**The Civil War, 1861-1865**

1. Early 1861, the seven states of the **Deep South** that seceded from the Union formed a new government as the Confederate States of America. A **constitution** was drawn up which for the most part followed the U.S Constitution, and **Jefferson Davis** of Mississippi was chosen as **President**.

2. **Abraham Lincoln** entered office in March 1861 faced with hard choices provoked by the secession crisis. He moved calmly and slowly during his first months in office.

a. Lincoln insisted firmly that Union could not be broken. But he sought to assure the seceding states that their institutions were not threatened.

b. When Lincoln sought to send supplies to **Fort Sumpter in Charleston, South Carolina** which was held by loyal Federal troops, Confederate forces attacked and captured the fort. **Lincoln promptly called for volunteers to prepare the army for war**.

c. In response to Lincoln’s call for volunteers, **four states of the upper south seceded from the Union,** bringing the total **Confederate states to eleven.**

3. The Civil War was fought because the North insisted that the Union be preserved. The North did not fight to abolish slavery.

4. The North held advantages of size and strength, but its war aims demanded that it develop difficult offensive strategy.

a. The Northern States had over twice the population of the South, and its manufacturing, transportation and naval capacities were several times greater.

b. Northern strategy consisted of three main aims:

\***taking control of the Mississippi River in the West,**

\***blocking Southern shipping along the coast, and**

\***Invading Virginia to capture the Confederate capital, Richmond.**

5. The South adopted a largely defensive strategy designed to wear down Northern determination to continue the struggle. The Confederate states also hoped to win British support for their cause.

6. The war turned to be a long and very costly struggle.

a. In the beginning volunteers from both sides marched off to battle full of confidence and high spirits. It soon became clear to the North that subduing the Confederate states would be no easy matter.

b. The major military actions took place in several large battles, especially in the region around Washington and Richmond, which involved huge losses of lives on both sides.

c. Northern persistence and greater resources finally wore down the Southern armies until **General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomatox, April 9, 1865.**

7. During the course of the war, some important changes took place in Northern attitudes and policies toward slavery.

a. Among Northern Political leaders opinions regarding slavery just as it was, but a group of **Radical Republicans** pushed for complete abolition of slavery, and even advocated complete **political and civil rights.**

b. In September 1862, after the tide of battle began to turn in favour of the North, **Lincoln** made an **“Emancipation Proclamation”** announcing the freedom of all slaves in the Confederate states.

8. Northern victory brought two significant results: The preservation of the Union and the abolition of slavery. But two new problems presented themselves for the future:

\***What would be done with the Conquered Confederate states?**

\***What would happen to millions of freed Negro slaves?**