

History 225

Re: Outline/Notes w/ Military Campaigns of 1864/65

### I. Grant's Strategy of Raids.

Grant's plan was to keep the CSA busy on four fronts simultaneously. He wanted especially to keep Lee from joining his Army of Northern Virginia with General Joe Johnston's Army of Tennessee.

The parts of the plan:

(1) Grant would tie Lee down in front of Richmond. To fix Lee's army outside the Rebel Capitol and bang away at it without interruption.

(2) General Benjamin ("Beast") Butler was assigned the task of taking Petersburg from the south. Butler had a 6 to 1 advantage in manpower over the defenders of Petersburg. (However he managed to fail in this effort. His army was bottled up by an inferior Confederate Army and this left Grant with problems.

(3) General Banks was to take the Mobile, the last CSA port facing on the Gulf. *See off the Gulf to*

*Steel in the Shenandoah Valley*  
 *blockade runners*  
(4) The key to the whole strategy of Raids was assigned to Sherman. He would take his Army of the West from Chattanooga and capture Atlanta. If the CSA lost Atlanta and the railines running through that city Lee would suffer greatly from loss of supplies from the interior of the South.

Lee's Options: These were slim and none really. All he could do was keep Grant from taking Richmond and hope that the Confederacy could hang on and create so many casualties for Grant and the Army of the Potomac that the 1864 election would bring a peace candidate into the White House. Lee was hoping that Northern will (or perseverance) would break before Grant attrited his army.