

The Final Steps Toward Independence

A Review of the Intolerable Acts

Britain tries to take rights away from colonists

The Intolerable Acts mainly affected the Massachusetts Colony, **but leaders of other colonies thought King George would take away their right of self-government.**

Two things led to **the passing of the Intolerable Acts:**

- 1. Britain thought that the colonists did not pay them enough taxes.**
- 2. The colonists were angry about these taxes and protested.**

Britain sends soldiers to Boston, Massachusetts to enforce laws

By 1774 in Boston **there was one British soldier for every four colonists.** This made the colonists angry.

The First Continental Congress and the Suffolk Resolves

Colonists set up the Suffolk Resolves which set up a **boycott of British goods and created militias.**

Starting militias again

Militia: local military group to protect people

Under the Suffolk Resolves, **militias were supposed to stop the British from interfering with the colonies.**

The colonists stockpiled weapons.

Stockpiling:collecting and saving something.

General Gage, the British Governor in Massachusetts, **was afraid the colonists would use the stockpiled weapons to kill British soldiers.**

General Gage **destroyed some of the colonist's stockpiled weapons.** Britain hoped this would calm things down.

This made the colonists even angrier. **The radical colonists decided they would protect the rest of their stockpiled weapons.**

The colonists spied on the British and sent messengers to warn the local militias when the British were coming to destroy the weapons.

The Midnight Ride to Warn Lexington and Concord

The Messengers

One messenger, Dawes, was arrested and went back to Boston.

Paul Revere was arrested and taken away.

Samuel Prescott was the only messenger to make it and warn the colonists.

Only One Messenger is Remembered

Paul Revere was remembered **because he was already famous as a silversmith.**

The British Army Goes to Lexington and Concord

The first fighting of the Revolutionary War **happened at Lexington and Concord.**

Casualty : soldiers who could not fight because of injury or death

Britain had 269 casualties.

The colonists had 49 dead; 34 wounded; 5 missing.

Summary of Lexington and Concord

The colonists won the battles of Lexington and Concord.

Preparing to Fight

Two things were done at the first meeting of **The Second Continental Congress:**

1) sent King George the **Olive Branch Petition.**

2) King George didn't read it and issued the Proclamation of Rebellion. (*Review question*)

The Continental Army

The colonists formed the **Continental Army** to fight the British.

It was the same as a colonial militia because it **protected the colonists from British.**

It was different than a colonial militia because it was **made up of men from many *different* colonies.**

Choosing a Commander-in-Chief

George Washington was selected as **commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.**

Commander-in-chief : person in charge of all armies and navies

Washington was chosen because:

- 1. he ran for the job;**
- 2. he had military experience;**
- 3. he was from the colony with the most people.**

The Battle of Breed's Hill (Bunker Hill)

The colonists hid on Breed's Hill **so they could shoot at the British from a safe place.**

General Gage's battle plan was that **he thought he could scare away the colonists if he came with many, many soldiers.**

The colonial battle plan **was to hide behind log walls.**

The effect of this battle on the British was that **every time British soldiers got near, the colonists shot them.**

The colonists ran out of bullets and gunpowder and lost the hill.

Both sides claim victory

The British claimed victory **because they won the hill.**

The colonists claimed victory **because they killed lots of British soldiers.**

Bunker Hill or Breed's Hill

The Battle of Bunker Hill **was really fought on Breed's Hill.**

The Colonists Use a Different Type of Battle Tactic

The colonists used a new kind of battle tactic, **wilderness fighting**. This was one of the most effective colonial battle tactics.

Wilderness fighting : hit and run fighting where the colonists hid or snuck up on the British.

Some Important People from the Revolutionary War

John Hancock was important to the radical **colonists because he had money and could help pay for the war and he owned many ships. He was also a leader.**

Benedict Arnold

Benedict Arnold **deserted the army during the French and Indian War.**

Deserter : a soldier who runs away from the army without permission.

Benedict Arnold was considered **a traitor because he spied for the British.**

The Four Factors of Group Success and the Revolutionary War

Capability

Britain's advantages in the war : **better weapons and well trained soldiers.**

Britain's disadvantages in the war : **they didn't have training in wilderness fighting.**

The 13 colonies' advantage in the war :**they were good at wilderness fighting.**

The 13 colonies' disadvantages in the war : **they were poorly trained and their weapons weren't very good.**

Leadership

Britain

Britain's advantage in leadership : **they were well trained in traditional battle tactics.**

Britain's disadvantages in leadership : **they didn't think the colonists would fight as long and hard as they did. They also didn't know how to fight against wilderness fighting tactics.**

The 13 Colonies

The 13 colonies' advantage in leadership : **some of their leaders had been trained in wilderness fighting and taught it to the soldiers.**

The 13 colonies' disadvantage in leadership : **they hadn't been trained in military fighting tactics.**

The British advantage in leadership

Because the British's leadership had training in military fighting tactics, they had the advantage in the beginning of the Revolutionary War. They also had an advantage because their army and navy had lots of equipment and the soldiers were trained.

Resources

Britain

Britain's advantage in resources : **their army and navy were bigger and the government had a lot of money to buy weapons and things.**

Britain's disadvantage in resources : **they had soldiers scattered all over the world and they had to transport their men and supplies by ship many miles away. The ships took months to travel to the 13 colonies.**

The 13 Colonies

The 13 colonies had **NO advantage in resources.**

The 13 colonies' disadvantages in resources : **didn't have enough supplies, didn't have the money to buy more supplies and didn't have as many soldiers as the British.**

The British advantage in resources

Because the British has so much more money, they had a huge advantage at the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

Motivation

Britain

Britain's advantage in motivation : **Britain wanted to keep the colonies because the colonies had lots of natural resources and could make money for Britain.**

Britain's disadvantage in motivation : **the British people did not want to be in a war.**

Britain paid its soldiers. Because they paid, they had soldiers who weren't from Britain. Britain had **mercenary** soldiers.

Mercenaries : professional soldiers who fight wars to get paid.

The British hired many soldiers from a place in Germany called Hesse-Cassel. These soldiers were called **Hessians**.

To get soldiers, **the British paid them and looked for soldiers all around Europe.**

The 13 Colonies

The 13 colonies' advantage in motivation : **they were protecting and fighting for their homes, families and beliefs.**

About a third of the male colonists did not fight in the war.

Some colonists, called the **Tories** or **Loyalists**, wanted Britain to win the Revolutionary War.

Many Loyalists were killed or fled the colonies during the war.

The Loyalists may have weakened Britain's war effort **because they did not fight in Britain's army.**

No advantage in motivation

Neither the colonies nor Britain had the advantage in motivation **because both sides faced opposition in their home countries.**

Free African American and Slaves at the Beginning of the Revolutionary War

About one fifth of the colonies' population was African American.

George Washington wasn't allowed to recruit African American soldiers : **the Continental Congress was afraid that it would weaken slavery.**

Women and the Revolutionary War

Some jobs women did during the war : **ran the farm, cooked and nursed in army camps, spied, and a few fought on the battlefield.**

Important Military Events in the Revolutionary War

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

:Important because these battles were the beginning of the war.

The Battle of Saratoga

The Battle of Saratoga

:Important because it was the turning point of the war.

General Burgoyne's poor planning

British General Burgoyne led British troops : **trouble because they had lots of supplies, moved very slowly through forest, and used more supplies than expected.** Colonists shot British soldiers using hit and run tactics. Lots of British died or were hurt.

General Burgoyne reaches Saratoga, New York

By the time Burgoyne and troops reached Saratoga, they had a lot of casualties and few supplies. **Colonists attacked and Burgoyne surrendered.**

The effects of Saratoga

France didn't like Britain. Because the colonists won at Saratoga, **France thought the Continental Army could win the war and decided to openly help the colonists fight.**

France and the colonies formed an **alliance**.

Alliance : a deal between countries that says they will help each other.

The Four Factors Change

Valley Forge

It took a long time for France to get supplies to the Continental Army. **The army had to camp in the cold at Valley Forge during the winter** which was the lowest point in the Army's morale.

The Battle of Yorktown

The war in the southern colonies

The British army lost many troops in the southern colonies because when they were in the woods, **the colonial militia fought then using hit and run tactics.**

General Cornwallis goes to Yorktown

General Cornwallis took his British troops to Yorktown, Virginia **to get supplies and more soldiers.**

Fighting at Yorktown

General Cornwallis hoped to be rescued in Yorktown by the British navy. **But the French navy beat the British navy and Cornwallis couldn't be rescued.**

Cornwallis was trapped in Yorktown because **he was surrounded by French and colonial troops.**

The Treaty of Paris

The Treaty of Paris : **the end of the Revolutionary War.**

Two things happened because of the Treaty of Paris:

- 1. The 13 Colonies became independent from Britain and became the USA.**
- 2. The USA got more land.**

The new western boundary of the USA **was the Mississippi River.**

