



The American Revolution Begins 1776- 1783



A Divided Nation

Only 1/3 of the colonists were in favor of a war for independence: they were called

One third were opposed to a war for independence they were called

The final third were



Strengths and Weaknesses

Britain

ADVANTAGES:

wealth & confidence
professional army & navy



DISADVANTAGES:

distance & supplies

Colonists

ADVANTAGES:

defensive war on home turf
French support




Other?


DISADVANTAGES:


smaller, less experienced military

Military Strategies

The Americans


 wear the British down
through _____
[their supplies had to
travel a long way]


 _____ tactics
[theirs was a defensive
war: they don't have to
win, just wear the
British down]


 make an _____
with one of Britain's
enemies



The British

 break the colonies in
half: divide North
from South

 _____ ports:
no goods and
supplies from any
ally.

 divide the people:
use the Loyalists to
sway public opinion.





Battle of Long Island

August, 1776

Washington's executed a

in small boats
from Brooklyn to Manhattan

surprised many New Yorkers
and made them flee their homes
without their belongings



Battle of Trenton

December, 1776

General Washington moved his troops
across the Delaware River and back into NY

surprised 1,300 _____ : German soldiers-for-hire
[they were recovering from Christmas Eve festivities]



Washington Crossing the Delaware, Emanuel Leutze, 1851



Native Americans



1777 was called “the bloody year” on the frontier because

the 4 pro-British tribes of the Iroquois were forced to

in the 1779 Treaty of Fort Stanwix



Mohawk chief _____
led attacks in southwestern New York
and northern Pennsylvania.

Lt. Col. _____ and a small American force
captured the British post of Kaskaskia in Illinois and the British town
of Vincennes, in Indiana.

the so-called “war for liberty and independence” actually took liberty
and independence away from the Indians, because after the war,

Battle of Saratoga

October, 1777

British Gen. Burgoyne moved south from Canada
became trapped by American Gen. Horatio Gates

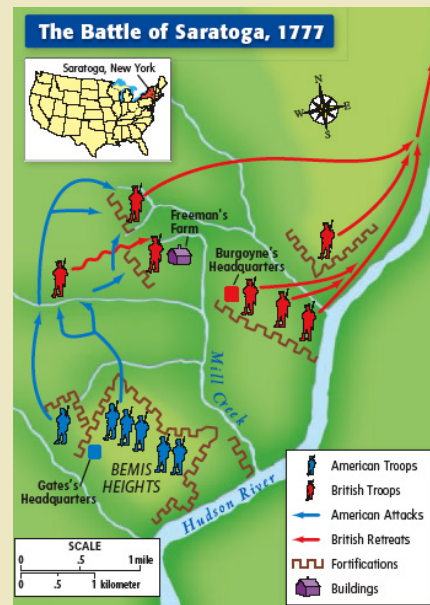
5,700 British soldiers
surrendered and were
imprisoned in VA

winning this battle proved to the
French that the Americans could
actually win the war

the French officially allied with
the Americans

became the

of the war



Foreign Involvement

France provided a lot of aid to the colonies after Saratoga



most of the _____ used by
the Americans came from
France

in 1778 Britain and France
officially declared war on
each other

_____ was looking to get territories back that had
been taken by Britain in the Seven Years' War
in 1779 Spain entered the war on the side of France

Britain was now at war with the colonies, France, Spain,
and the Netherlands

fighting all these countries at once was a far greater threat
to Britain than fighting the Americans alone

Pennsylvania

bitterly cold winter of 1777-1778

Washington's Continental troops wintered here
lacked adequate food, clothing and supplies

Washington's _____ held the men together

