan Three-part Union strategy to win the Civil War

Bull Run Battle won by the Confederates

Stonewall Jackson Confederate general

George McClellan Union general

Ulysses S. Grant Union general

Shiloh Union victory

David G. Farragut Commander of the Union navy

*Monitor* Union ironclad ship

Merrimack Confederate ironclad ship

Robert E. Lee Confederate general

Antietam Union victory

## **Before You Read**

In the last section, you learned how conflicts between the North and the South led to Southern secession. In this section, you will learn about the early battles in the Civil War.

# As You Read

Use a chart to create newspaper headlines summarizing key Civil War battles in 1861 and 1862.

#### **CONFEDERATES FIRE ON FORT** SUMTER (Pages 338–339) How did the Civil War begin?

The Confederate states took over federal property in the South, especially forts. In April of 1861, the Confederacy demanded that the Union surrender Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor. President Lincoln refused to abandon the fort. However, he sent only food for the people there.

In March of 1861, the Confederacy attacked the fort and seized it. In response, Lincoln decided to go to war. The Civil War had begun. The remaining slave states quickly took sides. Virginia and three other states joined the Confederacy. Only four slave states remained in the Union. They were Maryland, Kentucky, Delaware, and Missouri.

1. What event started the Civil War?

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## AMERICANS EXPECT A SHORT

#### **WAR** (Pages 340–342) What was the first battle of the **Civil War?**

Northerners and Confederates alike expected a short glorious war. Both sides felt that right was on their side and were convinced that their opponents would go down easily to defeat.

In reality, the North had many advantages over the South. It had more people, more factories, more food production, and better railroads. It also had a skilled leader—Lincoln.

The South's advantages included better generals and soldiers eager to defend their way of life. Also, the North would have to conquer Southern territory to win.

The North had a three-part plan for victory: 1) to blockade Southern ports in order to keep out supplies; 2) to split the Confederacy in two at the Mississippi; 3) to capture the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia. This plan was called the Anaconda plan, after a snake that suffocates its victims by squeezing them.

The Confederates won the first battle of the war, Bull Run, just 25 miles from Washington, D.C. The winning Southern general was Stonewall Jackson. He earned his nickname because he stood as firm as a stone wall in battle.

2. Who won the battle at Bull Run?

### UNION ARMIES IN THE WEST: **A REVOLUTION IN WARFARE**

(Pages 342–344)

Who led Union forces in the West?

Lincoln appointed General George McClellan to lead the Union army in the East. In the meantime, Union forces in the West began their fight to control the Mississippi.

In 1862, a Union army led by General Ulysses S. Grant captured two Confederate forts in Tennessee. Both sides suffered terrible losses in the Union victory at Shiloh.

Grant pushed on toward the Mississippi River. Meanwhile, a Union fleet approached the river's mouth in Louisiana. The navy, under the command of **David C. Farragut,** captured the port of New Orleans.

New weapons changed warfare. The ironclad ships *Monitor* and *Merrimack* made all wooden warships obsolete. New rifles made military trenches necessary in battle.

3. Which side won most of the battles for control of the Mississippi River region?

## THE WAR FOR THE CAPITALS (Pages 344-345)

Who won the battle of Antietam?

In 1862, the Union army in the East marched toward Richmond, Virginia-the Confederate capital. Confederate General Robert E. Lee successfully defended the capital. He forced the Union army to retreat. Lee then began marching his troops toward Washington, D.C.

In August, Lee's troops won a resounding victory at the second Battle of Bull Run. A few days later, they crossed the Potomac River into the Union State of Maryland. At this point McClellan had a tremendous stroke of luck. His troops found a plan that revealed that Lee's and Stonewall Jackson's armies were temporarily separated. McClellan decided to go after Lee.

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Union forces met Lee's army at Antietam, Maryland. It was the bloodiest clash of the war. This time, Lee was forced to retreat. Union troops did not chase Lee back into Virginia. If they had, they might have won the war then and there. Lincoln fired McClellan in November 1862.

4. How did General Lee have mixed success in the East?

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As you read about the outbreak of the Civil War, summarize the advantages held by each side at the time war was declared.

1. What advantages did the Union have?	2. What advantages did the Confederacy have?

Fill in the chart below with information about four early battles of the Civil War. (Two answers have already been provided.)

	Head of Union Forces	Head of Confederate Forces	Outcome of the Battle	Important Facts
1. Fort Sumter		Beauregard		
2. Bull Run				
3. Shiloh		Johnson and Beauregard		
4. Antietam				