



The War in the South

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In 1778 both sides regrouped

- Washington's army suffered terribly at Valley Forge from hunger, cold, and disease
 - 2,500 died, 1,000 deserted
- However, the Continental Army improved by training under Prussian mercenary Baron von Steuben
 - Used an interpreter and frequent profanity to instruct the troops

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- At the Battle of Monmouth (June 1778) the Continentals stood their ground against the Redcoats
- The British army retreated to New York City
 - They occupied NYC for the rest of the war
 - 11,000 patriots died on prison ships in NYC



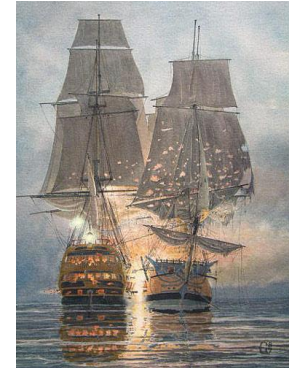
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The War at Sea



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- The small U.S. Navy could not defeat the British, but privateers distracted the British fleet & attacked merchants
 - John Paul Jones captured a British frigate while his own ship *Bonhomme Richard* sank
 - “I have not yet begun to fight”



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War on the Frontier

- The British in their western forts had incited Amerindian tribes to attack the frontier
 - Also offered money for American scalps
- George Rogers Clark and 175 frontiersmen fought a successful campaign against the British, gaining the “Old Northwest” for the U.S.
 - At one point, he tomahawked Indian captives in sight of a British fort, to show the tribes the British could not protect them
- In NY, the Iroquois attacked settlements until a Continental force burned about 40 villages
- The Revolutionary War broke the power of the Iroquois Confederation



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Treason



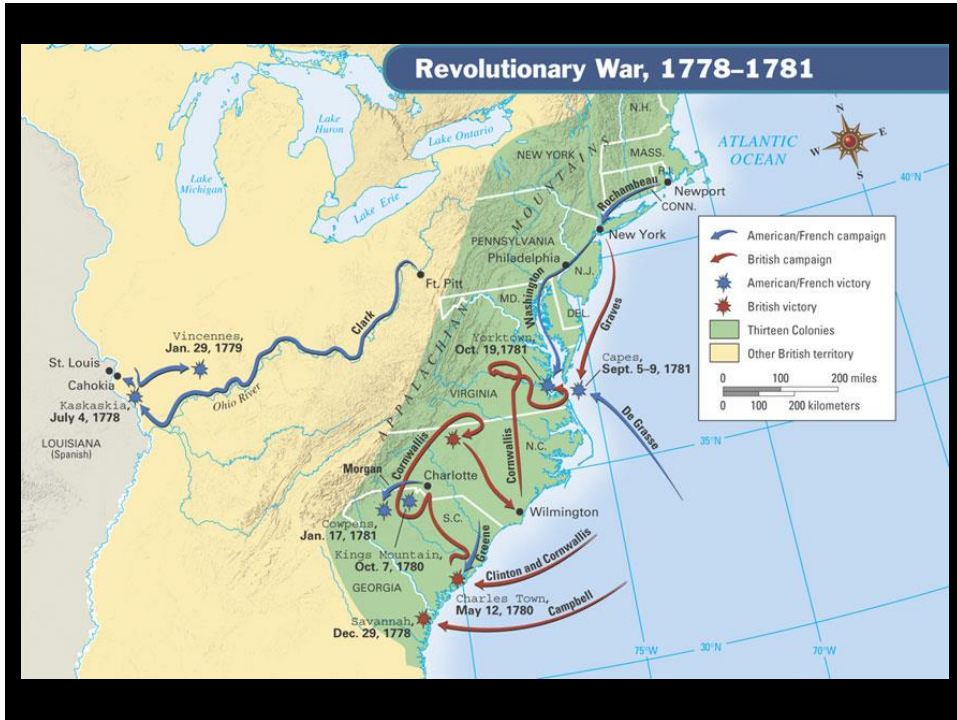
- Benedict Arnold was a hero of the Continental Army
 - Veteran of the Quebec campaign and wounded at Saratoga, where he had saved the army
- He felt unappreciated, and his Loyalist wife Peggy Shippen helped convince him to switch sides
 - Tried to turn the fort at West Point over to the British
 - Plot was exposed, but Arnold escaped and joined the British army.
 - Later died in London

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- British thought the Southern colonies were full of Tories who would support the crown
- They invaded the South to split it from the other colonies.
 - Problem: there weren't as many Loyalists as they thought, and the British behaved so harshly they drove many Loyalists into the rebel camp



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- The British quickly took Savannah, and forced a large American army at Charleston to surrender
 - Greatest American loss of the war
 - British army under General Cornwallis then defeated another American army at Camden, South Carolina



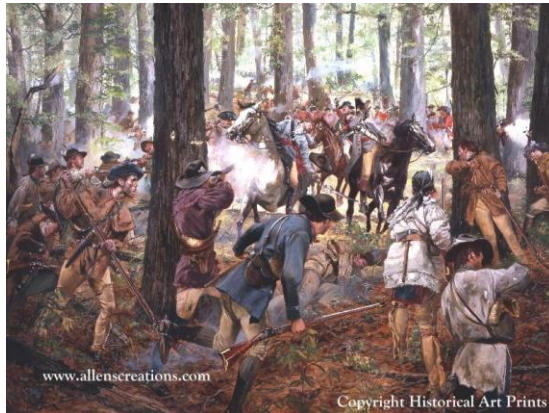
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- British invasion of South Carolina ignited a ferocious guerilla war between local Loyalists and Patriots
 - British officers Banastre Tarleton and Patrick Ferguson were infamous leaders of loyalist militia
 - Ferguson threatened to march over the mountains and hang the backcountry leaders...bad move



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- At Kings Mountain the backcountry militia caught Ferguson & his Tories & slaughtered them
 - Emboldened farmers who then joined guerilla bands.
 - Only battle where all sides were Americans



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- In 1781 Nathaniel Greene took over the Continental army in the south & reversed defeats
 - Tarleton was defeated at the Battle of Cowpens by Daniel Morgan
 - Greene's army fought Cornwallis at Guilford Courthouse (near Greensboro) inflicting heavy casualties

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Battle of Yorktown

- British General Cornwallis retreats to the Virginia coast at Yorktown
 - Why would the British feel safe by the ocean?
- Washington and a new French army arrived to surround Cornwallis by land



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- French Navy defeated the British fleet in Chesapeake Bay
 - In desperation, Cornwallis tried infecting blacks with smallpox & sent them toward the American lines

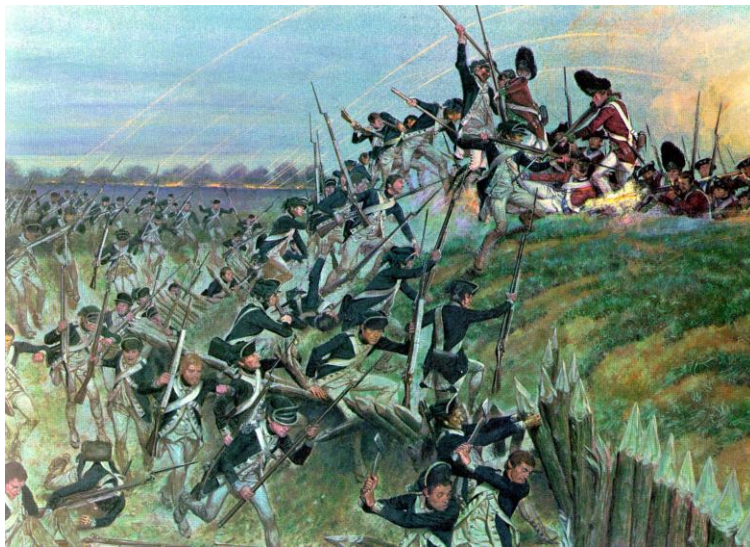


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- The Americans tightened the noose
 - Washington's young aide Alexander Hamilton led a daring attack against one of the British forts

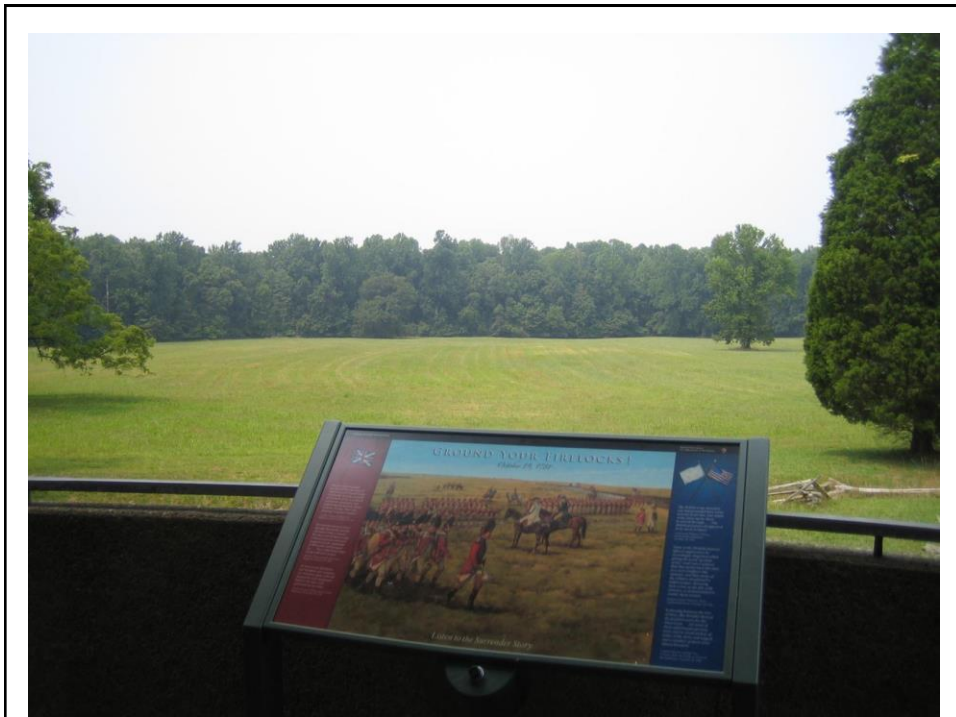


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- On October 17, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered



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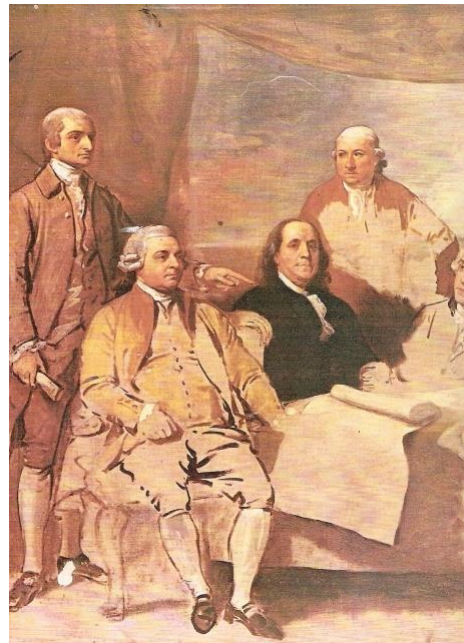


- The Battle of Yorktown convinced the British to give up their attempt to keep the colonies
- The war continued until 1783 because the French were still fighting the British elsewhere

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Treaty of Paris

- Great Britain
 - recognized United States
 - agreed to Mississippi River border
- The U.S.
 - agreed to let British merchants collect prewar debts
 - recommended that states compensate Loyalists for lost property



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