

Civil War

1861-1865

A “historiography” is our understanding of history. History is written based on our analysis of facts, events, and human experiences. While most people can agree on facts like when and where things happened, opinions on why things happen often differ. One topic of frequent debate is the **Civil War**.

Based on the display at the front of the exhibit, what issue caused the South to leave the United States, and ultimately led to the Civil War?

Slavery

Evidence is needed to make a compelling argument about why something happened.

Find three pieces of evidence from the display that support the idea

Slavery was the cause of the war.

1. South's cotton plantations—reliance on slaves, etc.
2. North's industrialization—no reliance on slaves, etc.
3. Emancipation Proclamation, etc.

While the museum makes the claim slavery was the cause of the war, and supports it with evidence, not everyone agrees with this idea.

Who might believe that something else caused the war? Why might they believe this?

People who support the Confederacy. It is difficult to accept that ancestors, people from your town, etc. fought to defend slavery.

Although the events of the **Civil War** happened more than a century ago, the memory of the war and how we understand it continues to affect the United States even today. As you explore the museum, pay attention to how the events shown and our understanding of them continue to affect the modern world.

Loading and firing a *Civil War* rifle was a complex and time-consuming process. Put the steps in order.

3 Return the ramrod to the bottom of the rifle. Screw a percussion cap onto the top of the weapon by the hammer.

1 Bite the top off the cartridge and pour the ball and powder down the barrel of the gun.

4 Fully pull back on the hammer. Aim the rifle, and fire.

2 Use the ramrod to push the ball and powder to the bottom of the barrel.

Soldiers were expected to perform this process 2-3 times per minute.



Civil War

1861-1865

The Civil War in Numbers



2,000,000 Union soldiers fought in the Civil War

360,000 Union Soldiers died in the war

91,000 Wisconsin soldiers fought for the Union

3,794 men from Wisconsin died in battle, 8,022 from disease

775,881 people lived in Wisconsin when the war started

Let's do the math:

What percentage of the Union army was from Wisconsin? 4.5%

What percentage of the Union army died during the war? 18%

What percentage of Wisconsin's population served in the war? 11.7%

What percentage of Wisconsin's war dead died from disease? 67%

What percentage of the total Union dead were from Wisconsin? 3.28%

What can we tell from these percentages? Does anything surprise you?

1. Disease was the major cause of death, etc.
2. The Union army was comprised of many more states than just Wisconsin, etc.
3. Many soldiers from Wisconsin died, etc.

Individual answers of what students were surprised by.

Union soldiers were issued the following daily items on marches:

Salt pork (12 ounces)	2,544 calories
Beef (1 pound 4 ounces)	1,420 calories
Bread or flour (1 pound 6 ounces)	1,650 calories
Hardtack (1 pound)	1,598 calories
Cornmeal (1 pound 4 ounces)	2,099 calories

In addition, soldiers could find the following items while marching:

Apples (3)	285 calories
Carrots (3)	123 calories
Potatoes (3)	849 calories
Strawberries (15)	60 calories
Peaches (3)	177 calories

Pick one bread, one meat, and one fruit or vegetable item.

Hardtack 1,598 + Beef 1,420 + 3 Apples 285 = 3,303

How many calories does it add up to? 3,303 calories

2,500 is the recommended daily caloric amount for men.

Why is the Civil war number so much higher?

Soldiers were constantly on the move

Spanish-American War

To convert knots to miles per hour, multiply the number of knots by 6,706 (feet in a nautical mile). Then divide that number by 5,280 (feet in a regular mile).

Cuba is 4,456 miles from Spain and 103 miles from the US.

The top speed of the newest Spanish battleship at the time was 20 knots (25.4 mph).

The top speed of a US battleship was 17 knots (21.59 mph).

How many days would it take for a Spanish ship to reach Cuba from Spain? 7.3

How many hours would it take for a US ship to reach Cuba from Florida? 4.77

What advantages might the US have fighting a war so close to home?

Supplies would be delivered faster.

Weapons technology advanced greatly from the time of the Civil War to the **Spanish-American War**. By the time the war started, many regular army troops had received the new Krag-Jorgensen rifle. The Krag was the first modern rifle adopted by the army, capable of shooting multiple bullets in a row that could be loaded directly into the rifle instead of “rammed” down along with powder into the barrel. Also, Krag rifles did not give off smoke like older Civil War rifles. **Put the steps for loading the Krag rifle in order. The first one is done for you.**

2 Pull up and back on the bolt (big metal lever on the back) and flip open the “loading gate” on the side to access the magazine.

6 Pull up and back on the bolt to eject the metal cartridge case out of the rifle, push forward and down to load a new cartridge. Repeat each time the rifle is fired.

5 Aim the rifle, pull the trigger, and fire.

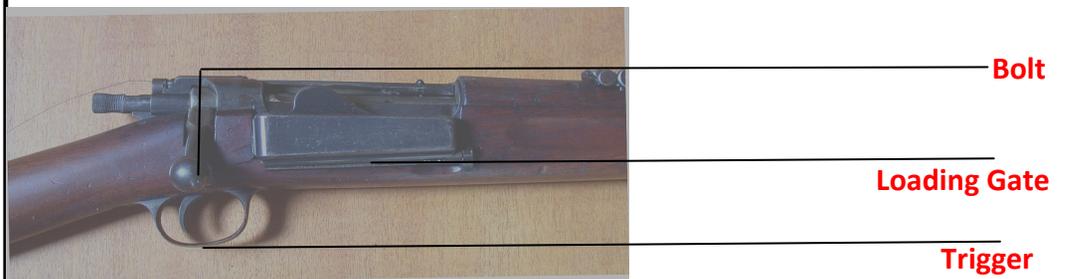
1 Select using a switch if you want to load and fire one bullet at a time, or use the bullets stored in the magazine (metal box inside the gun). You select to use the magazine.

4 Close the “loading gate” and push the bolt forward to load a cartridge in the chamber (back of barrel).

3 Load five brass cartridges (bullet and powder packaged in a metal case) into the side of the gun.

While the Wisconsin Veterans Museum tells the stories of people, understanding how technology like weapons changed helps us understand how veterans’ experiences were different in every war.

Label the “loading gate” “trigger” and “bolt” on a Krag rifle:



Philippine- American War

Think about the American Revolution, when America gained its independence.

Who were we fighting? The British

Why? We wanted our independence

In the Philippine American War, the US took over the Philippine Islands from Spain after the Spanish-American War.

Why might the Philippine people not be happy about this, even if they wanted Spain gone? They wanted their own independence

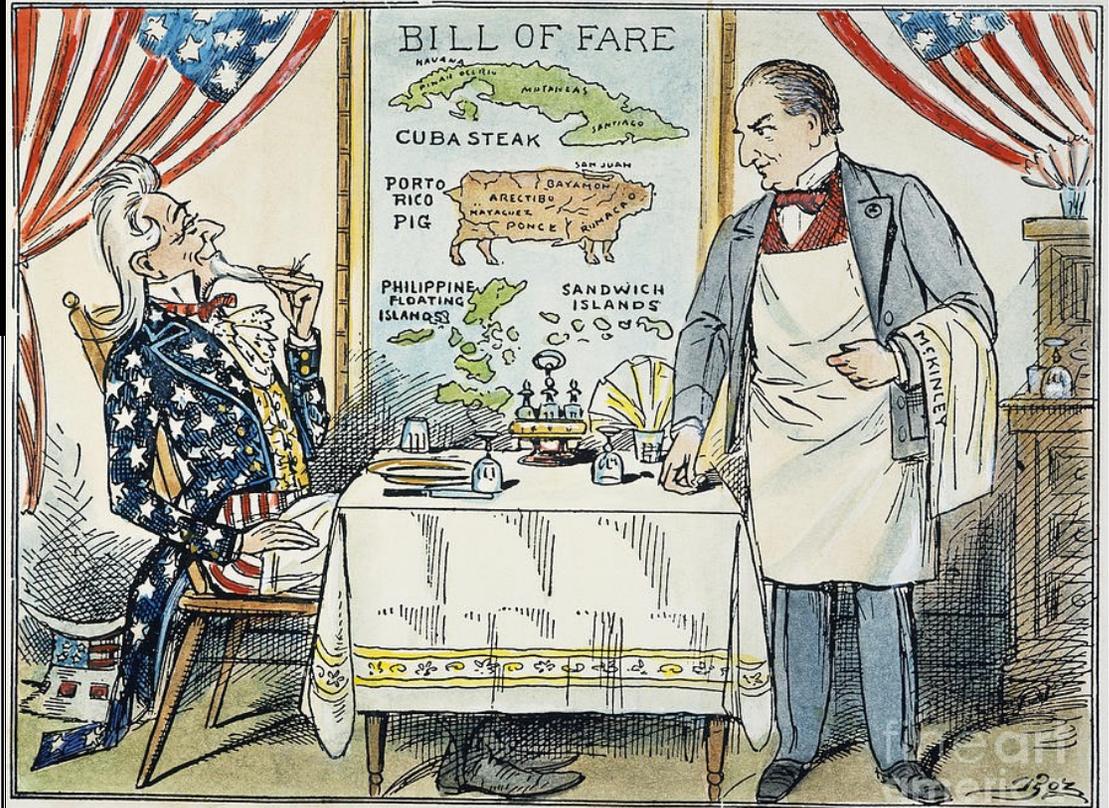
Taking over a territory far from American shores was something that put Americans in an uncomfortable position, considering how we gained our independence.

America now had territory thousands of miles from home across an ocean. What did they need to build in order to protect their new territory? A strong navy

Using the formulas from the previous page, how many **days** would it take a US ship to reach the Philippines from California, a 7,000 mile journey? 13.5 days

Remember the problems that faced Spain traveling so far to Cuba. Might this also be a problem if someone attacked the US in the Philippines?

Yes.



WELL, I HARDLY KNOW WHICH TO TAKE FIRST!

Americans were divided over their opinions on America's new territory. Some thought America could only be a true world power with an empire, like England and France had.

Others thought America had no business holding any territory outside the US, and it wasn't right to own colonies since we had fought to be free from England.

Take a look at the political cartoon above.

What is the message of the cartoon? America is hungry for new territory

When might it have been drawn? After the Spanish-American War

What does the food on the "Bill of Fare" represent? Former Spanish Colonies now in US hands

The man on the right is President McKinley. Who is the man on the left? Uncle Sam

What does he represent? The United States/Pro-Imperial US citizens

Beyond the Trenches: Stories from the Front



Using sources is very important when creating an argument or when creating an exhibit.

There are two types of sources; primary sources and secondary sources. Primary sources are original sources that were created at the time

an event happened. Secondary sources are sources that were created after an event happened. Look at the sources on display throughout the exhibits. Write down three primary and one secondary source that are on display.

Primary Sources: Uniform, journal entries, photographs, etc.

Secondary Sources: Information panels

The writings of Helen Bulovsky, Rodney Williams, and Arthur Cantwell are all very patriotic. Why do you think people feel patriotic during war and conflict? Want to win, feel that you are on the "good" side, etc.

It is important to know the difference between patriotism and nationalism. Patriotism is feeling proud of one's country. What's an example of patriotism? (Hint: What happens in July?)

Fourth of July

Nationalism is feeling like your country is superior above other countries. What is an example of when nationalism has had bad consequences? (Hint: Nazi Germany was a nationalistic state.)

World War II

What is an evacuation hospital? A field hospital that follows troops as they go into battle. They treat casualties and send serious injuries to fixed hospitals.

Helen Bulovsky was a nurse in an evacuation hospital. Read about her experience. How do you think her experience is similar to and different from a nurse who works at a hospital here in Madison?

Similar: Helen treated patients, needed a calm attitude, and needed to be quick to

changing situations

Different: Helen worked in a less hygienic, more crowded, and louder hospital





World War I

1914-1918

PANEL

"Fearful New Weapons"



"Mobilizing the Nation"

Propaganda posters encouraged men to enlist in the military and encouraged people back home to support the war effort. Look at the posters on display.

What feelings are they trying to evoke?
Patriotism, fear, dislike towards the enemy

How do these posters represent Americans?
The hero

How do you think German propaganda posters represented Americans?
As the enemy

The new kinds of technology used in World War I resulted in staggering casualty rates. Name two recently invented weapons shown in the exhibit. *Chemical warfare, tanks, machine gun, etc.*

What was the name of the warfare used in World War I? (Hint: Think about where the military members are shown.) *Trench Warfare*

PANEL

"Armistice: The Eleventh Hour"



Why do you think the United States did not want to sign the Treaty of Versailles? (Hint: Think about how much the war cost the United States in terms of lives.) *They didn't want to involve themselves with European matters*

Unfortunately, World War I was not the last World War. From the information provided in the panel and from prior knowledge, briefly explain if you think World War II occurred as a result of World War I or not.

Yes- Treaty of Versailles asked Germany to pay reparations that were impossible for the country to afford

Find the interactive Touch Screen and read about Gas Masks.



- By 1918 how many shells contained a gas agent?
1 out of 4
- Listen to the alarm that alerted soldiers to a gas attack.

Now learn about a specific person who was in the war. Pick a name and write one interesting fact about them.

Name: *Fritz, Lawrence, Seng, Temple, or Williams*

Interesting Fact: *Anything the student found interesting*

“Resisting the Aggressors”

World War II 1939-1945

“The Buna Campaign”



Great Britain and France declared war on Germany in 1939. After the horrors of World War I, many Americans did not want to enter another conflict. President Roosevelt, however, wanted to aid Great Britain and France in the fight against Nazi Germany. Imagine that you are President Roosevelt and you are preparing a speech to persuade the American public to enter war. Keep it brief. Think about the emotions you would draw on to convince them.

My fellow Americans,

Write about the need to defend the United States, to help other countries, and to defeat

Nazi Germany

The soldiers from Wisconsin’s 32nd Division were sent to Buna, New Guinea in the South

Pacific. The tank featured in this diorama is a Stuart M3-A1 model.

The M3 is a light tank which was much better suited for jungle warfare than other larger tanks.

Weight	Length	Height	Width	Max Speed
28,400 lbs.	15 ft.	7.6 ft.	7.4 ft.	36 mph

Use the following conversions to convert the measurements in the first row of the table from Standard to Metric units.

1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds

$28,400 \text{ lb} \div 2.2 \text{ lb} = 12,909 \text{ Kg}$

1 meter = 3.28 feet

$15 \text{ ft} \div 3.28 \text{ ft} = 4.57 \text{ meters}$

$7.6 \text{ ft} \div 3.28 \text{ ft} = 2.32 \text{ meters}$

$7.4 \text{ ft} \div 3.28 \text{ ft} = 2.26 \text{ meters}$

1.06 kilometers/hr = 1 mile/hr

$36 \text{ mph} \times 1.06 = 38.2 \text{ mph}$

“GI Jane: The Women of WWII”

Women served in the military like never before during WWII.



How would your life have changed if you were a woman during WWII? How would you have supported the war effort? *You would have gotten a job, most likely in war production. You would have used rations and donated rubber, nylon, and other supplies to the war effort. You would have also started a victory*

garden.

“The Battle of the Bulge”

In the Battle of the Bulge American troops fought for weeks in the freezing cold, often having only one uniform. Imagine you are a military member fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. Write a journal entry of what your day was like. *Write about the cold, not having warm*



enough clothes, or enough food. Talk about missing home.

Korean War

1950-1953



PANEL

"The Wrong War"

Do you think there are any lessons to be learned from the Korean War, why or why not? If yes, what are they? Yes- US shouldn't underestimate enemy forces. US shouldn't fight in wars not supported at home or on the war front.
student's own opinions

"MiG Alley"

MiG Alley is the name given by pilots to the area surrounding the Yalu River in North Korea. During the Korean War it was the sight of numerous dogfights between American and North Korean Pilots.

North Korean Pilots flew the MiG-15 Fighter Jet, while American Pilots flew the F-86 Sabre Fighter Jet. Compare the stats of each of these jets below and answer the questions.

	MiG-15 Fighter Jet	F-86 Sabre Fighter Jet
Country of Origin	Soviet Union	United States
Weight	7,900 lbs.	10,950 lbs.
Max Speed	668 mph	690 mph
Max Range (Fuel)	745 mi.	785 mi.
Rate of Climb	11,480 Ft./Min.	12,000 Ft./Min.

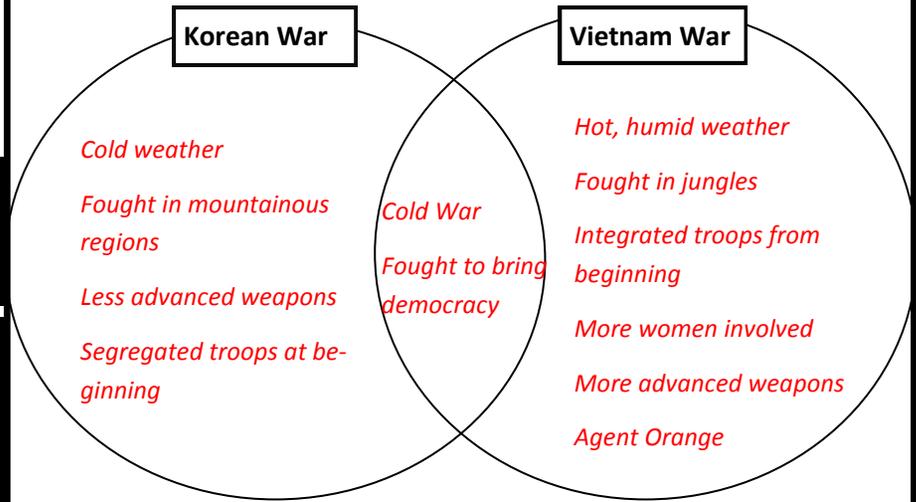
- How much further could the F-86 Sabre travel before needing to refuel? 40 miles
- If each jet had to travel the 4,000 miles from Moscow to Seoul, and they leave at the same time which one will arrive first? F-86 Sabre
- Given the stats above, which side do you think had more victories using jet aircraft? F-86 Sabre

Vietnam War

1959-1975



The Vietnam and Korea War were both fought to contain communism. What are some similarities and differences you can see between the two wars (ex. environments, weapons, troops).
Hint: Look in the panels and in the exhibits.



The Vietnam War was and continues to be a controversial conflict. History museums try very hard to be unbiased in their exhibits. Why do you think museums want to be unbiased?

Museums want to present history as facts and allow people to create their own opinions based on those facts.

Do you think all museums should be unbiased, why or why not?

Student's opinion

War on Terror



Find the interactive Touch Screen and listen to one of the interviews featuring two veterans. Write down their names and two facts of their daily life.

Names: *SGT Naylor & SGT Prohaska or SSG Carnes & CPL Schuth*

Fact 1: *Two facts about life on base, interactions with locals, etc.*

Fact 2: _____

Why do you think the museum uses oral history interviews? Are there things you can learn from an interview that you can't learn from a panel, why or why not?

Able to hear real-life experiences, hear a person's opinions about their duties and missions, hear a person's feelings during their missions and daily life in the military.



Due to limited space, it can be hard for museum curators to fit all the information and artifacts they want

to show in an exhibit. Do you see any information you wanted to see in the exhibit that you don't see on display?

Individual answers

The War on Terror ended in 2013, however, many important events have happened that we do not mention in our displays. Imagine you are the museum's curator, what event(s) would you add to our collection?

ISIS, refugee crisis, etc.

What artifacts would you put on display? _____

Depends on student's answer to last question—ISIS flag, newspaper/magazine articles, etc.

Do you think it's important for a history museum to update/change exhibits and information, why or why not?

Yes— information and opinions about historical events change over time. Museums need to keep up with changing interpretations and continue to expand exhibits to encompass more recent events.



20th Century Gallery

PANEL

"The Medal of Honor"



The Medal of Honor is the highest award for bravery in action against an enemy which can be given to an individual serving in the military.

Find the case with the medal of Honor Recipients, read their stories and match their information with their pictures.



Name: Staff Sargent Beauford Anderson

War Served in:

World War II

Something Learned: _____



Name: Staff Sargent Gerald Endl

War Served in:

World War II

Something Learned: _____



Name: Second Lieutenant Jerome A.

Sudut

War Served in:

Korean War

Something Learned: _____



Name: Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud Jr.

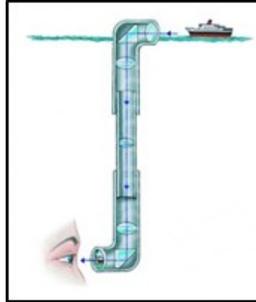
War Served in:

World War II

Something Learned: _____

Periscope

A periscope works when light is reflected from 2 mirrors positioned at 45 degree angles. Look through the periscope in the museum.



What does your eye see? Draw what you see here:

Picture of what the student saw through the periscope.

