Triumph and Tragedy

- Student Activity: A Civil War Press Pass
- Think Like a Reporter: Write a News Story
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A Civil War Press Pass

The administration of President Lincoln developed guidelines for reporters. This included requiring a press document to gain access to camps and battle sites. Early in the war, the Secretary of War established General Order No. 67, which required dispatches be read by a censor — to be sure no helpful information was provided to Southern troops.

The press pass was two sided with the reporter’s information on one side. The opposite side was filled out with specific areas in which the reporter was authorized to go to do his work. Although a reporter’s legal name must be used on the press documents, many war correspondents used pseudonyms for bylines. Editors believed this allowed more freedom to report with accuracy.

Be forewarned: Major General William T. Sherman is one of several leaders who are wary of the press. When New York Times reporter Thomas W. Knox criticized him, Sherman had him arrested. The court could find no evidence that Knox was a spy, but did find him guilty of not submitting his story to censors.

A Civil War Press Pass for William Conant Church

A press pass was prepared by the printing unit attached to Army of the Potomac. The pass, above left, for W. C. Church, was filled out and authorized before the battles on April 19, 1862. It was filled in and authorized to allow Church’s work “within the lines.” Above right, before Church could leave camp, he was given the specific areas where he would be able to cover the events of the war. The specific parameters are seen above right.
Civil War Coverage \ | Write a News Story

Family, friends and communities were eager to hear news from the war front, especially when they knew that battles had been held. Without an established right to cover the troops, reporters and sketch artists were sent by editors to send back any news they could get. Their work was sent to the newspaper or news agency by telegraph, horseback couriers, railroads, and ferryboats. Reporters in the South had very limited access to the Confederate armies and depended on information from the War Department in Richmond.

Read, Research, Interview
Newspapers published the stories and wood block illustrations, letters, official reports and opinion. Today, we expect reporters to develop reliable sources, do research and conduct interviews as well as use documents and eyewitness experiences to provide accurate and balanced news.

Do your reading of a Civil War event, using four or more sources, including official reports, diaries, letters and history books. Locate sources to quote. You are ready to write your news article.

Write a Headline
The headline provides the main idea or summary of the news. Write a headline for your news story using the present tense of the verb.

Provide a Dateline
The place from where you are reporting is stated before the article begins. This tells your readers immediately that you are not in your office. You are on the scene. The dateline communicates that you are a credible reporter.

Write the Lead
The first paragraph of the news story is called the lead. The traditional news lead summarizes the story, providing the 5Ws and H of the story. State the 5Ws and H of your news story.
Who
What
Where
When
Why
How
Write the lead using the past tense of the verb.
Provide Information in Decreasing Order of Importance
Reporters in the field made use of the new technology — the telegraph. They never knew when opposing troops would cut the telegraph lines so they developed an order for sending information. They began by transmitting the most important information and quotations, then less important information and, if they could continue sending information, the least important information was clicked across the wires. This is called the inverted pyramid structure.

Be sure to include quotations and partial quotations from the people you interviewed. You may also paraphrase information given during interviews.

Follow These General Rules
Write using the third person: the North, the South
Use the present tense of the verb in the headline.
Use the past tense of the verb in the article.
Give attribution: said General Robert E. Lee

Be a Journalism 2.0 Civil War Reporter
Today, reporters are expected to use social media.
• As you are watching events unfold, send a tweet.
• As action increases or reaches a lull, send a tweet.
• When you are writing your news story, send a tweet to tease your readers. You want them to read your finished article in print or online.
• Write a 100-word blog entry. You are not to include your opinion in the news story, but you may give your opinion in the blog. Remember that this is still a professional communication.
Consider Conflicting Loyalties

In the 1860s Washington, D.C., was a city of conflicting loyalties. Southern members of Congress brought their domestic slaves with them and slave auctions were held at the same time that abolitionists were delivering lectures and a Republican was elected president. On April 16, 1862, President Lincoln issued the District of Columbia Emancipation Act. This is one of several issues debated during this period.

In the left column, list individuals who held different loyalties during the American Civil War. Abraham Lincoln has been given to begin the list. Add at least four more individuals. In the center column, indicate the person’s loyalty, point of view or group he represents. In the right column, provide an example of action taken and a quotation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDIVIDUAL</th>
<th>LOYALTY</th>
<th>IN WORD AND ACTION</th>
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<td>Abraham Lincoln</td>
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A War Ends: ‘Richmond at Last!’

While Union forces corner Robert E. Lee, the Confederacy’s capital goes up in flames

BY MICHAEL E. RUANE

The arsenal blew up early on the morning of Monday, April 3.

The explosion shattered windows across town, lofted ordnance into the sky and knocked down tombstones in the Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

Much of the city already was on fire, the blaze spread by flames from burning tobacco warehouses. Mobs were looting. The inmates had gotten out of the prison. And a man was seen torching a pile of worthless money in the street.

It was the spring of 1865 and, after almost four years of civil war, the Confederacy was dying.

The government had fled by train the previous night with what remained of its gold and silver, headed southwest for Danville. Desperate people had packed onto the departing rail cars. But many were turned away.

One was Robert Lumpkin, the city’s notorious slave broker. He had failed to get passage for himself and 50 shackled men, women and children.

“Hell is empty, and all the devils are here,” a reporter for the London Times wrote, quoting Shakespeare.

Richmond diarist Judith Brockenbrough McGuire wrote that day: “Oh, who shall tell the horror of the past night!”

About 100 miles to the southwest, the starving remnants of the main Confederate army under Gen. Robert E. Lee were being run down by Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s Army of the Potomac.

The Confederates would stagger on for six more days before capitulating in the carpeted parlor of a home in the village of Appomattox Court House.

But here in Richmond, the real death agony of the Confederacy played out in apocalyptic scenes of fire and bedlam.

The city was overcrowded and had experienced food shortages and hardships. But it had always trusted in Lee to protect it. Now, with Lee in flight, Richmond was left to the depredations of the Yankees.

“This town is the Rebellion,” a New York newspaper reporter wrote. The capital of the Confederacy since 1861 and the target of Union armies that had smashed themselves against its defenses in a dozen battles, the city was falling at last.
The cry, “On to Richmond!” had been raised in the North before the first major battle of the war, at Manassas, Va., in July 1861.

That battle had been a disaster for the Union, and it would be followed by many others as Yankee armies assailed the Rebel capital from the north, east and south.

Now, at least 600,000 deaths later, Grant had driven Lee out of his lines, and Richmond was being evacuated.

“It is all that we have ... striven for,” the New York reporter George Alfred Townsend wrote. “Its history is the epitome of the whole contest ... to us, shivering our thunderbolts against it for ... four years.”

Watching from afar, Frederick Chesson of the Union’s 29th Connecticut Regiment recalled: “We began to realize as we had not till then ... that this was one of the great days of the Lord.

“Right out there in the open in sight of the flaming city we went wild with excitement,” Chesson wrote, according to historian Ernest B. Furgurson’s study of Richmond during the war. “We yelled, we cheered, we sang, we prayed, we wept, we hugged each other and threw up our hats.”

The fire, started by Confederates to wreck anything of use to the enemy, raged all night and into the morning.

It destroyed Richmond’s banks, two hotels, three newspapers (the Enquirer, the Dispatch and the Examiner), a flour mill, a paper mill, railroad depots, bridges over the James River and the Confederate Post Office.

“The entire business part of the city on fire,” eyewitness John Leyburn wrote a year later, a “sea of flame.”

**Lee’s lines break**

The previous day, Sunday, April 2, 1865, had brought beautiful spring weather, witnesses remembered. “The temperature wooed people abroad,” Stephen R. Mallory, the Confederacy’s secretary of the navy, recalled later. “A pleasant air swept the foliage and flowers of the Capitol grounds. ... The old city had never, during the war, worn an aspect more serene and quiet.”

But 25 miles to the south, at the besieged city of Petersburg, Va., Lee’s army had been stretched and finally broken by Grant’s forces.

That morning, Lee sent a telegram to the Confederate War Department: “I see no prospect of doing more than holding our position here till night. I am not certain I can do that. ... I advise that all preparation be made for leaving Richmond tonight.”

Many people, including Confederate President Jefferson Davis, were in church when the telegram arrived at 10:40 a.m. An official walked down the aisle of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, tapped Davis on the shoulder and handed him a copy.

Davis rose and left, ashen-faced, some thought.

**Remnants of defeat**

On a drizzly day earlier this month, the brown waters of the James River
roared over the rocks at the fall line here.

Out in the river stood the abandoned bridge piers of the Richmond & Petersburg Railroad, over which Jefferson Davis entered the city in May 1861 to make it the capital of the Confederacy.

Downstream were the remains of the Richmond & Danville Railroad bridge he used to flee in 1865.

Just upstream was Hollywood Cemetery, where Davis, many other Confederates and generations of the city’s residents are buried.

Elsewhere, elegant St. Paul's Church still stands on Grace Street. The Museum of the Confederacy has meticulously cared for the Confederate White House, where Davis and his family lived.

And 10 years ago, the remains of Lumpkin’s slave compound were found, after being buried under an iron foundry, a freight depot and then a parking lot for over a century.

Now a city of commerce, medicine and education, with a population that is half African American, Richmond is still the conquered capital of the Confederacy.

Its fall is the most dramatic event in the city’s history, said Nelson Lankford, author of “Richmond Burning: The Last Days of the Confederate Capital.”

“In three days, you’ve got the Confederate government fleeing, the Southern army retreats, the city burns, slavery ends, and Abraham Lincoln himself walks through the smoking ruins,” he said. “It doesn’t get any more dramatic than that.”

A shell of a fearsome force

Outside Petersburg that Sunday in 1865, after months of trench warfare and a crucial victory at the Battle of Five Forks the day before, Grant had launched an all-out assault, breaking Lee’s lines in several places.

Subordinates urged him to press the attack on the town itself. But he guessed that Lee would pull out and head west. He wanted to save his men for the pursuit, an aide, Horace Porter, wrote later.

Plus, Grant wrote in his memoirs, “I had not the heart to turn the artillery upon such a mass of defeated and fleeing men, and I hoped to capture them soon.”

Grant had guessed right. That night, Lee withdrew and the chase was on.

It would continue for a week, the two forces racing side by side and clashing at Namozine Church on April 3, Sayler’s Creek on April 6, Cumberland Church on April 7, and Appomattox Court House on April 9.

There, Grant caught up and blocked Lee’s escape route.

The Confederate Army of Northern Virginia had dwindled to a hungry mob of about 25,000 men, a shell of the fearsome 60,000-man host that had beaten and tormented a parade of Union generals.

Gone were its great commanders, Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, killed in 1863, J.E.B. Stuart, killed in 1864, and Ambrose Powell Hill, who had just been killed on April 2. The army’s ranks had been thinned by death, disease and desertion. Its legendary Texas Brigade was down to 130 men.

Grant knew all this and had made an overture to Lee on April 7. “The results of the last week must convince you of the hopelessness of further resistance,” he wrote. He urged Lee to surrender to avoid “further effusion of blood.”

Lee showed Grant’s dispatch to his veteran subordinate, Gen. James Longstreet.

“Not yet,” Longstreet said.

‘Richmond at last!’

In Richmond, on Monday, April 3, Rebel soldiers and officials were gone, but the fire raged on.

“A dense pall of smoke hovered over the entire city, and through it shone huge eddies of flames … carrying great blazing planks and rafters whirling over the shriveling buildings,” eyewitness T.C. DeLeon wrote many years later.

“By noon, one vast, livid flame roared and screamed before the wind, from Tenth street to Rockett’s,” he remembered. Ammunition from the arsenal continued to explode, tossing shells into the air.
Triumph and Tragedy

March 1865 to 1866

By Gene Thorp

As spring breaks, the Confederacy takes its last breath. In Virginia, Gen. Robert E. Lee's Rebel army has been under siege by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Union forces at Petersburg for 10 months. In North Carolina, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's Confederates are hotly pursued by Federal Gen. William T. Sherman. A small Rebel army in Alabama prepares to defend Mobile against an approaching onslaught of Union troops, while Rebels west of the Mississippi River are cut off from their failing nation. The rebellion is at an end, but not before the Union is dealt one last painful blow.

Rebel Waterloo
March 29—April 1

Encouraged by Lee's defeat at Fort Stedman, Grant orders Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan with his cavalry and two infantry corps west from the Petersburg trenches to cut the South Side Railroad, one of Lee's last supply connections. Sheridan seizes off roads, breaks the railroad and smashes Confederate resistance, first at the battle of Lewis Farm, next at the battles of White Oak Road and Dinwiddie Court House, then finally at Five Forks. His decisive victories convince Grant that Petersburg is ready to fall.

Richmond evacuated
April 2—3

President Davis receives news of the Petersburg breach while at church in Richmond. He orders the government to relocate to Danville, Va. By nightfall, Richmond's bridges, government buildings and ships are set on fire by Lee's retreating army. The arsenal explodes. Artillery shell fragments rain down on the city. Half-starved residents break into abandoned government warehouses looking for food. Fires spread to nearby residential areas. By sunrise, the center of town is in ruins.

Last chance
March 25, 1865

Desperate to break out of Grant's stranglehold, Lee launches a surprise morning attack on Fort Stedman to pierce the Union lines and sever their supply line. The Rebels capture Fort Stevenson, but before they can advance further, nearby Federal forces rush into the area, rout the Confederates, and drive them ingloriously back to their trenches. Although Lee's plan is executed flawlessly, Grant's army is just too strong and quick to respond.

Knockout blow
April 2

At first light, Union troops charge through the trenches southwest of Petersburg and completely break the Confederate line. Rebel attempts to close the breach fail. Lee warns President Jefferson Davis that he cannot stem the Federal onslaught and recommends that the Confederate government evacuate Richmond. In an almost suicidal stand, Rebels at Fort Whitworth and Fort Gregg hold the Federals at bay just long enough to allow the rest of Lee's army to escape west toward Lynchburg.

Knocked out at last!
April 4–5

Marching unopposed, Union soldiers, including thousands of U.S. Colored Troops, enter the Confederate capital shouting, "Richmond at last!" The city's black residents rush out to greet them. Lincoln, who is nearby in City Point, seizes up the James River the following day and enters Richmond, landing in a small barge with initially only a dozen or so sailors to protect him. Lincoln visits the Confederate White House and tours the destruction by carriage. "Thank God I have lived to see this," he remarks.
1. Virginia played a prominent role in the American Civil War from beginning to end. Find these places on a map: Richmond, Appomattox Court House and Port Royal. What is the role that each of these places played in 1865? In what ways are they examples of triumph and tragedy?

2. As Gen. Robert E. Lee attempts to get his army to North Carolina, Gen. Grant prevents him from heading south. Grant required cavalry and infantry to block Lee’s advance to Lynchburg. What distinguishes a cavalry unit from an infantry one?

3. In what ways did John Wilkes Booth’s profession assist him and his convictions propel him to act on April 14?

4. After Secretary of War Edwin Stanton hears that the President has died, he says, “Now he belongs to the ages.” What does he mean? Explain why you agree or disagree with Stanton.

5. Abraham Lincoln was the second person — Henry Clay in 1852 was the first — whose remains lay in state in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. What does it mean to “lie in state”? Why were so many stops made on Abraham Lincoln’s final journey by train from Washington, D.C., to Springfield, Illinois?
Triumph and Tragedy  |  March 25, 1865-August 20, 1866

Maritime tragedy  |  April 27
More than 2,100 recently freed Union prisoners of war head home on the riverboat Sultana, which had a capacity of 376 passengers. At 2 a.m., while steaming up the Mississippi River just north of Memphis, the Sultana’s boilers explode. The ship burns to the waterline, then sinks. An estimated 1,800 of the passengers, already weak from captivity, perish. It is the worst maritime disaster in U.S. history, with deaths surpassing even those of the Titanic.

The over crowded Sultana photographed only days before sinking. Most pictured above did not survive.

Grand Review  |  May 23-24, 1865
With significant hostilities over, the major Union armies are summoned to Washington to take part in a massive victory parade. Veterans polish their worn equipment and march down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House, where they pass in review for President Andrew Johnson. It takes two days for the 150,000 soldiers to pass. Noticeably absent are the U.S. Colored Troops, most of whom will remain on duty as occupation forces in the South for the next year. After the parade, the citizen soldiers begin their long anticipated train ride home.

Resistance ends  |  May 26
Confederate forces west of the Mississippi rapidly dissolve as it becomes clear that they have lost the war. Gen. Philip Sheridan misses the Grand Review to take charge of offensive operations against this last bastion of organized Confederate resistance, but before he can take action, Confederate Gen. Simon B. Buckner surrenders all the troops of the Trans-Mississippi Department to Gen. Edward Canby in New Orleans. Buckner’s superior, Gen. Edmund Kirby-Smith, signs the terms June 2. The war is effectively over.

One final surrender  |  Nov. 6
The Confederate raider CSS Shenandoah has been at sea for nine months, capturing U.S. merchant ships. Capt. James I. Waddell does not learn about the collapse of the Confederacy until Aug. 2 while sailing near San Francisco. Fearing that if he surrenders his crew will be tried on charges of piracy, Waddell sails for Liverpool, England, where on Nov. 6, he surrenders his ship to the British. The Shenandoah is the only Confederate ship to circumnavigate the world and is the last official Confederate entity to lower the flag.

Rebirth
The darkest days of the nation have passed. Survivors are left to ponder the meaning of their generation’s unparalleled sacrifice. More than 620,000 Americans have died. Hundreds of thousands more are crippled from wounds. Together, the former combatants forge ahead on a new journey down the long and difficult path of recovery and healing, one that is continued by their descendants today.

Forever free  |  Dec. 18
The 13th Amendment, which abolishes slavery, becomes a part of the U.S. Constitution.

War proclaimed over  |  Aug. 20, 1866
President Andrew Johnson signs a proclamation declaring that the “insurrection is at an end and that peace, order, tranquility, and civil authority now exist in and throughout the whole of the United States of America.”

The five-acre Soldiers Cemetery in Alexandria was almost filled to capacity by 1864, leading to the development of Arlington National Cemetery later that year.
The Washington Post NIE program provided curriculum guides to support the use of the Civil War 150 special supplements. Selected KidsPost and Post articles, suggested lessons and activities, and additional resources are included in each guide.

**Civil War 150**


The Washington Post’s ongoing coverage of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War began on Sunday, November 7, 2010, with a special section: “Prelude to War: The Election of Abraham Lincoln.”

In April 2011, a second special edition reports as shots are fired at Fort Sumter. Activities in this guide are provided for use with the articles reproduced in these guides and online Post coverage (www.washingtonpost.com/civilwar).

**Activities with Student Handouts in This December 2010 Guide:**
- How well do you know Abe?
- Who Were They and What Were They Doing?
- Civil War Technology
- Questions for Consideration: “The Speech that Sold Candidate Lincoln”
- Inside e-Replica: Design an Event Ad | Use the Thumbnails
- Discussion Questions: “Press Reaction to Lincoln’s Win”

**Innovations of the Civil War**

http://nie.washingtonpost.com/content/innovations-civil-war

In the first year of battle, innovation and technology changed warfare. Ironclads were developed and engaged in naval battle. Both sides utilized balloons, the railroad and telegraph. At the same time, as more men joined the armies, women tried to protect their homes and property, nursed the wounded, and kept diaries to record their daily encounters.

**Activities with Student Handouts in This March 2012 Guide:**
- Word Study: A More Perfect Union
- Quiz and Activities: Innovation, Invention and Ironclads
- Essay: Your Own Conclusion
- Discussion Questions: “Stonewall Jackson and the She-Devils”
Civil War 150: Bloodshed and Emancipation

http://nie.washingtonpost.com/node/367

As the Civil War battles continued into September 1862, Generals Robert E. Lee and George McClellan, their officers and enlisted men advanced deadly confrontation into the border state of Maryland. The Union terminal at Harpers Ferry and the devastating bloodshed in the once-tranquil cornfields, lanes, woods, and Antietam Creek at Sharpsburg tried the leadership and challenged inexperienced and experienced troops alike.

The time period focuses attention on this nation’s division over slavery. Lincoln took action in April 1862 to enact the D.C. Emancipation Act which compensated D.C. slave owners to manumit their slaves. In September after Antietam the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation alerted international and national interests that he would use his powers as commander-in-chief to save the Union, freeing slaves in rebel-held states. The Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, was another step toward freedom.

Activities with Student Handouts in This September 2012 Guide:

Word Find: At Antietam Creek
Two Puzzles: Maryland Cornfield, September 1862
Tell About a Book You Read
Compose Historical Questions: Meet a Cast of Characters
Discussion Questions: Confederates Gain Confidence at Harpers Ferry
Discussion Questions: When a Creek Turns Red
Discussion Questions: Reading the Emancipation Proclamation
Map: Legality of Slavery
Teacher Resource: Teaching the D.C. Emancipation Act
Historic Background: Slavery in the District of Columbia
Discussion Questions: After Reading the D.C. Emancipation Act
Discussion Questions: Study the Emancipation Act Petitions
Think Like a Journalist: Research Using Reliable Sources
You and Your Rights: The Constitution and Slavery
Historical Background: The War Is Over, Now What?
How To: Debate and Passage of the Fourteenth Amendment
Legal Update: Focus on the First Section of the Fourteenth Amendment
Legal Background: The Due Process Clause
What Does This Have to Do With Me?
The Toll of War — 6,655
http://nie.washingtonpost.com/node/395
In March through September 1863, Northern and Southern armies advanced and retreated, ever hopeful that the war would end and victory would be theirs. At Chancellorsville, casualties totaled more than 30,000 and respected Confederate General Stonewall Jackson died from friendly fire. The three-day battle at Gettysburg resulted in 6,655 deaths. West Virginia became a state, Lincoln instituted a draft as contracts for service ended for more than 100,000 volunteer troops, units of black men engaged in battle, and women disguised themselves as men to enter combat.

Activities with Student Handouts in This May 2013 Guide:
Write a Headline
Map and Resources: Gettysburg | July 1-3, 1863
Teacher Resource: The Gettysburg Address | November 19, 1863
Word Study: Combat Revealed
Map It | The Civil War, March-September 1863
Who Is in the Family Tree?
Teacher Resource: Music of the Civil War
Research: Women Disguised — in Dress and Combat

Civil War 150: Grant Takes Command
http://nie.washingtonpost.com/node/421
Ulysses S. Grant took command of Northern forces determined to end the war. In one month of fighting Grant would lose more than 54,000 men, but remain resolved. Post reporters and guest writers report on the casualties, leadership and impact of changes. Students meet Ernesto Londoño, The Post’s Pentagon and national security correspondent, to learn how he covers today’s wars, issues and people. We learn that the impact of medical assistance is as important today as it was on the battlefields of 1864.

Activities with Student Handouts in This May 2014 Guide:
A Personal Side of the American Civil War
Map Study: Civil War Defenses of Washington
Map Study: Fort Stevens and Battleground National Cemetery
Think Like a Reporter: Relate and Illustrate the Numbers
Meet the National Security Correspondent: Ernesto Londoño
An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

**Civil War 150: Campaign to the End**

*http://nie.washingtonpost.com/node/431*

One town, at the confluence of two rivers, at the gateway to the West and between North and South, is held by competing forces eight times. Federal soldiers burn the U.S. Armory to destroy thousands of weapons before Confederates can get them. Col. Thomas Jackson ships all machinery and tools to Richmond to produce weapons. John Brown becomes a martyr. Harpers Ferry is representative of a nation under siege and in transition.

**Activities with Student Handouts in This October 2014 Guide:**
- Visit a Civil War Battlefield
- Word Study: Campaign Considerations
- Case Study: Harper’s Ferry
- Slavery Abolished
- Be a Sketch Artist
- Map and Questions for Close Reading: Sheridan’s Valley Campaign
- Map and Timeline: Sherman’s March to the Sea
- Map and Timeline: The March Beyond Savannah

**Civil War 150: War Ends, Political Pursuit Continues**

*http://nie.washingtonpost.com/node/437*

Appomattox Court House, a village in southwestern Virginia, is synonymous with the ending of the four-year Civil War. In the parlor of the McLean home, two generals met with civility: one to surrender, the other to offer generous terms to his returning countrymen. Just as the North was celebrating, the president — who had urged in his second inaugural address “[w]ith malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in” — was assassinated. The last of *The Washington Post*’s Civil War 150 special supplements focuses on the last battles of the war, the death of a president and the impact of Reconstruction.

**Activities with Student Handouts in This April 2015 Guide:**
- Discussion Questions: Surrender at Appomattox Court House
- Capture the Civil War (in Your Imagination)
- Artists and Writers Who Communicated
- A Civil War Press Pass
- Consider Conflicting Loyalties
- Think Like a Reporter: Write a News Story
- Map and Timeline: Triumph and Tragedy