CIVIL WAR TIMELINE

November 1860
Lincoln elected President with no southern support [USA]

December 1860 – June, 1861
South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas, and Tennessee attempt to secede from the United States [CSA]

March 1861
Lincoln inaugurated President [USA]

April 1861
Confederates bombard, force surrender of Ft. Sumter, Charleston, SC [CSA]

July 1861
Confederates defeat ill-prepared US troops at Battle of Bull Run, VA [CSA]

December 1861
Trent affair threatens to escalate into war between United States and Great Britain

March 1862
Dramatic naval battle between Ironclads C.S.S. Virginia and U.S.S. Monitor demonstrates that wooden warships will soon be obsolete

April 1862
Grant’s army in Tennessee is surprised but perseveres to victory in the bloody Battle of Shiloh [USA]

June 1862
Lee assumes command of Confederate army defending Richmond, VA [CSA]

June – July 1862
Lee defeats McClellan in Seven Days Battles [CSA]

August 1862
Lee defeats Pope at the Second Battle of Bull Run [CSA]

September 1862
Lee’s Maryland invasion is repulsed by a reinstated McClellan at the Battle of Antietam [USA]

December 1862
Burnside’s blundering attack on Lee at Fredericksburg, VA is a demoralizing Union defeat [CSA]

January 1863
Lincoln issues final Emancipation Proclamation [USA]

March 1863
Congress passes the Conscription Act, the first wartime military draft [USA]
CIVIL WAR TIMELINE

May 1863
Lee defeats Hooker at Chancellorsville, VA [CSA]

June 1863
West Virginia is permitted to secede from Virginia and becomes the 35th state [USA]

July 1863
Victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg turn the military tide [USA]

July 1863
Opposition to conscription results in the New York City Draft Riots

March 1864
Abraham Lincoln appoints Grant general in chief of all Union armies [USA]

May-June 1864
Grant conducts bloody Overland Campaign, which stall outside Petersburg, VA

August 1864
Victories at Atlanta, Cedar Creek, and Mobile Bay raise US morale [USA]

November 1864
Lincoln is reelected in an overwhelming victory over McClellan [USA]

November-December 1864
Sherman’s March to the Sea begins in Chattanooga, TN and ends at port of Savannah, GA [USA]

January 1865
Congress passes the Thirteenth Amendment [USA]

February 1865
Last Confederate port of Wilmington, NC falls to US forces [USA]

March 1865
Lincoln is inaugurated as President for a second term [USA]

April 1865
Breakthrough at Petersburg forces Confederates to evacuate capitol in Richmond, VA [USA]

April 1865
Lee surrenders the Army of Northern Virginia to Grant at Appomattox [USA]

April 1865
Lincoln assassinated at Ford’s Theater in Washington, D.C.

April – June 1865
Remaining Confederate armies surrender [USA]