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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	America's long road to Civil War -- And the war came -- All quiet along the Potomac -- The emergence of Grant -- McClellan's great campaign -- Confederate high tide -- Lincoln takes new measures -- "Peace does not appear so distant as it did" -- "The unfinished work" -- From the Rapidan to the James to the Potomac -- The Atlanta campaign -- Last chances for the Confederacy -- "Let us strive on to finish the work" -- Reconstruction.
Sommario/riassunto	Referring to the war that was raging across parts of the American landscape, Abraham Lincoln told Congress in 1862, ""We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best hope on earth."" Lincoln recognized what was at stake in the American Civil War: not only freedom for 3.5 million slaves but also survival of self-government in the last place on earth where it could have the opportunity of developing freely. Noted historian Steven E. Woodworth tells the story of what many regard as the defining event in United States history. While emphasizing the importance of action in the region between the