

## S2

### Early Stages of the War

Why did neither the Union nor the Confederacy gain a strong advantage during the early years of the war?

- ❖ Leadership decisions.
- ❖ Both sides won key battles

The first major battle of the War took place on July 21, 1861, in northern Virginia at the Battle of Bull Run.

- ❖ At first, Union forces drove the Confederates back,
- ❖ Confederate forces rallied under “Stonewall” Jackson, the Union forces retreated in a panic.
- ❖ Northerners were shocked by the defeat.

The Union goal in the West was to gain control of the Mississippi River and split the south.

- ❖ In April some of the bloodiest fighting of the war took place at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee.
- ❖ The Union won, but both sides suffered huge casualties,

## War in the East

- ❖ Union forces were also trying to capture Richmond, Virginia, the capital of the Confederacy.
- ❖ The Confederate victories in the East were due mainly to the leadership of Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson.

## The Emancipation Proclamation

- ❖ President Lincoln did not want to make the Civil War a conflict to end slavery
- ❖ Abolitionists urged him to make the war a fight to end slavery.
- ❖ Pointed out that Britain and France might be less willing to support the South if the Union made the war a fight for freedom.

On September 22, 1862, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

- ❖ It only applied to those slaves in Confederate territory.
- ❖ Lincoln did have the constitutional authority to deprive an enemy of property during war time.
- ❖ Went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863.