

**APUSH**  
**1775-1783**  
**AMERICAN**  
**REVOLUTION**  
**REVIEWED!**

**American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 8**

**American History (Brinkley) Chapter 5**

**America's History (Henretta) Chapter 5,6**

Following Lexington & Concord....

# SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

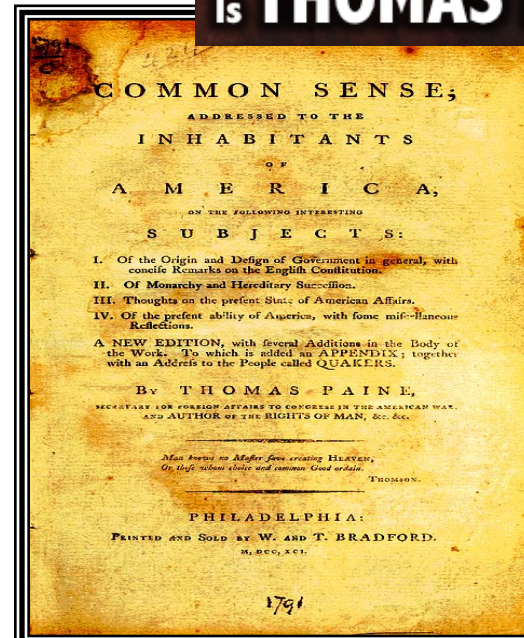
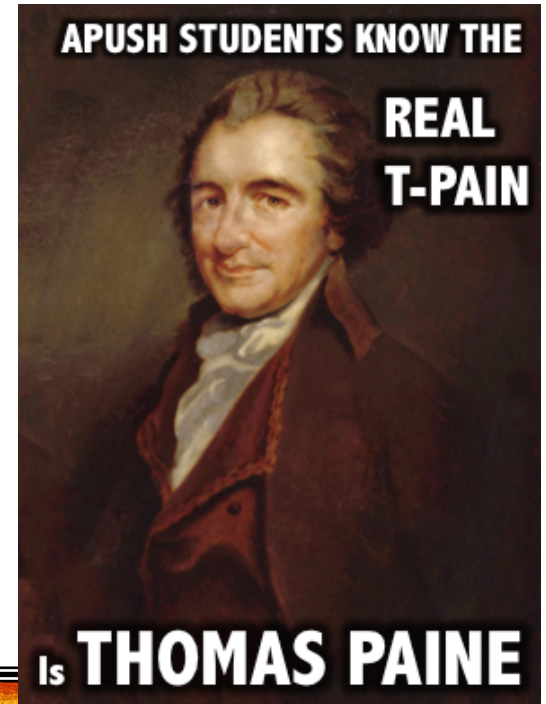


- **2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress** (May 1775) get together in Philly
  - **Division** amongst colonists as to whether or not to declare independence
  - Organized the **Continental Army** with **Washington** as commander in chief
- **Bunker Hill** (June 1775) British take hill, but colonists hold their own---Builds confidence!
- At the same time sought peace by sending **Olive Branch Petition** to King George III (July 1775)
  - King dismissed the OBP and declared **colonies in rebellion**

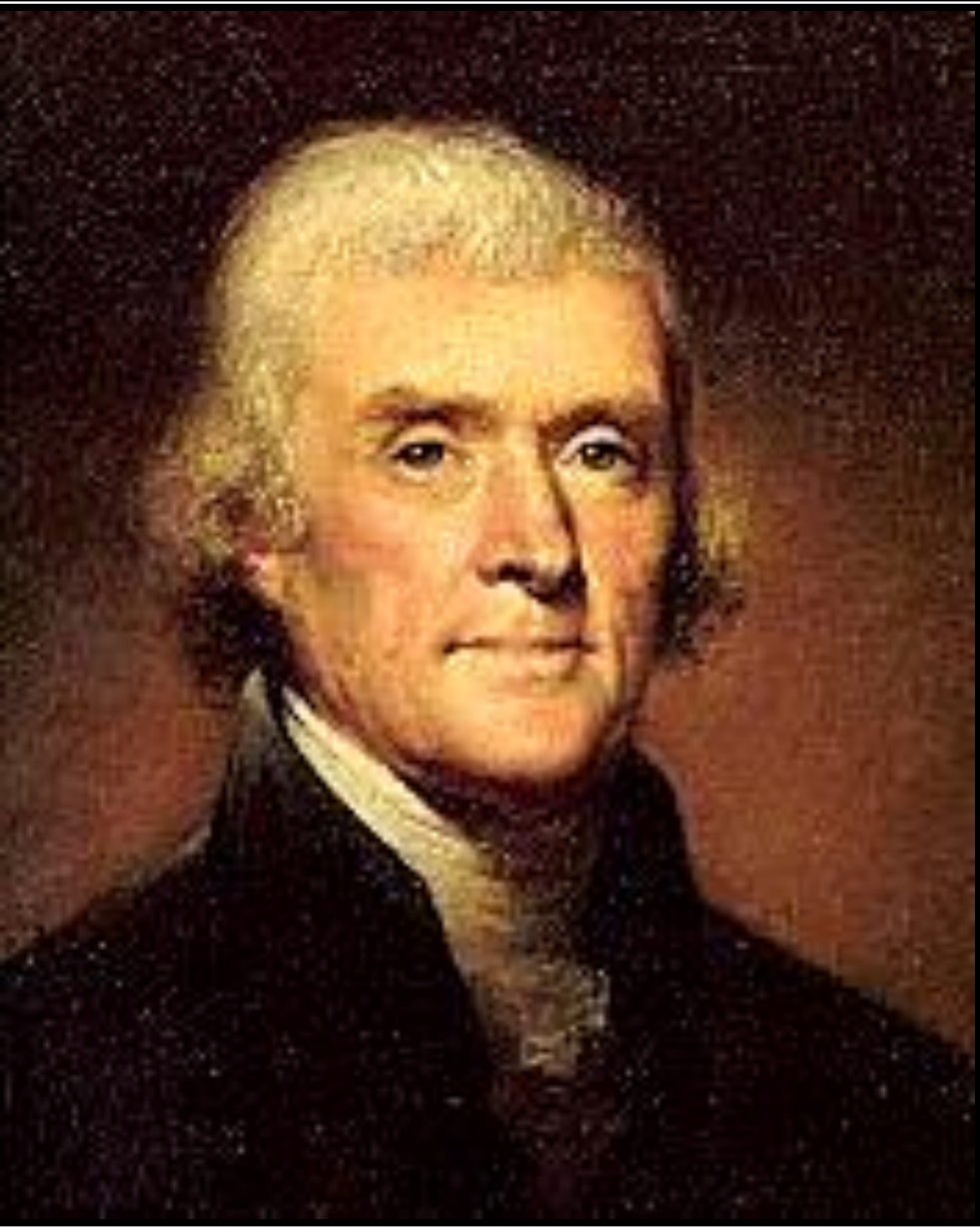
**Important: 1775 still no clear consensus for independence**

# DEEP ROOTS OF REVOLUTION

- **Enlightenment** ideas of **John Locke** and **Rousseau** strongly influenced the colonists
  - Locke said everyone has **natural rights** and the power of government is derived from **popular consent**
- **Thomas Paine's** pamphlet **“Common Sense”** (Jan 1776) argued for independence
  - Radical idea at the time
  - Called for the creation of a **republic** (representative govt.) based on **natural rights** of the people
  - Strongly influenced by the Enlightenment



# Declaration of Independence



- **Thomas Jefferson** drafted the formal Declaration of Independence
- **Goals: Justify independence by listing grievances against King George III**
  - Took out the one Jefferson wrote against slavery
- To rally support amongst the colonists
- To get the assistance from foreign nations
- Broad appeal by declaring **“unalienable rights” (natural rights)** and the power of government rest with the people (**popular sovereignty**)

# COLONIAL UNITY?

## Patriots

## Loyalists

- Colonists who fought against the British



- Colonists loyal to the British
  - Treated as traitors
    - Property seized, harassed
    - About 80,000 emigrated from the USA

**Most colonists were neutral or apathetic**

# ENGLAND VS AMERICA

## BRITISH STRENGTHS / COLONIAL WEAKNESSES

- Great Britain was militarily and economically superior to the colonies
- Considerable loyalist opposition
- Weak government structure under the Continental Congress (& eventually the Articles of Confederation)

## COLONIAL STRENGTHS / BRITISH WEAKNESSES

- Colonists had greater familiarity with the land
  - Use of guerilla warfare
- Resilient military and political leadership
  - (Washington at Valley Forge)
- Ideological commitment
- Eventual support from European allies (FRANCE!)
  - Following Battle of Saratoga

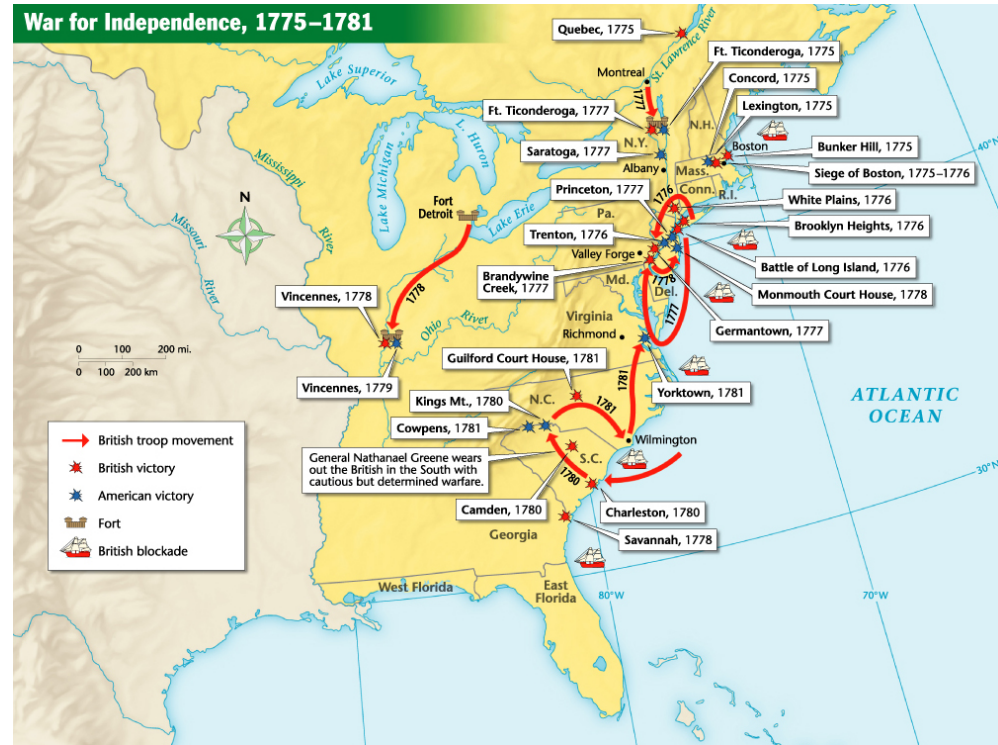
# FRANCE

- **France hoped to regain its power in North America and Europe**
  - Remember the bad defeat in the 7 Years War
- **Other reasons for France to support the colonists:**
  - End of **British mercantile policies** means free to trade with colonies
  - Caught up in the **idealism** and **Enlightenment** ideas
- **Benjamin Franklin** helped negotiate the treaty
- **Formal alliance (1778) followed the Battle of Saratoga**
  - Colonists receive money, weapons, naval support, and soldiers



# Significant Battles of the Revolution

- Lexington & Concord (April 1775)
- Bunker Hill (June 1775)
- **Trenton** (Dec. 26 1777)  
Washington crossed Delaware river and captured 1,000 Hessian soldiers
- **Battle of Saratoga** (Oct. 1777)  
British surrender
  - France joins the war on the side of the Americans
- Later in war England focused war effort on the South (loyalist and high slave population)
- **Battle of Yorktown** (Oct. 1781)  
General Cornwallis surrenders to American, French troops
  - French blockaded the sea





# Treaty of Paris (1783)

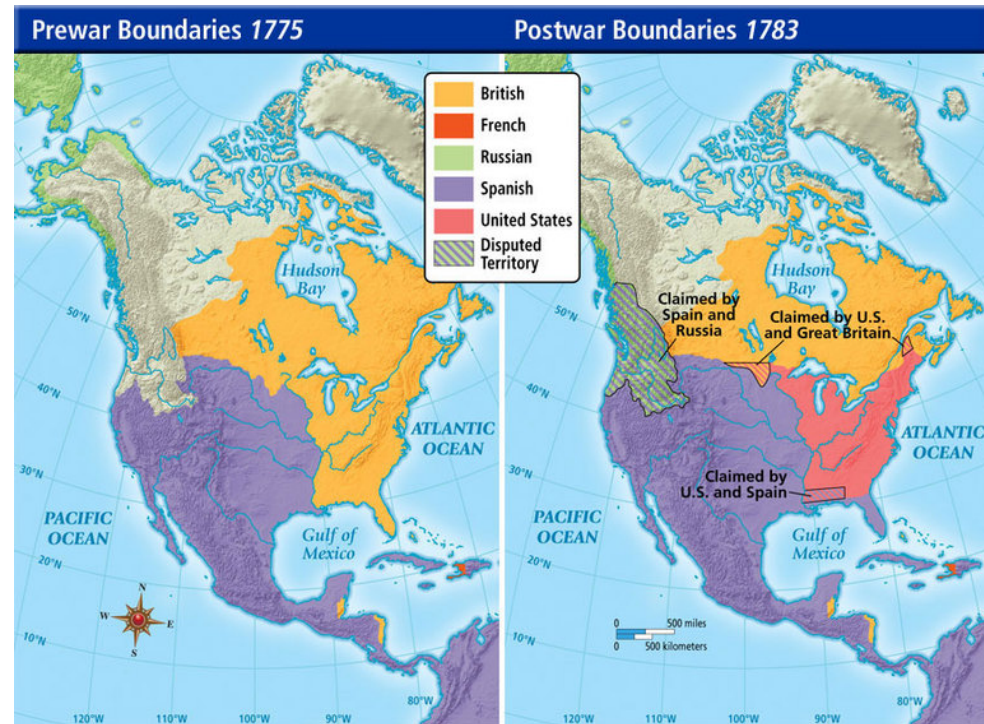
- **Ben Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay** headed to Paris to negotiate an end to the war

- **Treaty of Paris (1783)**

- England recognized **United States** independence
- **Boundary of the U.S.** would extend to the **Mississippi river** to **Great Lakes** to **Spanish Florida**

## American concessions:

- **Must respect rights of loyalists**
- **Debts owed to British creditors would be paid**



# POLITICAL IMPACT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

- **State constitutions** abolished many old European laws and traditions
  - No titles of nobility could be granted
- Different ideas of what **republicanism** would mean
- Many states eliminated **property requirements** for voting- (e.g. Pennsylvania)
- However the **colonial elite** remained and other states **restricted** political involvement
  - Most states did not have full democracy
- American Revolution **inspired revolutions** in France, Haiti, and Latin America



THE UNITED STATES  
UNDER THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, 1787

# SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

- **Women** played significant roles: maintaining farms & businesses while men away, nurses, cooks, etc.
- **Impact: Abigail Adams** “**Remember the Ladies**” called for greater rights for women
- Ideal of “**republican motherhood**” which called on women to teach republican values within the family
- **Native Americans** oftentimes fought on the side of the British
  - **British limited colonial settlement**
  - (**Iroquois Confederation** divided over the issue)



# SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

- **African Americans** eventually were allowed to fight in the Continental Army
  - Royal Governor of Virginia **Lord Dunmore** promised freedom to any slave who fought for the British
- Following the American Revolution **gradual emancipation** in the northern and middle states
  - **Pennsylvania Gradual Emancipation Law** (1780)
- Later on slavery will expand in the south and adjacent western lands
  - This will create **distinct regional attitudes** towards slavery
- **Slavery will be protected in the Constitution**





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Mr. Jocz at Independence Hall in Philadelphia