# You say you want a Revolution...



# **Boston Tea Party**

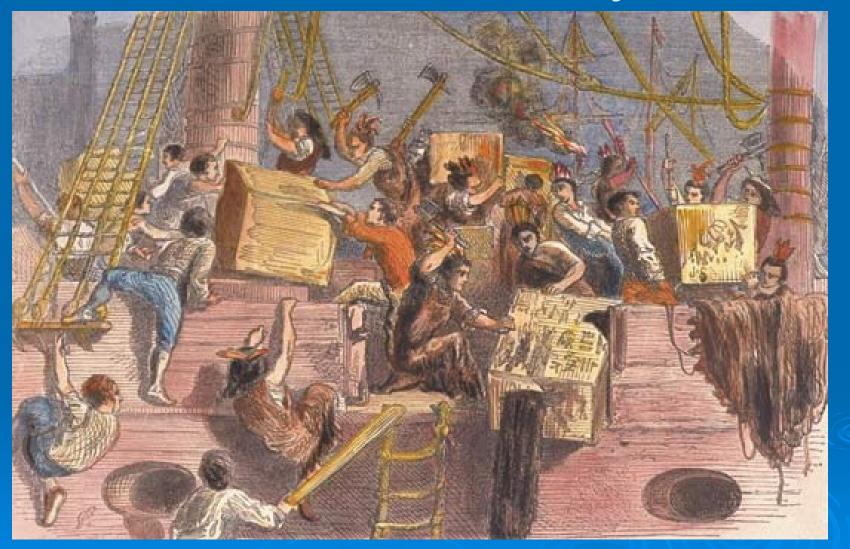


Illustration of the Boston Tea Party.

Mansell—Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

# Coercive (Intolerable) Acts

A set of laws passed by Parliament in 1774 aimed at bringing the colonies back into submission

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#### Georgii III. Regis.

#### CAP. XIX.

An Act to difcontinue, in fuch Manner, and for fuch Time as are therein mentioned, the landing and difcharging, lading or fhipping, of Goods, Wares, and Merchandife, at the Town, and within the Harbour, of Bofton, in the Province of Maffachufet's Bay, in North America.



g b & R & I & Dangerous Commotions and Infurrections have been fomented and raifed in the Cown of Bofton, in the Biobince of Maffachufer's Bay, in New England, by Divers ill affected Perfons, to the Subvection of his Barefly's

Sovernment, and to the utter Destudion of the publick Peace, and good Diver of the faid Cown; in which Commotions and Infurredions certain valuable Cargoes of Ceas, being the Dioperty of the East India Company, and on Board certain Cleffels lying within the Bay of 2 6 O 2 Darbour

- Punishment for Boston Tea Party
- Consisted of several laws
  - <u>Boston Port Act</u> closed the port of Boston to all trade
  - <u>Massachusetts Governance Act</u> did away with elected officials in Massachusetts; now appointed by the crown—Gen. Thomas Gage
     <u>Quartering Act</u> – required colonists to provide
  - Iodging, food, and supplies to British soldiers Administration of Justice Act – authorized Royal Governor to transfer trials of British officials to London to avoid hostile colonial
  - Colonists called them "Intolerable"

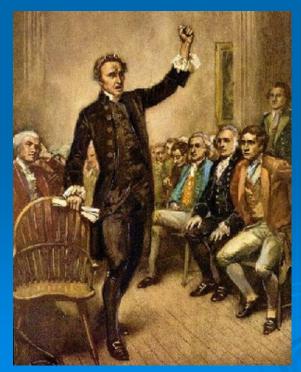
# First Continental Congress

> In response to the Intolerable Acts, 12 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia Centrally located Leading Colonial City Georgia did not attend September 1774 to October 1774



Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia

# First Continental Congress 56 delegates Presiding: Peyton Randolph (Va.) Notable Delegates:



George Washington
John Adams
Samuel Adams
Patrick Henry
John Jay
Richard Henry Lee
John Dickinson

Patrick Henry speaking before Congress

# First Continental Congress

#### Drafted the Articles of Association

- Intended to alter Britain's policies towards the colonies: not to break ties, but to <u>compromise</u>
- Defined American grievances against Britain
  - Intolerable Acts
  - Taxes imposed were not intended to regulate trade
- Suspended trade with Britain until Intolerable Acts were repealed
  - Agreed to Boycott of British goods
  - No Imports from Britain (effective December 1774) No Exports to Britain (effective September 1775)

# **Declaration and Resolves**

- Precursor to Declaration of Independence
  - First to claim to colonial rights of "life, liberty, property"
  - Refers to the colonies as "America"
  - Loyal plea to the King
- Results in Articles of Association
  - Unites colonies for the common good

To the King's Most bacellent Majesty. Most Gracious Sovereign! We your Majesty's faithful Subjects of the colonies of New Hampshire, Mapachufetts Bay, Rhode Joland and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jerrer Pennylvania, the Counties of New-Castle, Thant and Suffer. Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Card in behalf of ourselves and the inhabitants of those col have Deputed us to represent them in General Congress, by this our humble petition, by leave to lay our grievances before the throne . a standing army has been hept in these bolonies, ever since the conclusion of the late war, without the consent of our apernellies, and the army with a considerable navel an has been employed to enforce the collection of taxes The authority of the Commander in Chief and funder him of the torigadien General has in time of prace, been rendered agreence in all the civil governments in america. The Commander in Chief of all your Majesty's forces in North America has, in time of peace, been appointed fovernor of a Colony. The charges of usual offices have been greatly encreased, and news, expensive and gyproprise flices have been malliplie The judges of admirally and vice somerally courts impowered to receive their falaries and fees from the effects condemned by themselves. The officers of the customs are empowered to break open and enter houses without the author of any civil magistrate founded on legal information

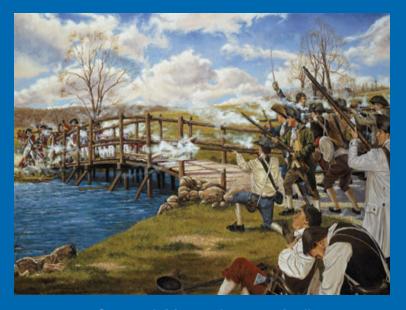
# First Continental Congress

- Agreed to meet again in May 1775 if their demands were not met
- > Urged colonists to continue their boycotts
- Warned colonies to prepare their militias to fight—soon to be called <u>Minutemen</u>
- Created Committees of Observation to enforce the boycotts and publish the names of people who violated it.
  - Committees chosen by vote of local citizens

### Shot Heard 'Round the World

#### > Tension mounts in Boston

- General/Governor Gage decides to seize the militia's store of weapons at Concord
- Sons of Liberty learn of plan
- Paul Revere and Wm. Dawes warn: "The British are coming!"



Concord, Massachusetts, April 19, 1775

#### > 70 Minutemen meet British at Lexington Green

- "Don't fire unless fired upon. But if they mean to have a war, let it begin here!" No one knows who fired first.
- Battle over in minutes and militia defeated (18 casualties)
- British march on to Concord

# Shot Heard 'Round the World'

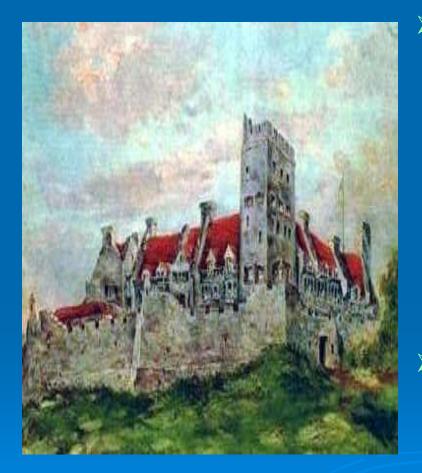
#### Confrontation on Concord Bridge

- British found that the weapons had been moved
- Set fire to several buildings in anger
- Minutemen attack the Redcoats
- British retreat 20 miles to Boston
  - Easy targets for the colonists firing from behind trees
  - Suffered 250 casualties
  - Fewer than 100 colonial casualties
- Minutemen hold British under siege in Boston



**British Retreat from Lexington** 

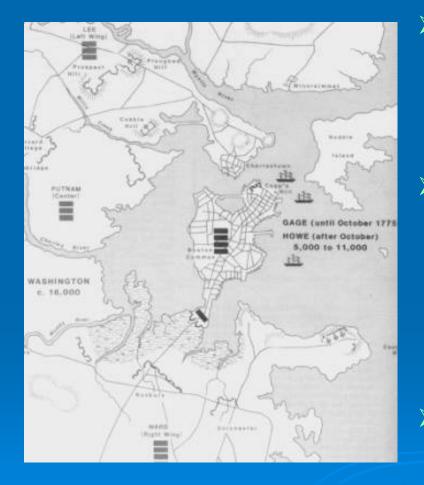
# Fort Ticonderoga



- After Lexington and Concord the fighting continued.
  - Recognizing the strategic importance of Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys (VT) and Benedict Arnold each led militia troops to take the fort.

Ticonderoga, along with a valuable supply of cannons and gunpowder, was captured without a fight on May 10.

# Battle of Bunker Hill



Colonial forces <u>build defenses</u> on Bunker and Breed's Hill in order to defend British attack on Charlestown in June 1775

#### Militia low on gunpowder

- Ordered not to fire on British "until you see the whites of their eyes."
- Eventually ran out of ammunition
- British~more than 1,000 casualties
- Colonists~about 400 casualties
- Showed the colonists that they could <u>hold their own against</u> the British

# Second Continental Congress

#### Meanwhile, in Philadelphia...

- May 1775~Delegates from 12 colonies meet as planned at the end of the First Congress
- Must decide how to react to the fighting
- Decided not to break away from Great Britain
- Created a Continental Army
  - George Washington named Commander
- > Olive Branch Petition~July 1775
  - Final appeal to King for peace and compromise
  - Rejected by George III in the Fall of 1775

#### **Resources and Images**

#### Resources

- > Avalon Project <a href="http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject-menus/18th.asp">http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject-menus/18th.asp</a>
- > Call to Freedom (Teachers' Edition), Holt, Rhinehart and Winston, 2003.
- From Revolution to Reconstruction <u>http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/D/1751-</u> <u>1775/independence/decres.htm</u>

#### Images

- Boston Tea Party <u>http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic-art/74947/94605/Illustration-of-the-Boston-Tea-Party</u>
- > Coercive Acts http://www.manhattanrarebooks-history.com/intolerable acts.htm
- Intolerable Acts <u>http://picture-book.com/users/len-ebert</u>
- Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia <u>http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3269/2568306489\_c3a350fb53.jpg?v=0</u>
- Patrick Henry <u>http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/bookmarks/henry/henry5\_lg.jpg</u>
- Articles of Association <u>http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th\_century/contcong\_10-20-</u> 74.asp
- Shot Heard 'Round the World <u>http://www.ngb.army.mil/resources/photo\_gallery/heritage/concord\_bridge.html</u>
- British Retreat from Lexington http://www.sanftleben.com/Military%20Music/yankeebritretreat.jpg
- Map/Siege of Boston <u>http://www.hannahdustin.com/soldiers.htm</u>