

# Chapter 1

## The Founding of the Nation

### Section 4

#### “The American Revolution”

# Objectives:

## Students will be able to:

- 1) Explain how the colonists responded to new taxes set by Parliament.
- 2) Describe what started the Revolutionary War.
- 3) Analyze the victories that helped the Patriots win the Revolutionary War.

# Problems in the Colonies

- French and Indian War
- Pontiac's Rebellion
- Taxes
- Boston Massacre
- Intolerable Acts

# French and Indian War

- 1689 - 1763 French & British fought a series of wars
- 4th war in series (1754-1763) was called the French and Indian War
- Started as a war over land south of the Ohio River Valley
- Britain gained Canada, Florida, lands east of Mississippi River

# French and Indian War

- Treaty of Paris (1763) brought officially brought an end to the war
- British gained Canada, land east of Mississippi River
- British gained Florida from Spain
- Great Britain large war debt, and large navy & army to support

# Results of French & Indian War on Colonists

- 1) Military experience for leaders
- 2) Colonies prospered (farmers & merchants)
- 3) Colonists could move into land west of Appalachians
- 4) British decided that colonies should help pay the costs of the war

# Pontiac's Rebellion

- 1763 - Chief Pontiac led Indians from different tribes, to drive out settlers and destroy British forts
- They were forced to surrender, Oct 1763
- To prevent more fighting with Indians, King George III issued Proclamation of 1763

# Proclamation of 1763

- Prohibited settlers from settling land west of Appalachians
  - Limited expansion
  - Limited trade with Indians

# Taxes

- 1) Navigation Acts
- 2) Sugar Act (1764)
- 3) Quartering Act (1765)
- 4) Stamp Act (1765)
- 5) Townshend Acts (1767)
- 6) Tea Act (1773)

# Navigation Acts

- A) Enumerated Articles shipped only to Britain (tobacco, indigo, cotton, sugar, furs, lumber)
- B) Regulate sale of goods mfg. in colonies
- C) Only British ships carry products
- D) Other countries' goods ship through British ports where they are taxed

# Navigation Acts (continued)

- E) Sent more officials to America to enforce laws (due process)

# Sugar Act (1764)

- Parliament passed the law to increase duties on:
  - Sugar and molasses
  - Also wine, cloth, coffee (from outside the British areas)

# Sugar Act (continued)

- Colonists protested that this was “taxation without representation”
- Merchants in New York and Massachusetts agreed to boycott certain British goods until act was repealed
- **BOYCOTT** - refuse to buy goods

# Quartering Act (1765)

- Colonists had to provide food & shelter for over 7,000 troops

# Stamp Act (1765)

- Colonists had to pay a tax (buy an official stamp) when buying everyday paper goods like newspapers and legal documents
- Direct tax to colonists on over 50 items:
- Newspapers, almanacs, pamphlets, wills, deeds, marriage licenses, playing cards, dice, etc.

# Stamp Act (continued)

- “Taxation without representation”
- Secret societies formed (like Sons of Liberty)
- Stamp Act Congress (Oct 1765) - 9 colonies met, and asked Parliament to repeal the law
  - Petition
  - Boycott (trade fell 14%)

# Stamp Act (continued)

- Parliament repealed (canceled) the Stamp Act in 1766

# Townshend Acts (1767)

- Taxed items brought into the colonies like: glass, paper, paint, lead, tea
- Sent customs officials to the ports
- Writs of assistance - allowed officers to inspect ship's cargo without giving reason

# Townshend Acts (continued)

- Nonimportation Agreements - colonists agreed to stop buying imported goods that were taxed by the Townshend Acts (boycott)
- Sons of Liberty - angry colonial protesters
- Daughters of Liberty

# British Response to Colonies

- 1768 - More British troops sent to Boston to restore order and enforce laws

# Boston Massacre

- March 5, 1770 - British troops fired into a mob
- Five people were killed
- John Adams defended the soldiers accused of murder

# Townshend Acts

- Repealed on March 5, 1770, but.....
- Parliament **KEPT THE TAX ON TEA**

# Tea Act (1773)

- Let British East India Company bypass tea merchants in the colonies, and sell direct
- Left a tax on tea
- Boycotts led by Daughters of Liberty and Sons of Liberty

# Boston Tea Party

- December 16, 1773
- Colonists dressed as Native Americans dumped chests of tea from 3 ships into Boston Harbor
- “Boston Harbor a Teapot Tonight”
- Possible role of Sons of Liberty

# Response to Boston Party

- Parliament decided to punish Massachusetts colonists
- 4 Laws that colonists called the Intolerable Acts

# Intolerable Acts

- 1) Shut down port of Boston
- 2) Mass. Colonists may NOT hold town meetings more than once a year without permission
- 3) Customs officers & officials charged with major crimes - tried in Britain
- 4) Quartering Act - house troops

# First Continental Congress

- Sept. 1774 - Delegates from 12 colonies met in Philadelphia (Georgia did not send representatives)
  - 1. Backed Massachusetts
  - 2. Agreed to boycott British goods
  - 3. Agreed to not export to Britain
  - 4. Encouraged colonies to set up militias
  - 5. Sent a list of their rights to King Geo. III

# Minutemen

- Massachusetts militia men “ready to fight in a minute’s notice”

# The War Begins

- 1775 - British Gen. Thomas Gage sent British troops from Boston to capture colonial weapons stored in Concord, Mass. (20 miles from Boston)
- April 18, 1775 -colonists Paul Revere & William Dawes rode across the countryside telling the colonists & militia that the “British are Coming.”

# The War Begins (cont.)

- April 19, 1775 - British troops met colonial militia at Lexington, Mass. (before they got to Concord)
- No one knows who started this battle
- First shot of this battle is the “the shot heard round the world,” because it started the Revolutionary War

# The War Begins (cont.)

- British won the short Battle of Lexington
- British then marched to Concord where the militia won, and drove British back to Boston
- This led to a meeting of colonial representatives (the Second Continental Congress)