

# Revolution & Counter – revolution; 1776 - 1783



# Flashpoint Boston; 16 December 1773



- **BRITISH EMPIRE UNDER PRESSURE IN SOUTH ASIA;  
FIERCE RESISTANCE FROM PRINCELY STATES SUCH AS  
BENGAL & MYSORE**
- **BRITISH EAST INDIA COMPANY ORDERED TO SELL SOUTH  
ASIAN TEA IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA TO OFFSET COSTS**
- **TEA DUTY FROM TOWNSHEND DUTIES STILL STANDING  
*YET STILL CHEAPER THAN BRITISH TEA***
- **342 CHESTS OF TEA ARE THROWN OFF EAST INDIA  
COMPANY SHIPS BY SETTLERS**
- **CROWN VOWS TO TAKE STRINGENT ACTION AGAINST  
PERPETRATORS**

# The consequences of the events in Boston; *Restraining Acts of 1774*



- 1) BOSTON PORT BILL – RESTITUTION FOR LOST TEA
- 2) MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNMENT ACT –  
CONCENTRATION OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE  
GOVERNOR
- 3) ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACT – SEVERE  
PUNISHMENT FOR INJURY OR DEATH CAUSED  
CROWN OFFICIALS
- 4) MUTINY ACT – BRITISH TROOPS WILL BE HOUSED,  
PRIMARILY IN EMPTY BUILDINGS OR PAY FAIR  
RATES FOR BOARD
- 5) QUEBEC ACT – PRESENT DAY U.S. STATES OF  
INDIANA, OHIO & ILLINOIS BECOME PART OF  
BRITISH CANADA

# Winter 1774 – 1775



- **FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS MEETS IN PHILADELPHIA**
  - **SUPPLIES OF WEAPONS & AMMUNITION ARE ALREADY CROSSING THE ATLANTIC FOR THE IMPENDING SETTLER REBELLION**
    - **A SECOND CONGRESS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 1775**
    - **KING – IN – PARLIAMENT DECIDES TO DEAL WITH UPRISING IN MASSACHUSETTS DIRECTLY**
  - **GENERAL SIR THOMAS GAGE, SUPREME COMMANDER OF BRITISH FORCES IN NORTH AMERICA, IS ORDERED TO PRE-EMPT SETTLER EFFORTS AT STOCKPILING RESOURCES**
    - **CONSIDERED QUITE ‘LENIENT’ BY BOTH SIDES**

# “Fluid loyalties”



- **GAGE’S HESITANCY EXPLAINS CONFLICTED LOYALTIES OF BOTH CROWN LOYALISTS & ENGLISH SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA**
- **SHOULD ENGLISHMEN REALLY BE FIGHTING ENGLISHMEN?**
- **MARGARET GAGE, WIFE OF GENERAL GAGE, IS RELATED TO SETTLER FAMILIES ;AND MAY HAVE SUPPLIED CRITICAL INFORMATION TO REBEL SETTLER FORCES**

# April 1775: Battles of Lexington & Concord



- GAGE'S LENIENCE TOWARDS SETTLER ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS *SONS OF LIBERTY* ALLOW FOR SETTLER REBELLION TO THRIVE
- A SMALL FORCE OF BRITISH REGULARS ARE UNABLE TO SEIZE SETTLER SUPPLIES AT LEXINGTON AND CONCORD AND SUFFER HEAVY CASUALTIES
- WAR HAS NOW EFFECTIVELY BROKEN OUT
  - SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

# Decisions of the Second Continental Congress



- **STANDOFF BETWEEN 'MODERATE' & 'RADICAL' SETTLERS**
- **ISSUE OF TOTAL INDEPENDENCE FROM THE CROWN IS PUT OFF FOR THE MOMENT**
  - **SOUTHERN BRITISH COLONIES ARE STILL EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO BREAK WITH CROWN**
- **ESTABLISHMENT OF A 'CONTINENTAL' MILITARY FORCE, HEADED BY COLONEL GEORGE WASHINGTON OF VIRGINIA**
- **JOHN DICKINSON OF PENNSYLVANIA**

# Decisions of the Second Continental Congress



- **DICKINSON WANTS CONGRESS TO EXPRESS FORMAL STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT EXPLAINING REASON FOR CREATING ARMY**
- **“DECLARATION OF CAUSES & NECESSITY OF TAKING UP ARMS”**
- **NOT TO BREAK UNION WITH CROWN & MOTHER COUNTRY BUT TO PRESERVE PROPERTY UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT PEACE IS RESTORED**
- **EVENTS HOWEVER ARE MOVING FAST**



# Objectives beyond “freedom”; the attack on British Canada



- ANGER AT ABSORPTION OF PRESENT THE OHIO COUNTRY REGION (PRESENT-DAY U.S. STATES OF INDIANA, OHIO & ILLINOIS) INTO BRITISH QUEBEC
- NO POSSIBILITY OF BRITISH SETTLERS FROM ENGLISH NORTH AMERICA BEING ALLOWED TO EXPAND
- DECISION IS TAKEN BY CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO SEIZE NORTHERN BASE OF CROWN; CANADA
- SETTLER FORCES LED BY RICHARD MONTGOMERY & BENEDICT ARNOLD TAKE MONTREAL BUT FRENCH SETTLERS REMAIN LOYAL AND THE ATTACKS ARE DRIVEN BACK

# The pyrrhic victory of Bunker's Hill



- GENERAL GAGE, ENCIRCLED BY SETTLER MILITIA FORCES IN BOSTON DECIDES TO BREAK OUT
- JUNE 1775: RESULTANT BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
- DESPITE CROWN VICTORY, OVER FORTY - PERCENT OF BRITISH FORCES, APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND MEN ARE LOST
- CRITICALLY, DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF LOST OFFICERS ARE JUNIOR OFFICERS
- THE VICTORY AT BUNKER HILL WAS "A DEARLY BOUGHT VICTORY AND ANOTHER SUCH WOULD HAVE RUINED US."- MAJOR - GENERAL HENRY CLINTON, BRITISH OFFICER AT THE BATTLE

# The *thunderbolt* of abolition in Virginia; November 1775



- LORD JOHN MURRAY, EARL OF DUNMORE - ROYAL GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA
- WORSENING SITUATION FOR CROWN IN VIRGINIA
- 7 NOVEMBER 1775: EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION
  - TURNS ISSUE OF 'FREEDOM & LIBERTY' ONTO ENGLISH SETTLERS; DOES 'LIBERTY' APPLY TO THE ENSLAVED?
  - LARGE NUMBERS OF SLAVES ESCAPE TO JOIN MURRAY
  - LORD DUNMORE'S 'ETHIOPIAN REGIMENT'

# The *thunderbolt* of abolition in Virginia; November 1775



- MORE AFRICANS THAN ENGLISH SETTLERS JOIN MURRAY'S BRITISH FORCES
- DESPITE EARLY SUCCESSES, THE REGIMENT IS STRUCK BY SMALLPOX AND LARGE NUMBERS DIE AS A RESULT
- A WEAKENED MURRAY IS FORCED TO LEAVE VIRGINIA FOR NEW YORK WITH REMNANTS OF HIS FORCES
- 1775 - 1783; OVER 100,000 PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT JOIN THE CROWN; MORE AFRICANS IN NORTH AMERICA BELIEVE *THEIR* FREEDOM LAY WITH THE BRITISH CROWN THEN WITH THE REBEL SETTLERS

# Thomas Paine & the pamphlet *Common Sense* (1775)



- RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM ENGLAND
- JANUARY 1776: COMMON SENSE PUBLISHED
- 25 EDITIONS RUNNING OVER 120,000 COPIES OVER 3 MONTHS
- URGES ENGLISH SETTLERS TO CREATE A REPUBLIC
- PAINE ALSO ATTACKS CROWN FOR INSTIGATING PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO FIGHT AGAINST THE REBEL SETTLERS

# The counter-blast to Paine; Samuel Johnson's *Taxation No Tyranny* pamphlet (1775)



- ✓ SAMUEL JOHNSON, ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED WRITERS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN HISTORY
- ✓ SEARING RESPONSE TO PAINE
- ✓ ENGLISHMEN DO HAVE VOTING RIGHTS IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT
- ✓ *HOWEVER*, WHEN ENGLISHMEN LEFT THE COUNTRY TO BECOME SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA THEY FORFEITED THEIR RIGHTS TO *DIRECT* REPRESENTATION
- ✓ ENGLISH SETTLERS NEVERTHELESS RETAIN 'VIRTUAL REPRESENTATION' IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT

# The counter-blast to Paine; Samuel Johnson's *Taxation No Tyranny* pamphlet (1775)



- ENGLISH SETTLERS IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ARE RELUCTANT TO PAY TAXES, *YET*;
- THEY DO *NOT* REFUSE THE PROTECTION OF THE BRITISH ARMY & ROYAL NAVY
- THEY DO *NOT* REFUSE SUPPORT FROM THE CROWN IN CRUSHING INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE TO LAND SEIZURES
- THEY DO *NOT* REFUSE SUPPORT IN CRUSHING INSURRECTIONS BY ENSLAVED AFRICANS

# The counter-blast to Paine; Samuel Johnson's *Taxation No Tyranny* pamphlet (1775)



- ✓ JOHNSON ALSO CRITICIZED SETTLERS CLAIMS ABOUT SEEKING 'FREEDOM'
- ✓ WHY DID ENGLISH SETTLERS CONTINUE TO HOLD AFRICANS IN BONDAGE AND SLAVERY IF THEY WERE SO INTENT ON 'LIBERTY'?
- ✓ 'ENGLISH SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA WERE A RACE OF CONVICTS' - JOHNSON
- ✓ 'BOTH ENGLISH & FRENCH SETTLERS ARE ROBBERS WHO HAVE DEPRIVED THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF NORTH AMERICA OF THEIR LANDS' - JOHNSON



# Edging towards a formal break with the Crown



- MODERATES STILL TRY TO BLOCK COMPLETE BREAK WITH GREAT BRITAIN
- NOVEMBER 1775: DICKINSON GETS PENNSYLVANIA'S ASSEMBLY TO INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION TO "DISSENT FROM, AND UTTERLY REJECT, ANY PROPOSITIONS, THAT MAY CAUSE OR LEAD TO A SEPARATION FROM OUR MOTHER COUNTRY"
  - NEW YORK, DELAWARE, MARYLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA FOLLOW SUIT

# Attempt to arm Africans in North Carolina



- GOVERNOR JOSIAH MARTIN PLANS TO FOLLOW LORD DUNMORE'S TACTIC OF FREEING & ARMING ENSLAVED AFRICANS TO ATTACK REBEL SETTLERS
- ACTION IS PRE-EMPTED BY SETTLER MILITIAS WHICH DESTROY A PRO - CROWN SETTLER MILITIA IN FEBRUARY 1776
- MAJORITY OF SLAVE - HOLDING COLONIES ONLY NOW DECIDE TO BREAK WITH THE CROWN DECISIVELY
- IN DOING SO WILL THROW OUT DEBTS TO BRITISH LENDERS
- HISTORIAN GERALD HORNE - EARLY PRACTICE OF 'RISK' IN CAPITALIST ENDEAVORS

# The politics of the declaration of independence; July 1776



- JUNE – JULY 1776: DELIBERATIONS IN THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
  - GEORGE WASHINGTON & THOMAS JEFFERSON; LEADING SCIONS OF VIRGINIA SETTLER ELITES WANT A STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE BRITISH CROWN FOR INCITING THE ENSLAVED AFRICANS AGAINST ‘FELLOW ENGLISHMEN’
    - COOLER HEADS PREVAIL
  - STATEMENT IS EVENTUALLY REMOVED

# The Crown on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- LORD FREDERICK NORTH – PRIME MINISTER
- LORD GEORGE GERMAIN – VISCOUNT OF SACKVILLE
  - SECRETARY FOR CROWN COLONIES
- DIRECTLY IN CHARGE OF ORGANIZING, PLANNING AND OVERSEEING CROWN RESPONSE TO REBELLION OF ENGLISH SETTLERS IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA
- ON PAPER THE CROWN SEEMS ‘INVINCIBLE’ ; A DECADE EARLIER IT HAD SMASHED THE POWERFUL FRENCH & SPANISH EMPIRES
- IN REALITY THERE ARE SERIOUS PROBLEMS

# The Crown on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- LOGISTICAL NIGHTMARE COMPOUNDED BY DISTANCE
- ENTIRE BRITISH MERCHANT FLEET HAS TO BE PUT TO USE FERRYING TROOPS FROM PORTS IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND
- WHEN GAGE IS FORCED TO EVACUATE BOSTON IN 1776 BRITAIN IS *ACTUALLY* ON THE VERGE OF DEFEAT:
  - SETTLERS HAVE IN *REALITY* SEIZED THE LOCAL ASSEMBLIES, COURTS, COUNCILS, PRESS & INFRASTRUCTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE
  - MOST CROWN GOVERNORS ARE BASED ON BRITISH WARSHIPS!

# The Crown on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- **BRITISH FORCES ARE STRETCHED ACROSS THE GLOBE**
- **SUBSTANTIAL FORCES HAVE TO BE DISPERSED TO PROTECT BRITISH JAMAICA AGAINST POSSIBLE SLAVE REBELLION**
- **18,000 MERCENARIES ARE RAISED FROM THE GERMANIC STATES; HESSE - HANAU, BRUNSWICK, ANSPACH - BAYREUTH, ANHALT - ZERBST & HESSE - KASSEL PROVIDES TWO - THIRDS OF THE TOTAL**
- **SIGNIFICANTLY BRITAIN HAS NO MAJOR ALLY AMONGST EUROPEAN LAND POWERS**

# The Crown on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- LACK OF PURPOSE: NO CONCEPT OF “COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY” IN CABINET
  - MANY CABINET MEMBERS HATE LORD NORTH
  - LORD GERMAIN – IN CHARGE OF OPERATIONS IN LONDON – HATED FOR HIS OPEN *BISEXUALITY*
- ISSUES OF PATRONAGE
- EXAMPLE; LORD WILLIAM HOWE IS THE FAVORITE OF KING GEORGE III BUT RESENTED BY HIS FELLOW GENERALS
- THERE IS NO UNIFIED COMMAND: THE LACK OF A “SUPREME COMMANDER – IN – CHIEF” MEANS THE BRITISH ARMY AND NAVY DO NOT CO-ORDINATE OPERATIONS

# The English settlers on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- ENGLISH SETTLERS WILL HAVE ADVANTAGE OF TERRAIN & TOPOGRAPHY
- WILL NOT LIMIT THEMSELVES TO DIRECT ENGAGEMENTS OR STATIC ACTIONS BUT WILL ALSO USE HIT - AND - RUN 'GUERRILLA' TACTICS
- *KEY TO VICTORY* IS TO AVOID THE DESTRUCTION OF THE MAIN CONTINENTAL ARMY
- WILL COERCE ALL SYMPATHIZERS OF THE CROWN WITH TERROR & FORCE
- TWENTY - THOUSAND SETTLERS ORGANIZED INTO THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, IN THE FIRST STAGE ARE AVAILABLE TO COUNTER THE CROWN



# The English settlers on the eve of 1776: strengths & weaknesses



- SPECTER OF SLAVE REBELLION UNITES ENGLISH SETTLERS; TWO AND A HALF MILLION ENGLISH/EUROPEAN SETTLERS & A MILLION ENSLAVED AFRICANS IN NORTH AMERICA ON EVE OF 1776
  
- FEAR OF A POSSIBLE ALLIANCE BETWEEN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES & PEOPLES OF AFRICAN DESCENT

# The Howes land in New York



- 29 JUNE 1776: MAJOR - GENERAL WILLIAM HOWE AND HIS BROTHER RICHARD, VICE-ADMIRAL LORD HOWE BEGINNING LANDING IN NEW YORK
- LORD GEORGE GERMAIN: "AS LONG AS YOU HOLD NEW YORK THE CONTINENT IS DIVIDED"
- STRATEGIC PORT
- BY EARLY AUGUST THEY HAVE OVER 30,000 TROOPS
  - 22 AUGUST: ATTACKS BEGIN AGAINST CONTINENTAL POSITIONS ON LONG ISLAND
- FIVE DAYS LATER WASHINGTON IS DEFEATED BUT MANAGES TO ESCAPE UNDER COVER OF FOG
  - HOWEVER, WASHINGTON CONTINUES TO BE OUTFLANKED BY SIR WILLIAM HOWE

# The near – annihilation of Continental forces



- WASHINGTON'S FORCES ARE DEFEATED AT KIP'S BAY, AND FORTS WASHINGTON & LEE; GUARDING COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN NEW JERSEY AND MANHATTAN; ARE CAPTURED IN LATE NOVEMBER
- WASHINGTON'S ORIGINAL ARMY OF 20,000 IN AUGUST HAS BARELY THIRTY – FIVE HUNDRED MEN
- “OUR AFFAIRS ARE IN A VERY BAD WAY...THE GAME IS PRETTY NEAR UP...OWING IN A GREAT MEASURE TO THE INSIDIOUS ARTS OF THE ENEMY” – GEORGE WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 1776
- YET SIR WILLIAM HOWE DOES NOT PURSUE WASHINGTON BEYOND NEW JERSEY, WHY?

# Complexity of fighting against fellow Englishmen



- MAJOR – GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE AND RICHARD, VICE-ADMIRAL LORD HOWE WERE ALSO THE KING’S PEACE COMMISSIONERS
- VICE-ADMIRAL HOWE IS A FRIEND OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
- THEY WISH TO USE A MIX OF OVERWHELMING DISPLAY OF MILITARY POWER AND CONCILIATORY GESTURES TO BRING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT
- SIR WILLIAM HOWE WISHES TO SHOW WASHINGTON THE USELESSNESS OF RESISTANCE BUT NOT TO HUMILIATE HIM
- THERE ARE NO NAVAL BOMBARDMENTS OF NORTH AMERICAN PORTS IN CONTINENTAL HANDS

# Complexity of fighting against fellow Englishmen



- **ALTHOUGH SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT SIR WILLIAM HOWE HAS LOST HIS 'NERVE' AFTER THE HORRIFIC LOSSES AT THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL**
  - **26 DECEMBER 1776: BATTLE OF TRENTON**
- **WASHINGTON OVERWHELMS A SMALL TROOP OF HESSIAN MERCENARIES AFTER CROSSING THE DELAWARE RIVER IN A WINTER STORM**
  - **THE MYTH OF THE 'DRUNK' HESSIANS**
- **3 JANUARY 1777: BATTLE OF PRINCETON**

# Composition of the Crown Loyalists in British North America



- ½ TO 1/3 OF ALL BRITISH/EUROPEAN SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA ARE CROWN LOYALISTS; APPROX. 450,000 PEOPLE AMONGST ONE MILLION
- MAJORITY OF WEALTHY SETTLERS, CONNECTED TO BRITAIN BY FAMILY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONNECTIONS REMAIN LOYAL ALONG WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF ORDINARY PEOPLE
- OVER ONE HUNDRED – FIFTY THOUSAND PERSONS OF AFRICAN DESCENT BECOME ‘BLACK LOYALISTS’
  - 50,000 AFRICANS SERVE IN BRITISH MILITARY REGIMENTS
  - THOUSANDS SERVE IN AUXILIARY OR PIONEER UNITS

# Composition of the Crown Loyalists in British North America



- ETHIOPIAN REGIMENT/ BLACK BRIGADE; AFRICAN AND AFRICAN LED GUERRILLA UNITS
- OVER 50,000 CROWN LOYALISTS SERVE IN SEVENTY REGIMENTS ALONGSIDE CROWN FORCES
- ILL – TREATMENT BY SETTLER/PATRIOT FORCES LEADS TO JOINING OF LOYALIST CAUSE
- SIGNIFICANT NATIONS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES JOIN THE BRITISH CROWN; BUT FOR THEM IT IS THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS
- A SETTLER VICTORY WILL SEE THEIR COMPLETE DESTRUCTION

# The reorganization of the Continental Army



- LONG - TERM SERVICE OR MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS
  - CASH, LAND INCENTIVES FOR SERVICE
- WOMEN SERVE AS AUXILIARIES IN BOTH ARMIES
- SELECTED GROUP OF PERSONS OF AFRICAN DESCENT ARE ALLOWED TO JOIN SETTLER - PATRIOT REGIMENTS



# The 1777 Campaign ; the year of the 'hangman'



- PROPOSAL BY LORD HOWE, COMMANDER OF BRITISH LAND FORCES
  - SEIZE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY
- GENERAL BURGOYNE PROPOSES TO SEIZE ALBANY, NEW YORK FROM CANADA
- LORD GERMAIN EXPECTS LORD HOWE TO LINK UP WITH BURGOYNE
- HOWE DIVERTS ARMY AFTER START OF THE PLAN
- BURGOYNE'S SUPPORT COLUMN , LED BY COLONEL BARRYMORE ST. LEGER, FORCED TO RETREAT AFTER BATTLE OF ORISKANY

# The 1777 Campaign; 'the year of the hangman'



- **BURGOYNE, ISOLATED AND SHORT OF SUPPLIES AT SARATOGA, SURRENDERS IN OCTOBER**
- **MAJOR VICTORY FOR THE SETTLER – CONTINENTAL FORCES**
- **POSSIBILITY OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT IS NOW POSSIBLE**

# France offers covert assistance



- COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE;  
NEGOTIATE WITH FOREIGN POWERS TO ASSIST  
SETTLER – PATRIOT SIDE
- ACHARD DE BONVOLOIR : ‘PROVE RESOLVE OVER  
THE LONG-TERM AND FRANCE WILL COME TO YOUR  
AID DIRECTLY’
  - PIERRE-AUGUSTIN DE BEAUMARCHAIS
- *RODERIGUE HORTALEZ & CIE.*, COMPANY ACTS AS  
FUNNEL FOR WAR MATERIAL TO AMERICAN REBELS
- FRENCH AID *INVALUABLE* TO AMERICAN CAUSE

# The Philipsburg Proclamation



- 30 JUNE 1779
- GENERAL SIR HENRY CLINTON, COMMANDER OF BRITISH LAND FORCES IN NORTH AMERICA
- EXTENDS LORD DUNMORE'S PROCLAMATION WITH NO PRE - CONDITIONS
  
- ALL PERSONS ENSLAVED BY THE SETTLER COLONIES ARE EMANCIPATED AND DIRECTED TO REACH CROWN - CONTROLLED AREAS FOR PROTECTION FROM SLAVERY

# Formal French Declaration of War



- 6 FEBRUARY, 1778: TREATY OF AMITY & COMMERCE
  - TREATY OF ALLIANCE
- 20 MARCH, 1778: FORMAL RECOGNITION OF AMERICANS DIPLOMATICALLY
- JUNE, 1778: WAR DECLARED BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE
  - 1779: CONVENTION OF ARANJUEZ
- BRITISH DECLARE WAR ON NETHERLANDS FOR ISLAND OF ST. EUSTATIUS IN CARIBBEAN
- BRITAIN STANDS ALONE AND IN SERIOUS CRISIS
  - 1779: A SPANISH – FRENCH NAVAL ARMADA CARRIES OUT AN ATTEMPTED LANDING ON ENGLAND; DRAWING CRITICAL BRITISH RESOURCES

# Formal French Declaration of War



- **BRITAIN STANDS ALONE AND IN SERIOUS CRISIS**
  - **1779: A SPANISH – FRENCH NAVAL ARMADA CARRIES OUT AN ATTEMPTED LANDING ON ENGLAND; DRAWING CRITICAL BRITISH RESOURCES**
- **1779 - 1780; GORDON RIOTS IN LONDON; MASSIVE PROTESTS AGAINST ALLOWING ENGLISH ROMAN CATHOLICS TO JOIN BRITISH ARMY**
- **FOR WEEKS LONDON IS CONTROLLED BY RIOTERS UNTIL UNITS OF ARMY ARE ABLE TO REGAIN CONTROL**

# The British Empire on the defensive



- **BRITISH NORTH AMERICA LOSES ITS PLACE AS CENTER OF CROWN STRATEGY IN WAR**
- **NEW STRATEGY FOR NORTH AMERICA IS TO RE-ESTABLISH ROYAL AUTHORITY IN THE SOUTHERN COLONIES**
  - **LORD WILLIAM HOWE IS FIRED**
- **SIR HENRY CLINTON BECOMES COMMANDER OF BRITISH LAND FORCES**
  - **DECEMBER, 1779: CLINTON ARRIVES OFF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**
    - **TOWN IS BESIEGED INTO SUBMISSION**

# The British Empire on the defensive



- SEVEN CONTINENTAL GENERALS INCLUDING BENJAMIN LINCOLN ARE CAPTURED
- BITTERNESS BETWEEN CLINTON & HIS DEPUTY, CHARLES, EARL CORNWALLIS
- MAY 1780; CLINTON RETURNS TO NEW YORK TO FACE A POSSIBLE INVASION BY A FRENCH FLEET
  - CORNWALLIS IS LEFT IN CHARGE OF THE SOUTHERN OPERATIONS
  - CLINTON HOPES TO DRAW OUT THE MAIN CONTINENTAL ARMY LED BY GEORGE WASHINGTON FOR A 'DECISIVE' ENGAGEMENT



# The British Empire on the defensive



- THE DEFECTION OF GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD, THE 'AMERICAN HANNIBAL'
- CRUCIAL TO AMERICAN VICTORIES AT SARATOGA & TICONDEROGA
- ARNOLD IS ANGERED BY CONTINENTAL CONGRESS'S TREATMENT OF THE ARMY
  - PASSED OVER FOR PROMOTION
  - NEW WIFE'S FAMILY IS STAUNCHLY LOYALIST

# The British Empire on the defensive



- **BECOMES COMMANDANT OF THE FORTRESS AT WEST POINT GUARDING THE HUDSON RIVER**
- **MAY 1780; OFFERS TO MEET WITH MAJOR JOHN ANDRÉ, AIDE TO CLINTON, TO HAND OVER FORTRESS TO CROWN**
- **SEPTEMBER 1780, MAJOR ANDRÉ IS CAPTURED WHILE RETURNING FROM MEETING WITH ARNOLD**
- **WASHINGTON ORDERS ANDRÉ TO BE HANGED AFTER A SUMMARY TRIAL BY A BOARD OF OFFICERS**
- **HATRED BETWEEN CROWN AND SETTLERS INTENSIFIES AS A RESULT**

# The British Empire on the defensive



- **FAILURE TO SEIZE WEST POINT MEANS CLINTON'S ROLE IS NOW SECONDARY TO CORNWALLIS**
- **CORNWALLIS SECURES A SERIES OF VICTORIES**
  - **HORATIO GATES, VICTOR OF SARATOGA, IS DEFEATED AT CAMDEN**
- **LIEUTENANT – COLONEL BANASTRE TARLETON, COMMANDER OF LOYALIST CAVALRY FORCES IN THE SOUTH, WHILE EXTREMELY CAPABLE ALIENATES THE POPULATION DURING HIS RAIDS**

# The British Empire on the defensive



- **CONTINENTAL GENERALS NATHANIEL GREENE & DANIEL MORGAN CARRY OUT HIT - AND - RUN ATTACKS ON BRITISH FORCES**
- **SWAMPS, CREEKS & LAKES MAKE PACIFICATION DIFFICULT IN SOUTH CAROLINA**
- **CORNWALLIS DECIDES THAT THE ONLY WAY TO PACIFY SOUTH CAROLINA IS TO DESTROY ALL SUPPLIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA**
- **FAILURE TO RALLY SUPPORT IN NORTH CAROLINA LEADS TO DECISION TO MOVE INTO VIRGINIA**

# The British Empire on the defensive



- **YORKTOWN ON CHESAPEAKE BAY BECOMES CENTER OF BRITISH ARMY**
- **MARQUIS OF ROCHAMBEAU & GEORGE WASHINGTON SLIP AWAY FROM NEW YORK TO BESIEGE CORNWALLIS AT YORKTOWN**
  - **ISOLATED FROM CLINTON, CORNWALLIS SURRENDERS ON 17 OCTOBER 1781**
  - **A BRITISH RELIEF FLEET ARRIVES OFF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FIVE DAYS LATER**

# Treaty of Paris



- NEWS OF DEFEAT LEADS TO THE FALL OF LORD NORTH'S GOVERNMENT IN LONDON
- BRITAIN SCORES MAJOR VICTORIES AGAINST FRANCE (BATTLE OF SAINTES, 1782) AND SPAIN (GIBRALTAR, 1782)
- THE ALLIANCE SUPPORTING THE REBEL – SETTLERS FALLS APART BUT AN ANTI – WAR FACTION GAINS CONTROL OF PARLIAMENT
  - AGREE TO PEACE TALKS
- RECOGNITION OF THE THIRTEEN REBEL COLONIES AS INDEPENDENT ENTITY UP TO THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS & THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

# Treaty of Paris



- **BRITAIN RETAINS RIGHT TO NAVIGATION ON THESE WATERS**
- **BRITAIN MUST RELINQUISH THEIR STRONGHOLDS ON INDIGENOUS TERRITORY BUT IT TAKES ANOTHER TEN YEARS**
- **PEACE TERMS MAKE NO MENTION OF NATIVE AMERICANS WHO FOUGHT AND DIED AND WHO ACTUALLY INHABIT THE LAND BEING TRANSFERRED**
- **NATIVE AMERICANS ARE BETRAYED BY THEIR BRITISH ALLIES TO THEIR NORTH AMERICAN & SPANISH ENEMIES**

# The evacuation of Crown Loyalists



- **OVER 70,000 CROWN LOYALISTS OF EUROPEAN DESCENT INCLUDING THOUSANDS OF BLACK LOYALISTS ARE EVENTUALLY EVACUATED AND GRANTED ASYLUM IN BRITISH EMPIRE**
- **SIERRA LEONE IN AFRICA BECOMES HAVEN FOR THOUSANDS OF BLACK LOYALISTS AFTER 1790**
- **SOME NATIVE AMERICAN ALLIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE ARE ABLE TO FIND REFUGE IN CANADA**