

Chapter 1 : Tennessee 4 Me -

The new "Confederate Partisan" website. Where we honor the heritage of our ancestors and revive the historical principles they stood for.

Civil War and Reconstruction Irregular Warfare Every Tennessee community faced the threat of irregular warfare and the violence which followed in its wake. Today irregular warfare would be called guerrilla warfare. Irregular warfare usually involved a small group of men, not under the command of an army unit, attempting to damage the other side. These attempts could include burning bridges, derailing trains, attacking supply wagons, or even killing people. There were both pro-Union and pro-Confederate partisans. In Confederate forces dealt with Union supporters who had attempted to destroy sections of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad. In early Union occupation forces in Middle and West Tennessee faced similar bands of Confederate supporters. Irregular fighters, sometimes called bridge burners, guerrillas, spies, partisans, or bushwhackers, usually dressed in civilian clothing, not in uniforms. This allowed them to blend into the population after committing acts of sabotage or attacking soldiers or civilians. These actions were considered outside the rules of civilized warfare, although each side probably encouraged such actions. Not surprisingly, some of these acts were committed for personal gain or revenge, and not for warfare. The lines between legitimate combatant and dangerous criminal became blurred. Both sides used scouts whose missions were little different than that of spies. While scouts were considered combat soldiers, spies faced trial and execution. The difference between a spy and a scout was a gray area and often resulted in tragic consequences. Here are some men who were irregular fighters. There were probably hundreds of participants in irregular warfare in Tennessee. Harper was considered an outlaw by the Union army but he continued operations until he surrendered in Gallatin in May. He then went into hiding for nearly five years since he was concerned that he might be tried for war crimes. After he secured pardons from the governors of Tennessee and Kentucky, he moved to Lebanon, Tennessee, where he lived until killed during a political argument in Ferguson is an example of a guerilla fighter who allowed personal revenge and criminal activities to overlap his military actions. After the beginning of the war, he organized a group of men and started harassing Union supporters along the Cumberland Plateau. He spent much of the war fighting Unionists from his own area. His men scouted for Gen. At Saltville he killed a wounded Union officer, still in the hospital, against whom Ferguson supposedly had a grudge. He was also charged with killing other wounded Union soldiers including several with the Fifth U. Ferguson surrendered at the end of the war, and thought he would be paroled. Instead he was arrested and tried as a guerilla. He was convicted of 53 counts of murder, and hanged in October in Nashville. Dewitt Smith Dewitt Smith served in the 45th Tennessee Infantry Regiment until late , when he went on a partisan killing spree after his cousin, Dee Jobe, was tortured and killed by Union troops in August. He deserted the army and went on a rage that resulted in the deaths of no less than fifty Union soldiers. Smith was badly wounded near Nolensville and returned to Murfreesboro, but he died from his wounds before he could be executed. The brutal treatment of Dee Jobe and the retaliatory actions by Smith illustrate the savage and violent nature of irregular warfare in Tennessee. Stokes Stokes was a resident of Dekalb County who aligned himself with the Union in this fiercely divided region of Middle Tennessee. He then waged a brutal campaign against guerrilla units and regular Confederate cavalry in the area of his home county. Stokes and the guerrillas opposing him terrorized the region in a never-ending cycle of violence. His regiment later served in the battles around Murfreesboro and Nashville, while he remained in Carthage commanding occupation forces and anti-guerrilla operations until March. Stokes lived in both Liberty and Alexandria after the war and served in the Tennessee House of Representatives until. He died in. Ferguson is standing in the middle, front row. He was later executed by a military tribunal in October of that year. Courtesy of the Tennessee Library and Archives.

Chapter 2 : The Missouri Partisan Ranger - Confederate Partisan Act in Missouri

On April 21, 1862, the Congress of the Confederate States of America passed the Partisan Ranger Act. This law was intended as a stimulus for recruitment of irregulars for service into the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War.

A legal option for draftees on either side who chose not to serve was to: The Trent episode of late Most of the Confederacy's diplomatic efforts were aimed at: Fighting along the Kansas-Missouri border: McClellan's peninsular campaign was intended to: McClellan vigorously pursued the retreating Lee. Confederates used a great defensive position. Which of the following statements best describes the Civil War at the end of ? The war in the east was a virtual deadlock. Lincoln initially rejected a policy of emancipation: The 54th Massachusetts Regiment was: Slavery was ultimately eradicated by: By the end of the war, the number of blacks serving the Union: The greatest number of women who served in the war did so as: The greenbacks issued by the U. The Battle of Gettysburg occurred in: To deal with disloyalty, Lincoln sometimes: Lincoln's major opponent in the election was: Lincoln claimed to be certain of God's purpose. By late in the war, food in the Confederacy: At the Battle of Chancellorsville: In addition to the huge number of soldier deaths in the war, an equally huge number of BLANK also died: As Union commander, Grant was best characterized by his: Grant put the Confederates under siege. More than any other general William T. Lincoln's second inaugural address: At Appomattox Court House: The death toll in the Civil War was roughly: Most of the deaths occurred in battle. In the North, the Civil War especially elevated the power of: During the Civil War, Congress passed: After the war, rumors swept the South that ex-slaves would receive: At the end of the Civil War the newly freed slaves were given: Under Lincoln's plan for Reconstruction:

Confederate Partisan Rangers. Throughout the Civil War, there existed many bodies of irregular cavalymen, who, by sudden dashes on the rear and flanks of the Union armies, or in a night attack on the Federal trains, kept the outposts and train guard continually on the alert.

Laurinburg NC tmh10 said: As much of the rationing of the Confederate armies was through captured stores, these irregular bands often brought substantial aid to their starving comrades in the shape of Federal provision wagons, captured intact. These independent partisan bands were far from being guerrillas, bushwhackers, or "jayhawkers," as were those of the type of Quantrill, who, during his brief career, left a trail of fire and blood through the disputed territory of Kansas and Missouri. The leaders of the best of these partisans were men whose personalities had much to do with their success, and as their fame increased with their annoying operations against the Union armies, the latter had strict orders to kill or capture them at any cost. Three of these brilliant, fearless, and daring Southern raiders became especially noted and feared, and in the history of the Confederate irregular cavalry, the names of Turner Ashby, John H. Morgan, and John S. Mosby stand in a class by themselves. The first two were killed during the war, but Mosby, whose death or capture was probably more desired by the North than that of either of the others, survived every engagement, fighting stubbornly for the Confederacy, even after Lee had surrendered at Appomattox. Ashby was a handsome man, a daring soldier, and a superb horseman. At the outbreak of the war, he received a commission as captain of a band of picked rangers, working in conjunction with the main operations of the Confederate armies, but unhampered by specific instructions from a superior. He was rapidly promoted. As colonel of a partisan band he was a continual menace to the Federal trains, and moved with such rapidity as oftentimes to create the impression that several bodies of mounted troops were in the field instead of but one. Failing upon an isolated column of army wagons at dawn, he would strike a Federal camp thirty miles away by twilight of the same day. His men were picked by their leader with great care, and although there is reason to believe that Southern writers surrounded these troopers with a halo of romance, there is no disputing that they were brave, daring, and self-sacrificing. Ashby himself was looked upon by many officers and men in the Union armies as a purely mythical character. Much of the mystery surrounding this officer was due to his beautiful white horse, strong, swift, and a splendid jumper. He and his horse, standing alone on a hill or ridge, would draw the Union troops on. When the latter had reached a point where capture seemed assured, Ashby would slowly mount and canter leisurely out of sight. When his pursuers reached the spot where he had last been seen, Ashby and his white charger would again be observed on the crest of a still more distant hill. Only once during his spectacular career in the Confederate army was Ashby outwitted and captured, but even then he made his escape before being taken a mile by his captors--a detachment of the First Michigan Cavalry. The Confederate leader was surrounded before he was aware of the presence of the Union troops, and the latter were within fifty rods of him when he saw several of them pushing along a cross-road which afforded the only avenue of escape. Nevertheless, Ashby made a dash for freedom. Vaulting into the saddle, the daring rider raced to beat the foremost Union trooper to the open road. As Pierson neared Ashby, the latter fired at him with his revolver, but the Union trooper did not attempt to return the fire and Ashby himself replaced his weapon in the holster. As the two men, magnificently mounted, came together, Ashby drew a large knife and raised it to strike. Then, throwing himself from his horse, Pierson dragged the Confederate officer to the ground, and held him until the remaining Union troopers reached the scene of the struggle and disarmed Ashby. The white horse had instantly stopped when Ashby was pulled from his back, and the captive was allowed to ride him back to the Union lines, slightly in advance of his captors, Sergeant Pierson at his side. The detachment had gone but a short distance when the mysterious white horse wheeled suddenly to one side, bounded over the high plantation fence which lined the roadside, and dashed away across the fields. Before the Union troops could recover from their surprise, Ashby was again free, and it was not long before he was once more reported by the Federal scouts as standing on a distant hill, engaged in caressing his faithful horse. Only a few weeks later, this famous horse, which had become so familiar to the Union troops, was shot and killed by a

sharpshooter belonging to the Fifth Michigan, who was attempting to bring down Ashby. As he fell, his last words to his troopers were: He was a slightly older man than Ashby and had seen service in the Mexican War. When the call to arms sounded, he was one of the first to organize a company of cavalry and pledge his support to the Southern cause. He was fearless and tireless, a hard rider, and a man of no mean ability as a tactician and strategist. Starting before daybreak, Morgan and his troopers would rush along through the day, scarcely halting to rest their weary and jaded horses. When, worn to the very limit of endurance, the exhausted animals refused to go farther, the cavalymen would quickly tear off saddle and bridle, and leaving the horse to live or die, would hurry along to the nearest farm or plantation and secure a fresh mount. At night, far from their starting-point, the dust-covered troopers threw themselves, yelling and cheering, on the Union outposts, riding them down and creating consternation in the camp or bivouac. Then, with prisoners or perhaps captured wagon trains, the rangers rode, ghostlike, back through the night, while calls for reinforcements were being passed through the Federal lines. By dawn, Morgan and his weary horsemen would have safely regained their own lines, while oftentimes the Union troops were still waiting an attack at the spot where the unexpected night raid had been made. They would charge an isolated telegraph office on the railroad communications of the Union army, and, capturing the operator, would place their own man at the telegraph key. In this way they gained much valuable and entirely authentic information, which, as soon as known, was rushed away to the headquarters of the army. As Morgan was promoted from grade to grade, and the size of his command increased accordingly, he became more and more of an annoyance and even a terror to the North. His troopers were no longer mere rangers, but developed into more or less trained cavalry. Yet even then, his command showed a partiality for sudden and highly successful attacks upon Union outposts and wagon trains. The death of Morgan occurred near Greeneville, Tennessee, on September 4, 1862, when, being surrounded, he was shot down in a dash for life. Mosby, with his raiding detachments of varying size, was probably the best known and the most anxiously sought by the Union forces of any of the partisan leaders. His almost uniform success and the spirit of romance which surrounded his exploits, drew thousands of recruits to his leadership, and had he desired, he could have commanded a hundred men for every one who usually accompanied him on his forays. But he continued throughout the war using small detachments of from twenty to eighty men, and much of his success was probably due to this fact, which permitted sudden appearances and disappearances. On March 8, 1862, Mosby performed one of the most daring and effective feats of his career. In this case, as well as in others, it was the supreme boldness of the act which alone made it possible. With a small band of carefully picked men, Mosby rode safely through the Union picket-lines, where the sentries believed the party to be Federal scouts returning from a raid. Stoughton, woke the general, and demanded his surrender. Believing that the town had surrendered, the Union leader made no resistance. Stoughton was forced to mount a horse, and with their prisoners Mosby and his cavalcade galloped safely back to their lines. It was with similar strokes, original in conception and daring in execution, that Mosby kept thousands of Federal cavalry and infantry away from much-needed service at the front. After he became well established as a partisan ranger, his men were never organized as a tactical fighting body, and never had, as with other troops, an established camp. Through his trusty lieutenants, the call would be sent out for a designated number of men "for Mosby. In fact, they always moved out with sealed orders, but at the appointed time and place the rangers would assemble without fail. That Mosby wanted them was sufficient. Many of these men were members of regular cavalry regiments home on furlough, others were farmers who had been duly enlisted in the rangers, and were always subject to call, still others were troopers whose mounts were worn out, and whose principal object was to secure Northern horses. Of course, the nature of the service performed by these rangers was subversive of discipline, and it is quite possible that many deeds were committed which the leader himself had absolutely nothing to do with and would not have sanctioned. But this is true with all warfare. On such occasions Mosby would give the word and the detachment would suddenly disintegrate, each trooper making his way back to his own lines through forests and over mountains as best he could. Frequently his men were captured. But Mosby seemed to bear a charmed life, and in spite of rewards for his capture and all manner of plans to entrap him, he continued his operations as a valuable ally to the main Confederate army. Of course much of his success was due to the fact that he was ever operating in a friendly country. He could always be assured of authentic information, and

wherever he went was certain of food, fresh horses, and means of concealment. In , Mosby was shot during one of his forays, and was left, apparently dying, by the Union troops, who failed to recognize him, in the house where he had been surprised. Until the very end of the war he kept up his indefatigable border warfare, and it was not until after the surrender at Appomattox, that Mosby gathered his men about him for the last time, and telling them that the war was over, pronounced his command disbanded for all time.

Chapter 4 : The Partisan Ranger Act | Experience the 55 Months that Made America

Confederate States President, Jefferson Davis, did not believe in guerrilla warfare, considering it too disorganized. However, on April 21, he approved an act to authorize commissioned officers to form bands of Partisan rangers.

Background[edit] Irregular warfare is warfare in which one or both of the sides use irregular military tactics. Jefferson Davis, the Confederate president, did not approve of irregular warfare. It was due to the fact that guerillas, a group that were a part of irregular warfare, were too hard to control with their many violent actions and were also diminishing the number of soldiers trying out in the regular army. In , a general had to run all the guerilla recruiters in his camp out. Unfortunately after, there were still not enough soldiers left in the army and irregular warfare was still going on. The first purpose was to take control over guerilla warfare and decide who would and would not be able to use it. This proved useful to Confederate military raiding. The second purpose was to promote the use of guerilla warfare to help protect areas where there was little protection from the army. The Partisan Ranger Act resulted in many Southerners believing that any form of guerilla warfare was now being approved. The Partisan Ranger Act allowed Davis to form groups of partisan rangers. This also led to the recruitment of irregular soldiers into the Confederate army. This meant that partisan rangers would have the same rules, supplies, and pay as the regular soldiers of the army, but they would be acting independently and were going to be detached from the rest of the army. Anything they brought back, they would give to the quartermaster, a military officer who was in charge of providing food, clothing, and other necessities, and in return, they would get paid. The Partisan Ranger Act drew many Southern men who were interested by this opportunity. The congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the president be, and he is hereby authorized to commission such officers as he may deem proper with authority to form bands of Partisan rangers , in companies , battalions , or regiments , to be composed of such members as the President may approve. Be it further enacted, that such partisan rangers, after being regularly received in the service, shall be entitled to the same pay, rations, and quarters during the term of service, and be subject to the same regulations as other soldiers. Be its further enacted, That for any arms and munitions of war captured from the enemy by any body of partisan rangers and delivered to any quartermaster at such place or places may be designated by a commanding general, the rangers shall be paid their full value in such manner as the Secretary of War may prescribe. Outcome[edit] By early , Partisan Ranger Act had completely fallen off track. The result of this change was more violence during Confederate guerilla activity. After twenty-two months of the Partisan Ranger Act in effect, it finally ended. Lee persuaded the Congress to do so. This did not mean the end of guerilla warfare entirely, but it meant the end of the Confederate government trying out their new military tactics and strategies. Their experiment had failed in trying to make guerilla warfare a benefit for the Civil War. Legacy[edit] Even though the Partisan Ranger Act may have failed in the very end, it did help play important roles in the Civil War. The partisan rangers helped defense and strategy during the war. Multiple partisan rangers groups proved to be useful during battle when collecting information from the Union army. Mackey, "The UnCivil War:

The New Confederate Partisans is an activist organization dedicated to preserving the South's heritage, and in helping to fight the problems facing the South today.

The Stanly County Museum and Stanly County Historical Society gave local residents an opportunity to hear of the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the lost archives of the Confederate States of America last Thursday. The information presented during the program, Ganis said, came from research he had conducted and then later set aside for approximately seven years. The Confederacy, like most governments, possessed a lot of paperwork. Its archives, therefore, were extremely important. In order to understand what would come later, Ganis explained that it was important to delve into the mindset of the individuals at that point in time. At the conclusion of the battle, Gen. Lee, would surrender the Army of Northern Virginia to the Union army. Confederate Cavalry Major Gen. Rosser was able to escape with his men following the battle and attempted to reorganize and meet up with Joseph E. Shortly thereafter, he would continue his retreat south to Greensboro. John Taylor Wood, nephew and personal aide of Davis, handled records pertaining to the executive department. Ganis said that train cars were loaded up with government records and sent south to escape Union capture. Stanly County, he said, was just off the trail of where the main rail line was heading. Ultimately, many records were either burned along the way or fell into the hands of the United States government or individuals. Stanly County, however, may hold the answer to the mystery. Allison kept a diary and in a journal entry dated April 16, he noted that he was at Crowell Mine, located near the town of New London. To add support to his theory, Ganis read an excerpt from a writing by Edward Alfred Pollard, an American journalist who died in . At the conclusion of his presentation, Ganis challenged anyone to take up his research and see where it takes them. Ganis was born in Southern Pines and served in the U. Army, Air Force and Marines. He obtained a degree in history from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He has master of science and strategic intelligence from the Defense Intelligence Agency. He is the author of two books on Jesse James.

Chapter 6 : Confederate Partisan Rangers | American Civil War Forums

Guerrilla warfare in the American Civil War followed the same general patterns of irregular warfare conducted in 19th century Europe. Structurally, they can be divided into three different types of operations—the so-called 'People's War', 'partisan warfare', and 'raiding warfare'.

Posted on March 13, by gautic01 Introduction There is a deplorable lack of writing on the Confederate Partisan Ranger Corps and the guerrilla commands outside the corps. The publication of Professor Daniel E. There are of course many difficulties in researching units and commands that by nature tried to make it hard for the enemy to find out anything about them. Radford offered to raise and mount a company of a thousand active men for Ranger or irregular service if the Confederate government was willing to arm them with long-range guns and pistols. The object of such a unit would be to annoy and harass an invading army, cut off escorts and detachments. Had Radford alone been the man behind the idea it would probably not have come to much. A Baltimore newspaper reported that hundreds of men were on their way to wage guerrilla warfare. Governor John Letcher of Virginia was also the first to organize for irregular warfare. By an act of the Virginia General Assembly he was authorized to issue commissions for the organization of ten companies of Partisan Rangers. They were to be mustered into state service but were to operate as individual units. But calls came from other parts of the Confederacy. In July D. They would take care of themselves. Within ten days Mr. Campbell received an official reply: The Confederate government preferred that these companies be armed and tendered for the war in the usual way. They would have to conform to the rules of war of civilized nations. The officers must be commissioned by the government and the companies paid for by the state. If the Alabamians proceeded according to their own ideas they would have to be regarded as outlaws and pirates. Critics of the Partisan Rangers Only six days after the passing of the act Brigadier General Henry Heth, commanding the District of Lewisburg, wrote to Governor Letcher of Virginia accusing the rangers of being no better than bands of robbers and plunderers. They were more ready to plunder friends than foes. The attorney had harsh words for the partisan rangers: The criticism sooner or later would have effect and on 17 February the act of April on the formation of partisan ranger units, was repealed. Hindman of the Confederate District of Arkansas, was an ardent believer in partisan and guerrilla warfare. On 17 July he published his own guerrilla act: For the more effectual annoyance of the enemy upon our rivers and in our mountains and woods all citizens of this district who are not subject to conscription are called upon to organize themselves into independent companies of mounted men or infantry, as they prefer, arming and equipping themselves, and to serve in that part of the district to which they belong. When as many as 10 men come together for this purpose they may organize by electing a captain, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal and will at once commence operations against the enemy without waiting for special instructions. Their duty will be to cut off federal pickets, scouts, foraging parties, and trains, and to kill pilots and others on gunboats and transports, attacking them day and night, and using the greatest vigor in their movements. As soon as the company attains the strength required by law it will proceed to elect the other officers to which it is entitled. All such organizations will be reported to these headquarters as soon as practicable. They will receive pay and allowances for subsistence and forage for the time actually in the field, as established by the affidavits of their captains. These companies will be governed in all respects by the same regulations as other troops. Captains will be held responsible for the good conduct and efficiency of their men, and will report to these headquarters from time to time. Quantrill and George Todd. The main action was on the border to Kansas with raids into Kansas and the Union occupation troops used very harsh counterinsurgency methods against the population in the western counties of Missouri. In northern Missouri Confederate cavalry officers were active in recruiting guerrillas among them Colonels John T. Vard Cockrell, John T. Porter and a certain Captain Joseph O. Shelby of later fame as a General. Several of these units operated in northern Missouri and were chased by Union occupation troops. Mosby, the 43rd Virginia Cavalry Battalion. It is so famous that I will not go into details here today. I will only point out that these around men in effect was a small army and operated so effectively that even General Lee, who was no friend of partisan and guerrilla warfare, at one time exclaimed: Let me only quote General Sheridan by the

end of on the result of the guerilla warfare in Virginia: He was the son of one of the chamberlains to the King of Prussia and had served for seven years in the Prussian army. Von Massow was severely wounded in February and returned to Germany. He later became a General commanding a Corps during the Franco-Prussian war in the s. He kept contacts with his old Confederate friends until he died. He had also served with Garibaldi in his Sicilian Expedition. Hoskins was killed during the Vint Farm skirmish on 30 May

The End and Some Conclusions When the Partisan Ranger Act was repealed in the door was left open to keep some of the Partisan Ranger units fighting behind enemy lines. One of the great students of Confederate partisan and guerrilla warfare, Virgil Carrington Jones, once wrote in his famous book *Gray Ghosts and Rebel Raiders* that the Southern partisans stumbled on to one of the secrets of modern warfare through their intuition and vigorous support of a resistance movement for occupied territory. It is my firm belief that if partisan and guerrilla warfare had been more widely used against the Federals the war could have been kept going for several more years, even won.

The Richmond Legal Basis of the Partisan Rangers The debate on guerrilla warfare and partisan ranger units continued and it was not until that the Confederate Congress acted. On 21 April the Partisan Ranger Act was passed: The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to commission such officers as he may deem proper with authority to form bands of partisan rangers, in companies, battalions or regiments, to be composed of such members as the President may approve. Be it further enacted, That such partisan rangers, after being regularly received in the service, shall be entitled to the same pay, rations, and quarters during their term of service, and be subject to the same regulations as other soldiers. Be it further enacted, That for any arms and munitions of war captured from the enemy by any body of partisan rangers and delivered to any quartermaster at such place or places as may be designated by a commanding general, the rangers shall be paid their full value in such manner as the Secretary of War may prescribe. Approved April 21, A powerful incentive indeed to enlist in a partisan ranger unit instead of joining the regular Confederate army. Soon the attraction of the Partisan Ranger Corps was so great that the Confederate authorities had to prohibit transfer from the line to the Partisan Ranger Corps. Partisan units of company size existed in Florida and Mississippi.

Francis Lieber, in the summer of to make public his views on guerrilla warfare. Here guerrillas were described as bands of armed men engaged in conducting irregular warfare because of their irregular origin. The Partisan Ranger Corps, on the other hand, was an organization which sought to injure the enemy by action separate from that of their own main army, and by operating in the rear of, on the flanks of the enemy, and against his lines of communication. The partisan was thus part of the army and considered entitled to the privileges of the law of war, so long as he does not transgress it. Thus the Yankees, at least on paper, were willing to respect the status of the Confederate Partisan Ranger Corps.

Chapter 7 : Partisan Ranger Act - Wikipedia

John Mosby and William Quantrill: The Lives and Legacies of the Confederacy's Most Notorious Partisans astutely provides the answers to these questions and more. So, despite a handful of typographical errors, I highly recommend this book.

The North had a greater landmass, a larger population, more industry, more railroads, and more munitions factories. The populations in Border States such as Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia had divided loyalties, and even in the deepest South there were "Tories" who wanted to remain in the Union. Every single state in the Confederacy contributed troops to the Union army. Given this situation, it is no surprise that in the Border States an extensive and bitter guerrilla war between Unionists and Secessionists paralleled - and indeed anticipated - the major operations of the regular armies, while Southern Tories fought to keep the flame of Unionism alive far from the battlefield. Americans had a deep-rooted tradition of hit-and-run irregular warfare stretching back long before the American Revolution, and the independent spirit and distrust of authority that typifies American culture prompted many individuals to fight for their cause outside the ranks of regular armies. While on this occasion the Southern ethos of chivalry prevented them from directly harming women, such restraint was far from universal among irregular fighters. This is no exaggeration, but the Kansans who raided Missouri farms were no better, Kansas State Historical Society Some definition of terms is immediately necessary. In the case of Southern partisan rangers, they might have been organized under the Partisan Ranger Act of 1862, or by one of the state governments; the Union passed no such act, but the US Army and sometimes even the Federal government recognized independent units. A third type of fighter, the cavalry raider, fits into the definition of irregular warfare only by virtue of his tactics. Union commanders and later historians often referred to these two famous generals as guerrillas or partisans, but in fact they were regular soldiers using irregular tactics. All three types of irregular fighter - guerrilla, partisan ranger, and cavalry raider - became essential parts of the Confederate, and to a lesser extent of the Union war effort. The Confederate irregular forces would develop over time into a serious problem for the Union army, which would respond with a range of antiguerrilla tactics. In this it was never fully successful, and irregular warfare only came to an end after the regular armies of the Confederacy surrendered. Thousands of armed proslavery Missourians crossed the state line into Kansas to vote for pro-slavery candidates in the territorial elections. This greatly increased tensions along the border, and soon both sides resorted to guerrilla warfare. The pre-Civil War fighting was mostly by small bands of armed riders raiding the farms of the other side, but it gave the men combat experience that would be useful when the real war started, Kansas State Historical Society The training ground: But in the Kansas-Nebraska Act ruled that the residents of these areas would decide the legal status of slavery. Northern abolitionist leaders encouraged the like-minded to move to the territories, and Emigrant Aid Societies helped hundreds of families to settle there. A war of words, fought through the press and at street corners and taverns, painted all Missourians as avid slaveholders and all Northern immigrants as rabid abolitionists. Missourians complained that Northern settlers were not bringing their womenfolk or farm tools with them, but only guns. This was an exaggeration, but many settlers did come heavily armed, for fear of the Missourians that Northern newspapers had told them would swamp the territory with slaveholders. Matters came to a head in the Kansas territorial elections, when thousands of armed Missourians crossed over the state line to vote for proslavery candidates. Because there were no rules as to what constituted residency, their votes counted; their candidates won by a considerable margin, and did so again in elections the following year. Intimidation soon led to violence. Bands of abolitionist "Jayhawkers" rode into Missouri to raid farms and free slaves, while proslavery "border ruffians" or "Bushwhackers" attacked Kansan farms and wrecked the offices of abolitionist newspapers. The death toll began to mount, and the undermanned Federal garrisons could do little to stop the spreading anarchy. On May 21, 1856, a group As the fight for the political future of the Kansas Territory heated up, both sides became heavily armed. This reversed image shows one of the first "Free State batteries" formed by Kansas abolitionists. In reprisal, the abolitionist John Brown and his sons hacked five proslavery men to death in what became known as the Pottawatomie Massacre. By power had shifted in favor of the abolitionists

because of an increased Federal presence, a continuing influx of Northern immigrants, and large shipments of Sharps rifles from Northern activists. But the raids continued back and forth, growing in strength and skill. Americans on the frontier were getting a field lesson in guerrilla warfare. Southern and border states and territories, The numbers indicate the order in which the Confederate states seceded from the Union.

Chapter 8 : Guerrilla warfare in the American Civil War - Wikipedia

Aside from the Confederate regular soldier, another breed of Southern fighter existed, the irregulars. Composed generally of two groups, extremists fighting on their own as guerrillas and the more conservative units known as Partisan Rangers and raiders, the irregulars created problems for both the Confederacy and the Union.

It was marked by a vicious neighbor-against-neighbor quality as other grudges got settled. It was frequent for residents of one part of a single county to take up arms against their counterparts in the rest of the vicinity. Bushwhacking, murder, assault, and terrorism were characteristics of this kind of fighting. Few participants wore uniforms or were formally mustered into the actual armies. In many cases, it was civilian against civilian, or civilian against opposing enemy troops. One such example was the opposing irregular forces operating in Missouri and northern Arkansas from to , most of which were pro-Confederate or pro-Union in name only. They preyed on civilians and isolated military forces of both sides with little regard for politics. From these semi-organized guerrillas, several groups formed and were given some measure of legitimacy by their governments. Another notorious unit, with debatable ties to the Confederate military, was led by Champ Ferguson along the Kentucky-Tennessee border. Ferguson became one of the few figures of the Confederate cause to be executed after the war. Dozens of other small, localized bands terrorized the countryside throughout the border region during the war, bringing total war to the area that lasted until the end of the Civil War and, in some areas, beyond. Partisan warfare, in contrast, more closely resembled commando operations of the 20th century. Partisans were small units of conventional forces, controlled and organized by a military force for operations behind enemy lines. John Singleton Mosby formed a partisan unit that was very effective in tying down Federal forces behind Union lines in northern Virginia in the last two years of the war. They were given specific missions to destroy logistical hubs, railroad bridges, and other strategic targets to support the greater mission of the Army of Tennessee. Morgan led raids into Kentucky as well. In his last raid, he violated orders by going across the Ohio River and raiding in Ohio and Indiana as well, as he wanted to bring the war to the northern states. This long raid diverted thousands of Union troops. He captured and paroled nearly 6, troops, destroyed bridges and fortifications, and ran off livestock. Some of his followers continued under their own direction, such as M. Jerome Clarke , who kept on with raids in Kentucky. The Confederacy conducted few deep cavalry raids in the latter years of the war, mostly because of the losses in experienced horsemen and the offensive operations of the Union army. Federal cavalry conducted several successful raids during the war but in general used their cavalry forces in a more conventional role. Union countermeasures against the Confederate guerrillas[edit] Federal counter-guerrilla operations were successful in reducing the impact of Confederate guerrilla warfare. In Arkansas, Federal forces used a wide variety of strategies to defeat irregulars. Against Confederate raiders, the Federal army developed an effective cavalry themselves and reinforced that system by numerous blockhouses and fortification to defend strategic targets. Another regiment known as the "Thomas Legion", consisting of white and anti-Union Cherokee Indians, morphed into a guerrilla force and continued fighting in the remote mountain back-country of western North Carolina for a month after Robert E. That unit was never completely suppressed by Union forces, but voluntarily ceased hostilities after capturing the town of Waynesville, North Carolina , on May 10, Near the end of the war, there were those in the administration who advocated continuing the southern fight as a guerrilla conflict. These efforts were opposed by Confederate generals such as Lee who ultimately believed that surrender and reconciliation were the best options for the war-ravaged South. Notable Civil War guerrillas, partisans, jayhawkers, and rangers[edit].

Chapter 9 : Confederate Partisans | Tumblr

The New Confederate Partisans is an activist organization dedicated to preserving the South's heritage, and in helping to fight the problems facing the South today. Our goal is to establish a.

I do not want Confederates to vote for my party of choice, I want my party of choice, as well as all opposition parties and Independents, to vote Confederate! Ask every Republican has he or she read Lincoln??? If we take the charge of Steve D. Lee serious, and we should, we need to let them know what it takes for our support. They are asking us for the job. Read and pass on to your email list. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that??? I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. In doing this there needs to be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none unless it be forced upon the national authority. The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties and imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere. I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution??? To avoid misconstruction of what I have said, I depart from my purpose not to speak of particular amendments so far as to say that, holding such a provision to now be implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable. No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State. Southern History Information What do you know? In the North, the military draft aroused an opposition that set off significant mob riots in: Both Union and Confederacy began the war volunteers, but after a year the Confederates instituted a draft, and less than another year later the Union did the same. Under the terms of the Union conscription law, by paying a set fee a Northerner could escape service. After a failed raid on Richmond, papers were found on the body of the Union colonel in charge of the foray, Ulric Dahlgren. The papers, whose authenticity is still questioned, outlined a plot to Break into the Confederate Treasury B. Kill President Davis and his cabinet C. Kidnap General Lee D. Kidnap John Wilkes Booth 4. After 22 months at sea seizing Union merchant vessels, the Confederate raider Alabama was finally done in by the U. Where was the fatal battle? Off Charleston, South Carolina B. In New York Harbor C. In Mobile Bay 5. The Civil War song about a???