

Chapter 7.1 Early Years

George Washington: Commander of the Continental Army, led a courageous crossing of the Delaware to Trenton where he defeated the Hessians.

Mercenary: professional soldiers hired to fight for a foreign country.

Strategy: overall plan of action

Rendezvous: meeting place

Battles of Saratoga: Turning point in the war, American victory in NY.

Summary:

Main Idea: The American desire to gain rights and liberties led them to fight for independence from Great Britain.

EARLY YEARS OF THE WAR

- 20-30 % Loyalist
- 40-45% Patriot
- 30-40% Neutral
- Most Americans were not in favor of a Revolution.
- 5,000 African Americans fought in the Continental Army
- War split Native Tribes
- African Americans had to decide which side to fight for?
- Slaves ran away from masters

Women's Role: Cooked, Cleaned, Nursed the sick, Some even fought in the war (Molly Pitcher and Deborah Sampson)

WASHINGTON'S MAIN GOAL: Avoid a crushing defeat, his men were untrained, supplies were hard to get and congress had men enlist for only one year, keeping numbers low.

Struggle for Middle States:

- The British Hired mercenaries to fight
- The British strategy was to take coastal cities.
- Battle of New York: British and American troops fought for months for New York State
- British forced Washington to retreat .
- Washington's men were in awful shape.
- Thomas Paine wrote the American Crisis and boosted American morale. "These are the times that try men's souls"
- Battle for Trenton: Washington hoped a victory would help his men find the will to keep fighting.
- Christmas Day 1776 Washington and his men crossed the icy Delaware river into Trenton. They surprised the Hessians, and captured or killed more than 900. They gained badly needed supplies
- Eight days later, Washington won a second victory at Princeton.

BRITISH SEEK CONTROL OF HUDSON AND MIDDLE COLONIES

- British Strategy
 - Three Generals are to rendezvous in Albany.
 - Howe abandoned the plan and heads to Philadelphia
 - St.Leger is tricked and flees
 - General Burgoyne, "Gentleman Johnny" is forced to surrender

Benedict Arnold: Hero, but would become a traitor He married a loyalist

Battle of Saratoga: was a turning point for the war. The British rendezvous failed, leaving General John Burgoyne alone to fight the continental Army. A series of battles led by Benedict Arnold and Horatio Gates, left the British defeated, and in retreat.

Two important results of the colonial victories at the Battle of Saratoga

1. Arnold Married a loyalist
2. Showed the European nations the Americans were serious and ready for independence.

Chapter 7.2 The War Expands

Ally: a country that agrees to help another country achieve a common goal.

Bayonet: a gun with a long knife affixed to its end.

Desert: to leave military duty without intending to return.

Privateer: privately owned ship that a wartime government gives permission to attack an enemy's merchant ships.

Summary:

Main Idea: Some Europeans decided to help America. As the war continued, it spread to the sea and the frontier.

HELP FROM ABROAD

- France gave secret aid in 1776. But they feared another loss to Britain if they joined the war.
- After the victory at Saratoga, King Louis the XVI signed two treaties of alliance with the US and recognized their independence.
- France sent badly need funds, supplies, and troops to America.
- France persuaded its ally, Spain to join the fight
- Spanish General Bernardo de Galvez quickly captured British strongholds in the Mississippi Valley.
- By entering the war- Britain was now forced to fight a number of enemies on land and sea.

EUROPEANS HELP WASHINGTON

- **Marquis De Lafayette-**
 - 19 yr old French nobleman who volunteered to fight in Washington's army.
 - Wanted a military career
 - Believed in the American cause
 - Gained Washington's confidence and respect
 - Won the love and respect of his men by sharing their hardships
 - Fought many battles, persuaded France to send more troops,
 - Became a hero in France and America
 - Washington regarded him as a son.
- **Baron De Kalb**
 - German officer who served in the French army, came with Lafayette
 - Served in Washington's army as a general
 - Earned a reputation for Bravery
 - Received 11 wounds at the Battle of Camden and died.
- **Baron von Steuben**
 - German general who turned the Americans into a skilled fighting force
 - Asked by Washington to train the Continental Army
 - Under Steuben's direction men learned to use bayonets

WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE

In 1777, Howe forced Washington from Philadelphia. They camped that winter at Valley Forge.

- Men had only blankets to cover them on the march to Valley Forge
- ¼ died of malnutrition, exposure to the cold, and disease.
- Valley Forge came to stand for the great hardships that Americans endured in the Revolutionary War.
- Private citizens sometimes came to the soldiers aid
- The men showed amazing endurance.
- Men often desert the army under such circumstances, but these men were so loyal to Washington and cared so deeply for the cause of independence, they stayed despite the conditions and hardships.

WAR ON THE FRONTIER

- George Rogers Clark, a 6ft tall, Red-haired native of Kentucky persuaded Governor Patrick Henry to defend the Western frontier.
- In May 1778 Clark and 200 men took multiple forts occupied by the British, including Fort Sackville which was defended by British general Henry Hamilton, the "hair buyer."
- Clark's victories gave the Americans a hold on the region between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River.

WAR AT SEA

- American privateer ships attacked British merchant ships.
- Patriotism and Profit drove privateers to pillage British ships.
- The states and the Congress commissioned some 1,000 privateers to prey on the British
- James Forten- 14 yr old son of a free African American sail maker, volunteered to sail on the Royal Louis to earn money for his family. When the ship was taken by the British, Forten was offered a free trip to England. He refused, saying he would never betray his country. He was released from a British prison after the war and walked barefoot from Newy YOrk to his home in Philadelphia. He later became famous for his efforts to end slavery.

A NAVAL HERO

Though outnumbered, the Continental Navy did have many victories against the British.

John Paul Jones- officer who commanded the Bonhomme Richard (named to honor Ben Franklin).

- In 1779 Jones' vessel approached a convoy in which two British warships were guarding a number of supply ships.
- Jones zeroed in on the Serapis, the larger of the two warships
- The confidant British captain demanded Jones surrender, he refused saying " I have not yet begun to fight!" (this is a famous navy slogan to date.)
- After a three hour battle the main mast of the Serapis cracked and fell. The ship's Captain surrendered.
- The Bonhomme Richard was so full of holes, it ended up sinking, and Jones sailed home on the Serapis! He angered the British and inspired Americans with his success against the best navy in the world.

Chapter 7.3 The Path to Victory

Name _____

Date _____

Lord Cornwallis- leader of the British at the Battles of Yorktown and Camden

Guerrillas- small bands of fighters who weaken the enemy with surprise raids and hit and run attacks

Pacifist- opposed to war

Battle of Yorktown- American victory, last major battle of the Revolutionary war

Main Idea: Seeking loyalist support, the British invaded the South--but ultimately lost the war.

SAVANNAH AND CHARLES TOWN

- The British believed most Southerners were loyalists.
- They moved the war to the South
- Believed the loyalists would help hold on to land the British captured.
- They also counted on large slave volunteers (although they were promised freedom by the British not all acquired it. Some were sold into slavery in the West Indies)
- The South was closer to their ports in the West Indies
- Dec 1778 British capture Savannah, GA
- 1780 British capture Charles Town (largest southern city) - was the worst American defeat of the war

THE SWAMP FOX AND GUERRILLAS

- After the loss at Charles Town, Congress assigned Horatio Gates to form a new Southern army.
- Soldiers led by Baron de Kalb formed the core.
- 2,000 new and untrained militia were added
- British General Lord Cornwallis led the British army
- Francis Marion - "the swamp Fox" helped gates with knowledge of the surrounding swamplands
- Gates sent Marion to destroy boats on the Santee River behind Camden cutting off British communication with Charles Town.
- 1780 Gate's army runs into British troops outside Camden
 - Americans were half starved, out of supplies and in no position to fight
 - Gates put the inexperienced militia along the frontline instead of behind the veterans
 - When the British attacked, the men fled, except for Kalb. He stayed with his men and died from his wounds.
 - Gates ended his term as head of an army and caused American spirits to fall to a new low

After the Battle of Camden,

- Marion's band of men overwhelmed a British force with a column of American prisoners.
- Fighting from a base in swamps, Marion's men cut the British suppl line that led inland and north from Charlestown.
- Marion used guerrilla warfare to beat the British.

THE TIDE TURNS

Battles in the South sometimes turned vicious

- **Battle of Kings Mountain**
 - Fought on the border of North and South Carolina
 - 1780, Americans slaughtered a force of about 1,000 loyalist militia and British soldiers
 - "The dead lay in heaps on all sides...Though exulting in victory, I could not refrain from shedding tears" -James P Collins 16 yr old American at the battle of Kings Mt

Nathaniel Greene is put in charge of the Southern army.

He was one of Washington's most able officers.

Had been a Quaker but his church put him out because of his belief in the armed struggle against the British

Most Quakers are pacifists and opposed to war.

The army avoided full scale battles and let the British chase them around the countryside.

As the years dragged on some British leaders began to think American independence might not be so bad.

END OF THE WAR

July 1781 Lord Cornwallis set up his base at Yorktown, located on a peninsula in the Chesapeake Bay. His army could receive supplies from New York

August 1781 A french fleet arrived and blocked the Bay- these ships prevented the British from receiving supplies or escaping

Washington came from the North with French general Jean Rochambeau and trapped Cornwallis on the Peninsula.

Battle of Yorktown- American and French troops bombarded Yorktown with cannon fire turning its building to rubble. Cornwallis had no way out.

- October 1781 Cornwallis surrendered his force of 8,000.
- Last major battle of the war
- "It is all over!" -Lord North

British leaders were forced to resign and the new leaders began to negotiate a peace treaty.

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Chapter 7.4 Legacy of the War

Name _____

Date _____

Treaty of Paris 1783: the treaty that ended the Revolutionary War.

Republicanism: government in which people rule instead of a king

Elizabeth Freeman: sued for her freedom and won.

Richard Allen started the Free African society

Main Idea: After the war, the new nation faced issues such as a high national debt and calls for equality.

WHY AMERICA WON

- Better Leadership
- Foreign Aid
- Knowledge of the Land
- Motivation

TREATY OF PARIS OF 1783

- Included 6 conditions, what was the most important?
 - The U.S was Independent!
 - The provisions required the return of seized property, handing back of slaves, and the paying off of debts
- Estimated 25,700 Americans died
- 10,000 British military deaths

A REPUBLIC IS BORN

- The U.S instituted a republican form of government
 - Republicanism- people rule
 - As part of their liberty Americans called for more religious freedom.
 - Laws that discriminated against religions were abolished
 - Some states in the North outlawed Slavery
 - Elizabeth Freeman sued for her freedom and won in 1781
 - Richard Allen started the Free African society
- The largest obstacle ahead of the new United States was the formation of their new government.

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