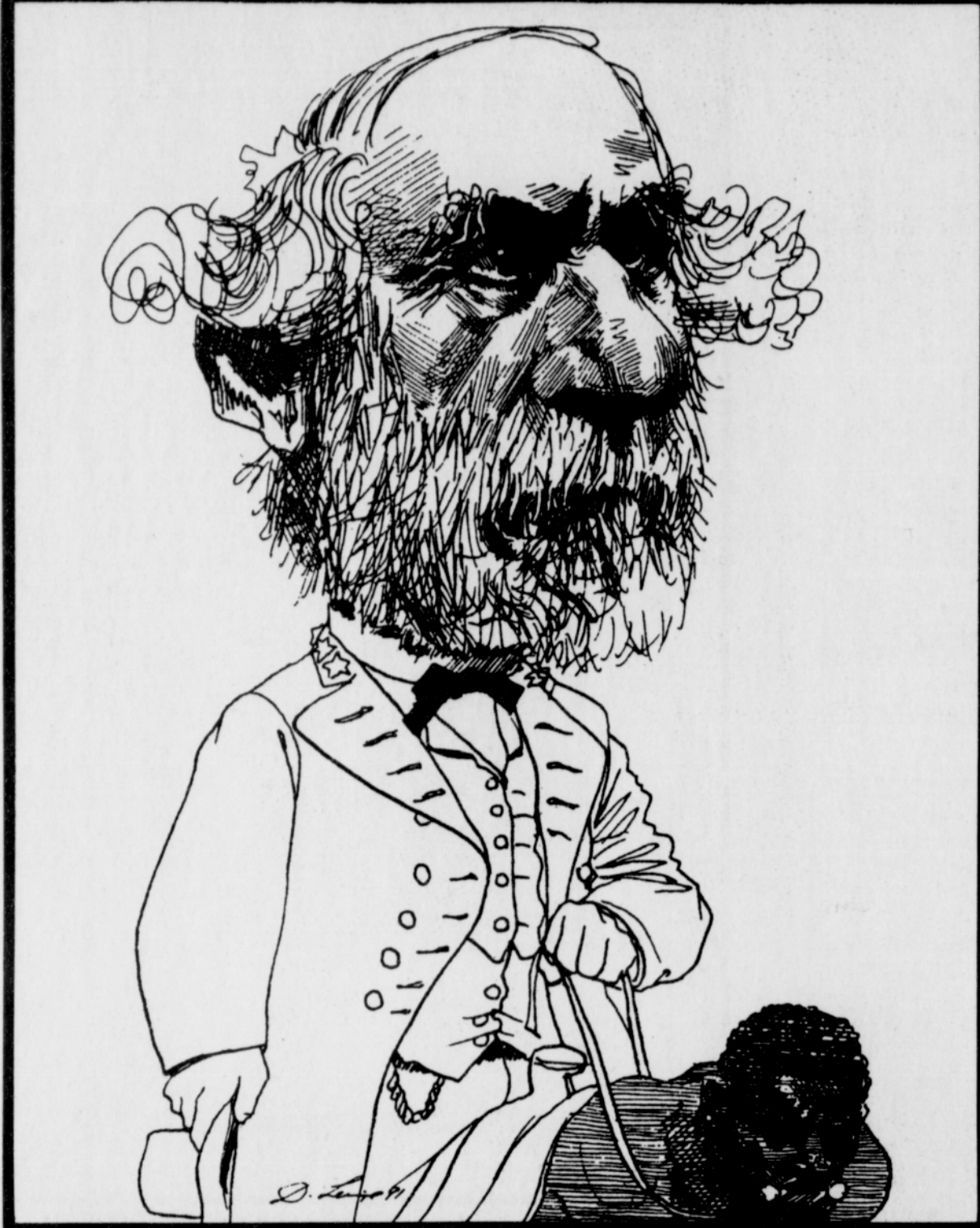


# THE CHILL AT APPOMATTOX

DRAWING BY DAVID LEVINE



When President George Herbert Walker Bush, a Texan by both choice and inclination, invaded Panama just before Christmas in 1989 to a fairly broad based chorus of partisan approval, he was recapitulating an American prerogative to invade any of the small Latin American Republics at will. This American prerogative, typically exercised on average at least once a year by Republican and Democratic Presidents alike, used to take some of its authority from the Monroe Doctrine, which advised European powers not to meddle in the Western Hemisphere and American sphere of influence. This prerogative does not presently reach into the Confederate Theory of Empire for any of its authority, for to do so would be to reveal more than would conveniently fit on a Republican Party Platform. It was one of President Jefferson Davis' favorite ideas that the American Empire (including slavery) should extend at least as far south as the Isthmus of Panama. The Bush invasion of Panama was the public expression of a central foreign policy ideal of the leader of the Confederate States of America.

The unified field theory of Southern domination of American political and cultural life asserts that the South won the Civil War through the consistent and compelling power of its ideas. Forty-five years of bogus domestic and foreign policy will fit easily on the framework of this hypothesis. It was not a military victory, of course, General Robert E. Lee surrendered the military apparatus of the Confederacy to General U.S. Grant at the court house in Appomattox, Virginia, but it was a victory for militarism. The South was certainly in eclipse during the Reconstruction period, officially ending with the Southern manipulation of the 1877 election of Rutherford B. Hayes, and came out of the doldrums during the Spanish American War. The South eventually won through the appealing power of its ideas. Southern politicians and Confederate precepts have been operating the United States of America in principle and in practice full tilt boogie since 1945.

Everyone is reasonably comfortable with the idea that Japan and Germany won the Second World War, even though they were decisively defeated militarily. Here we are confronted with the same kind of conundrum. How can an entity such as Japan, Germany, or the Confederacy, be defeated militarily and still triumph culturally? Even a cursory examination of conditions in Germany and Japan will reveal that their cultures and economies are significantly stronger than the cultures and economies of the countries we were initially led to believe actually won WWII: the United States, China, Russia (the Soviet Union), France and England.

## HOW THE SOUTH FINALLY WON THE CIVIL WAR

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