American Terrorists
The Ku Klux Klan & Reconstructed South

A Reconstructed Nation?

Before Lincoln's assassination, how did Radical Republicans plan to deal with the South?

Plans for Reconstruction

- Lincoln's VP, then Pres. 1865-68
- From TN, Democrat, once a slave owner
- Restoration of South
- All but the very wealthy in the South forgiven
- Johnson's difficulties w/ Congress

Feb 1868, Congress
- Political proceeding in order to remove a politician from office,
- Usually due to questionable activities
- 25 to 19 in Senate
**Blacks in Politics**

- Republicans in Congress want to send S. White Dems, and Blacks
- 3 New Amendments:
  - Amend. - outlaws slavery
  - Amend. - guarantees Civil Rights (life, liberty, & property)
  - Amend. - vote cannot be denied based on race, color, or previous servitude
- Blacks enter into politics by early 1870s...
- Southern Dems. pass “Black Codes” = keep emancipation just short of slavery

**Southern Politics**

- Social/Political Issues in the South:
  - N. opportunists who rushed the South for pol/econ opportunities
  - S. white Republicans, most had opposed secession
White Terror

- Social Terrorism
  - 1866, TN — formation of Ghosts of the Confederate soldiers
  - Terrorize blacks, carpetbaggers, and scalawags
  - Results! — 1877-1900, Reign of political and social terror in South
- Political Terrorism
  - 1877 — Federal troops pull out of the South (white supremacy)
  - Legalized segregation — literacy tests, poll tax, Grandfather Clause

American Terrorists

- Questions to consider on the Ku Klux Klan:
  - What were some reasons/motives behind the founding of the KKK?
  - How were the terrorist actions of the KKK similar to the political tactics being used by southern legislators? How is this political terrorism?
  - Describe the activities of Klansmen. What was their purpose?
  - How did the public respond?
  - How did the Federal Govt respond?
  - How did the end of Reconstruction change things?