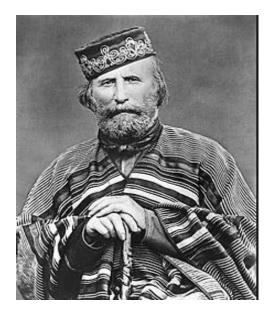
7.17 Nationalism Unifies Italy







Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882) was an Italian general, nationalist and republican. He is considered one of modern Italy's "fathers of the fatherland." Garibaldi championed Italian unification, which meant reclaiming territory controlled by Spain, France, the Papacy, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1834 he participated in a failed insurrection, was sentenced to death in absentia, and forced to flee to South America. Garibaldi returned to Italy in 1848 as a wave of revolutionary upheaval swept through Europe. After a series of defeats for Italian nationalist forces Garibaldi was forced to flee Italy again and he lived for a time in New York City. Between 1854 and 1867 Garibaldi led a series of armed campaigns by followers known as Red Shirts in efforts to unify the Italian peninsula and Sicily into one unified country. In March 1861, Victor Emmanuel, with the support of Garibaldi and Rome was declared the national capital however the city was not fully incorporated into the unified Italy until 1870 with the removal of French troops from the former Papal State.

Garibaldi Appeals to the Red Shirts

"O noble Thousand! . . . I love to remember you! Where any of our brothers are fighting for liberty, there all Italians must hurry! Such was your motto. Let him who loves his country in his heart, and not with his lips only, follow me."

Questions

- 1. How was the map of the Italian peninsula transformed from December 1859 to February 1871?
- 2. What role did Giuseppe Garibaldi play in the unification of Italy?
- 3. How did Garibaldi's appeal to the Red Shirts invoke nationalism?
- 4. In your opinion, why was Garibaldi known as "the Sword" of Italian unification?