



REBEL UNDERGROUND

Major John C. Hutto Camp 443
Sons of Confederate Veterans
P.O. Box 947
Jasper, Alabama 35502

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Lt. Col. Edwin L. Kennedy, Jr. (R)
addressed the February Hutto Camp
meeting on Black Confederates.

"THERE'S BEEN some talk about making Election Day a national holiday so people have more time to vote. I think people are so sick of this election. How about making the day after Election Day the holiday?" – Jay Leno

MARCH MEETING NOTICE

Sunday - March 17

2:30 P. M.

**First Methodist Church
Jasper**

We will meet for just a few minutes and then proceed to Flatwoods Cemetery between Carbon Hill and Nauvoo for a marker dedication honoring Pvt. David C. Ganey - Co. K , 56th AL

**SEIGE AT BRIDGEPORT
MARCH 22 - 24
Bridgeport , Alabama**

The largest reenactment in the State of Alabama.

New camping sites for the Re-enactors and Modern camp sites are available. They have more than 25 cannons, and many infantry, cavalry mounted and dismounted, women of era, children dressed in era. Era sutlers and several modern vendors will also be set up. School days on Friday. Anvil shooting and two day battles. The Memorial Service at the Williams Cemetery will be Sunday at 11 a.m. and They ask all re-enactors to please attend the ceremony.

For more information, call 256 - 495 - 3614

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

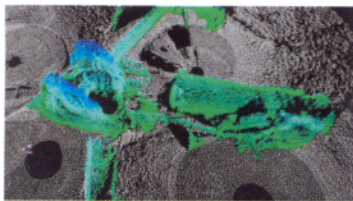
COMMANDER	James Blackston
1 ST LT. COMM	John Tubbs
2 ND LT. COMM	Brandon Prescott
ADJUTANT	Trent Harris
CHAPLAIN	Joseph B. Cook
EDITOR	Leonard Wilson

MILITARY HISTORY

MARCH 2013

Rare 3-D Look at Civil War Wreck

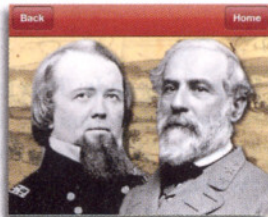
Researchers with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries [<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>] have compiled a 3-D sonar map of USS *Hatteras*, a 210-foot iron-hulled Union blockade ship sunk off Galveston, Texas, in early 1863 by the Confederate raider



CSS *Alabama*. The mapping team had to race the clock, as recent storms had temporarily cleared the wreckage of silt and sand. *Hatteras* was the only Union vessel sunk in combat in the Gulf of Mexico during the war.

Battle Apps Cover Civil War Sites

The Civil War Trust [www.civilwar.org/battleapps] has released three new battle apps to mark the sesquicentennial of the 1862 Battle of Antietam, Md.; the 1862 Second Battle of Manassas, Va.; and the 1864–65 Petersburg campaign. The free GPS-



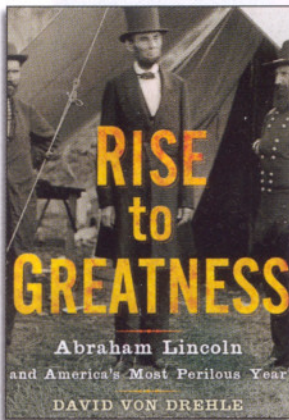
enabled touring apps feature self-guided battlefield tours with video and audio commentary, period and modern imagery, and detailed topographical maps, among other extras. Previously released apps cover First Manassas, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and other key clashes.

News Clips from the Past

From the Gettysburg Gazette, November 1863:

... grimacing and scowling with his ape-like countenance, the President of the United States delivered himself of a rather tempered set of remarks, neither memorable nor—from the murmurings and shiftings of the crowd—pleasing. His short and drab oration was interrupted, though, when he paused in a surprising and unexpected fashion and took a small sip of water from a glass that had been placed below him on the platform. The noisy drink could be heard several rows into the crowd, and it so stunned the audience—and even those honorable personages who filled the platform were seen to shake their heads in uniform disapproval at this rude and coarse depiction of presidential thirst—that for several moments the entire party was silent. But then, the silence turned to anger. The crowd, already unhappy with the blandishments of the President's sorry prose, rose up as one to make clear their offense at this unprecedented and unwelcome behavior. "Take a drink, sir?" they jeered in rage. "Dare you sip of water?" cried the assembled, clearly indicating to all on the platform, including rising presidential timber, the Hon. Edward Everett, that the current occupant of the White House has truncated and put paid to his own political future.

Crucible of the Civil War



Rise to Greatness: Abraham Lincoln and America's Most Perilous Year, by David Von Drehle, Henry Holt and Co., New York, 2012, \$30

Beginning this fine history, journalist von Drehle (*Triangle: The Fire That Changed America*) points out that in early 1862, six months after the First Battle of Bull Run (or Manassas), many loyal

Northerners considered President Abraham Lincoln incompetent. By year's end few had changed their minds.

The Confederate army threatened Washington, D.C. Commanding the Army of the Potomac in July 1861, Maj. Gen. George McClellan, who despised Lin-

coln and had no great objection to slavery or the Confederacy, marched and trained his men but brushed off repeated suggestions he attack.

Raising money for a crushingly expensive war seemed impossible. The British and French governments favored the Confederacy and seemed inclined to intervene. Many Northerners considered Lincoln a dangerous radical for trampling states' rights, but abolitionists (still a minority) denounced him as a weakling for refusing to advocate emancipation for fear of offending the four border slave states that remained in the Union.

Thrilling news arrived in February 1862 when the still obscure Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant won spectacular victories at Forts Henry and Donelson in the Western the-

ater, and again in March when Admiral David Farragut led Union forces to capture New Orleans. Lincoln cheered up even more when McClellan finally led his army into action, moving by sea to the east coast of Virginia. Sadly, his unhurried advance stalled in the face of an aggressive enemy, and after a few bloody months he retreated without having lost any battles. Shiloh in April raised no one's spirits. The outlook declined further that summer when McClellan delayed reinforcing a rival, resulting in defeat at Second Bull Run/Manassas. McClellan's deliberation during the massive slaughter at Antietam thwarted a decisive victory, though as enemy forces withdrew afterward, Lincoln proclaimed it a success and used it to justify is-

suing his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. He also decided to exert closer control over his generals and fired McClellan. His replacement, Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside, led the army to disaster at Fredericksburg in December, so 1862 ended on a low note. Matters did not improve during the first half of 1863, but better things were in store.

This intelligent account reminds readers that the Civil War was well under way before people thought Lincoln was a man for the ages. Few thought so in 1862.

—Mike Oppenheim

MILITARY HISTORY

MARCH 2013

New Museum For Gettysburg

The Seminary Ridge Museum [www.seminaryridgemuseum.org] in Gettysburg, Pa., will open on July 1, 2013, the 150th anniversary of the pivotal Civil War bat-



tle. The museum is housed within the 1832 Lutheran Theological Seminary, aka the "Old Dorm," which both sides used as a scouting position and field hospital. Four floors of exhibits spotlight the battle itself, Civil War medicine, and the impact of faith and race on the conflict.

MILITARY HISTORY | MARCH 2013

'Killing Lincoln' is tough on viewers, too

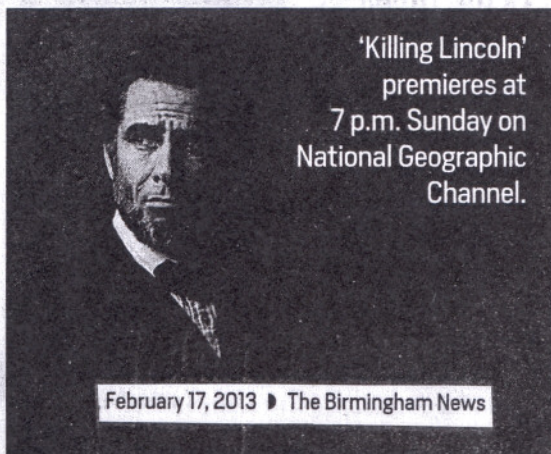
Rich Heldenfels
McClatchy-Tribune

With Daniel Day-Lewis the prohibitive favorite to win the best-actor Oscar for his portrayal of Honest Abe in *Lincoln*, I can't help but feel sorry for Billy Campbell.

Campbell plays the 16th president in "Killing Lincoln," a production based on the novel by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard; it premieres at 8 p.m. EST Sunday on National Geographic Channel.

NGC calls this its "first original scripted drama," although it is in fact something of a hybrid, almost like a documentary with extended re-enactments. Tom Hanks appears as an authoritative host, describing and explaining events while addressing the audience directly or in voice-overs. The Hanks segments then serve as a bridge between the dramatized portions, which include not only Campbell's Lincoln but scheming by John Wilkes Booth (played by Jesse Johnson) and other conspirators.

The script — covering events before the assassination and its aftermath — is by Erik Jendresen, an Emmy winner as writer and producer on the Hanks-backed "Band of Brothers," and the production does try to hew to the historical record, to offer bits that audiences may not know and, on occasion, to note gaps in history. This occasionally leads to some odd production decisions, such as having the actors perform a scene from one historical account while the narration is skeptical of that happening, or showing



Actor Billy Campbell plays Abraham Lincoln in "Killing Lincoln." (National Geographic Channel)

DETAILS

What: "Killing Lincoln"

When: 7 p.m., Sunday

Where: National Geographic Channel

the making of a photo now lost. But the larger problem with "Killing Lincoln" lies not in its writing but its presentation.

Campbell, seen not long ago in "The Killing" (not of Lincoln), is a good actor. (I am less convinced of Johnson's skills.) He has a knack for conveying a pained vulnerability, which is sometimes used in his Lincoln performance. But where Day-Lewis rivetingly inhabited his character, Campbell cannot get so close; too often his Lincoln seems little more than a trick of makeup, espe-

cially around the eyes.

Indeed, there's an overall cheapness of look in the dramatic portions of "Killing Lincoln," for example in the way settings often look more like studio sets than natural locations. The bloody assault that was part of the attempt to kill Lincoln's secretary of state, William Seward, at the same time Lincoln was shot is shown more than once, as if the audience needed some extra gore to keep watching.

As I said, one of the challenges facing "Killing Lincoln" is that many viewers will come to it with recent memories of the bigger-budgeted, more textured and better acted big-screen "Lincoln." But even taken on its own, "Killing Lincoln" is moderately interesting in its information (at least for people unfamiliar with accounts of the assassination) but lacking in its attempts at drama.

The Emancipation of Barack Obama

Why the reelection of the first black president matters even more than his election

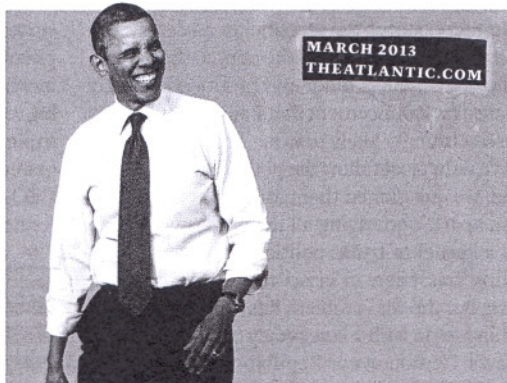
BY TA-NEHISI COATES

IN EARLY 1861, on the eve of the Civil War, the Georgia politician Henry Benning appealed to the Virginia Secession Convention to join the Confederate cause. In making his case, he denounced the “Black Republican party” of President Abraham Lincoln, arguing that his election portended “black governors, black legislatures, black juries, black everything.” The predicted envelopment surely took longer than he thought, but by 2008, Benning looked like Nostradamus. After the black governors, the black legislators, the integrated juries, Benning’s great phantom—“black everything”—took human form in the country’s 44th president, Barack Obama.

A sober observer could have dismissed Obama’s election in 2008 as an anomaly rather than a sea change. As the first black presidential nominee, Obama naturally benefited from record turnout among African Americans—turnout that might not be sustainable in future elections. He also benefited from an opposition that was saddled with two wars, an unpopular incumbent, and an economy in free fall. In black communities, there was a distinct awareness of the situation: if white folks are willing to hand over the country to a black man, then we must really be in bad shape.

Entering the 2012 election, Obama was no longer a talented rookie; he was the captain of the football team, with a record vulnerable to interpretation, and to attack. The economy was still sluggish. American troops were still being shot in Afghanistan. His base seemed depressed. And the most-loyal members of that base, African Americans, were facing an array of “voter ID” laws that had—what a coincidence—bloomed following his election.

These voter-ID laws were functionally equivalent to a poll tax. The Brennan Center for Justice at New York University concluded that the cost of compliance with the recent measures would,



in most cases, easily exceed the price of the Virginia poll tax (\$10.64 in today’s dollars), which the U.S. Supreme Court famously declared unconstitutional in 1966. This new type of poll tax seemed to foreordain fewer African Americans at the polls, not more, and thus an election that did not resemble 2008 so much as all the elections before it, elections wherein white demography proved to be American destiny.

In fact, these fears proved unfounded. If anything, the effort to reinstate a poll tax appears to have backfired. The black community refused to comply with expectations, and instead turned out in droves. In 2012, minority turnout across the country exceeded 2008 levels; unlike the turnout of other minorities, however, black turnout was not fueled by demographic growth but by a higher percentage of the black electorate going to the polls. For the first time in history, according to a study by Pew, black

turnout may even have exceeded white turnout.

You could be forgiven for looking at African American history as a long catalog of failure. In the black community, it is a common ritual to deride individual shortcomings, and their effect on African American prospects. The men aren’t doing enough. The women are having too many babies. The babies are having babies. Their pants are falling off their backsides. But November’s electoral math is clear—African Americans didn’t just vote in 2012, they voted at a higher rate than the general population.

The history of black citizenship had, until now, been dominated by violence, terrorism, and legal maneuvering de-

signed to strip African Americans of as many privileges—jury service, gun ownership, land ownership, voting—as possible. Obama’s reelection repudiates that history, and shows the power of a fully vested black citizenry. Martin Luther King Jr. did not create the civil-rights movement any more than Malcolm X created black pride. And the wave

that brought Obama to power precedes him: the black-white voting gap narrowed substantially back in 1996, before he was even a state legislator. The narrowing gap is not the work of black messiahs, but of many black individuals.

The second chapter of the Obama presidency begins exactly a century and a half after Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation took effect. Much like the proclamation, the Obama presidency has been a study in understated and reluctant radicalism. The proclamation freed no slaves in those lands loyal to Lincoln and was issued only after more-moderate means failed. Yet Lincoln’s order transformed a war for union into a war for abolition, and in so doing put the country on a road to broad citizenship for its pariah class. The 2012 election ranks among the greatest milestones along that road. We are not yet in the era of post-racialism. But the time of “black everything” is surely upon us. **A**



Each year Antietam honors the more than 23,000 battle casualties with a luminaria display.

MILITARY HISTORY MARCH 2013

Antietam Marks Sesquicentennial Of Bloodiest Day in U.S. History

Last fall hundreds of reenactors and spectators gathered at Antietam National Battlefield [www.nps.gov/ancm] near Sharpsburg, Md., amid the reports of cannon and the cadence of fife and drum, to mark the 150th anniversary of the Sept. 17, 1862, Civil War clash. Antietam remains the bloodiest day in American military history, with more than 23,000 Union and Confederate soldiers killed, wounded, captured or missing.

In early September 1862, on the heels of major Confederate victories in Virginia, General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia pressed north into Maryland, seeking to detach the slave state from the Union. Union General George McClellan led the Army of the Potomac in pursuit. The campaign culminated at Antietam, the punishing 12-hour fight unfolding in three phases—opening amid the Cornfield, boiling over around Dunker Church and the Bloody Lane, and ending at the stone span now known as

Burnside's Bridge, where Union troops under Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside finally secured the bridgehead under withering Confederate fire from the heights above. Lee withdrew his army to Virginia the next evening. While the outcome was inconclusive, the Union moral victory prompted President Abraham Lincoln to issue the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation five days later. A month later he removed McClellan from command.

Antietam remains one of the best preserved Civil War battlefields. Sesquicentennial events in Sharpsburg included reenactments, guided battlefield tours, living-history and weapons demonstrations, period concerts and lectures by such noted authors as Drew Gilpin Faust, James "Bud" Robertson, Mark Neely and James McPherson. Participants in the 3-mile Antietam Remembrance Walk crossed the Potomac River to Shepherdstown, W.Va., to honor both the combatants and residents who took in the wounded after the battle.

Teenager's first-hand view of Civil

By Liz Fabian

The (Macon) Telegraph

MACON, GA. | From atop Macon's College Street, a disabled teen seemed to have little to look forward to except satisfying his voracious hunger for news of the Civil War.

More than 150 years later, the world can now view the conflict through his eyes.

LeRoy Wiley Gresham wrote his personal observations nearly every day from June 1860 until he died June 18, 1865.

He gleaned what he could from letters, conversations and newspapers.

Gresham's 700 pages in

seven volumes are now a star attraction of "The Civil War in America" display at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

"His diary gives you somewhat of a 'You are there' quality," said Michelle Krowl, the Civil War and Reconstruction specialist for the Library of Congress.

Gresham died at age 17, about two months after Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

In the exhibit, his writings are open to November 1864, when the Gresham family is trying to decide whether to flee their home.

From atop the family mansion, now the 1842 Inn, he could see battle fires blazing in the distance as Gen. William T. Sherman's troops moved closer.

"Residents of Macon are not sure which direction Sherman's armies are going to take once they leave Atlanta, so there's a lot of anxiety and consternation that perhaps Macon is the next intended target," Krowl said.

LeRoy's father, John J. Gresham, twice mayor of Macon, had already left to fetch another son, Thomas, who was fighting in Virginia in the \$500 Confederate uniform the family bought for him.

LeRoy and his mother stayed, but his younger sister Minnie joined other refugees leaving town.

She would later marry wealthy Baltimore businessman Arthur Webster Machen, whose family preserved the diary and other Civil War-era papers that were donated to the Library of Congress in 1984.

More than 200 other items are on display in the exhibit that runs through June 1, but LeRoy's unpublished writings stand out.

Gone With The Wind

The Civil War-era romance of Scarlett O'Hara, the spoiled daughter of a plantation owner, and Rhett Butler, a charming



rascal, was the only novel published by Margaret Mitchell and an instant best-seller. The Pulitzer Prize-winning 1936 book has sold more than 30 million copies.

The sprawling 1939 film won 10 Academy Awards and, adjusting for inflation, has earned more than any other film in box office revenue. So phenomenal was the novel's success that Mitchell spent the remaining 13 years of her life dealing with its renown, noting that "being

the author of *Gone With The Wind* is a full-time job."





Commander James Blackston and Mrs. Blackston attended the recent R. E. Lee Institute in St. Augustine, Florida. They are shown here with National Commander Michael Givens.



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The Battle of Selma Re-enactment
April 25-28, 2013

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