

## America: The Road to Revolution 1763-1783

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Date	Event	Explanation / Significance
1763	Britain and American Colonists defeat France and their Native American allies in the 'French and Indian' / Seven Years War. British national debt now 157% of GDP	
1763	British policy of 'Salutary Neglect' towards the 13 American Colonies ended. Mercantilist policy will now be enforced.	
1763	British customs officials will now be resident in America to ensure customs are enforced.	
1763	King George's Proclamation on America settlement - no British settlement in America permitted beyond the Appalachian mountains.	
1764	The Sugar Act	
1765	Sons of Liberty formed. Sam Adams was a member, who championed the phrase 'No taxation without representation'.	
1765	Mutiny / Quartering Act	
1765	Stamp Act	
1766	Declaratory Act accompanies the repeal of the Stamp Act. Parliament had the absolute power to make laws and changes to the colonial government, "in all cases whatsoever", even though the colonists were not represented in the Parliament.	

<b>1767</b>	Townshend Duties - Repealed in March 1770, save the tax on tea.	
<b>1770</b>	Lord North elected as British Prime Minister	
<b>1770</b>	Boston Massacre	
<b>1772</b>	First Committee of Correspondence is set up in Boston. 11 Colonies have one by 1774.	
<b>1773</b>	Tea Act; East India Company can trade directly with America. This makes tea cheaper, but the lucrative trade of tea smuggling is hurt. Appears as another abuse of Parliamentary power.	
<b>1773</b>	Boston Tea Party	
<b>1774</b>	Quebec Acts in Canada - British agree to respect French Canadian customs, which troubles some Protestants in the 13 Colonies.	
<b>1774</b>	Coercive Acts / 'Intolerable Acts'	
<b>1774</b>	Continental Congress - Representatives of all 13 Colonies meet in Philadelphia to discuss Coercive Acts.	

<b>1775</b>	Lexington and Concord - 'the shot that was heard around the world' was fired on 18 April 1775.	
<b>1775</b>	Battle of Bunker Hill on 17 June 1775	
<b>1776</b>	Thomas Paine's pamphlet 'Common Sense' is published.	
<b>1776</b>	Process of drawing up a new Constitution was started - June	
<b>1776</b>	Declaration of Independence - 4 July	
<b>1777</b>	New constitution approved by Congress	
<b>1783</b>	Peace of Paris; British formally recognise American independence.	

American War of Independence: Card Sort

Battle of Saratoga 1777; Defeat of General Burgoyne & surrender of 5000 men. This encourages French intervention.

Battle of Yorktown 1781; Defeat of General Cornwallis in Virginia. Surrounded by Washington's army & cut off by the French fleet in Chesapeake Bay.

Declaration of Independence 1776; Congress of American colonies unite to sign the declaration.

French intervention; send supplies to Patriots from 1775 & formally recognise American independence in 1778. Leads to subsequent Spanish intervention in 1779. French fleet under d'Estaing and de Grasse help to blunt British naval supremacy. French also provide financial and material assistance to the Patriots.

Mediocre leadership from British generals in the field & divided support in Parliament; Fox is against the war, North tries repeatedly to resign and lacks the resolve needed of a wartime Prime Minister.

Intervention of France in 1778, Spain in 1779 and a War against the Dutch in 1780 creates a global conflict that stretches British resources. This means that material resources & soldiers have to be moved away from America, to protect the British homeland.

British troops lack material supplies and motivation. American troops have 'home advantage' and are driven by the incentive of freedom from colonial rule.

British have an army of conquest; not an invasion & occupation of the vast land area of the Thirteen Colonies.

Parliament believes that the strength of the British army will be supplemented by large numbers of Loyalists. This never materializes in sufficient quantities to buttress the regular army.

British leadership cannot pin George Washington and the Continental Army down to defeat them. The British have to advance into hostile territory to pursue them, overstressing supply lines and risking attacks and guerilla warfare.

Battle of Bunker Hill 1775; British win the Battle in Boston, but at great cost. 1/8 of all British officers killed during the war were lost here. Perhaps it was a pyrrhic victory?