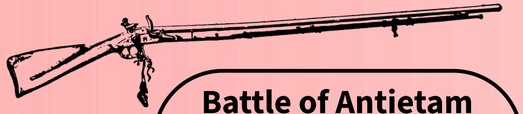

Battle of Antietam (1862): The bloodiest single day in American history, with over 22,000 casualties

Emancipation Proclamation (1863): Declared freedom for enslaved people in Confederate-held territories and redefining the war as a fight to end slavery.

13th Amendment (1865): Abolished slavery throughout the United States, ensuring freedom for all formerly enslaved people.

14th Amendment (1868): Granted citizenship and equal protection under the law to everyone born or naturalized in the U.S., including formerly enslaved individuals.

Civil War Ends (1865): The Union's victory and General Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House marked the end of the Civil War, beginning the nation's path toward healing and reunification.

Confederate States of America Form (1861): Eleven Southern states that seceded from the Union formed the Confederate States of America

Jefferson Davis Inaugurated (1862): The first and only President of the Confederate States of America.

Sherman's March to the Sea 1864): Destructive campaign from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia, crippling the South's resources and morale.

Reconstruction Begins (1865): The federal government started rebuilding the South and reintegrating the former Confederate states into the Union.

15th Amendment (1870): Gave African American men the right to vote, expanding democracy in the postwar nation, and ensuring all states upheld the rights of freed people.