

CHAPTER 4

Difficulties With England Lead to Revolution

For many years, there was only occasional friction between England and its North American colonies. Then in the 1760s, relations began to worsen. A major reason for this change was war between Great Britain* and France.

THE END OF THE FRENCH THREAT

Beginning in the 17th century, England and France contended for leadership in Europe. They also competed for control of the seas and for territory and influence in India and North America. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the two nations waged several wars against each other. In North America, the underlying causes of Anglo-French rivalry were (1) overlapping territorial claims and (2) competition over the fur trade. Between 1689 and 1748, three wars that started in Europe spread to the colonies. In the course of these struggles, the French and their Native-American allies raided English frontier settlements. The British tried unsuccessfully to seize Canada.

The fourth and final struggle was the French and Indian War (1754–1763). Unlike the other three conflicts, it broke out in North America and spread to Europe, India, and the Caribbean, where it was known as the Seven Years' War (1756–1763).

1. The French and Indian War: Early Years. The immediate cause of the French and Indian War was a dispute between France and England over land west of the Appalachians, especially the Ohio River Valley. In the 1740s, American fur traders began to extend their operations into that area and American farmers began to settle there.

a. Outbreak of the war. In 1753, the French began to build a chain of forts from Lake Erie south to the Ohio River. George

*When England and Scotland became one country in 1707, the resulting union was known as *Great Britain*. The people were called *British*. The terms *England* and *English*, however, continued in use.

Washington, a 21-year-old surveyor from Virginia, was sent to warn the French that they were trespassing on English territory and to demand that they leave. The French rejected the demand.

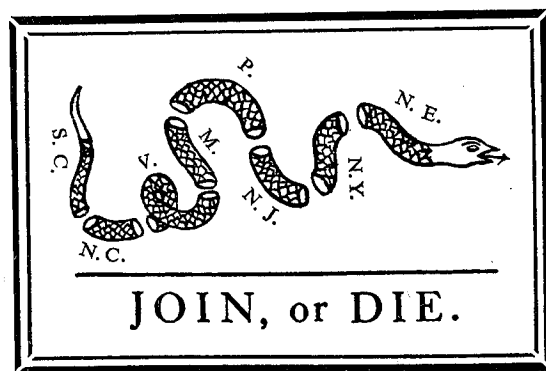
In 1754, the French built Fort Duquesne where the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers join to form the Ohio River. This site was the key to the Ohio Valley. This time Washington led a militia to take Fort Duquesne. His troops defeated a small group of French soldiers and quickly built Fort Necessity. But French reinforcements drove them out. This encounter marked the beginning of the French and Indian War.

b. The Albany Plan of Union. In 1754, the British set up a meeting to organize the colonies against the French. This Albany Congress had two main purposes: (1) to gain the help of the Iroquois Confederacy and (2) to unite the colonies for purposes of defense. Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania proposed the Albany Plan of Union. It provided for a council of delegates representing all the colonies. It would have the power to maintain an army, levy taxes, deal with Native Americans, and control westward expansion.

Both Britain and the colonial legislatures rejected Franklin's plan. Britain felt that a union of the colonies would make them too strong. The individual colonies were unwilling to give up any of their powers to such a council. Although defeated, the Albany Plan indicated that at least some colonists were thinking about union.

c. French victories. The French did well in the early years of the French and Indian War. With strong support from some Native-American groups, they defended their own positions and took key British outposts. Nevertheless, George Washington got valuable military experience as a colonial officer fighting the French.

2. Later Years of the War. The tide began to turn for the British after William Pitt became prime minister in 1757. He sent more sol-

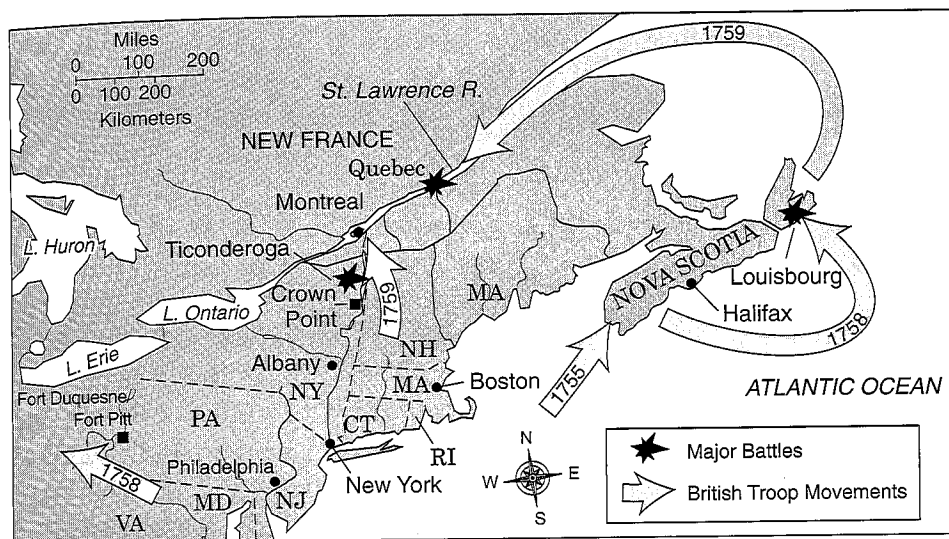


This famous cartoon appeared in Benjamin Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* shortly before the Albany Congress convened in 1754.

dieters and supplies to America and appointed able officers. Pitt's actions encouraged colonial legislatures to support the war effort more actively. As a result, the British and colonial forces began to dislodge the French from such strategic positions as Fort Duquesne.

READING A MAP

The French and Indian War, 1754–1763



Locate the following places on the map above. Then explain why each place was important during the French and Indian War.

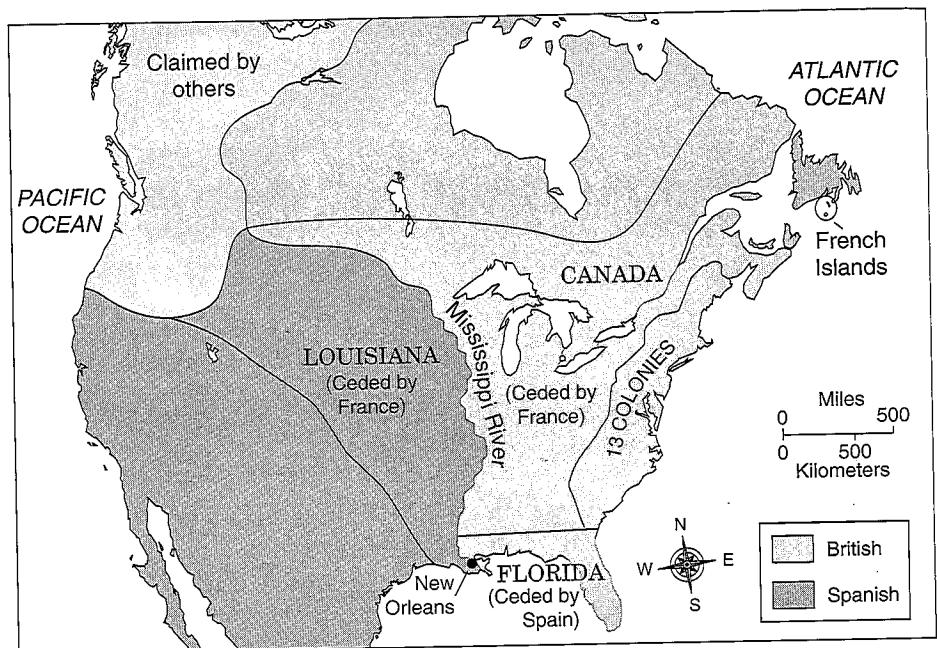
1. Louisbourg
2. Fort Duquesne/Fort Pitt
3. Quebec
4. St. Lawrence River
5. Ticonderoga

a. The English conquest of Canada. The most powerful French stronghold in North America was Quebec. In 1759, British troops under the command of James Wolfe defeated the French and captured the city. The following year, the British took Montreal, thus breaking France's power in North America.

b. The Peace Treaty. France and England continued to fight in other parts of the world for another three years. Therefore, the French and Indian War did not end officially until 1763, when the

Treaty of Paris was signed. The map below shows how the treaty divided the Americas among the European powers. Note that the western border of British territory was now the Mississippi River. England gained Canada. Also, Spain ceded Florida to England.

North America After the Treaty of Paris, 1763



INCREASED BRITISH CONTROL

In line with mercantilist aims, England as early as 1650 had started to pass Navigation Acts. They expanded English shipping and manufacturing by banning foreign vessels from trading with the colonies. The acts also banned the export of colonial raw materials except to England.

Nonetheless, colonial merchants continued to deal in banned goods and traded with foreign ports that were supposed to be off-limits. The English seldom enforced trade laws strictly. Their attitude was known as *salutary neglect*, a policy of letting well enough alone.

After the French and Indian War, British leaders felt it was reasonable to ask the colonists to help pay for the war and share the cost of keeping troops on the colonial frontiers. Therefore, they decided to enforce the existing trade laws and to introduce new rev-

enue measures as well. They also took steps to increase the authority of British officials in America.

1. Writs of Assistance. In 1761, before the French and Indian War had ended, officials began to use *writs of assistance* to stop colonial merchants from illegally trading with foreign nations. The writs were search warrants that allowed customs officers to enter any ship, home, or warehouse and search for smuggled goods. Boston lawyer James Otis argued that the writs of assistance violated the English right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. The courts ruled that the use of writs was legal, but the colonists continued their protests.

2. The Proclamation of 1763. After the French were defeated, colonists began to pour into the Ohio Valley. Native peoples there became alarmed. In the spring of 1763, they rose up under a leader named Pontiac. Before Pontiac's Rebellion was put down, they destroyed most of the British frontier forts in the area and killed many white settlers. To avoid further trouble, Britain issued the Proclamation of 1763. Among other things, this act (1) ordered all settlers in the Ohio Valley to move back east, (2) forbade new settlements west of the Appalachians, and (3) banned traders from entering the region without government approval.

American colonists, especially those on the frontier, resented the Proclamation of 1763. They had helped win the Ohio Valley from the French. Therefore, they felt that they had a right to develop it. Many pioneers continued to settle in the forbidden area.

3. The Sugar Act. Another British law—the Sugar Act of 1764—was designed to raise money from the American colonies. It increased duties on refined sugar, textiles, and other goods imported from non-British sources. (*Duties* are taxes on imports.) To discourage smuggling, the act lowered the duty on colonial imports of foreign molasses. The Sugar Act added more products to the list of *enumerated articles*—colonial items that could be sold only to Britain or its colonies.

Merchants of New England and the Middle Colonies complained that the higher import duties and the stricter enforcement of old trade laws would ruin them. These merchants continued to smuggle goods into the country and to carry on trade with foreign nations.

4. The Quartering Act. The colonials also resented the Quartering Act of 1765. It required colonial legislatures to *quarter* (provide funds, living quarters, and supplies to troops) to help meet the costs

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of keeping British troops in America. Since the colonists objected to England's policy of keeping a peacetime army in America, they certainly did not want to pay for its support. When New York's Assembly refused to comply with the act, Parliament suspended the Assembly.

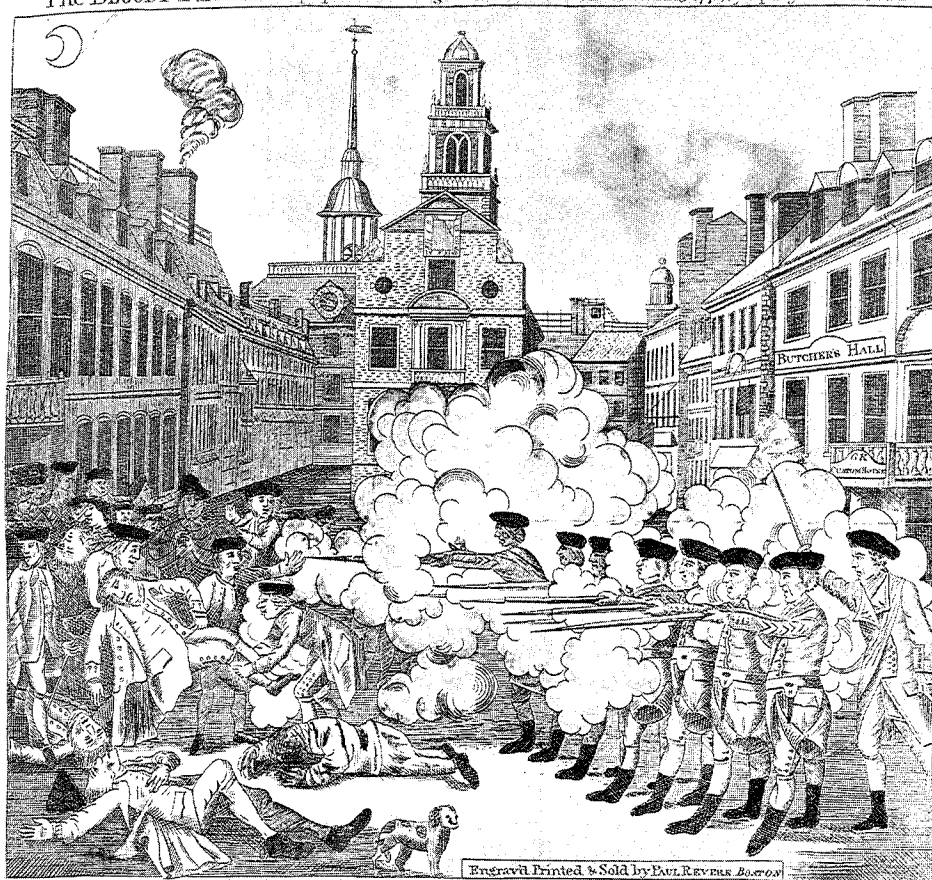
5. The Stamp Act. No other British law of the 1760s stirred up such protest as the Stamp Act of 1765. It taxed newspapers, almanacs, pamphlets, playing cards, and legal documents. A government stamp had to be placed on each of these articles to show that the tax had been paid.

a. Colonial protest. Unlike the trade laws, the Stamp Act affected all colonists. Some formed secret patriotic groups, known as the Sons of Liberty, to resist the tax. Others attacked stamp-tax collectors. Merchants canceled imports from Britain. Colonists vowed to *boycott* (stop buying) English products until the tax was repealed. At the urging of Patrick Henry, the Virginia House of Burgesses passed a resolution asserting that it had the sole power to tax Virginians. "No taxation without representation" was the slogan of the day.

In the fall of 1765, delegates from nine colonies met in New York City as the Stamp Act Congress. They drew up a declaration explaining why they wanted the Stamp Act repealed: (1) Colonists were entitled to the rights of Englishmen. (2) Taxation without the consent of representatives elected by the people violated these rights. (3) Since colonists were not represented in the English Parliament, it could not tax them.

b. British reaction. Disturbed by the strong colonial reaction to the stamp tax, some British officials, including William Pitt, spoke out against the tax. English merchants suffered badly from the colonial boycott. Therefore, Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in 1766. At the same time, though, it passed the Declaratory Act, which reaffirmed Parliament's authority over the colonies.

6. The Townshend Acts. To obtain more revenue from the colonies, Parliament in 1767 passed a group of measures known as the Townshend Acts. They levied duties on colonial imports of glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea. Income from these duties was to be used to pay the salaries of such colonial officials as governors and judges. (Previously, their salaries had been controlled by the colonial legislatures.) The Townshend Acts also restated the right of officials to use writs of assistance in searching for smugglers.

The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated in King Street BOSTON on March 5th 1770 by a party of the 29th REG^t

On March 5, 1770, tension in the colonies led to this confrontation between colonists and British troops in Boston. Angered by a mob, soldiers fired into the crowd and killed five colonists, including an African American—Crispus Attucks. Engraving by Paul Revere.

Led by Samuel Adams, the Massachusetts legislature urged the colonies to cooperate in resisting English taxation. Colonists responded with a boycott of many English products. It was so effective that it led to the *repeal*, in 1770, of all the Townshend taxes except the one on tea. This duty, though slight, was kept to show that Parliament still had the right to tax the colonies.

7. The Boston Massacre. The ill feelings of the 1760s erupted into violence. One March evening in 1770, a crowd of Bostonians shouted insults and threw snowballs at some British soldiers. The soldiers fired into the crowd, killing five people and wounding six. Angry citizens called the event the Boston Massacre. Prominent Bostonians urged the British to remove their troops from the city. When the British did so, further violence was avoided.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: Albany Plan of Union, Proclamation of 1763, Sugar Act, Quartering Act, Stamp Act.

CRITICAL THINKING: Why did more British soldiers come to the colonies after the French and Indian War? Why did some colonists object to their coming?

A WORSENING CRISIS

For a time after the Boston Massacre, tensions lessened. But it was the calm before the storm.

1. Committees of Correspondence. People like Samuel Adams were determined to keep anti-British feeling alive. In 1772, he and other Sons of Liberty in Boston formed a local Committee of Correspondence to publicize complaints against the British. The idea soon spread throughout most of colonial America. This communications network enabled various towns and colonies to keep one another informed of new developments. The committees helped shape public opinion and encouraged a feeling of unity among the colonies.

2. Trouble Over Tea. Colonial anger erupted once again when Parliament passed the *Tea Act* of 1773 to aid the financially troubled British East India Company. It allowed the company to ship tea to America without paying the heavy duty required in England. This made it possible for the company to undersell colonial importers of English tea, as well as smugglers of foreign tea. Although the Tea Act lowered the cost of tea in America, colonists had good reasons for objecting to it: (1) Colonial tea merchants could not match the company's low prices. (2) It enabled the British East India Company to gain exclusive control of the American tea trade. (3) If Parliament granted similar rights to other English companies, all colonial merchants would be ruined.

Bostonians refused to allow the unloading of three tea ships. Then one night, the Sons of Liberty, dressed as Native Americans, boarded the ships and dumped its cargo into the harbor. The Boston Tea Party of 1773 inspired similar "parties" elsewhere in the colonies.

3. Punishing the Colonies. To punish Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party, the British Parliament passed four Coercive



Bostonians pay the tax collector—not with money but with tar and feathers and steaming hot tea.

Acts in 1774: (1) The port of Boston was closed to all commerce until the colonists paid for the destroyed tea. (2) The people of Massachusetts were deprived of the right to elect certain officials, select jurors, and hold town meetings, except by permission. Thomas Gage was appointed military governor of the colony. (3) British soldiers and officials accused of certain crimes in Massachusetts were to be tried in England, not in the colony. (4) People in all the colonies were required to quarter British soldiers.

The Quebec Act, a fifth law enacted at this time, extended the boundary of the Canadian province of Quebec southward to the Ohio River. This law was not passed to punish colonists. But Americans regarded it as a punishment, because it gave the Ohio Valley to Canada. The act also subjected the area to French-Canadian law (with its emphasis on centralized, royal authority) and to settlement by Roman Catholics. The colonists called this entire group of five laws the "Intolerable Acts."

4. The First Continental Congress. With Boston Harbor closed to commerce, the people of Boston faced economic ruin. Some colonial leaders warned that the British punishment of Massachusetts endangered the liberties of all the colonies.

Colonial leaders convened an intercolonial congress. Delegates from all the colonies except Georgia met in Philadelphia in September 1774. This First Continental Congress took three major steps: (1)

It issued the Declaration of Rights, stating that colonists were entitled to all the rights of Englishmen. The colonial legislatures alone had the right to tax colonists (subject only to veto by the king). The declaration called the Coercive Acts unconstitutional and asked colonists not to obey these laws. (2) The delegates organized themselves into the Continental Association. As members, they agreed not to trade with Britain or to use English goods until the Coercive Acts were repealed. (3) The delegates decided to meet again the following spring if their grievances were not settled by then.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: Committees of Correspondence, Tea Act, Coercive Acts, Quebec Act, First Continental Congress.

CRITICAL THINKING: The Coercive Acts were so named by colonists. Why do you suppose they gave these four acts that name?

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

About six months after the First Continental Congress met, the American colonies went to war with England. The conflict (1775–1783) resulted in American independence. At the time of the Revolutionary War, about 2.5 million people lived in the 13 American colonies. Approximately one-third, known as *Patriots*, actively opposed British rule. Another third, called *Loyalists* or *Tories*, remained loyal to Britain. The rest were neutral, favoring neither side. As the war went on, most of the neutral colonists became Patriots.

The Patriots believed that colonists were entitled to the “rights of Englishmen.” One of these was the right not to be taxed without the people’s consent: “no taxation without representation.” The Patriots insisted that only the colonial assemblies had the authority to tax colonists.

The English felt that Parliament represented the interests of the entire British Empire. They claimed that Americans were indirectly represented by Parliament and should therefore pay the taxes required of them. But some prominent leaders—including William Pitt and Edmund Burke—urged compromise instead of war.

In the fall of 1774, the men of Massachusetts began to organize into a militia and to stockpile weapons. They called themselves *Minutemen* because they could fight at a minute’s notice.



The Battle of Concord. Note the women participating in the action on the side of the Patriots.

1. Lexington and Concord. In defiance of Governor Thomas Gage, the Massachusetts assembly secretly prepared for war. Gage found out about this, however. In April 1775, he sent soldiers to Lexington to capture John Hancock and Samuel Adams and to seize the gunpowder stored at Concord. Learning of Gage's plans, Patriots Paul Revere and William Dawes rode through the countryside, warning the colonists that the British were coming.

When British troops arrived at Lexington on April 19, 70 local Minutemen fired on them. Minutemen also attacked the British soldiers in Concord. As Gage's troops marched back to Boston, angry colonists fired into their ranks.

2. The Second Continental Congress. In May 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia with John Hancock as president. The delegates faced the choice of complying with the home country or resisting until colonial grievances were satisfied. They decided to resist.

To provide for the defense of the colonies, Congress (1) created the Continental Army, which included the Minutemen in the Boston area; (2) appointed George Washington commander in chief; and (3) asked each colony to raise troops and help pay for the war effort. In spite of these proceedings, the delegates reaffirmed their loyalty to the King George III.

The Colonies vs. Great Britain: Relative Strengths and Weaknesses

	<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>
Colonies	A great leader, George Washington	Continuous turnover because of short-term enlistments; soldiers unused to military discipline
	Fighting for freedom on familiar ground	Practically no navy
	Soldiers skilled in hit-and-run warfare	Unity hindered by local jealousies
	Foreign military and financial aid	Chronic shortage of money and supplies
Britain	Experienced generals	Fighting in hostile lands
	Well-equipped and disciplined troops	Hampered by traditional strategies
	Good navy	Long supply lines

3. Ticonderoga and Crown Point. Years before the war started, Ethan Allen in Vermont had organized a militia called the Green Mountain Boys. In May 1775, as the Second Continental Congress was meeting, Allen's militia secretly crossed Lake Champlain and attacked the British forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point in northeastern New York. The Americans captured the forts, seized cannon and ammunition, and sent them to the Boston area to aid colonists.

4. Fighting Around Boston. After the fighting at Lexington and Concord, about 10,000 militia members camped around Boston. As they gained more recruits, the American forces decided they were ready to drive the British from the city.

a. Bunker Hill. To obtain a commanding position over Boston and its harbor, the Americans secretly fortified Breed's Hill, near Bunker Hill. On June 17, the British attacked the Americans. Although the Americans lost this battle (mistakenly called "Battle of Bunker Hill"), they inflicted far more casualties than they suffered. They also proved their fighting ability.

b. Boston is freed. Soon after the Battle of Bunker Hill, George Washington arrived in Boston to assume command of the Continental Army. The following spring, troops under Washington's command

forced the British commander in chief, William Howe, to withdraw his troops.

5. Fighting in the South. Early in 1776, militiamen crushed a Loyalist force at Moore's Creek Bridge, in North Carolina. Later that year, American troops drove off a British attack on Charleston, South Carolina.

6. Moving Toward Independence. Proclaiming the colonists to be in a state of rebellion, King George III approved an act of Parliament closing the colonies to all commerce. He also hired thousands of soldiers from Germany to strengthen the British forces in America. (Since many of these Germans were from Hesse-Cassel, they are known as *Hessians*.)

More and more Americans began to feel that the colonies had to break away from England. Thomas Paine, an immigrant from England, sparked the spirit of independence by writing a pamphlet called *Common Sense* (January 1776). He argued that it was foolish for a whole continent to be controlled by a small island 3,000 miles away. He called upon America to break its ties with Britain.

Meanwhile, the Second Continental Congress began to function as a central government. It sent delegates abroad to seek foreign aid. The Congress also organized a navy, authorized American ships to attack English ships, and proclaimed the opening of colonial ports to trade with all countries except Britain.

7. Declaring Independence. In June 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced a resolution in Congress declaring that "these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states." Congress then chose a committee to draw up a Declaration of Independence. It was written chiefly by Thomas Jefferson.

The Declaration first stated that "all men are created equal." They are endowed by God with the rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." If a government threatens these rights, the people are entitled "to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government." The document then listed 27 injustices that King George III and Parliament had committed against the colonists. It pointed out that the colonists had repeatedly petitioned the king to correct these injustices but that he had ignored the appeals. For these reasons, the 13 colonies were dissolving their connection with Britain and creating free and independent states. Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, and cut ties with Great Britain. The United States of America was born.



Some Americans tore down a statue of George III of England in 1776 to celebrate their independence.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: Minutemen, Paul Revere, John Hancock, Second Continental Congress, Bunker Hill, Hessians.

CRITICAL THINKING: What danger were the signers of the Declaration of Independence putting themselves into just by signing their name?

THE MIDDLE YEARS

After the British left Boston, the war shifted from New England to the Middle Colonies. In 1776–1777, both sides won important victories.

1. Retreat From New York. Recognizing the strategic value of New York City, Washington moved his army south to defend it. In the fall of 1776, Howe, supported by a strong fleet, took New York City, forcing the Americans to withdraw into New Jersey.

2. Trenton and Princeton. The Continental Army then left New Jersey and crossed the Delaware River into Pennsylvania. On Christmas night in 1776, Washington led his troops back across the Delaware. He surprised a force of Hessians camped at Trenton, New Jersey, and took a large store of supplies. Howe sent a force under Lord Cornwallis to capture Washington. Eluding Cornwallis's army, Washington went on to defeat two British regiments at Princeton and set up winter quarters in New Jersey. The bold strokes at Trenton and Princeton encouraged the Continentals.

3. Failure of the British Plan. The main British plan in 1777 was to divide the colonies by splitting off New England. To do so, the British planned a three-pronged drive that would enable them to occupy all of New York State: (1) Barry St. Leger was to march one force east from Lake Ontario through the Mohawk Valley. (2) Howe was to lead another army northward up the Hudson River Valley from New York City. (3) John Burgoyne was to lead a third army south from Canada along Lake Champlain. The three forces were to meet at Albany. (See the map on page 76.)

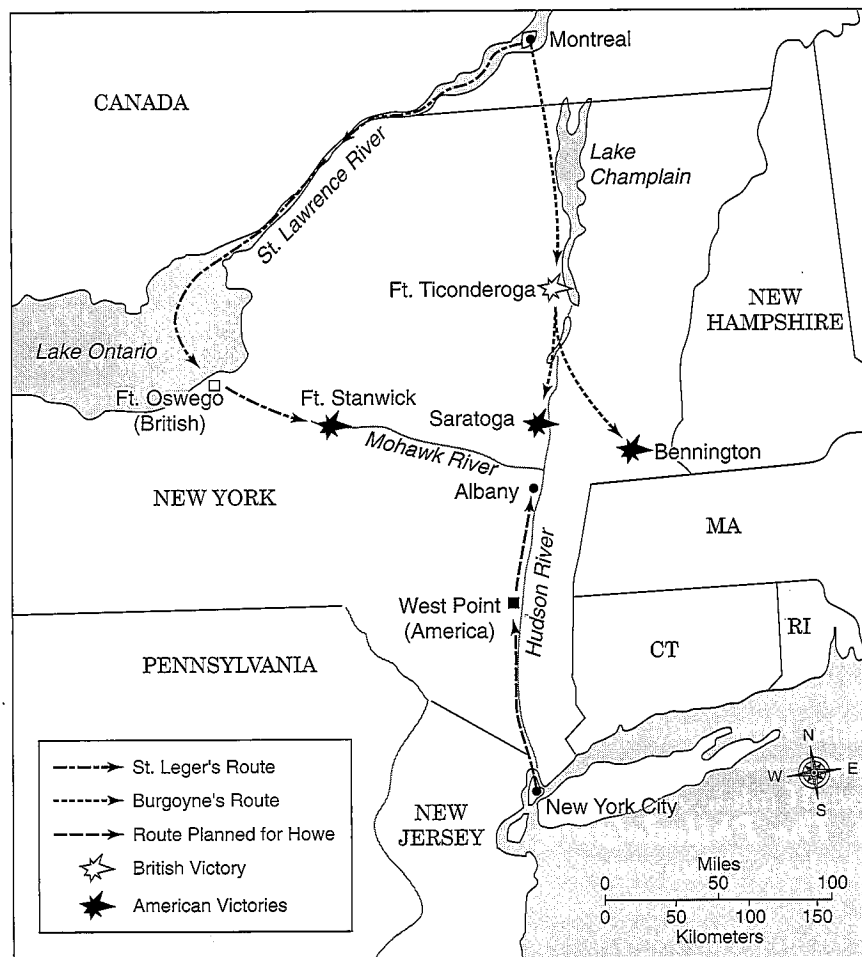
The British strategy was unsuccessful. St. Leger encountered fierce resistance in the Mohawk Valley and was forced to retreat to Canada. Howe and Burgoyne also failed to carry out their parts of the plan.

a. The Philadelphia Campaign. Instead of proceeding up the Hudson, Howe sailed from New York City to Chesapeake Bay. He then marched on the American capital, Philadelphia. Washington tried to stop the British but was beaten at Brandywine on September 11, 1777. Howe occupied Philadelphia later that month. The Americans tried unsuccessfully to drive him out.

Washington then set up winter quarters at nearby Valley Forge. During that winter (1777-1778), supplies were scarce, and pay was irregular. Although the Americans endured almost unbearable hardships, Washington kept the army together.

b. The Battle of Saratoga. Burgoyne, meanwhile, did march south from Canada according to plan. He won an early victory at Fort Ticonderoga. But his soldiers became exhausted, supplies ran short, and settlers fought him every step of the way. Attempts to capture American supplies failed. Finally, Continentals defeated Burgoyne near Saratoga on October 17, 1777. This American victory wrecked the British plan to divide the colonies, boosted Patriot morale, and convinced France to aid openly the American cause.

New York Campaigns, June–October 1777



4. Foreign Aid. Hoping to weaken England, France, Spain, and the Netherlands had been secretly giving the Americans supplies, weapons, and credit ever since 1776. After Saratoga, which showed that an American victory was possible, France formed an open alliance with the United States. Early in 1778, France and the United States signed military and trade agreements. Under their terms, France sent money, supplies, a small army, and a fleet of ships to aid the Americans. The Netherlands also signed a treaty of alliance.

A number of foreign volunteers served with the Continental Army. The Marquis de Lafayette, a wealthy French noble, served as an aide to Washington. Baron de Kalb, a German-born officer in the French army, fought bravely for the Americans. Another German, Baron von Steuben, reorganized and trained the Continentals at

Valley Forge. Two Poles also aided the Americans—Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who planned the fortifications of West Point, in New York, and Casimir Pulaski, who led a cavalry corps.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: Battle of Princeton, Battle of Brandywine, Valley Forge, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Baron von Steuben.

CRITICAL THINKING: Why is the Battle of Saratoga considered a turning point in the war?

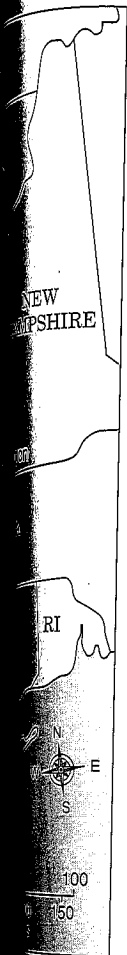
THE END OF THE WAR

In the spring of 1778, Sir Henry Clinton replaced Howe as British commander in chief. Clinton abandoned Philadelphia and concentrated British strength in New York City. Washington prevented Clinton's army from leaving the New York area until almost the end of the war.

1. Clark in the Midwest. Meanwhile, the British were stirring up Native Americans to attack American settlements in the Northwest Territory. To end these raids, George Rogers Clark led a band of American frontier fighters into the area in the summer of 1778. In February 1779, Clark and his troops forced the main garrison of British soldiers to surrender. The Americans thus gained control of the Northwest Territory.

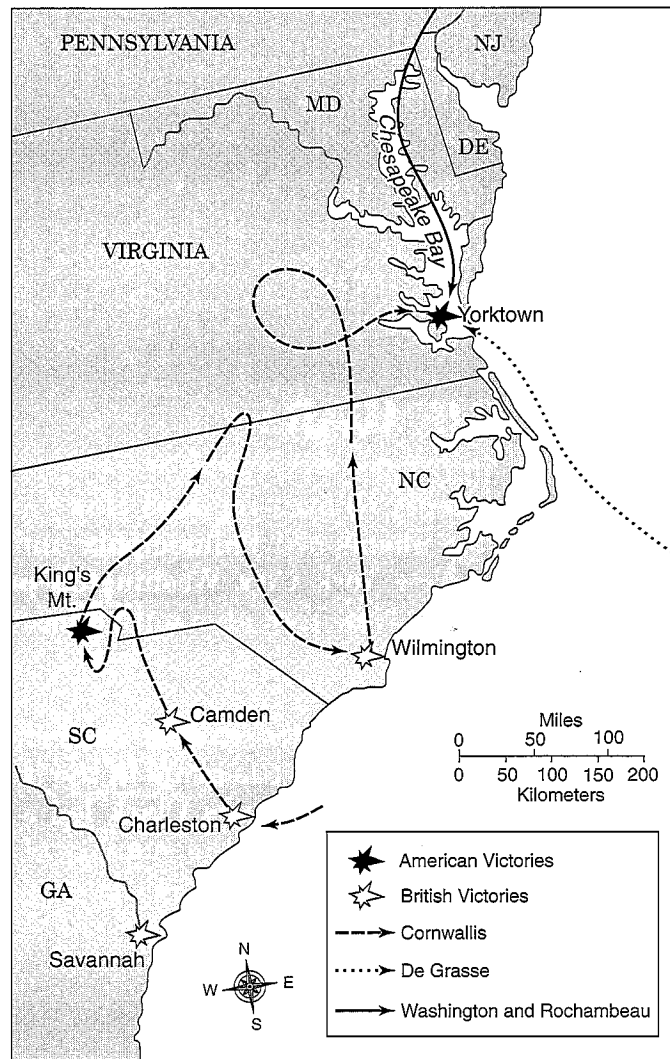
2. The War at Sea. Before the French fleet came to their aid, the Americans had only a few small warships and a number of privateers. (*Privateers* are privately owned vessels fitted with guns and authorized to attack enemy ships.) These ships brought supplies and munitions from Europe and seized military equipment that was on its way to British forces in America. American vessels also attacked British ships and raided English coastal towns. By 1781, Americans had captured or destroyed nearly 600 enemy vessels.

3. The British Attempt to Win the South. Failing to make headway in New England and the Middle Colonies, the British turned their attention to the South. They captured Savannah in December 1778 and Charleston in May 1780. In August of that year, British forces defeated an American army at Camden, South Carolina. American



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The Revolutionary War in the South, 1778–1781

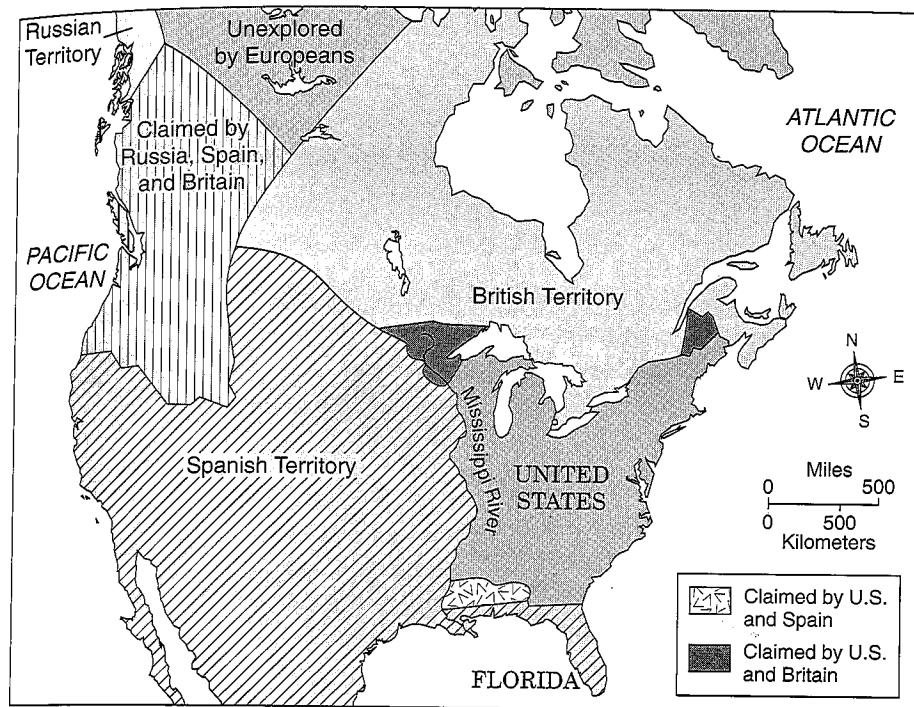


sharpshooters at King's Mountain, however, foiled one British attempt to invade North Carolina.

In 1780, Nathanael Greene took charge of Continental troops in the South. Though Greene lost many early battles, he so weakened British troops in North Carolina that they had to withdraw to the coast. Greene then turned south and recaptured most of the inland positions held by the British. By the summer of 1781, the British in the South occupied only the seacoast cities of Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington. In May 1781, Cornwallis invaded Virginia and set up a base at Yorktown, near the mouth of Chesapeake Bay.

1781

North America After the Treaty of Paris, 1783



Working with the French, Washington struck a surprise blow at the British. A French fleet under Count de Grasse sealed off the entrance to Chesapeake Bay. Washington, reinforced by 5,000 French soldiers under Count Rochambeau, marched his forces from New York to Virginia. The combined army then laid siege to Yorktown. Cornwallis fought hard. Nonetheless, trapped by the American and French troops on land and by de Grasse's fleet offshore, on October 19, 1781, he surrendered. This was the last major battle of the war.

4. The Peace Treaty. Although the British still occupied New York City and Southern seaports, their hopes for victory were shattered. Early in 1782, Parliament voted to begin peace talks. In the Treaty of Paris, signed in September 1783, Britain acknowledged the independence of the 13 colonies. The boundaries of the new nation were to be the Atlantic Ocean on the east, the Mississippi River on the west, Canada on the north, and Florida on the south. Britain granted Americans full fishing rights in the Newfoundland area. It also returned Florida to Spain.

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IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: privateer, George Rogers Clark, Nathaniel Greene, Yorktown, Treaty of Paris (1783).

CRITICAL THINKING: Could the United States have gained independence without the help of the French and other European nations? Explain your answer.

Chapter Review



MATCHING TEST

Column A

1. Navigation Acts
2. Sugar Act
3. Stamp Act
4. Declaratory Act
5. Townshend Acts

Column B

- a. restated right to use writs of assistance
- b. confined colonial imports to British ships
- c. lowered tax on molasses
- d. taxed printed matter and legal documents
- e. stated Parliament's authority over colonies



MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST

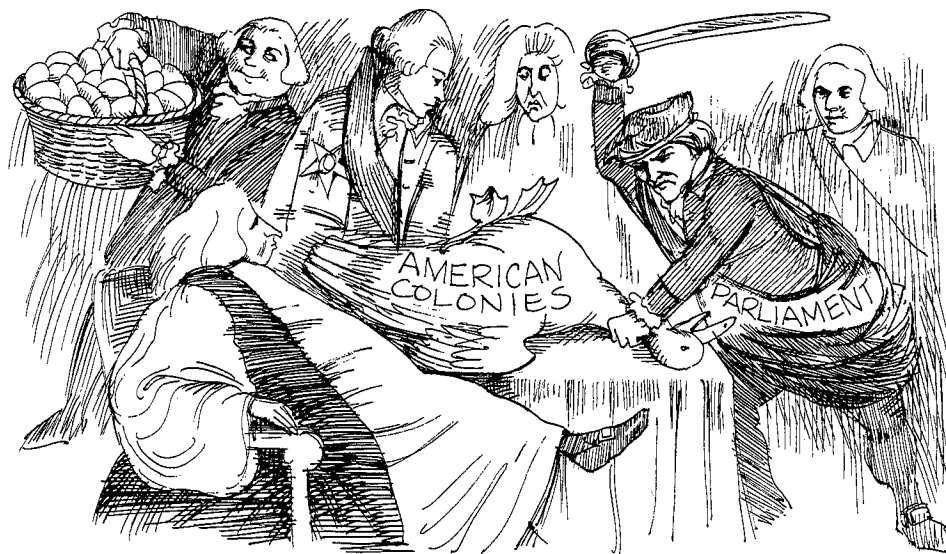
1. The causes of the French and Indian War included all of the following *except* (a) conflicting territorial claims by England and France (b) competition over the fur trade (c) the discovery of gold in the Appalachian Mountains (d) the movement of Americans into the Ohio Valley.
2. The Albany Plan of Union was proposed by (a) Samuel Adams (b) Benjamin Franklin (c) George Washington (d) Edward Braddock.
3. The decisive event of the French and Indian War was the (a) French capture of Fort Oswego (b) British seizure of Fort Niagara (c) capture of Quebec (d) fall of Montreal.
4. As a result of the French and Indian War, the western boundary of British territory in North America was fixed at (a) the Appalachian Mountains (b) the Mississippi River (c) the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers (d) Lake Erie.
5. After the French and Indian War, Britain (a) became a second-rate power in Europe (b) began a policy of salutary neglect

(c) loosened its hold on its American colonies (d) decided to enforce its trade laws more strictly.

6. The Stamp Act aroused heated opposition because it (a) taxed articles that most colonists used (b) slowed down mail deliveries (c) was passed by the colonial assemblies (d) provided that British soldiers were to be quartered in American towns in peacetime.
7. The British responded to the Stamp Act crisis by (a) sending more troops to America (b) closing the port of Boston (c) stopping colonial exports (d) repealing the law.
8. The colonists forced the British to repeal most of the Townshend taxes by (a) killing troops in Boston (b) boycotting English goods (c) destroying English imports (d) refusing to unload British ships.
9. Colonists objected to the Tea Act of 1773 because it (a) raised the price of tea (b) gave colonial merchants an unfair advantage (c) cut off colonial supplies of tea (d) threatened to put colonial tea merchants out of business.
10. The main reason for the First Continental Congress was to (a) protect colonial liberties (b) declare independence from Britain (c) plan an attack on Quebec (d) organize the Boston Tea Party.

INTERPRETING A CARTOON

The Goose That Laid Golden Eggs



This cartoon is based on one that appeared in a London publication in 1776. Already political cartoonists were using their craft to criticize government policies.

1. Who or what does the man with the sword represent?
2. Who or what does the goose represent?
3. What do the eggs in the basket represent?
4. What relationship between the sword and the eggs does the cartoonist suggest?
5. What viewpoint is the cartoonist trying to express in the cartoon? Do you think that he or she was successful? Why or why not?



ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. What effect did the French and Indian War have on the size of Britain's empire in North America? On Britain's relations with its 13 American colonies?
2. How did American colonists fight the Stamp Act? Were their actions effective?
3. What were the major strengths and weaknesses of the Americans and the British in fighting the Revolutionary War?
4. What was the meaning of the Patriot slogan "no taxation without representation"?
5. Name *three* Europeans who volunteered their services to the Continental Army. How did these volunteers help?

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents (1–4). It will improve your ability to work with historical documents.

Historical Context:

The American Patriots in the Continental Army won the Revolutionary War only with great sacrifice. The British army was better trained and better equipped. It had a good navy and a number of experienced generals. Nevertheless, the Patriots were able to beat the British for a number of reasons.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of United States history, read each document and answer the question or questions that follow it. Your answers to the questions will help you write the document-based essay.

Document 1. Excerpts from a recruiting poster issued by the Continental Army's 11th Regiment at the beginning of the American Revolution:

TO ALL BRAVE, HEALTHY, ABLE BODIED, AND WELL DISPOSED YOUNG MEN . . . who have any inclination to join the troops, now being raised under GENERAL WASHINGTON . . . for the defence of the liberties and independence of the united states . . . TAKE NOTICE. . . . The encouragement, at this time, to enlist, is . . . a bounty of twelve dollars . . . clothing . . . provisions, together with sixty dollars a year. . . .

Source: www.ushistory.org/valleyforge/youasked/047.htm

- a. What did "encouragement" mean?
- b. Why do you think it was necessary to offer "encouragement" to get young men to enlist?

Document 2. Excerpt from a letter written by General Washington to the president of Congress, in which he described the condition of his army at Valley Forge, December 23, 1777:

The soap, vinegar, and other articles allowed by Congress, we see none of. . . . The first, indeed, we have now little occasion for; few men having more than one shirt, . . . we have . . . no less than two-thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight men in camp unfit for duty, because they are barefoot and otherwise [unclothed]. . . .

Source: Ford, Worthington Chauncey (ed.) *The Writings of George Washington*. NY: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1889, VI, p. 260.

Describe one fear that General Washington may have had about the condition of his army at Valley Forge.

Document 3. Excerpt from a letter written by Hessian Captain Johann Ewald in 1782, while serving as a soldier in the Continental Army:

With what soldiers in the world could one do what was done by these men, who go about nearly naked and in the greatest privation? Deny the best-disciplined soldiers of Europe what is due

them and they will run away in the droves, and the general will soon be alone. But from this, one can perceive what an enthusiasm—which these poor fellows call “Liberty”—can do!

Source: Ewald, Captain Johann. *Diary of the American War: A Hessian Journal*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1979. Reprinted with permission of Yale University Press.

What reason did Captain Ewald give for why the American soldiers were willing to sacrifice so much? Explain your answer.

Document 4. Excerpt from the journals of Major Samuel Shaw, describing how most of the soldiers in the Pennsylvania company under the command of General Anthony Wayne reacted when they did not receive their pay, January 1781:

The accumulated distresses of the army have . . . produced most dreadful effects. The noncommissioned officers and privates . . . have mutinied, broken up . . . and in a body are marching to Philadelphia to demand redress of their grievances from Congress. . . .

On General Wayne’s cocking his pistol there were a hundred bayonets at his breast. “We love you, we respect you,” said they, “but you’re a dead man if you fire,” and added; “Do not mistake us; we are not going to the enemy; on the contrary, were they now to come out, you should see us fight under your orders with as much resolution and alacrity [energy] as ever.” They began their march that night, and the next day General Wayne forwarded after them provisions, to prevent the otherwise inevitable deprecation [destructive search for food] which would be made on private property.

Source: Shaw, Samuel. *The Journals of Major Samuel Shaw*. Boston: William Crosby and H.P. Nichols, 1847.

Why did the mutinying soldiers believe they were also loyal soldiers?

DOCUMENT-BASED ESSAY

Using information from the above documents and your knowledge of United States history, write an essay in which you:

- Evaluate the bravery of the American Patriots.
- Discuss why in the end the Patriots beat the British forces.