

Sizing up the two sides

Advantages Disadvantages

Americans

- œ Moral motivation
- œ Fight defensively - guerilla warfare tactics
- œ Solid leadership in GW
- œ Foreign aid...which increases as the war goes on
- œ 20,000 men
- œ Novice army of "Minute Men"

British

- œ Professional, well-trained army
- œ More money
- œ Better Navy
- œ 50,000 men, 30,000 German mercenaries, 50,000 Loyalists
- œ European rivalries
- œ Lack of domestic support
- œ Poor leadership

“Declaration of War”



- œ The Declaration of Independence was essentially a declaration of war against GB
- œ With a fight looming, “Join or Die” becomes the reality for the colonies...



Lexington and Concord



- œ Date: April 1775
- œ Known as “the shot heard round the world” marks the first armed skirmish of the war
- œ Victor: Americans
- œ Significance: let GB know that they had a war on their hands



Battle of Bunker Hill



- œ Date: June 1775
- œ Clash at Breed's Hill in Boston
- œ Victor: British
- œ Significance: though the British won the battle, over 1,000 lay dead or wounded, proving to the colonists they were not invincible



Battles of NYC



- œ Date: August 1776
- œ Battle of Long Island was the most significant
- œ Victor: British
- œ Significance: seemed like the Brits may have a route on their hands



Battles of NJ



- ∞ Date: December 25, 1776
- ∞ Battle of Trenton: Sneak attack on the German mercenaries
- ∞ Why would the Germans be caught off guard?
- ∞ Battle of Princeton, NJ followed by one week
- ∞ Victor: Americans
- ∞ Significance: Gave Americans hope that their dream was alive and well

Washington Crosses the Delaware, By Emanuel Leutze (1851)



Battle of Saratoga



- ☞ Date: October 1777
- ☞ Br. Gen. John Burgoyne's ill fated march from Canada to NY ends in disaster
- ☞ Victor: Americans
- ☞ Significance: Decisive victory convinces France to enter the war for the Americans... helps secure victory



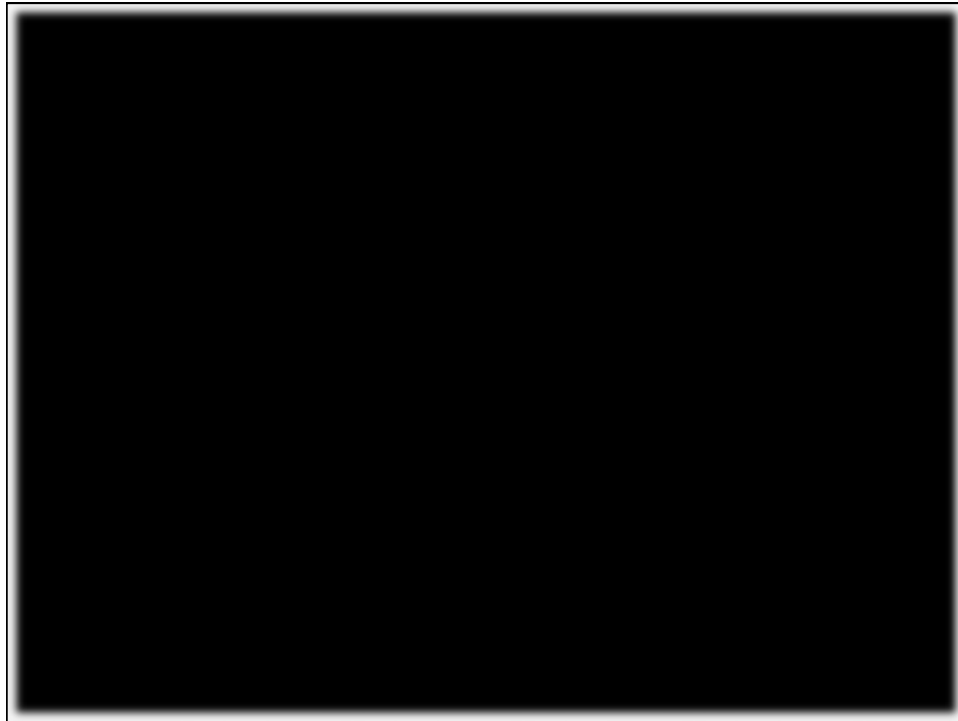
Surrender of General Burgoyne, by John Trumbull (1822)

Winter at Valley Forge (1777)



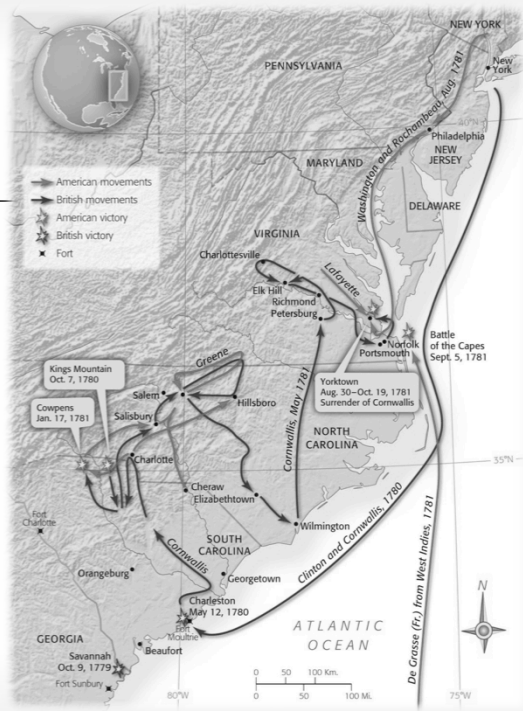
- ☞ Washington's beleaguered army spends a difficult winter at the camp in PA
- ☞ $\frac{1}{4}$ of his troops die from disease and *exposure*. Many deserted.
- ☞ Anyone remember what *exposure* is from Human Geo?





Fighting in the South

- ∞ Date: 1778-1781
- ∞ Major battles at Savannah (1779), Charlestown (1780), Kings Mountain (1780), Cowpens (1781)
- ∞ Victor: Americans (turned the tide and won later battles)
- ∞ Significance: moved the British towards ending the war at Yorktown



Battle of Yorktown



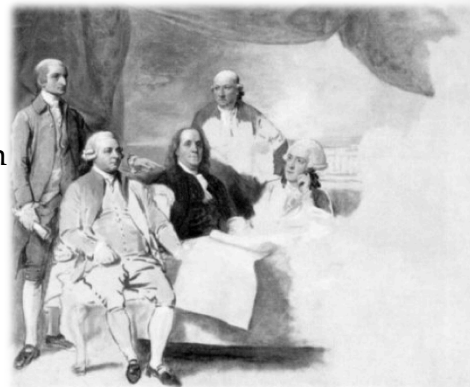
- ∞ Date: October 1781
- ∞ British surrounded by American and French troops and forced to surrender
- ∞ Victor: Americans
- ∞ Significance: British Commander Lord Charles Cornwallis surrenders, **ENDING THE WAR**



Treaty of Paris



- ∞ Date: September 1783
- ∞ Forged in Paris by Ben Franklin (PA), John Adams (MA), and John Jay (NY)
- ∞ Americans had to flout French influence in order to gain more territory for themselves
- ∞ Results:
 - ∞ Britain recognized American Independence
 - ∞ Ceded land from the Atlantic to the Mississippi River



Review Questions



- ⌘ What was the battle that turned the tide by inspiring the French to support the colonists?
- ⌘ Where did Washington's troops brave a harsh winter?
- ⌘ Which battle proved to the colonists that the British were not "invincible?"