**CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA**

Eleven states, led by South Carolina, seceded from the Union of States to form the "Confederate States of America" (Confederacy).  After the election of 1860, when Lincoln won, South Carolina seceded in December 1860. Six more states, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida seceded to create the Confederacy. A few months later, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia joined.

There were four slave states that did not secede: Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware,. They were also called the "border states.”  Maryland was the most important of these because President Lincoln's White House would have been in a Confederate state if they did secede.

**CIVIL WAR BEGINS AT FORT SUMTER, South Carolina - APRIL 12th, 1861**

The army of the North was also called the Union Army and the "Boys in Blue"

The North had a great advantage in material resources such as: population, railroad tracks, factories production, imports/exports and banks.

**Northern military strategies:**

1). "Divide and conquer" the South by gaining control of the Mississippi River.

2). Naval blockade of all southern port cities. The South had few factories of any type.

3). Capture the Confederate Capital at Richmond, Virginia.  The name given to this plan was the "ANACONDA PLAN" because they planned to squeeze the life out of the Confederacy.

**Southern military strategies:**

The Confederate army, was also known as the "Rebels", or the "boys in gray"

The main strategy of the South was to fight a "defensive war", which was easier than being on the offensive.  Since the Southerners were on their home lands, there was a fierce, determined spirit to fight against the invaders from the North.

The southerners were typically more skilled outdoorsmen than the northerners who lived in cities.

The southern army had better generals than the north.  Both sides had generals that graduated from West Point, but we will identify which general's distinguished themselves early in this war.