

# The Road to Revolution



## Trade and Navigation Acts

England told the colonists that all goods shipped out of the colonies had to be carried on

**English ships**



Britain had been letting the colonies basically run their own affairs, called **salutary neglect** or non-interference



# Proclamation of 1763



settlers moving west were being attacked by Indians

the British government didn't want to have to pay for extra **troops** to protect them

they forbid the colonists from settling west of the **Appalachian Mountains**



colonists got very angry:  
they just fought the French & Indian War for the right to this land -  
but now they can't settle there (!)

## Taxes, Taxes, Taxes

the British had spent a lot of money fighting the **French and Indian War**

they needed money to pay back war loans

### Stamp Act of 1765

tax on all **printed materials** such as newspapers, pamphlets, licenses, other legal documents



### Quartering Act of 1765

required colonies to provide royal troops with provisions and barracks  
( **food and housing** )

### Townshend Acts of 1767

placed import duties (taxes) on **tea** , paper, glass, and paint

colonists had no representatives in **Parliament**

(the British lawmaking body - like our Congress)

demand to elect colonial members to Parliament  
so they could vote on tax laws, shouting:

**"No Taxation Without Representation"**





# Boston Massacre

March 5, 1770

began as a prank  
(throwing snowballs at  
British soldiers)

someone gave the  
soldiers the order to fire

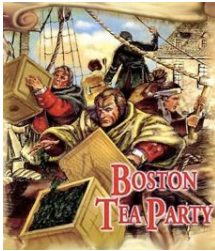
three Bostonians died  
immediately

two more died later from  
their wounds



Paul Revere, a Bostonian silversmith, made the engraving above  
*it was printed in many newspapers*

although only 5 people died, he called the event a “massacre”  
he wanted to dramatically illustrate British tyranny ( propaganda )



## Boston Tea Party

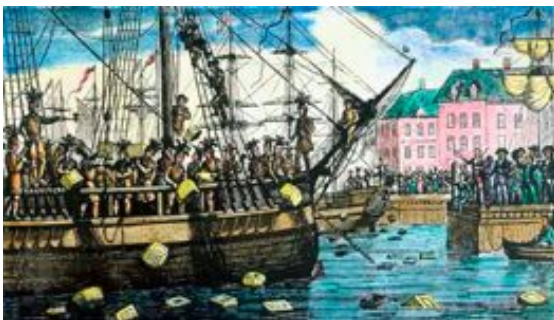
December 16, 1773

Parliament had granted  
the East India Company  
a monopoly  
on the colonial tea trade

*(they were the only ones who could sell the colonists tea)*

because they had no competition, they raised the price of tea and added a tax  
price increase + tax = angry colonists

Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty  
disguised themselves as Indians, boarded British ships in Boston Harbor,  
and dumped their tea into the sea



Boston Tea Party

# Coercive / Intolerable Acts

1774

to punish the colonists for the Boston Tea Party,  
Parliament banned town meetings in Boston and  
**closed the port of Boston** until the tea was paid for

## First Continental Congress

September, 1774

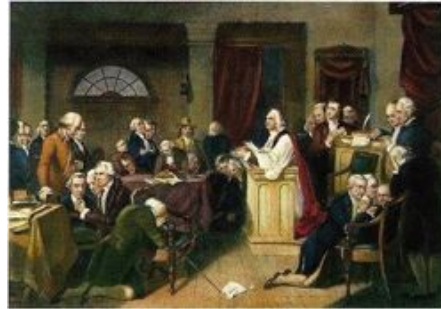
55 delegates met in Philadelphia to decide  
how to respond to the Coercive Acts  
at the meeting they came up with:

### **Declaration and Resolves**

listed why the colonies were upset with  
Britain

### **The Association**

a group that would organize boycotts of  
British goods throughout the colonies



## Committees of Correspondence

colonial committees that communicated by  
**writing letters** to other colonies about British activities

# Lexington and Concord

April 19, 1775

Massachusetts colonists were collecting  
**munitions** in Concord

British General Thomas Gage sent Redcoats  
to confiscate them

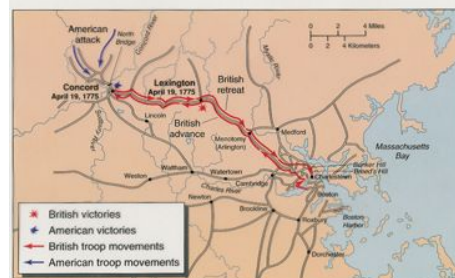
British troops met **Minutemen**  
mustered on the town green at Lexington

a Minuteman (mistakenly) fired a shot and the  
British troops returned fire at the Minutemen

British charged with bayonets, leaving  
eight dead and 10 wounded

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote that it was  
“ **the shot heard 'round the world** ”

**Lexington and Concord**





# Battle of Bunker / “Breed’s” Hill

June, 1775

colonial troops marched up Breed’s Hill  
were surrounded by British  
held their ground until they ran out of  
ammunition  
the colonists lost the hill but  
killed many British soldiers



*Bunker and Breed's Hills are both just outside Boston*



*The Bunker Hill Monument, Boston, MA.*



Colonial Forces  
115 killed,  
305 wounded,  
30 captured  
Total: 450



British Army  
226 killed,  
828 wounded  
0 captured  
Total: 1,054

## Second Continental Congress

May of 1775 – July 1781

### Olive Branch Petition

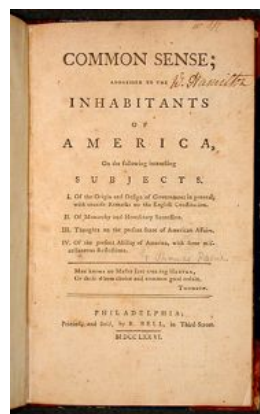
the Congress asked King George III  
to stop the fighting until an  
agreement could be worked out  
the king ignored it

### Common Sense

by Thomas Paine  
pamphlet written in January, 1776

listed reasons to separate from  
Britain in language that everyone  
could understand

had the largest sale and circulation of  
any book published in American  
history at that point



### The Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms

Congress explained why  
the colonies were fighting  
while insisting that  
they did not  
want independence

