



THE BRIDGE

"It is our duty to keep the memory of our heroes green." Jefferson Davis



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Deo Vindice

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Hello Fellow Sons,

The new year is here and I hope I found you and yours well. Last month we had a great time at our meeting. I think we all enjoyed the singing. SC Division Commander Mark Simpson and wife Donna brought to us a touch of refinement and elegance that Barker's Mill has not seen in some time. It was also our honor to have Commander Simpson's mother as our guest.

I would like to say a special thank you to all the Officers who served with



SC Division Commander and accomplished singer, Mark Simpson.

me in my last term as Commander of Camp 842. It was an honor to serve with them and it is an even greater honor that you have elected me to lead Camp 842 for the next two years.

I would also say First Lieutenant Commander Edward Floyd will be missed, although he will not be far away. I know that our newly elected First Lieutenant Commander Ken Evans will have all the support that he will need from Edward and the Camp.

Pray for each other and for the Camp and our Great Nation. I will miss all of you at the Banquet, and the next meeting, as I will be behind enemy lines for three weeks. Hope I make it back.

In service to 842
Peter D. Boineau



Commander Simpson's lovely wife Donna accompanies him on the keyboard.

Annual Banquet

Saturday, January 21, 2012, will be the date of Rivers Bridge Camp No. 842, Sons of Confederate Veterans' Annual Banquet. Our annual banquet is a camp reunion of sorts and is observed to honor and remember our compatriots who have passed on as well as to renew fellowship with compatriots whom we may not have seen for a while. Even above this our goal for this time of camaraderie is to honor the memory and

sacrifices of all those who served the cause of the South during the War for Southern Independence.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Joe Long, Curator of Education for the SC Relic Room and Military Museum. Since the banquet falls on the birthday of General "Stonewall" Jackson, we may even have a special treat.

Admission is \$10.00 per person to cover the cost of the meal. We hope to see you at Barker's Mill at 7 pm.



This month we celebrate the birthday of two

of our greatest Christian Generals, General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. SCV Chaplain-in-Chief Mark Evans wrote:

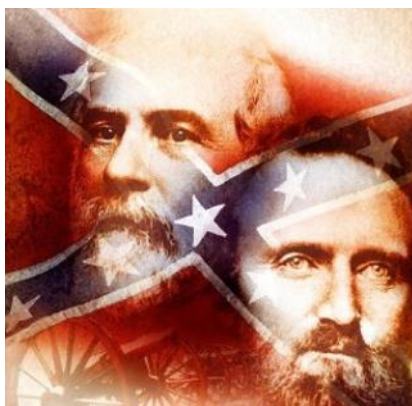
"By the help of Almighty God, Jackson and Lee combined their military genius to repulse the numerically superior forces of the illegal invader. These two Southern chieftains and their warriors "waxed valiant in fight, and turned to flight the armies of the aliens" (Hebrews 11:34).

Jackson died from wounds received by friendly fire. Lee said after Jackson's arm was amputated, "he has lost his left arm; but I have lost my right arm [Dabney, *Life of Jackson*, 716]." Jackson calmly went through the trial, resting in the promise of Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that

love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." He entered the presence of his Lord on May 10, 1863. Before departing, he said, "Let us pass over the river, and rest under the shade of the trees."

Lee lived to see military defeat. Bitter days followed, but he remained faithful to duty. Taking the position of president of Washington College, which later became Washington and Lee University, he carried on the Southern cause, not by force of arms, but by the education of Southern young men. Dr. E. T. Winkler, preaching in the Citadel Square Baptist Church, Charleston, SC, after the death of General Lee, said:

When I seek to penetrate into the mind of our great leader, to understand how he, who failed to save the country



by the sword, still hoped to save its laws, its institutions, its customs, its sciences, its letters, its magistracies, its altars --- all that has been overwhelmed by a fierce and tumultuous democracy --- I admire the simple and noble expedient to which he resorted. General Lee established new claims to the reverence of his countrymen when he exchanged the camp for the college, and the sword for the pen

[Jones, *Personal Reminiscences*, 130].

General Robert E. Lee entered his eternal home October 12, 1870. Chaplain J. William Jones said:

He lived the life of a faithful soldier of the Cross --- he fell at the post of duty with the harness on --- he died in the full assurance of faith in Jesus, and now

wears the Christian's 'crown of rejoicing' [Jones, *Personal Reminiscences*, 460]."

A CONDENSED LOOK AT THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE CIVIL WAR

By

Michael Griffith

This is the fifth installment of this article which will appear in coming issues of the Bridge. As previously stated, it is done in this way to allow the presentation of articles of a lengthier nature. Our hope is that in this way we may examine more closely some very interesting history. By presenting the article over several issues the reader will be allowed to consider and digest the information in smaller portions which, hopefully, will result in an even greater understanding and appreciation of the subject matter. With that said, I hope you find Mister Griffith's article both beneficial and interesting. —Editor

The Emancipation Proclamation

Everyone can agree that slavery needed to be abolished. However, the Emancipation Proclamation, signed on January 1, 1863, left over 400,000 slaves in bondage. Let's take a moment to consider the purpose, nature, and legality of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The proclamation was a war measure, as the document itself states. The Radical Republicans hoped the proclamation would produce a slave revolt in the South, even if this resulted in the deaths of thousands of women and children on plantations and farms. (Perhaps it's an indication of how most slaves were treated that no such revolt ever occurred, even though

many plantations and farms were being run by women and children at the time, since most of the men were engaged in the war effort.)

The proclamation did not free a single slave in any of the four Union slave states nor in any of the regions of the South that were then under Union control. The proclamation excluded the slaves in those areas. The proclamation only applied to slaves in the Confederate states, where Lincoln had no authority to enforce it. Slavery continued in the Northern slave states and in the South for the rest of the war and wasn't abolished until the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in late 1865. Histori-

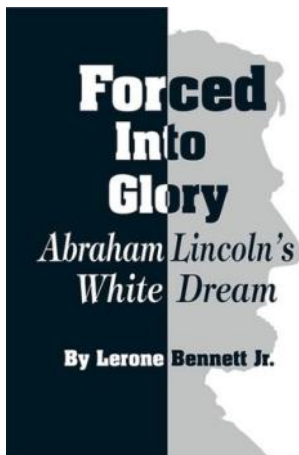
ans John Blum and Bruce Catton commented on the limited nature of the proclamation:

The Emancipation Proclamation asserted freedom for slaves in those areas that were not under control of the federal government and left slavery untouched in areas where federal control



was effective. It seemed a halting measure of dubious effect and shaky legality, and the Confederates denounced it as a call for a slave revolt. (In Blum and Catton, Edmund Morgan, Arthur Schlesinger, Kenneth Stampp, and C. Vann Woodward, editors, *The National Experience: A History of the United States*, Second Edition, New York: Harcourt, Brace, & World, 1968, p. 360)

African-American scholar Lerone Bennett documents that Lincoln only issued the proclamation under intense pressure from the Radical Republicans, who were threatening to cut off funds to the army if emancipation wasn't made a war objective, and that Lincoln only began to seriously consider the Radicals' demands after Union forces suffered several defeats (Bennett, *Forced Into Glory: Abraham Lincoln's White Dream*, Chicago: Johnson Publishing Company, 2000, pp. 23-24, 415-420, 498-504; see also Klingaman, *Abraham Lincoln and the Road to Emancipation*, pp. 139, 148-149, 200-202). Bennett also shows that Lincoln sought to undermine the proclamation almost as soon as he issued it. The proclamation provided no compensation for slaveholders, even though Lincoln himself had said this should be done, and even though most slaveholders treated their slaves humanely (as even many abolitionists had once been willing to admit). Few Northern abolitionists had ever supported compensated emancipation. The Radical Republicans certainly weren't about to support such a plan. They didn't care that several Northern states had reaped fantastic profits from the slave trade. Nor did they care that



when most Northern states had abolished slavery they had done so gradually and in a manner that enabled Northern slaveholders to recover the cost of their slaves.

If the Southern states were still actually in the Union, as Lincoln and other Republicans incredibly claimed, then the Emancipation Proclamation was unconstitutional. Neither Lincoln nor Congress had the right to abolish slavery in any state. The only legal ways to abolish it would have been by a constitutional amendment or by the states abolishing it on their own. Of course, the Southern states had in fact left the Union, and everyone knew it. Lincoln only denied this fact because he knew the federal government had no constitutional

right to invade states that had peacefully and democratically separated from the Union. Since the Southern states were no longer part of the federal compact, the Emancipation Proclamation amounted to an attempt to incite a slave revolt in another country, in spite of the proclamation's disclaimer to the contrary. Certainly the Radicals hoped the proclamation would spark a slave revolt, regardless of the cost in human lives. American leaders reacted angrily when the British tried to incite a slave revolt in the American colonies during the Revolutionary War. This was a serious threat, since slaves were held in each of the thirteen colonies at the time. The British offered freedom to American slaves who would fight in the British army, and they encouraged slaves to

sabotage the colonial war effort. Not surprisingly, tens of thousands of slaves flocked to British army encampments. Fortunately, however, not enough slaves fought for the British to turn the tide against the colonies. At the end of the war, at least 18,000 former slaves accompanied British troops as they evacuated New York, Charleston, Savannah, and other cities (Hummel, *Emancipating Slaves, Enslaving Free Men*, p. 10). If the Emancipation Proclamation had covered all slaves, if it had included compensation for slaveholders, and if it had contained guarantees against a slave revolt, it would have been on solid moral ground. It still would have been unconstitutional, but it would have been consistent, fair, and moral. However, the proclamation contained none of these things. It was intended as a war measure. It left Northern slaves in bondage. Its real purpose was to advance the effort to subjugate the South, even if that meant causing the deaths of thousands of women and children. The Radicals and other Republicans were using Southern slaves as pawns in their effort to conquer the South.



All symbolism and no substance

Raising the Flag on Shuri Castle

Only the Normandy D-Day invasion surpassed Okinawa in its scope, preparation, and forces employed. More than 548,000 Americans participated in the Okinawa invasion on 1 April 1945, an Easter Sunday. Curiously, there was virtually no resistance as they stormed the beaches. They soon discovered that the Japanese Imperial Army and Navy had literally gone underground; having spent a year forcing Okinawan slaves to dig their underground defenses. Eighty-three days of fierce combat were required to finally defeat

the Japanese.

The newly organized American 10th Army conducted the invasion of Okinawa. The 10th, commanded by LTG Simon Bolivar Buckner, was composed of the XXIV Corps, made up of veteran Army units including the 7th, 27th, 77th, and 96th Infantry Divisions, and the III Amphibious Corps, with three battle-hardened Marine divisions, the 1st, 2d, and 6th. LTG Buckner's tactics were summarized by his statement, "The main thing is to lick the Japs. It doesn't much matter where or how we do it."

One of the most significant milestones

in the Okinawan campaign was the taking of Shuri Castle, the underground headquarters of the Japanese Imperial Army. After 2 months of fighting the Japanese, the 6th Marines and the Army's 7th Division were moving south, nearing Shuri Castle. MajGen Pedro del Valle commanded the 6th Marines. Following a hard fight at Dakeshi Town, del Valle's Marines engaged in a bloody battle at the improbably named Wana Draw.

The draw stretched 800 yards and was covered by Japanese guns from its 400-yard entrance to its narrow exit. The exit provided the key to Shuri Castle. The Japanese were

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



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Camp No. 842 Calendar

January 17, 2012	Regular Camp Meeting
January 21	Annual Banquet Barker's Mill Guest Speaker: Mr. Joe Long, Curator of Education, SC Relic Room & Military Museum
January 28	Religion in the Civil War Symposium SC Dept. of Archives & History and SCRMM
February 3-5	S.D. Lee Institute Desoto Hotel, Savannah, GA
February 21	Regular Camp Meeting
March 2-4	Battle for Broxton Bridge Reenactment
March 23-24	SC Division Convention N. Myrtle Beach, SC

holed up in caves the entire length of the draw and had to be eradicated in man-to-man combat.

While the Marines battled through the mud and blood up the draw, the Army's 77th Division was approaching Shuri from the east. To the west, the 6th Marines were pushing into the capital city of Naha. Faced with this overwhelming force, Japanese GEN Ushijima's army retreated to the south.

On 29 May, Able Company, Red Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, commanded by South Carolina native Capt Julius Dusenber, approached to within 800 yards of Shuri Castle. The castle lay within the zone of the 77th Infantry Division, known as the Statue of Liberty Boys. However, GEN Ushijima's rear guard had stalled the 77th's advance.

Impatient, MajGen del Valle ordered Capt Dusenber to "take that

damned place if you can. I'll make the explanations." Dusenber radioed back, "Will do!" Dusenber's Marines stormed the stone fortress, quickly dispatching a detachment of Japanese soldiers who had remained behind. Once the castle had been taken, Dusenber took off his helmet and removed a flag he had been carrying for just such a special occasion. He raised the flag at the highest point of the castle and let loose with a rebel yell. The flag waving overhead was not the Stars and Stripes, but the Confederate Stars and Bars. Most of the Marines joined in the yell, but a disapproving New Englander supposedly remarked, "What does he want now? Should we sing 'Dixie'?" MG Andrew Bruce, the commanding general of the 77th Division, protested to the 10th Army that the Marines had stolen his prize. But LTG Buckner only mildly chided Maj. Gen del Valle saying, "How can I be sore at him? My father fought under that flag!"

LTG Buckner's father was the Confederate BG Buckner who had surrendered Fort Donelson to then-BG Ulysses S. Grant in 1862. The Confederate Battle Flag flew only 2 days over Shuri Castle before the Stars and Stripes were formally raised on 31 May. Dusenber's flag was first lowered and presented to LTG Buckner as a souvenir. LTG Buckner remarked, "Okay! Now, let's get on with the war!" Tragically, on 18 June, just days before Okinawa fell; an enemy shell killed LTG Buckner on Mezido Ridge while he was observing a Marine attack.



Marine raises flag over Shuri Castle.