

The Civil War
Ken Burns

Part II

1. Politics: Lincoln's Cabinet/ Wild mixture
Lincoln and his generals in 1862. The great trial w/ McClellan(Mac)/
death of Willie

2. Ironclads- Develops a little in detail
of the Merrimac and Monitor. Their great clash

3/4 Linconites/ Grant early show in West/fall of
Fts. Henry and Donaldson; Mac's move to the Peninsula

go to
review for
go

5. Our Boy--cross/section of Billy Yank/ Camp life

6. Detailed section of Shiloh/ Pt made that this
was going to be a long war of attrition. This is the grimist legacy
of Shiloh. As many casualties at S hiloh as at Waterloo; and there
would be the equivalent of 20 Shilohs before it was all over.

7. Arts of Death--something on the weapons
revolution in Civil War. Not much; just a teaser.

Shorts on Frederick Douglass/ Naval warfare in the West/ Confederacy
girds for war to finish. Johnny Reb section.

8. Ends this part w/ Mac's stalled Peninsula
Campaign outside of Richmond.

Part III

The thin thread through this whole Part leads up to Emancipation
Proclamation.

1. Changing Charater of the war. The North's fortunes
in 1862 looked grimmer and grimmer. Lincoln toying w/ the idea of
changing the character of the war w/ emancipation idea.

Barbara Fields: that this was a dirty, fithy war without any redeeming
features at this point. S. Foote makes point that the slaughter in
this war was probably worse than any war in modern history. Weapons
had evolved more fully than tactics.

1. Bio of Stonewall Jackson; an eccentric and war
lover. His Valley Campaign a triumph/ mention of threat of European
intervention.

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2. Bio. of "beast" Butler in New Orleans. Studs Terkel reads his field order # 28

3. Seige of Richmond/ the Seven Days/ Mac refuses to press his advantage at gates of Richmond. He is thoroughly out-generated by Jackson. The Peninsula/Richmond Campaign collapses in July 1862. The Army of the Potomac is brought back to Washington.

5. Toward the Emancipation Proclamation
--Horace Greely's "Prayer of Twenty Millions"/ Lincoln's response

6. There follows a detailed account of the battle of Antietam. Discusses the three battles on the day of America's bloodiest conflict in war/

7. A short on Mathew Brady's photo exhibit of the Antietam dead. Hits home like nothing else.

8. Lincoln enunciates the Emancipation Proclamation/ the impact.

Begin
I live for
this
sequence
Reverso
about
30
minutes

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Part IV--Simply Murder--

The year is 1863:

War--seeing the "monkey show" was euphemism by soldiers for seeing the slaughter. (Seeing the elephant).,

1. Winter Camp for the Army of the Potomac. Deals w/ the disease factor in camp life/ no pay for soldiers for 6 months. Notes that for every Union soldier who died in combat, two died of disease. (more dead of disease than died in Vietnam for combat)

2. Fredericksburg Campaign
Follows a detailed description of the battle. This was another Union defeat. Another case of tactics--storming fixed Rebel positions. Weapons had outrun tactics. Failure of military imagination. But S. Foote notes the courage of the Union troops. Hardly, though, an anodyne to the mindless orders they were given to take dug-in Rebels. Battle occurred in Dec. 1862.

3. Oh Boy! Section deals with camp food in Union and Rebel armies. Incidents of drunkenness. The home-brew recipes of the soldiers.

4. The Kingdom of Jones: Introduction into the problems within the Confederacy. While the South had the advantage of being unified (as compared to the North/and being invaded by an "alien" force) there were still problems for Jeff Davis. Not as many as Lincoln faced, however.

Bio. of Jeff Davis.

Inflation in the South. Money stringency. The most prized medium of exchange was a Yankee gold dollar. The South could still not break from the Union! / Decline in morale/ dissension rates were up.

Snippet on the "Kingdom of Jones." Jones was a county in Mississippi. For 3 years local guerrillas ran off the tax collectors and fought with Confederate troops who ventured into the county--why it was called the "Kingdom of Jones." Illustration of States' Rights run wild.

5. Under the Shade of the Trees: Joe Hooker the new commander of the Army of the Potomac. Battle of Chancellorsville where Hooker failed miserably like all those Lincoln generals before him. Chancellorsville was Lee's classic textbook victory' his greatest victory. Some 17,000 Union troops dead while Confederates lost 13,000. But the greatest loss for Lee was death of Stonewall Jackson

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6. A Dusty Man on a Dusty Horse:
Deals w/ Granty and the beginning of the Vicksburg campaign. Lays seige to the city. Campiagn in West boggs down on banks of the Mississippi. J. Davis calls on Lee: Something must be done about Grant. Lee proposes a thrust into the North to take pressure off of Vicksburg. (Foote later will say that the war was basically won in the West. Once the Union had the Mississippi it was just a matter of time. Most historians concentrate on the Eastern campaigns because it was where the news coverage was thickest, the two Capitols were located, etc. But militarily/Strategically the Western campaigns were the key.)

This last section leads into the next: The Battle of the Universe--
Gettysburg.

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Part V--The Battle of the Universe--

Begins w/ the three days of Gettysburg:

1. Day One--The armies meet by happenstance. July one Southern troops came to Gettysburg because they heard there were stores of military shoes in the town. Southern troops entered the town by the North and Union troops entered by the South. Point: Mac had found the packet containing Lee's battle plans at South Mountain. He ordered his forces to shadow Reb deployments in Pennsylvania. Consequently the meeting in Gettysburg. Lee's intention was to get to the railroad center at Harrisburg and keep, between the west and Washington, D.C. to the South.

2. Armies converge on Gettysburg. There were 65,000 Rebs and 80,000 Union troops.

Battle of Little Roundtop takes place on 2nd Day. (Had Stonewall Jackson been alive he would have taken Little Roundtop and the Union would not have stayed around for a confrontation). Discussion of the battle . . .

3. Pickett's Charge. Lee's blood was up. He was determined to stand and fight. Either he would get whipped or he would whip the Yankees. Foote notes that after his masterful victories at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, Lee felt he was invincible.

Pickett's Charge. 13,000 men across 1.5 mile field of open fire. The disaster. It was Lee's greatest military disaster. (Foote notes that it was Lee's greatest day as a man. He came on the field as the Rebs retreated from Centenary Ridge and confessed that he was to blame. Pickett despised his thereafter.)

4. She Ranks Me: Women's role in war on both sides.

5. returns to the siege of Vicksburg. City surrenders on July 4, the day that Lee retreats across the Potomac.

6. Bottom Rail on Top: New York draft riots/a short discription/ Sable arm/ blacks in the army/ a small section on Ft. Wagner.

7. Chatanooga Campaign

8. Ends w/ Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This was in November 1863 commemorating the opening of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg. Lincoln was invited to the ceremony almost as an afterthought. His speech was so short (269 words) that photographers were not set up to take pictures. He was not the main speaker. Speech did not receive much accolade.

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Strategy for Lee:
Bogus by "the leadership"
Cover this to Cold Harbor
in 20 minutes
Section on Petersburg runs
about 7 minutes

Part VI--Valley of the Shadow of Death--

1. Emergence of U.S. Grant
Bio. of Grant
2. Profile of Robert E. Lee
3. Wilderness Campaign/ Lee vs. Grant

This was the first time these two figures tangled. Their strategies are discussed.

Discussion of the Battle of the Wilderness. Grant was defeated. But unlike other Union generals after set back by Lee, Grant advanced; he did not retreat.

From Wilderness to Cold Harbor. The slug-fest went on for 30 days. Grant was the the Union general who knew how to defeat Grant. His bulldog tactics cost many lives. The horrors of this campaign are discussed.

Spotsylvania

4. Move by the Left Flank: Grant and Lee locked in deadly embrace. Bloody murder at Cold Harbor. Grant lost 7,000 men in seven minutes!!!
In one month Union lost 50,000 men. As many combat deaths in one month as toll taken since the war began. Grant "the Butcher"

Ken Burns' Civil War

On showing the '64 campaigns in the East the Valley of the Shadow of Death use that section on "The Wilderness" which runs for 7 minutes.

If time permits there is a following section on Petersburg which runs for 7 minutes.

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Part VII--Most Hallowed Ground--

Notes that in Fall of 1864 140,000 Union troops reenlisted for the duration. This was a dramatic demonstration of support for the war/emancipation despite the stagnation of the two fronts and the incredible horrors of combat.

1. Nathaniel Beford Forrest--Southern cavalry officer par excellance. One of the true military geniuses to emerge out of the war. Forrest would brilliantly harass Sherman's army in the West. Sherman wanted him out of commission even if it cost 10,000 Union lives.

2. Election Again

3. Petersburg Again: The Crater Incident. A hideous fiasco by criminally bunbling Union generals-- Burnside and others.

4. Battle for Atlanta/ the city falls on September 1, 1864.

5. Age of Shoddy--wartime millionaires. Those who boughtout of draft and stayed home to make megabucks out of selling to the Union/ Ft. Pillow Massacre briefly discussed.

6. Prisoners/ Andersonville--a look at conditions in this camp.

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Part VIII -- War Is Hell --

Begins w/ roll call of destroyed cities

1. Sherman's March: Sherman was the first of the modern generals. He understood that war against the civilian population was necessary for victory.

Buring of Atlanta. Atlanta was an arsenal for the Confederacy/ living off the land/ Sherman's "neck ties"--destruction of the southern rr system.

The wide swath of destruction. He crossed 425 miles--reeked \$100,000,000 of havoc and destruction.

2. Battle of Franklin, Tennessee, near Nashville. Battle destroys Hood's army; Hood resigns.

3. Breath of Emancipation: Slaves flee to Sherman's army. Sherman takes Savannah/ moves into So. Carolina by winter. Lays greater havoc in So. Carolina than Georgia. Punishing the "heart of secession."

"Dead of a Theory"

Southern refugees flee Sherman's 60,000 man army/

Lee's army is starving in Richmond while the Confederate Congress remains indifferent/ desertion in the Rebs ranks/ recruitment of slaves for Confederate Army.

4. Lincoln's Second Inugural

5. John W. Booth--His coconspirators

6. Collapse of Petersburg after the nine-month seige/ Richmond is abandoned for Danville, Va. / Lincoln arrives in Richmond for a look-see.

7. Appomatox--details of the surrender.