



Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443
Jasper, Alabama

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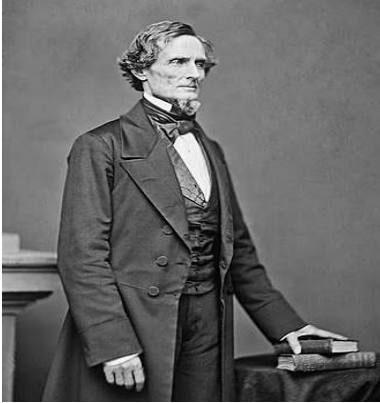
The June meeting of the Major John C. Hutto Camp
in Jasper, Alabama will be

Sunday, 18 June 2023 at 2:00PM

Meeting will be at the
First United Methodist Church's Adult Center

Speaker - Bob Sorrell, former President of the
Alabama Civil War Roundtable

Family, friends & guest are welcome



Remembering Jeff Davis **by Al Benson Jr.**

June 3rd is the anniversary of Jefferson Davis's birthday. Many won't even know who he was and others would just as soon forget. Many will brand him a traitor--and they will be wrong, some unintentionally and some on purpose. Jeff Davis was born on June 3, 1808. Jeff Davis was an interesting personality, now revered by many who treasure their Southern heritage and continually reviled by the Yankee Marxists who are, sadly, amongst us.

Davis attended West Point and served six years in the army as a lieutenant. He fought in the Mexican-American War as the colonel of a volunteer regiment. Before the "late unpleasantness" he operated a cotton plantation in Mississippi and owned over 100 slaves, although he is reported to have treated them humanely.

Davis argued against secession in 1858, but he did firmly believe that states had the right to secede--the doctrine of secession having been taught for awhile at West Point. Secession was hardly considered the traitorous action that it is pictured as in our day. Many on both sides of Mason-Dixon recognized secession as a viable option to government overreach. After all, the original 13 colonies seceded from Great Britain and listed their reasons for doing so in the Declaration of Independence. That Declaration was basically a secession document.

Davis served in the US Senate and as Secretary of War. As Secretary of War he ended the manufacture of smoothbore muskets for the military and switched to the production of rifled muskets, and worked to develop the tactics that went along with them. Rifled muskets had a much longer range, something many military leaders didn't grasp when making assaults against their adversaries.

After the Confederate states seceded, Davis was elected their first and only president, an office he had not sought. He had hoped to be some kind of military leader for the South

and had not wanted the position he ended up with. Then came the fuss over Fort Sumter. Part of the reason for that was that Ft. Sumter was a revenue collection point for the federal government. Lincoln may have gotten some of his tariff money there, plus wanting to make the South look bad. Lincoln's actions in regard to Sumter created the conditions whereby the South fired the first shot in the War of Northern Aggression.

The Confederate Government had sent delegates to Washington to work out a way for the South to pay for the military posts they had taken. Lincoln, with Seward as intermediary, refused to deal with them. Lincoln wanted a war--not the grand conflagration he ended up with, but a smaller war, and he wanted the South to appear to be the aggressor. He totally misunderstood the South's stiff resistance. It never seemed to occur to him that the South had finally got ticked off enough over the excessive tariffs they paid for decades that they were going to do something about it finally. But, then, Lincoln was devious and Davis wasn't.

After the war was over the North wanted to try him for treason and complicity in Lincoln's assassination. He was imprisoned under severe conditions for two years. The North wasn't sure what to do with him. Some vengeful Yankee Marxists of the Thaddeus Stevens type, dearly wanted to try him for Lincoln's assassination, but they had one problem. They never found any real evidence linking him to it. These were the people that wanted to punish the South for secession. Their spiritual descendants are still out there today--still trying to punish the South by labeling them all traitors and destroying all the monuments to Southern heroes because they are "treasonous."

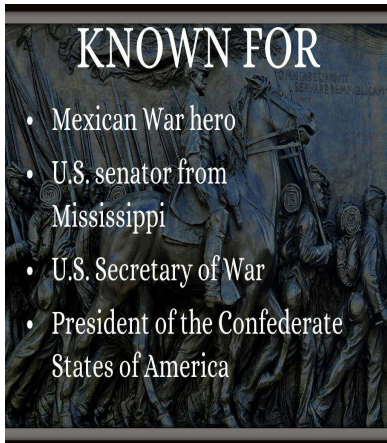
In June of 1866 the House of Representatives passed a resolution, 105-19, to try Davis for treason. Davis wanted a trial, wanted his day in court, because he felt he was not guilty of any of what they accused him of. His defense lawyer also realized that a trial could be used to test the constitutionality of secession. This created a problem for the Yankee/Marxists in control of the government in Washington because if Davis were tried and acquitted it would look like a victory for the legitimizing of the doctrine of secession. They couldn't afford that because, then, people would start asking pointed questions such as:

If secession is legal then what did we fight over in a war that cost over 700,000 lives and

casualties?

It is interesting that bail for Jeff Davis to get out of prison finally was provided by such well-known citizens of the North as socialist Horace Greeley, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and abolitionist Gerrit Smith, who had helped to finance terrorist John Brown. You have to wonder why such people would help Jeff Davis. Did he know something they would not have wanted brought out in a public trial? We don't know exactly because no public trial ever happened. The Northern elitist bigwigs finally decided giving Davis his day in court might just be too risky, all things considered.

I've always felt Jeff Davis was an honest, Christian man, though probably not the most discerning in his dealings with generals and other political figures. But, like all of us sinners, he was human and subject to bad judgment on occasion. His choice of John Bell Hood to lead the Army of Tennessee, which resulted in the slaughter at the Battle of Franklin, was a horrible mistake, as was using Braxton Bragg as a military advisor. It has been said of Bragg, partly in jest, that he was "the best general the Union had." And although that was a stretch, Bragg was a lousy military advisor. Davis needed better, but could not see that.



In his later years he wrote *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* which can still be gotten today in reprint. The Confederate government, incidentally, never officially surrendered to the Northern government and Northern aggression. And, lest we forget, June 3rd is Confederate Memorial Day--at least here in Louisiana--a good time to remember Jefferson Davis--the man the Yankee Marxists were afraid to try for treason!

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

Commander	James R. Blackston
1 st Lt. Cmd	Trent Harris
2nd Lt. Cmd	Jeremy Jackson
Adjutant	John McGraw
Chaplain	Barry Cook
Judge Advocate	Cherokee Brasher
Communications	Gene Herren
Facebook	Brandon Prescott - Jeremy Jackson
Quartermaster	Barry Cook
Newsletter Editor	James Blackston

Website: www.huttocamp.com

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The Rebel Underground is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.