

American Revolution

Chapter 7

Whose side would you be on?

- Loyalists- supported the British (20-30%)
- Patriots- supported the revolution (40-45%)
- Neutral- didn't pick a side (25-40%)

Loyalists

- Found most in large cities and the southern colonies where they benefited economically from ties to the British

Patriots

- Found in rural areas, New England colonies, and Virginia where people valued more personal and governmental freedom

Role of Slaves in the War

- Southern colonies refused to arm slaves or allow them to enlist out of fear of slave revolt
- British offered freedom to any slave who fought for them and many signed up
- 5000 African Americans fought for northern colonies militias

Role of Native Americans In War

- Native Americans picked sides, some fought for British and some for American colonists
- Their choice depended on their dependency of trade with colonists or the British or fear of colonist victory would mean loss of Native American lands

Role of Women During the War

- Women accompanied men and would cook, clean, and care for wounded and sick
- Some women dressed as men and fought
- Other women stayed home and ran the farm or business while husband fought

Continental Army

- Led by George Washington
- Formed in June 1775
- Never was bigger than 17,000 due to short enlistment period of one year
- Lacked basics: food, blankets, clothing, shoes, gun, ammunition

British Army Problems

- Soldiers signed up for life which meant fewer men would volunteer
- Many officers refused to fight the Americans for personal reasons
- Was an unpopular war in England
- All these factors led to the hiring of mercenaries or hired soldiers

Hessians

- German mercenaries used by the British during the revolution
- Came from the Hesse region of Germany which is how they got their name

War in the Mid Atlantic States

- British were forced from Boston in spring of 1776
- Washington moved his troops to protect NYC which he thought was the next target of the British (he was right)
- British goal was to control all the east coast port cities so they could re-supply quicker

- July 1776, British moved into NYC
- British won the battle of Long Island and several smaller battles
- These defeats forced Washington to retreat to NJ by December 1776

Crisis for the Continental Army

- Enlistments ended on 12/31/1776 so Washington had to do something soon or risk losing a large number of his men

Battle of Trenton (NJ)

- Washington and his men rowed across the river on Christmas night 1776
- They surprised Hessian soldiers and captured or killed more than 900 of them
- Continental army also took much needed supplies from the Hessians

British “Big Plan”

- Converge in 3 directions on upstate NY and cut off New England colonies from their supply lines
- British General Howe changes plan and captures Philadelphia in Sept. 1777
- American General Benedict Arnold tricks British into staying at a fort due to being outnumbered

- Now British General Burgoyne was all alone

Battle of Saratoga (NY)

- American General Gates led army to victory and forced British to surrender
- Polish citizen and engineer named Kosciuzko helped Americans fortify their positions
- Major turning point for the Americans
- This victory helped to get support from European countries who disliked the British



France and Spain Help Americans

- France gave secret aid to the Americans in the beginning years of the Revolution
- Wouldn't go all in to help us until we proved we could beat the British (Battle of Saratoga)



- Began to help us more starting in 1778 with money, supplies, and soldiers
- Spread the British military thin over several areas making them weaker



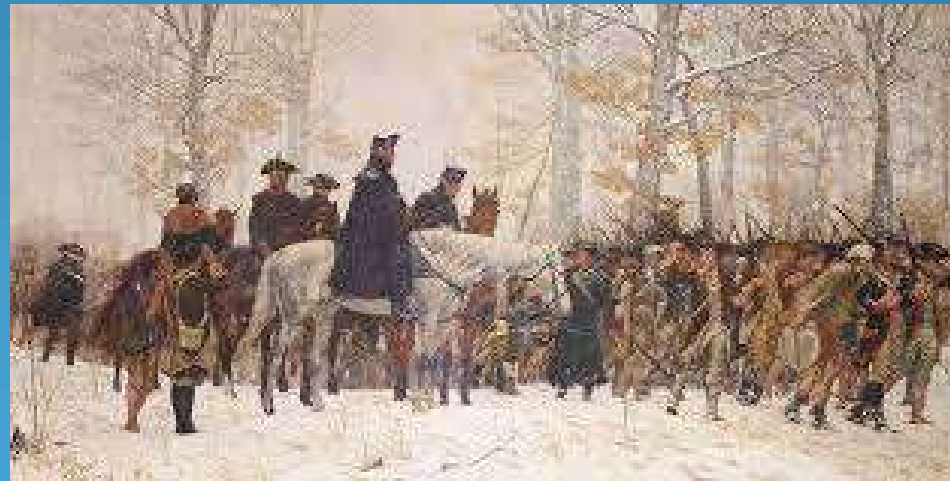
Marquis De Lafayette

- Young (19) rich Frenchman who volunteer to fight with Americans
- Used his own money to buy clothing, etc for his men
- Helped persuade French king to send soldiers to help in revolution



Winter in Valley Forge (1777-78)

- Continental army lacked supplies, shoes, and food
- $\frac{1}{4}$ men died over the winter from malnutrition, disease, exposure
- Spent the winter training so that soldiers became better fighters



John Paul Jones

- Continental Navy officer
- Would go across Atlantic Ocean and attack British ships close to England
- “I have not yet begun to fight!”



British attack the South

- British thought they would get support from colonists in the south b/c they believed many were Loyalists
- British capture both Charles Town (SC) and Savannah (GA)



Swamp Fox

- Nickname for Francis Marion
- Led guerilla attacks on British throughout the South



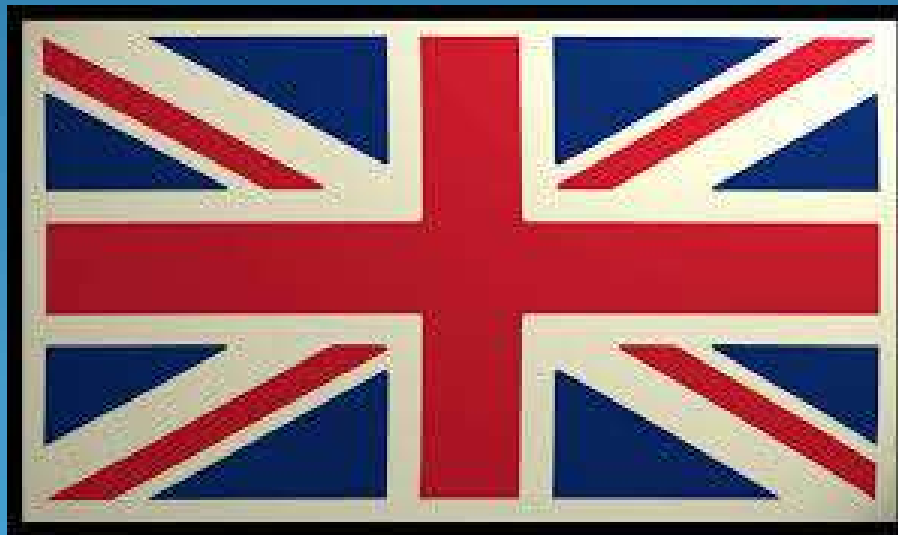
Battle of Yorktown (1781)

- Americans trapped the British between them and the sea
- French navy attacked the British from the sea
- British were forced to surrender
- Last major battle of the war



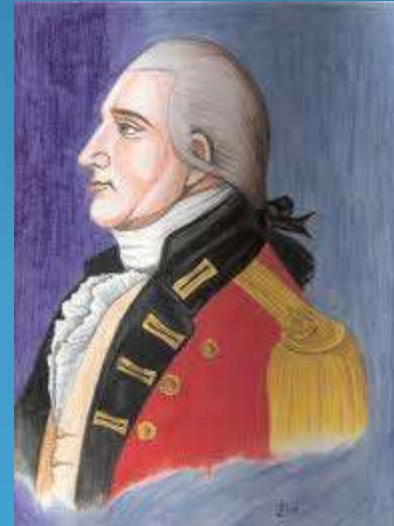
British Leave America

- The last British soldiers and ships left NYC in winter of 1783



Aftermath of the Revolution

- Many Loyalists left the colonies for Canada after the war
- Benedict Arnold becomes synonymous with traitor (tried to hand over a fort to the British during the war)



Treaty of Paris

- Signed in 1783
- Ben Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay negotiated for the Americans
- Neither side lived up to all that was agreed upon which led to another war in 1812 with the British

