

SLIDE 1

**Chapter 7**  
**The American Revolution, 1776—1783**

America fights for and gains independence from Britain. The new nation then faces important issues.

SLIDE 2

**Section 1: The Early Years of the War**  
**Section 2: The War Expands**  
**Section 3: The Path to Victory**  
**Section 4: The Legacy of the War**

SLIDE 3

**Section 1: The Early Years of the War**

The American desire to gain rights and liberties led them to fight for independence from Britain.

SLIDE 4

**Section 1: The Early Years of the War**

**Americans Divided**

- About 20-30 percent of Americans are Loyalists
- About 40-45 percent are Patriots
- The rest remain neutral
- Many Patriots in New England, Virginia
- Many Loyalists in cities, in New York State, in South

SLIDE 5

*Continued* **Americans Divided**

- Some Native Americans fight for British
- Afraid that if Americans win, they would take Native American land
- Other Native Americans fight with Americans
- British offer freedom to enslaved African Americans that fight for British
- Because of this, many African Americans enlist with British
- In response, most states accept African American soldiers

SLIDE 6

**Creating an Army**

- **George Washington** becomes commander of the Continental Army
- At first, men enlist for 1 year, then go home
- Because of this, the army never has more than 17,000 men
- Soldiers need more supplies, guns, ammunition, training
- Women help army by cooking, doing laundry, nursing wounded soldiers, some even fight in disguise

#### SLIDE 7

##### *Continued* **Creating an Army**

- Washington's strategy is to:
  - keep his army in the field
  - win small battles
  - avoid major battles until the army is larger

#### SLIDE 8

##### **Struggle for the Middle States**

- British withdraw from Boston, Washington, army go to New York City
- In New York, General William Howe takes command of British army
- 9,000 Hessian mercenaries arrive to fight for British (August 1776)
- **Mercenaries**—soldiers hired to fight for another country

#### SLIDE 9

##### *Continued* **Struggle for the Middle States**

- British force Washington's army to retreat through New Jersey
- Thomas Paine publishes *The American Crisis*, encourages American troops
- Americans defeat Hessians at Trenton, Princeton (December 1776)

#### SLIDE 10

##### **Britain's Strategy**

- Britain's **strategy** is to seize Hudson River Valley
- 3 British armies plan to meet in Albany
- General John Burgoyne plans to lead British troops south from Canada
- Lieutenant Colonel Barry St. Leger to lead British troops from the West
- General Howe plans to lead British troops north from New York City

#### SLIDE 11

##### *Continued* **Britain's Strategy**

- General John Burgoyne captures Fort Ticonderoga from Americans
- Burgoyne and troops face many obstacles during march to Albany
- Howe decides not to **rendezvous**, or meet, with Burgoyne in Albany
- Instead, Howe fights Washington in Pennsylvania, Washington retreats

## SLIDE 12

### **Battles Along the Mohawk**

- St. Leger fights Americans at Fort Stanwix, summer of 1777
- St. Leger's forces include Iroquois led by Mohawk chief Joseph Brant
- Benedict Arnold spreads rumor that Americans have a large army
- Afraid of being outnumbered, St. Leger's troops retreat
- As a result, St. Leger and his army fail to rendezvous with Burgoyne

## SLIDE 13

### **Saratoga: A Turning Point**

- During march to Albany, Burgoyne's army faces Continental Army
- Led by General Horatio Gates, Continental Army is near Saratoga, NY
- Series of battles break out between British, American troops
- Led by Benedict Arnold, American army forces British to retreat
- Burgoyne's army is soon surrounded, Burgoyne surrenders
- Series of battles known as **Battles of Saratoga** (Sept., Oct. 1777)

## SLIDE 14

### *Continued* **Saratoga: A Turning Point**

- The Battles of Saratoga have two main results
  - convinces European nations that Americans might win the war
  - Benedict Arnold angry about lack of recognition, betrays his army

## SLIDE 15

### **Section 2: The War Expands**

Some Europeans decided to help America. As the war continued, it spread to the sea and the frontier.

## SLIDE 16

### **Section 2: The War Expands**

#### **Help from Abroad**

- 1776, France begins to give secret aid to Americans
- 1778, France forms official alliance with Americans:
  - sends funds, supplies, troops to America
  - persuades Spain to **ally** itself with Americans

## SLIDE 17

*Continued* **Help from Abroad**

- Spain defeats British in lower Mississippi Valley
- Victories prevent British from attacking Americans from the southwest
- French, Spanish alliance forces Britain to spread military, many fronts
- Because of this, Britain cannot concentrate its troops on Americans

SLIDE 18

**Europeans Help Washington**

- French nobleman **Marquis de Lafayette** serves in Washington's army
- Commands army division, wins soldiers' respect, fights many battles
- German officer Baron de Kalb becomes general of American troops
- Earns reputation for bravery, dies (1780) in the Battle of Camden
- German Baron von Steuben trains troops, disciplines the army
- Teaches charges with **bayonets**—long knives attached to the end of guns

SLIDE 19

**Winter at Valley Forge**

- Washington's army retreats from Philadelphia, encamps at Valley Forge
- Spends winter of 1777–1778 at Valley Forge
- Soldiers short on supplies, food, clothing, about one quarter die
- Private citizens provide some food, clothing for soldiers
- Some soldiers **desert**—leave military duty without intending to return
- Most of the soldiers stay for love of country and Washington

SLIDE 20

**War on the Frontier**

- George Rogers Clark raises army to capture British forts
- In May 1778, Rogers, army capture British post on the Mississippi
- Rogers then lays siege on Fort Sackville in present-day Indiana
- Using scare tactics, Americans convince British to surrender the fort

SLIDE 21

**War at Sea**

- Britain's navy controls Atlantic trade routes
- American privateers capture hundreds of British merchant ships
- **Privateer**—a privately owned ship used to attack enemy merchant ships
- Privateers' success cause British merchants to call for end to the war
- Free African American **James Forten** volunteers for privateers
- Captured, refuses to betray country, after war, fights to end slavery

SLIDE 22

### **A Naval Hero**

- Continental Navy earns several victories against British navy
- **John Paul Jones** commands American ship, *Bonhomme Richard*
- Jones battles British ship, the *Serapis*
- After fierce fighting, the *Serapis* surrenders
- Victory angers British, inspires Americans

SLIDE 23

### **Section 3: The Path to Victory**

Seeking Loyalist support, the British invaded the South—but ultimately lost the war there.

SLIDE 24

### **Savannah and Charles Town**

- British decide to move the war to the South
- Unsuccessful in winning the war in the North
- Believe that most Southerners are Loyalists
- Believe that promise of freedom will cause enslaved to join British
- Will be able to transport troops between Southern ports, West Indies

SLIDE 25

#### *Continued* **Savannah and Charles Town**

- British capture Savannah (1778), then conquer most of Georgia
- Defeat American troops in Charles Town, South Carolina

SLIDE 26

### **The Swamp Fox and Guerilla Fighting**

- General Horatio Gates put in charge of American army in the South
- Fights British army, led by general **Lord Cornwallis**, at Camden, SC
- Americans defeated twice (August 1780) by British
- Francis Marion and men use guerilla tactics against British
- **Guerrillas**—bands of fighters who weaken enemy with surprise raids

SLIDE 27

### **The Tide Turns**

- Americans defeat British at Battle of Kings Mountain (Oct. 1780)
- Nathanael Greene, ex-Quaker, in charge of Southern American army
- Most Quakers are **pacifist**—opposed to war, Greene is not a pacifist
- By avoiding large battles, Greene gradually weakens the British forces

- War drags on into 6th year, opposition to the war grows in Britain

SLIDE 28

### **The End of the War**

- In 1781, Cornwallis moves British troops to Yorktown on Chesapeake Bay
- French fleet blocks bay, British troops cannot receive supplies
- Washington's troops combined with French troops bombard Yorktown
- Battle is known as the **Battle of Yorktown**
- On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrenders his force of about 8,000
- Yorktown last major battle of war, Britain negotiates peace treaty

SLIDE 29

### **Section 4: The Legacy of the War**

After the war, the new nation faced issues such as a high national debt and calls for equality.

SLIDE 30

### **Section 4: The Legacy of the War**

#### **Why the Americans Won**

- In November 1783, the last British troops leave New York City
- Americans win the Revolutionary War for several reasons:
  - better leadership
  - foreign aid
  - knowledge of the land
  - more motivation

SLIDE 31

#### **The Treaty of Paris**

- War officially ends with **Treaty of Paris of 1783**
- United States becomes independent
- Gains territory east of Mississippi, south of Canada, north of Florida
- Receives right to fish off Canada's Atlantic coast

SLIDE 32

#### *Continued* **The Treaty of Paris**

- Both U.S. and Britain agree to repay debts it owed each other
- British agree to return all enslaved persons it captured
- Congress recommends that states return property seized from Loyalists

## SLIDE 33

### **Costs of the War**

- About 25,700 Americans die in the war
- British suffer about 10,000 military deaths
- Many U.S. soldiers leave army with no money
- Receive certificates for land in the West, often sell land for money
- War left U.S. with debt of about \$27 million
- Thousands of Loyalists leave the U.S., many go to Canada

## SLIDE 34

### **Issues After the War**

- U.S. uses **republicanism**—rule by the people, to run the government
- People must place good of country above own interests
- Women needed to teach children virtues that help the republic
- More religious freedom is granted by the states

## SLIDE 35

### *Continued* **Issues After the War**

- Several states outlaw slavery
- Enslaved African American **Elizabeth Freeman** sues for her freedom
- Preacher **Richard Allen** starts the Free African Society
- Americans must decide how to shape their national government