# The Road to Revolution

Causes of the American Revolution-Part 1

## Regulating Trade in the 13 colonies

1651: English Parliament passed the **Navigation Acts** to support **mercantilism**.

These laws stated:

- 1. Shipments from Europe had to go through England first.
- 2. Any imports to England from the colonies had to come in ships built and owned by British subjects.
- 3. The colonies could only sell key products (like tobacco and sugar) to England.

Why do you think colonists would resent the Navigation Acts?

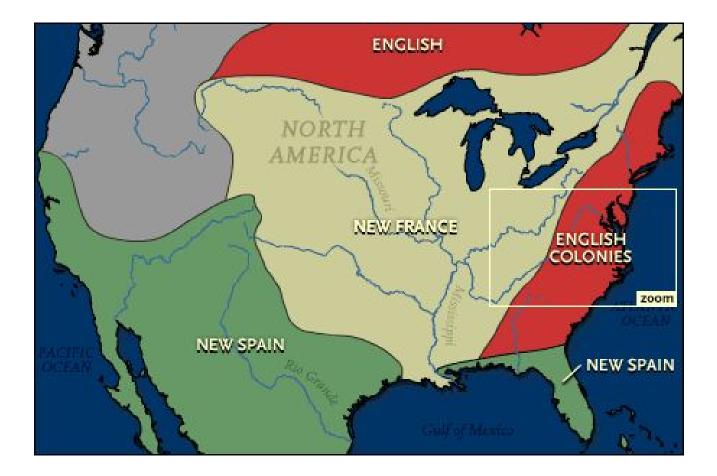
#### **Colonial Self-Government**

Legislature: law-making body

The **House of Burgesses** was the first legislature in the 13 colonies. It governed the Jamestown Colony.

By 1760, all British colonies had a legislature of some kind. These legislatures did not always get along with the king in England.

Between 1650 and 1750, Americans in the 13 colonies were allowed to "self-govern" and were proud of this, but they were also loyal to the British monarch.



## The French and Indian War

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## Disputed Territory



## The French and Indian War

As the British settlers pushed into the Ohio River valley, the French settlers pushed back. This also threatened Native American settlements in the region.

In 1754, English colonists in Virginia tried to take a French Fort in this region (Fort Duquesne). This was led by George Washington (only 21 years old at the time).

Washington's troops attacked and defeated a small French force, but a larger French army arrived and forced Washington to surrender.

French + Indians vs. British + Colonists

## The Albany Congress

The British government expected a war to begin, so they called a meeting of colonial leaders in Albany, NY. The British wanted the colonies to unite to defend the territory and invited the Iroquois tribes to this meeting to try to form an alliance against the French, but the Iroquois refused to form an alliance.



## Albany Plan of Union

Benjamin Franklin drew up a plan to unite the colonies called the Albany Plan of Union. He wanted a council of representatives from each colony to be able to make decisions regarding the western settlements, relations with Native Americans, and other urgent matters (organizing armies and collecting taxes).

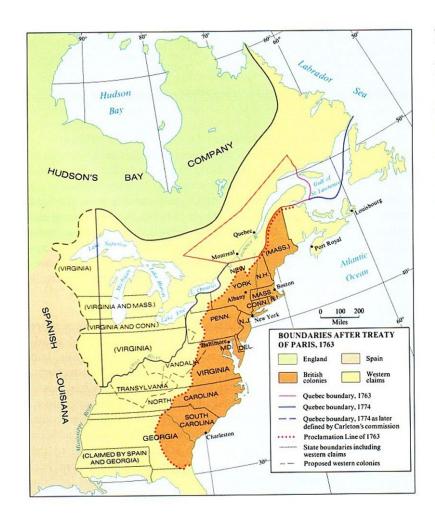
Colonial legislatures rejected this plan, but this served as a model for the later US government.

#### The British Turn the Tide

- War initially goes poorly for British
- 1758, French retreat into New France
- Iroquois decide that French cause is hopeless, shift sides
- 1759, British invade New France and capture Quebec

## The Treaty of Paris - 1763

- Ended the French and Indian War
- France gave New France East of Mississippi River to Britain
- France gave New France West of Mississippi River to Spain
- British returned Cuba in exchange for Florida



## Effects of the French and Indian War

- 1. France loses its North American possessions.
- 2. Britain is left with a large debt.
- 3. Colonists develop a sense of unity.
- 4. Colonists begin settling in the Ohio River Valley.
- 5. Native Americans resist colonists in the Ohio River Valley.

#### Proclamation of 1763

