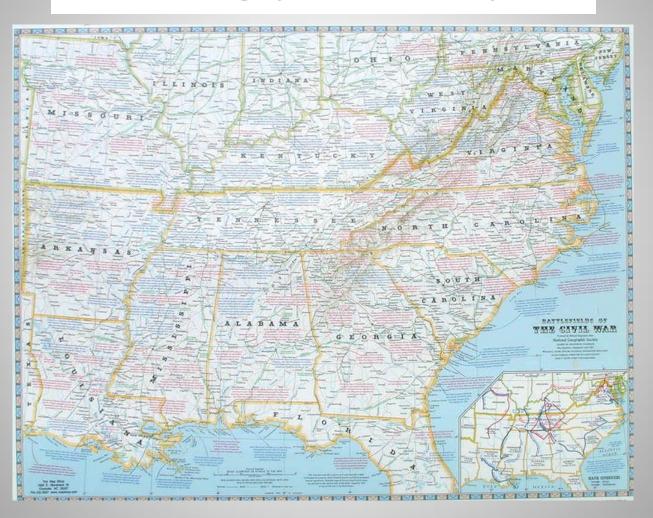
Gettysburg

2
Lee Moves North

National Geographic Civil War map, 1961



Bella Terra

Publishing

April 1, 2011

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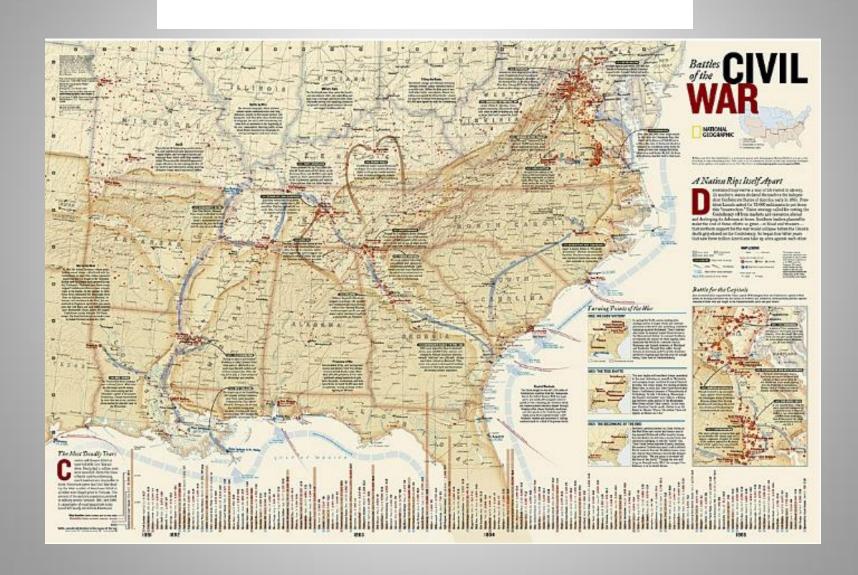
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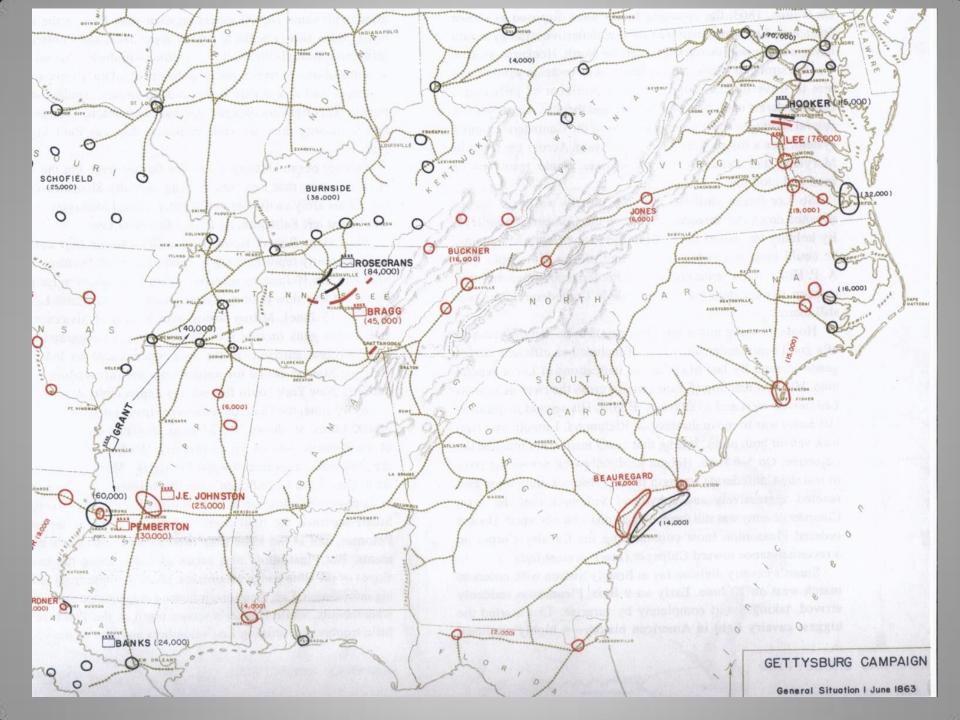
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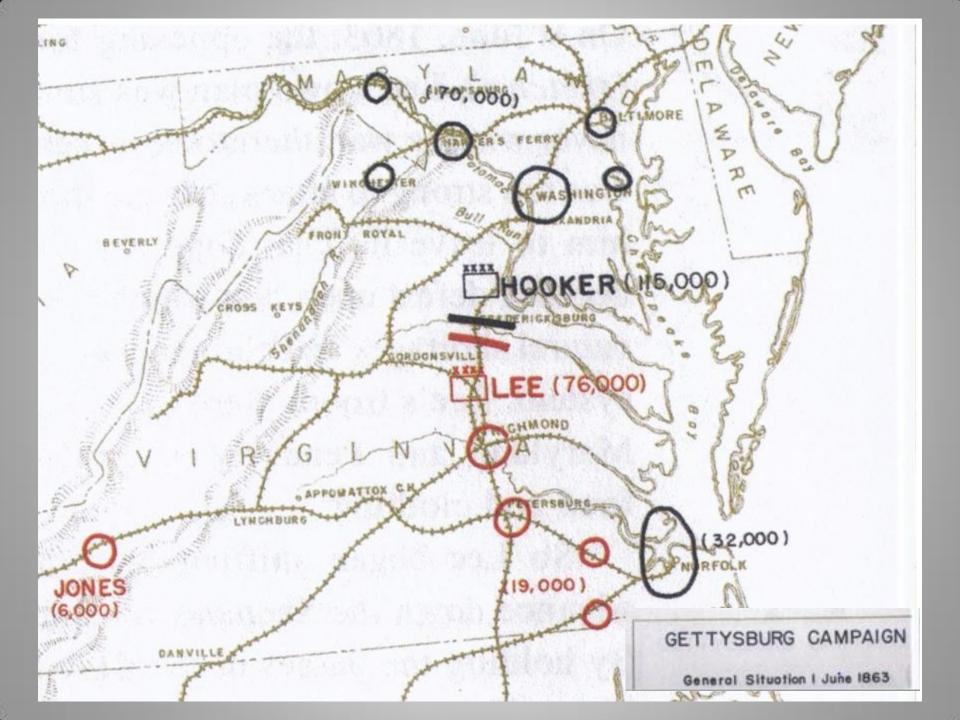
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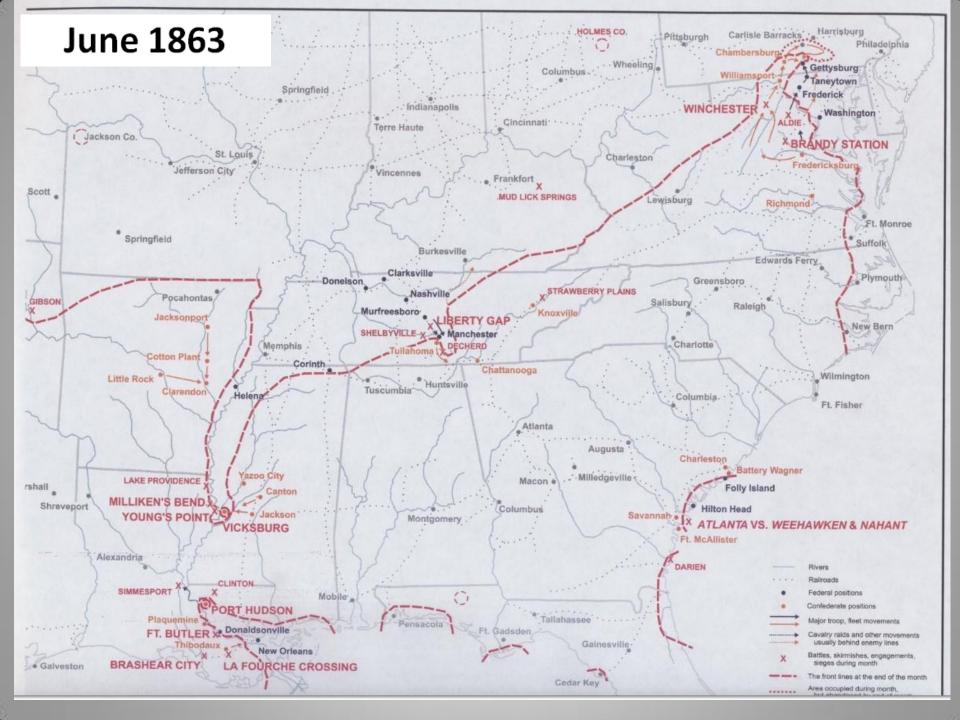
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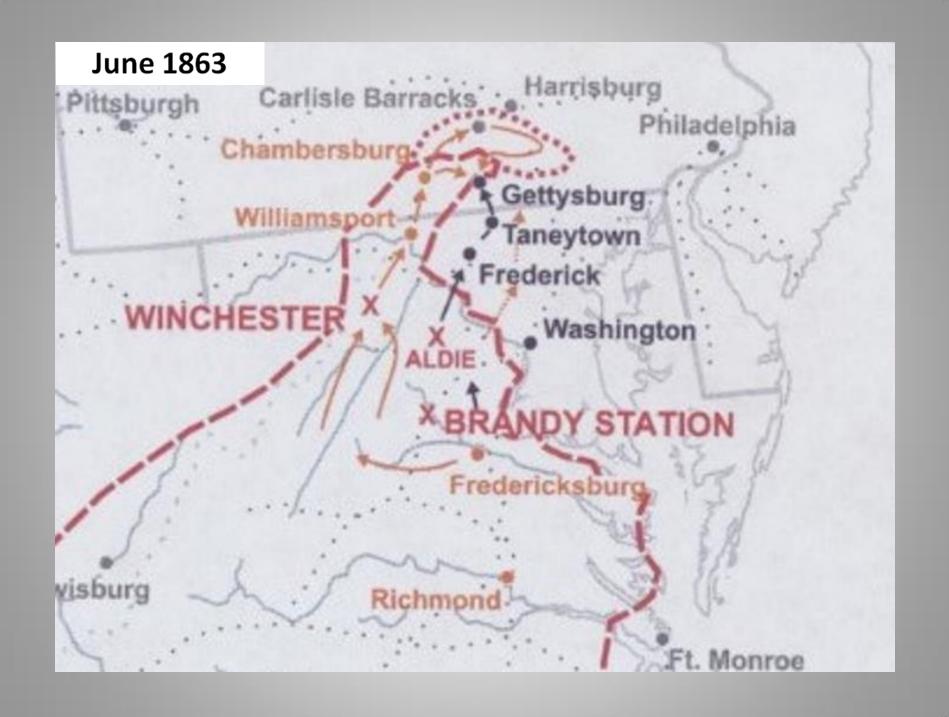
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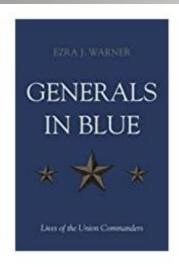












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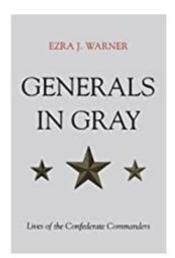


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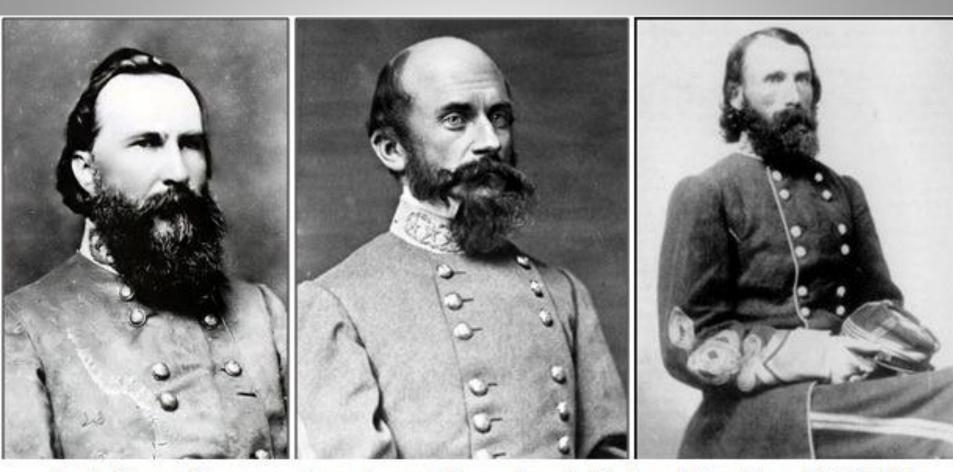


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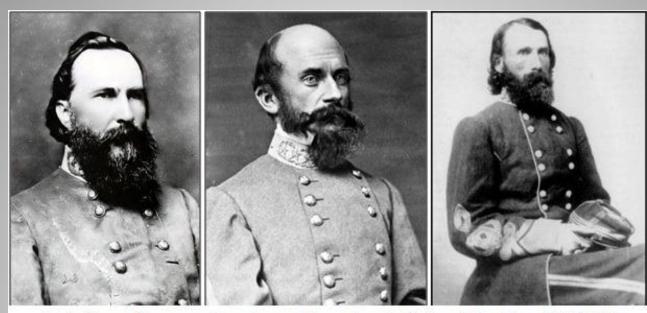
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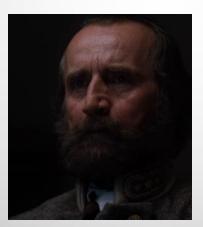


Lee's Corps Commanders: James Longstreet, Richard Ewell, and A.P. Hill



Lee's Corps Commanders: James Longstreet, Richard Ewell, and A.P. Hill









Major General Joseph Hooker Commander, Army of the Potomac

Army of the Potomac Corps Commanders



George Sykes John Sedgwick, John Reynolds, Winfield Scott Hancock, Oliver Howard, Henry Slocum, and Daniel Sickles

Army of the Potomac Corps Commanders

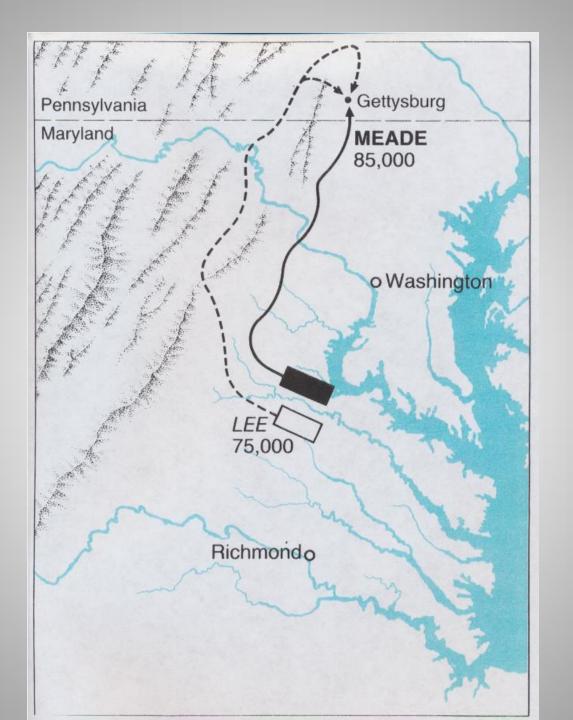


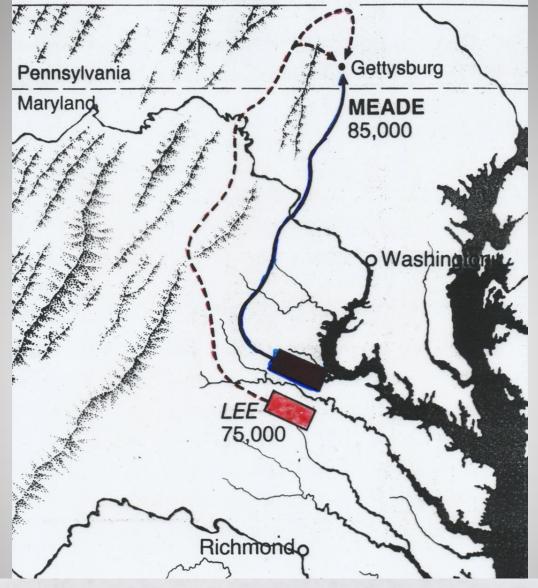
George Sykes John Sedgwick, John Reynolds, Winfield Scott Hancock, Oliver Howard, Henry Slocum, and Daniel Sickles





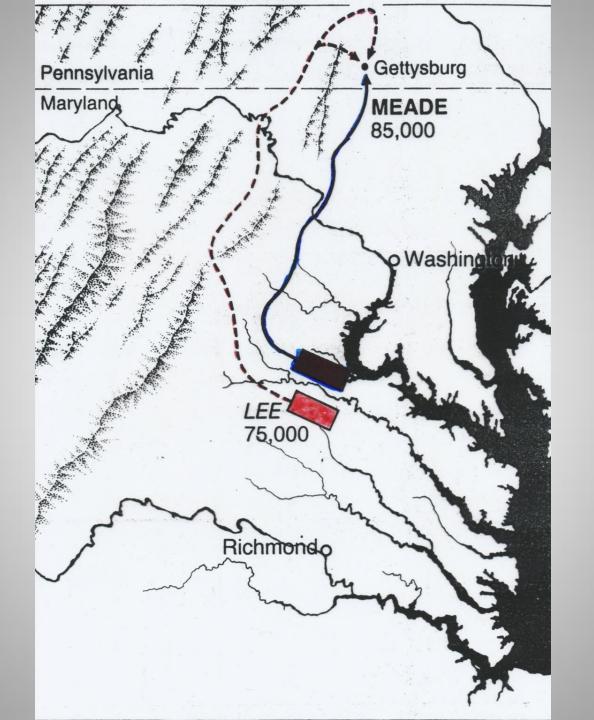
Major General Joseph Hooker Commander, Army of the Potomac





PRINCIPLES OF WAR

OBJECTIVE - "every military operation should be directed toward a clearly defined, decisive and attainable objective."



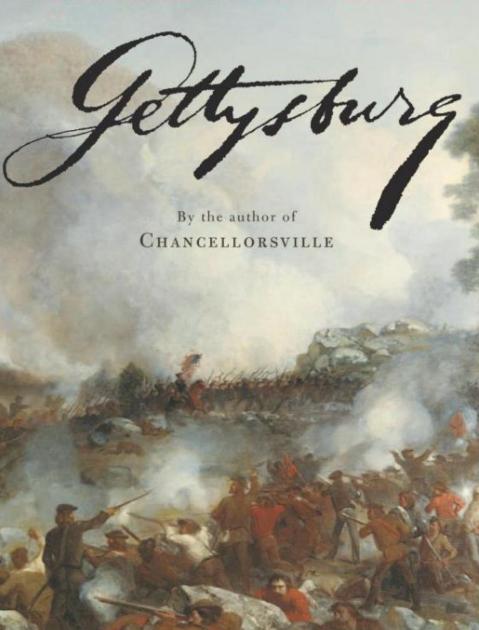
The Gettysburg Campaign

A Study in Command

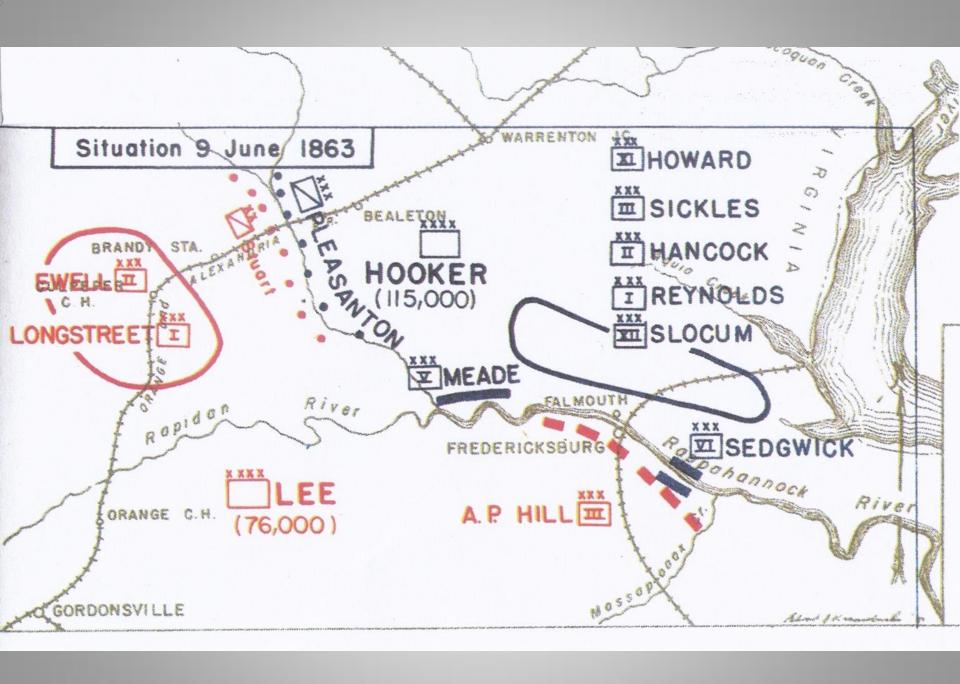


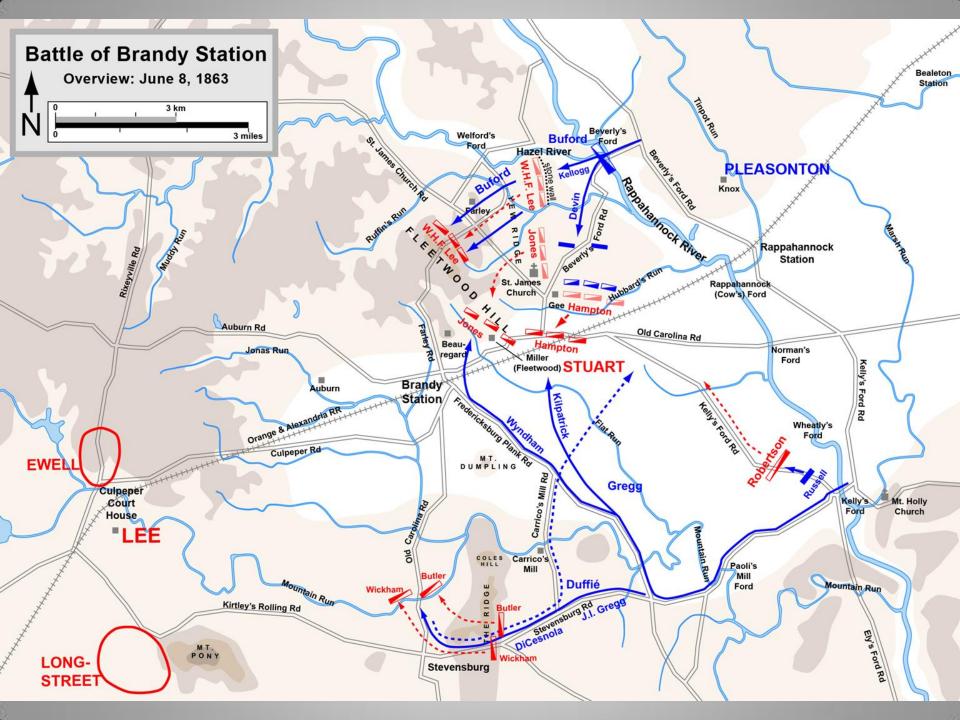
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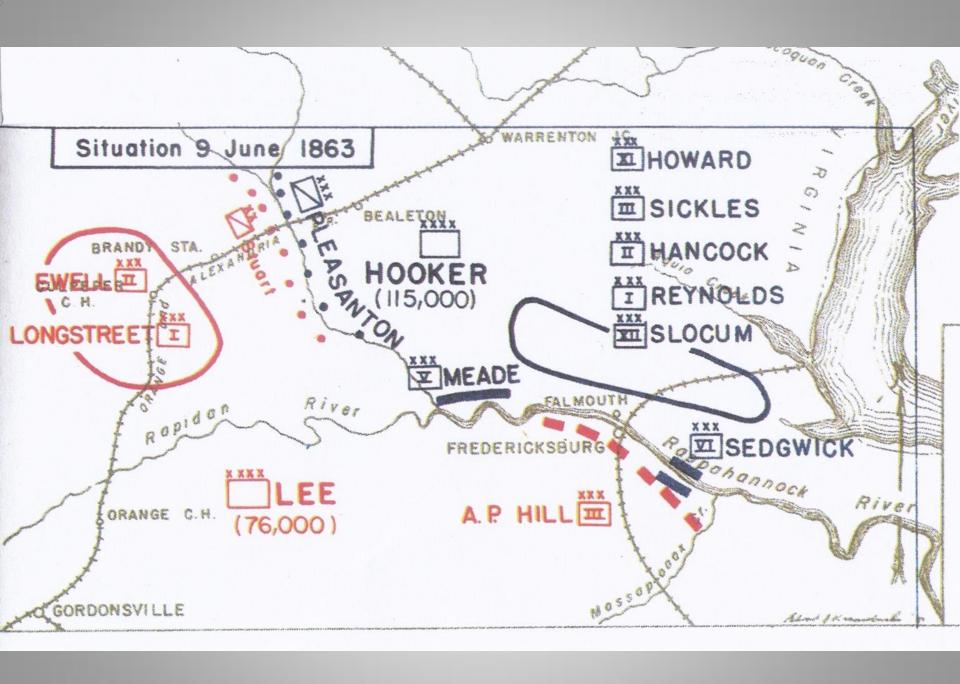
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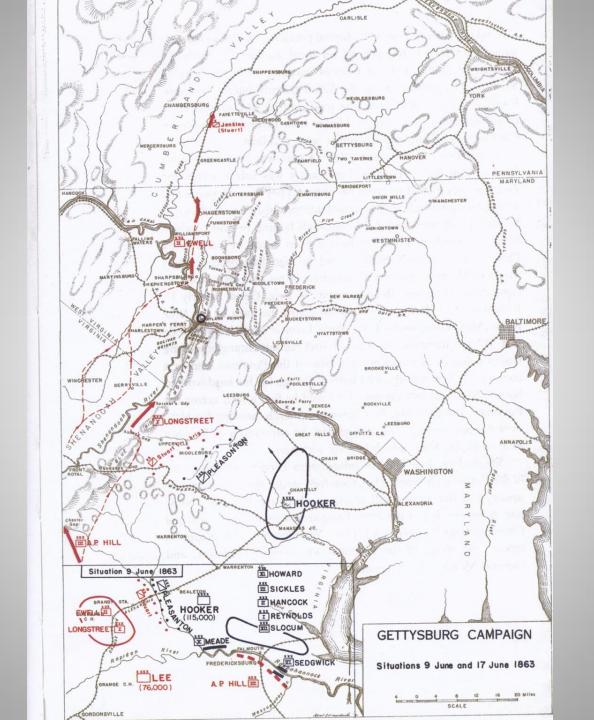


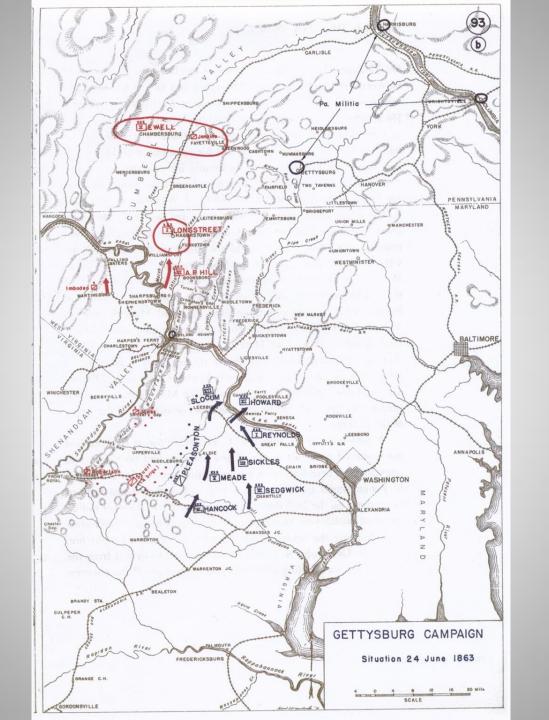
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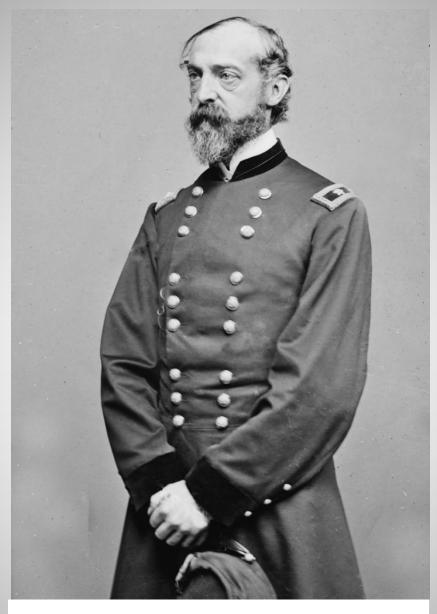




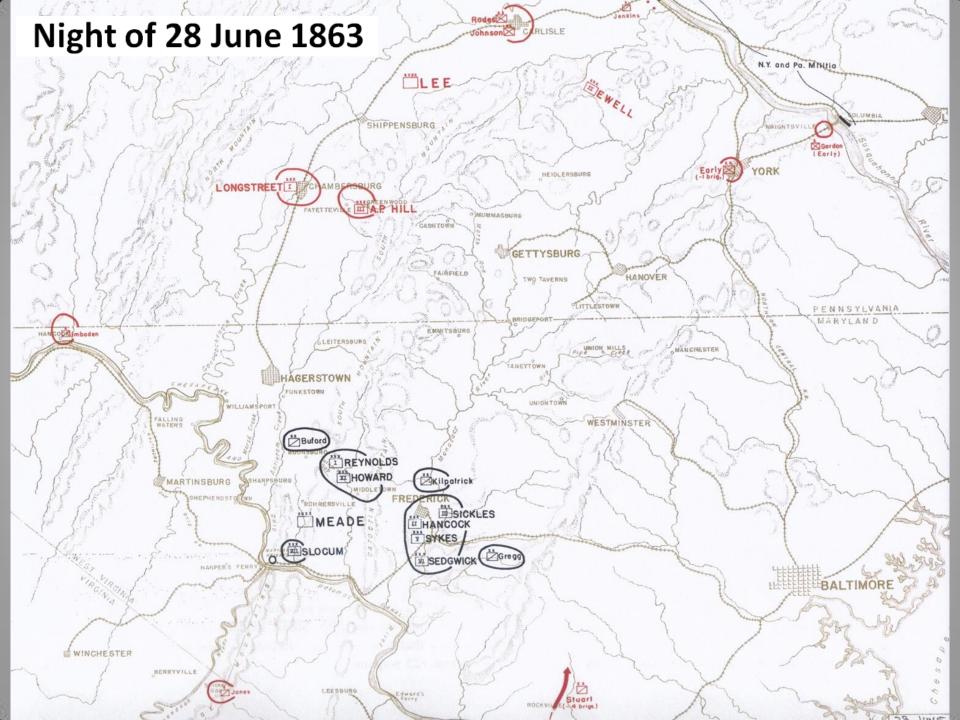


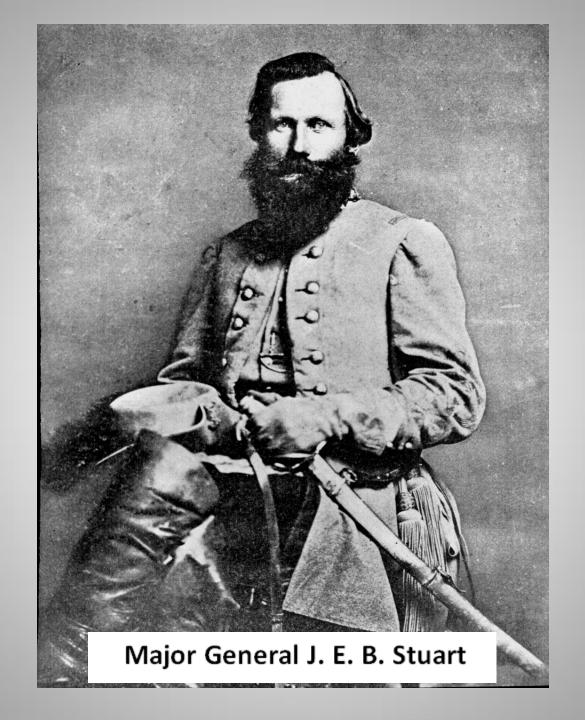


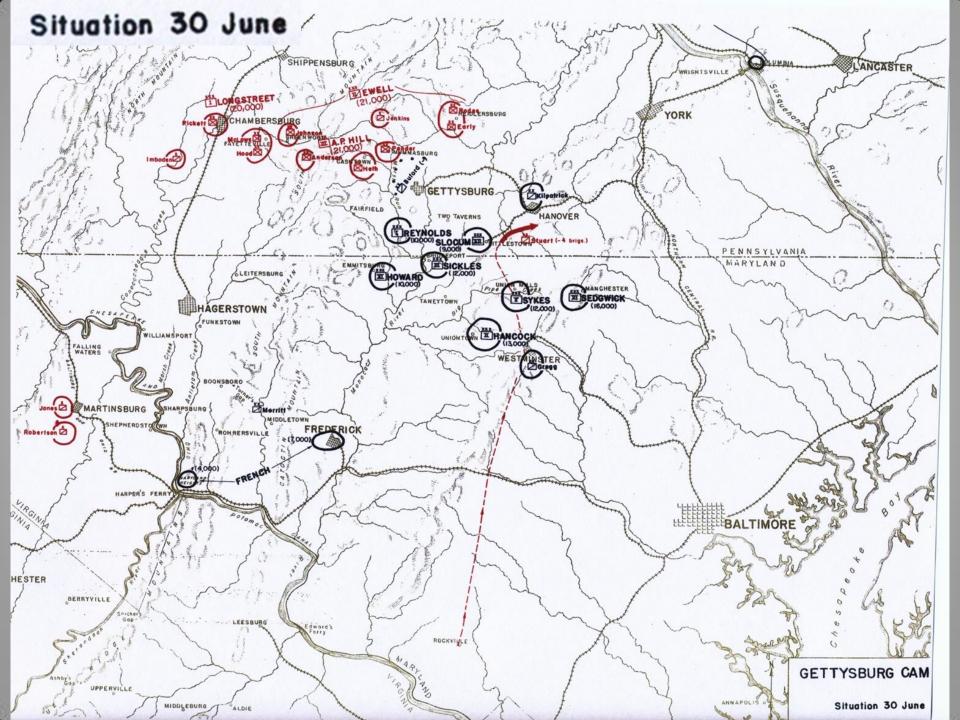


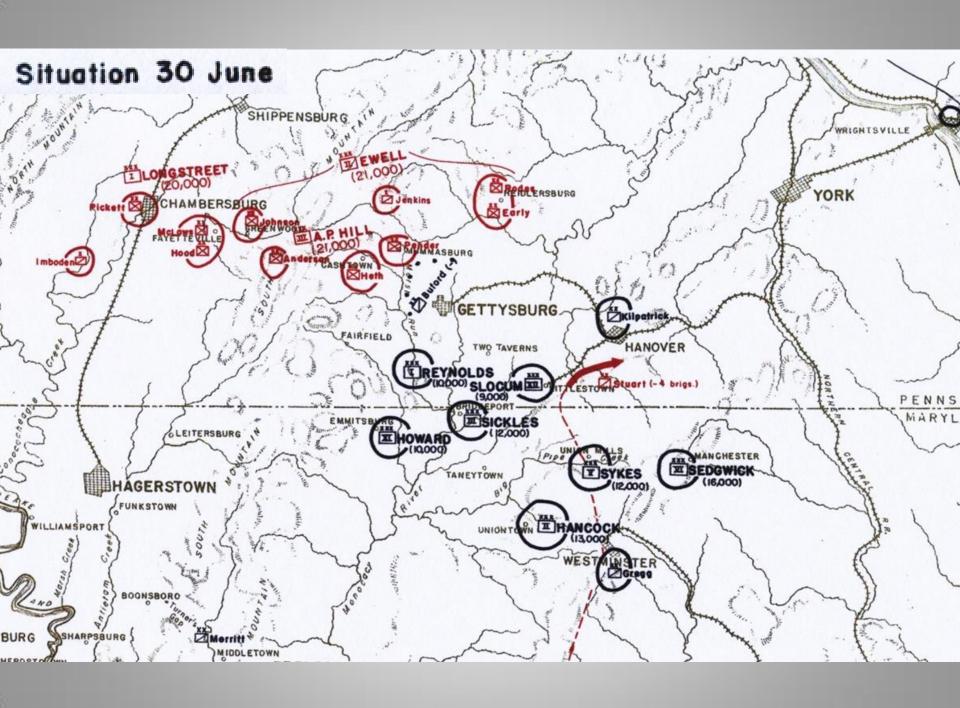


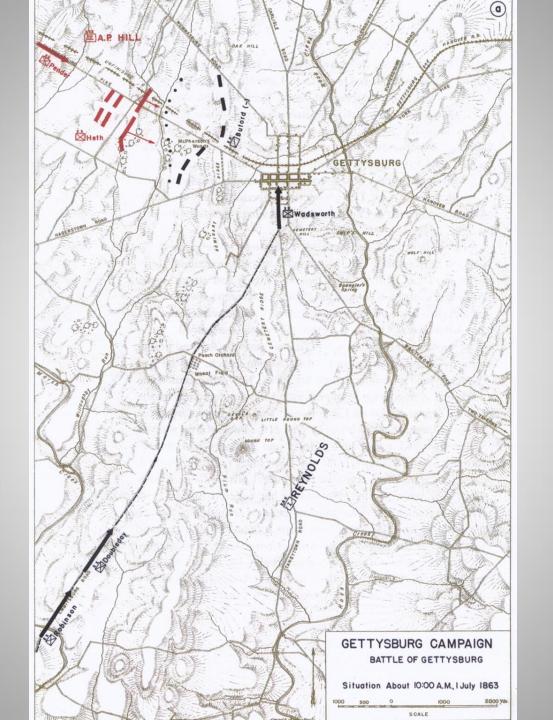
Major General George Meade











THE NATURE OF WAR: CLAUSEWITZ'S TRINITY

IMPORTANCE OF THE TRINITY IN CLAUSEWITZ'S THOUGHT

Karl von Clausewitz's brief (five-paragraph, 300-word) discussion of the "trinity"—an interactive set of three forces that drive the events of war in the real world—represents the capstone of Clausewitzian theory. First, it is the synthesis of his dialectical exploration of the nature of war. Second, every identifiable concept in *On War* can be related to one or more of its elements. It is impossible to grasp the overall structure of this great and—despite the unfinished nature of the book—amazingly coherent body of ideas without an appreciation of the trinity.

THE ELEMENTS OF THE TRINITY

Clausewitz's trinity comprises three specific elements. The identity of those elements is readily evident to anyone who actually reads the first paragraph of his description: It is "composed of

<u>primordial violence, hatred, and enmity</u>, which are to be regarded as a blind natural force; of <u>the play of chance and probability</u> within which the creative spirit is free to roam; and of its <u>element of subordination</u>, as an instrument of policy, which makes it subject to reason...."

This set of elements is usually labeled

"emotion / chance / reason";

sometimes

"violence / chance & probability / rational calculation";

or, even more abstractly,

"irrationality / nonrationality / rationality."

If one has never personally experienced war one cannot understand in what the difficulties constantly mentioned really consist, nor why a commander should need any brilliance and exceptional ability. Everything looks simple. The knowledge required does not look remarkable, the strategic options are so obvious that by comparison the simplest problem of higher mathematics has an impressive scientific dignity. Once war has actually been seen the difficulties become clear; but it is still extremely hard to describe the unseen all-pervasive element that brings about this change of perspective.

Everything in war is very simple, but the simplest thing is difficult. The difficulties accumulate and end by producing a kind of friction that is inconceivable unless one has experienced war.

-Carl von Clausewitz, On War (1832), Ch. 7, "Friction in War"

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-Carl von Clausewitz, On War (1832), Ch. 7, "Friction in War"