



## I. Declaring Independence

### A. Washington's Army

- Up to this time militia's defended their own small regions
- The Continental Army represented and protected all 13 colonies
- Enlistments were usually 6 -12 months. Irregular Pay

## I. Declaring Independence

### A. Washington's Army, continued

- Shortages of food and clothing
- Well-acquainted with the country side
- Lived off the local inhabitants
- Had more reasons to fight
- Washington was a "Man's man"

## B. The Green Mountain Boys

- Led by Ethan Allen, Vermont Blacksmith
- Teamed up with Benedict Arnold and 400 soldiers from Boston
- May 10, 1775, they crawled through a broken wall and captured Fort Ticonderoga

## B. The Green Mountain Boys

- This victory gave the Patriots a valuable supply of ammunition and 50 cannons, which they took to Boston.
- General Knox (later Washington's Secretary of War) dragged the cannons back 300 miles over the Adirondack Mountains.

## C. Loyalist and Patriots

- **Loyalists**—supported ties with Great Britain
- **Patriots**—favored separation from Great Britain
- **Tories**—Loyalists who actively prepared for the fight that was sure to come.
- Most colonists took neither side

## II. The Colonies at War

- General Note: The British did not believe that the rag-tag, badly equipped group of rebels could beat a world power, such as themselves

## A. The War in N.E.

- Fall of 1775—the Continental Army moved into Canada
- Richard Montgomery's forces marched from Fort Ticonderoga and captured Montreal
- Benedict Arnold's troops laid siege to Quebec

## A. The War in the NE, cont'd

- Many soldiers died of starvation and disease
- May 1776—British reinforcements arrived to aid Quebec and Arnold and his troops admitted defeat
- Canada remained in British hands

## A. Still NE: Dorchester Heights

- Battle of Bunker Hill left the British short of forces and supplies
- March 4, 1776—Washington placed cannons from Fort Ticonderoga (brought by Knox) on Dorchester Heights and aimed them at the British troops in Boston.

## A. Dorchester Heights, cont'd

- mid-March 1776— the entire British army and 1,500 Loyalists evacuated Boston
- King George III set up a blockade of all ports in the colonies to prevent goods and people from moving in and out of the area.

## II. The War Moves to M.C.

- The Continental Congress ordered Washington to defend NYC.
- Hopeless cause, but Washington did what he could.
- Without a navy he could not stop the enemy from landing wherever they wanted.

### A. The New York Campaign

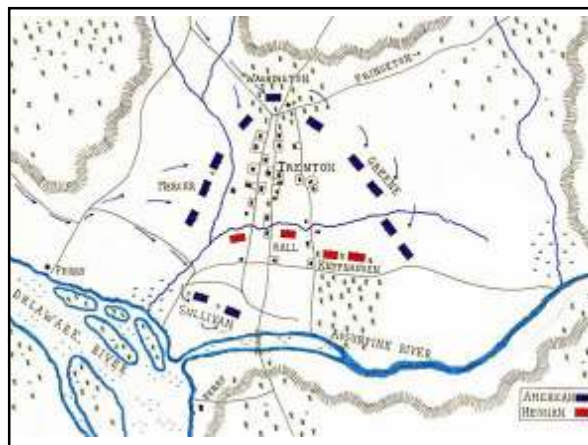
- The New York Campaign: June, 1776— General Howe, with his brother Admiral Howe, and his troops returned from Canada and moved on New York City.
- Battle of Long Island—without a Navy to challenge the British in New York Harbor, George Washington had at least 1,500 soldiers killed, wounded or taken prisoner.
- Washington led his army on a retreat into New Jersey and then across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania.

### B. Victories at Trenton and Princeton

- After retreating from New York, Washington's troops were demoralized and under-fed
- Washington launched a surprise attack on the British camp at Trenton, New Jersey
- While preparing for the attack, Washington ordered that *The Crisis* be read to his troops

### B. Victories at Trenton and Princeton, cont'd

- December 25, 1776—British soldiers were celebrating the Christmas holiday while 2,400 Americans soldiers were crossing the icy Delaware River.



### B. Victories at Trenton and Princeton, cont'd

- December 26, 1776—Washington and his troops swept down on the sleeping Redcoats
- General Charles Cornwallis was sent to peruse Washington and the victorious Patriots
- January 3, 1776— Washington defeated Cornwallis at Princeton, N.J.

7,000 Americans against 8,000 British and Hessians although only 1,200 British troops were principally engaged. The Americans out maneuvered the British and escaped Cornwallis' encircling move.



### C. Turning the Tide

- England, embarrassed by its strategic blunders, needed to move quickly to crush the hope and confidence the Patriots were creating
- They created a plan to gain control of the Hudson River Valley in New York

### C. Turning the Tide, cont'd

- Three British armies moved on Albany, New York at the same time.
- The British campaign failed miserably because the 3 commanders neglected to notify each other of changes in the original attack strategy
- British General Howe decided to attack Philadelphia instead

### C. Turning the Tide, cont'd

- Colonel Barry St. Leger was stopped by Benedict Arnold and his men at Fort Stanwix
- General Burgoyne recaptured Fort Ticonderoga on his way to Albany
- Upon reaching Saratoga, New York Burgoyne learned that the other commanders would not be there to assist him



### C. Turning the Tide, cont'd

- In the Battle of Saratoga, Burgoyne and the British lost hundreds of men
- The British tried to retreat to Canada but the Americans surrounded them.
- October 17, 1777— Burgoyne surrendered 6,000 soldiers to the Americans
- February 1778—the French King Louis XVI signed the Treaty of Alliance with the Americans

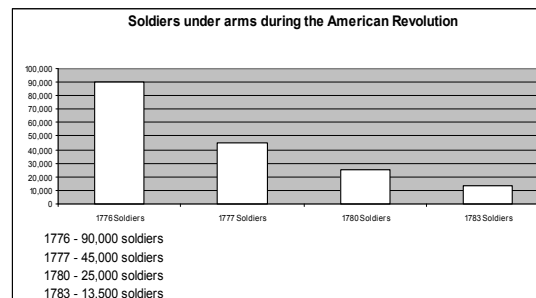
### D. Brutal Winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

- Little protection from the freezing temperatures
- Soldiers lacked shoes and clothing
- 12 soldiers lived in a 14'x16' hut
- Food consisted of firecakes
- Soldiers suffered from disease and frostbite

## D. Brutal Winter at Valley Forge, cont'd

- By the spring of 1778;
  - Nearly 2,500 Americans soldiers had died
  - French aid had arrived and streams ran with fish
  - Soldiers who had left camp sick returned healthy

## Fewer, but Better



## E. Help from Europe

- Baron Friedrich von Steuben, a Prussian soldier, taught the Patriots how to:
  - work together as a unit
  - make advances
  - retreat
  - carry their weapons
  - use their bayonets

## E. Help from Europe

- Marquis de Lafayette a young French soldier:
  - fought with Washington in Pennsylvania
  - became an American General
  - enthusiastically supported the American cause
  - Received no payment for his military service
  - Became one of the most revered and respected Patriot for the American cause.

## E. Help from Europe, cont'd

- Thaddeus Kosciusko (Poland) used his experience as an engineer
- Casami Pulaski (Poland) trained and organized the 1<sup>st</sup> American cavalry
- Bernardo de Galvez, governor of Spanish Louisiana, secretly provided supplies during the early years of the Revolution.

## III. The War in the West

- Native Americans joined the British in order to keep white settlers from moving onto their lands
- 1778—George Rogers Clark of Virginia led raids against the British in the Ohio Valley
- He captured the British forts at Kaskaskia and Cahokia with the help of Miami tribes
- February, 1779—Clark's force surprised and captured the British fort at Vincennes (Indiana).

#### IV. War At Sea

- Congress established the Continental Navy in 1775.
- To protect ports, however most colonists relied on privateers—armed private ships.
- 1779— John Paul Jones sailed the *Bonhomme Richard* to the coast of Great Britain and attacked the warship *Serapis*.
- Cannonballs tore through the Bonhomme Richard causing it to catch fire

#### IV. The War at Sea, cont'd

- The British commander demanded Jones to surrender
- Jones' reply : "I have not yet begun to fight"
- Jones and his sailors boarded the *Serapis* and fighting hand-to-hand defeated the British
- John Paul Jones became known as the "Father of the American Navy"

#### IV. The War moves South

- FINALLY going to use Tory aid
- Lord Dunmore (Last English Governor of Va.) offers slaves their freedom if they fight.

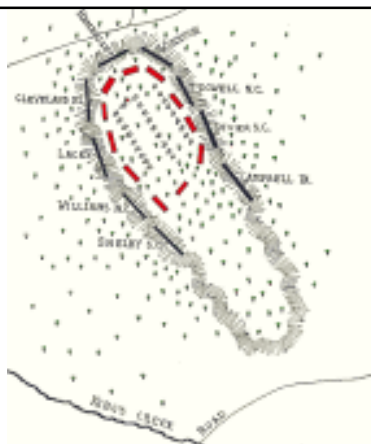
#### A. War in the South

- February 27, 1776— Patriot forces crushed a Loyalist uprising at Moore's Creek Bridge, in North Carolina
- 1780— At Kings Mountain in South Carolina about 1,200 Loyalists were killed, injured or taken prisoner by the SAME number of "Patriots"

Loyalist

Vs.

Patriot



#### A. War in The South

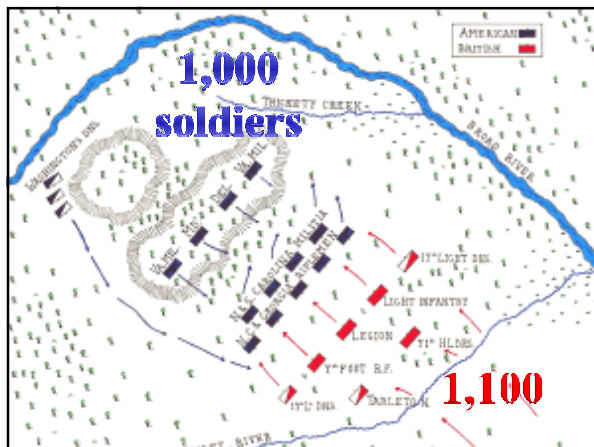
- The British turned their attention to the southern colonies
- December, 1778—British captured the port city of Savannah, Georgia
- May, 1780— British captured Charleston, South Carolina

### B. Benedict Arnold joins the British

- 1780—Arnold tried to turn the American fort at West Point over to the British
- Three patriots intercepted his hand-written message to the British
- Washington was given the evidence in Arnold's own handwriting
- Arnold became a general in the British army

### C. "The Swamp Fox"

- Francis Marion led a band of Patriot raiders
- Quick strikes that cut British supply routes
- He usually struck at night
- He never stayed at the same camp more than once
- His raids kept the British confused in the south
- January 17, 1781— Daniel Morgan defeated the British in South Carolina at the Battle of Cowpens
- Nathaniel Greene: " We fight, get beat, rise and fight again"

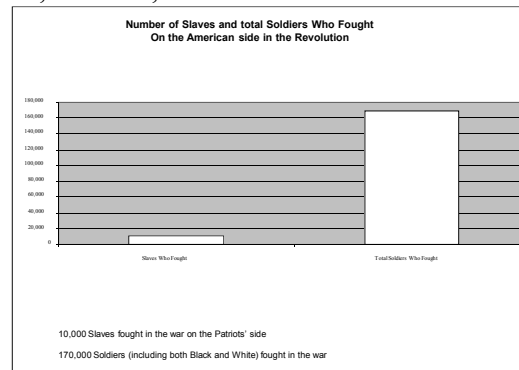


### VI. African Americans and the War

- American policy changed to encourage the enlistment of African Americans
- About 10,000 African Americans served as soldiers, Minutemen, scouts, guards, sailors, spies, laborers, fifers, and drummers in the Continental Army



But if 10,000 served the Patriot cause, 75,000 -100,000 tried to serve the British



## VI. African Americans and the War, cont'd

- Due to the war efforts of African Americans, some northern states like Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania attempted to end slavery in their states.
- In the south, however, most slaveholders chose not to free them despite their service.

## VI. Dunmore's Contraband Law

Dunmore did not intend to emancipate all slaves and indentured servants. He owned slaves himself and did not free them during this revolutionary period. Dunmore offered freedom only to those able-bodied slaves belonging to rebels and he did not want to provoke mass slave rebellion. Within a month he had nearly 300 blacks in his regiment. By the following summer at least 800 blacks had joined Dunmore's troops, then stationed on Gwynn's Island. But disease struck, and when Dunmore left Virginia on August 7<sup>th</sup>, all but 300 blacks had died of fevers.

On June 30<sup>th</sup> 1779, Sir Henry Clinton, the Commander-in-Chief, extended Dunmore's offer throughout the colonies. In his Philippsburg Declaration Clinton stated that every Negro who shall desert the Rebel Standard [is granted] full security to follow within these Lines, any Occupation which he shall think proper. Most historians figure that 75,000 to 100,000 blacks sided with the British; it has been estimated that only about 10,000 fought as Patriots

## VII. Woman and the War

- When husbands left to fight, many women ran family businesses and farms
- Others followed their husbands to the army camps
- Mary Ludwig Hays McCauley spent seven years at her husband's side in battle.

## VII. Women in the War, cont'd

- At the Battle of Monmouth, she operated her husband's cannon after he was wounded.
- Lydia Darragh worked as a spy for the Continental Army.
- Theory of **REPUBLICAN MOTHERHOOD**

## VIII. Victory at Yorktown

- France's entry into the war complicated matters for the British
- France won command of the seas off of America's Atlantic coast
- Due to the Patriot's hit-and-run attacks in the south, General Cornwallis led his 7,500 troops north to Yorktown, Virginia.
- August 29, 1781—the French fleet commander anchored 29 warships in Chesapeake Bay.

### The Final Battle, cont'd

- This prevented Cornwallis from getting supplies and from escaping by sea.
- Washington's army and 7,000 French troops came from New York to Virginia.
- Additional forces led by Anthony Wayne and Lafayette converged on Yorktown.

### The Road to Peace

- John Jay, Ben Franklin, John Adams, et.al. traveled to Paris to meet with the British and work out the details of the treaty.
- September 3, 1783— the two sides signed the Treaty of Paris.

### The Road to Peace, cont'd

- The Treaty stated:
  - A) that Great Britain would Acknowledge the independence of the colonists
  - B) that Great Britain would remove its troops from American soil immediately
  - C) Borders set (as best they could)
  - D) all old private debts to be paid in full

### The Road to Peace, cont'd

- The Treaty stated:
  - E) fishing rights off Newfoundland would be shared
  - F) remove its troops from American soil immediately
  - G) that America would stop seizing Tory property, and that America would “recommend” that the states repay losses already incurred by Loyalists

**Neither side lived up to any of these**