

STAMP SCOOP



The Civil War: 1864

The Battle of Mobile Bay was a critical victory for Union Admiral David Farragut and helped the Yankees wrest control of America's southern ports. With the fall of New Orleans in 1862, Mobile, Alabama represented the Confederacy's main access to the Gulf of Mexico. It was also the drop-off point for critical supplies run in from Havana. As Farragut famously said, "Damn the torpedoes. Full steam ahead!" the Union fleet, led in two columns by four ironclad ships, easily defeated the smaller Confederate ships. It was one of many sweeping Union victories in 1864 that helped put Lincoln back in the White House.

The Petersburg Campaign was a nine-month series of battles fought throughout Southern Virginia around the town of Petersburg. Throughout the campaign, Union General Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate General Robert E. Lee faced off along a 30-mile series of trenches, introducing the nation to a style of warfare that was grim and tedious. By March of 1865, however, Lee's supplies were dwindling, and pressure from the opposing forces was mounting. The Campaign drew to a close as the Confederates retreated from their capital city of Richmond. Not long after, Lee surrendered – and the Civil War drew to a close – at Appomattox Courthouse.

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