

**Volume 18**

**Number 041**

**A House Divided: (93) HD The Tide**

**Turns - IV**

**Lead: One hundred and fifty years ago the Republic was facing its greatest crisis. This continuing series examines the American Civil War. It is *A House Divided*.**

**Intro.: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.**

**Content: The American Civil War, Phase One, 1860-1861, Confederate Consolidation; Phase Two, 1861-Spring 1862, Union Ascendancy, particularly in the West; Phase Three, Spring 1862 through Gettysburg, Confederate Ascendancy;**

**Phase Four, July 1863 through Spring 1864, The Tide Turns; Phase Five, Stalemate in Virginia, Union triumph in the South and West.**

**By late winter 1865 the overwhelming number of Union land forces, the industrial and financial strength of the North, the almost perfect Union naval blockade, and the improving quality of Yankee generals had precipitated Phase Six. The ever-shrinking Confederacy was facing collapse. The noose around Petersburg and Richmond was daily squeezing the life and hopes out of rebel leaders, civilians and soldiers alike. Many of the latter began walking away. When, twice in early April, Union forces breached the**

**Confederate siege lines, Lee and President Davis recognized the inevitable. Escape seemed impossible though Lee would try, but by April 9<sup>th</sup> he had no choice but to surrender. The Confederacy, born of such hopes in Phase One, had collapsed four years hence.**

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## Resources

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**McPherson, James M.** *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era.* New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1988.

**McWhiney, Grady and Perry D. Jamieson.** *Attack and Die: Civil War Military Tactics and the Southern Heritage.* Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama, 1982.

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