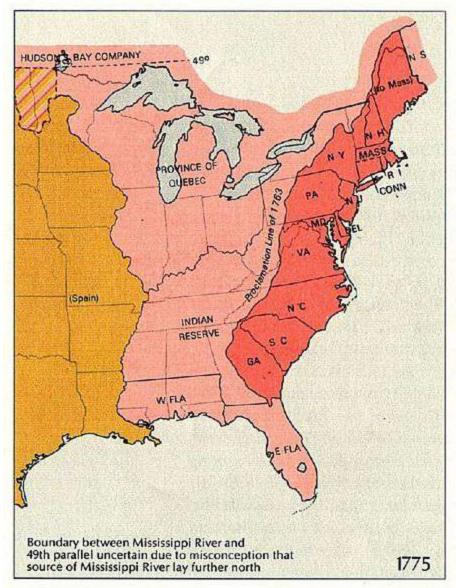
A. The Road to Revolution

- Britain (England) started to establish colonies in North America in 1607
- There were eventually 13 colonies



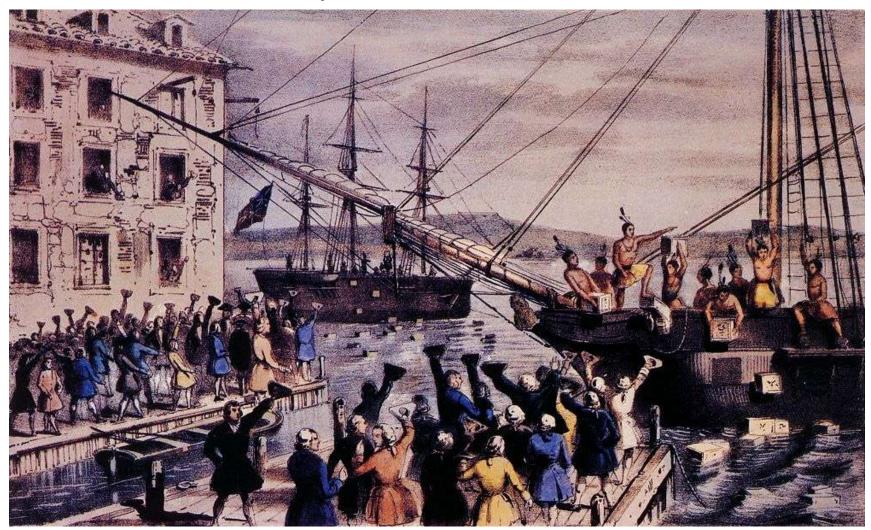
 The American colonies and Great Britain had a good relationship until the French and Indian War (1754 – 1763)



- The French and Indian War was very expensive
- Britain wanted the Americans to help pay the cost of the war
- Parliament passed the Stamp Act (1765) a tax on all paper products
- Americans were angered
- Felt their rights from the English Bill of Rights were violated
- They were not allowed to have representatives in Parliament to debate or vote on these taxes



• The British continued to pass laws that angered the colonists leading to events like the Boston Tea Party in 1773

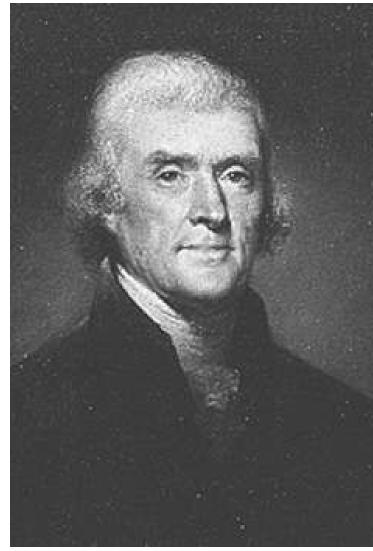


B.Declaration of Independence

- By 1776, the colonists had learned of the ideas of the Enlightenment philosophers
- They decided to declare their independence from Britain for the violations of their rights



- Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence to tell the king why the colonists wanted independence
- He wrote about the idea that governments formed to protect the rights of the people (borrowed from John Locke)
- These rights included life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness



• The document was signed and sent to King George III on July 4, 1776.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

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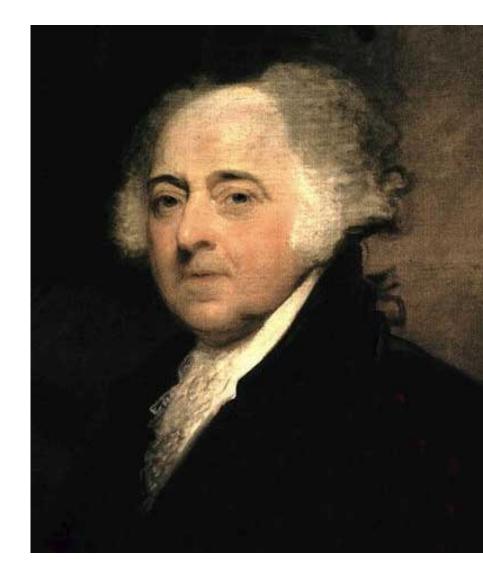
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C.Victory

- The fighting began in 1775 and ended in 1781
- Americans won by using hit and run tactics and with the assistance of the French



- John Adams stated "The Revolution was in the hearts and minds of the people" because it was rooted in the beliefs of the people.
- They wanted to win so they could create a true democracy



D.Articles of Confederation (1781)

- The colonies (now states) established their first democratic government called the Articles of Confederation in 1781
- The national government had very little power, but the states had a lot of power.
- The government was ineffective and only lasted until the writing of the Constitution in 1787.