

American revolution timeline

By Gabe Leniuk



1587 colonists arrive in Roanoke, Virginia

On August 1587, about 115 English settlers went to Roanoke Island. Later that year, John White, creator of the new colony, headed back to England to collect a load of fresh supplies. But just as he arrived, a war broke out between Spain and England.

Queen Elizabeth I, called on every available ship to attack the mighty Spanish Armada. Theories have been made about the "Lost Colony" and no one has produced a reasonable answer.

"Croatoan" was the name of an island south of Roanoke that was home to a Native American tribe with the same name. Perhaps, the colonists were killed or abducted by the Native Americans.



1754 French and Indian War

The agreement between Quebec and India ended their war. The Nine Years war was fought between Great-Britain and France. France sent all their possessions from North America east from the Mississippi river to Britain. The cost of the war made Britain decide to put taxes on American colonies.



1760 King George 3thd of England begins his reign

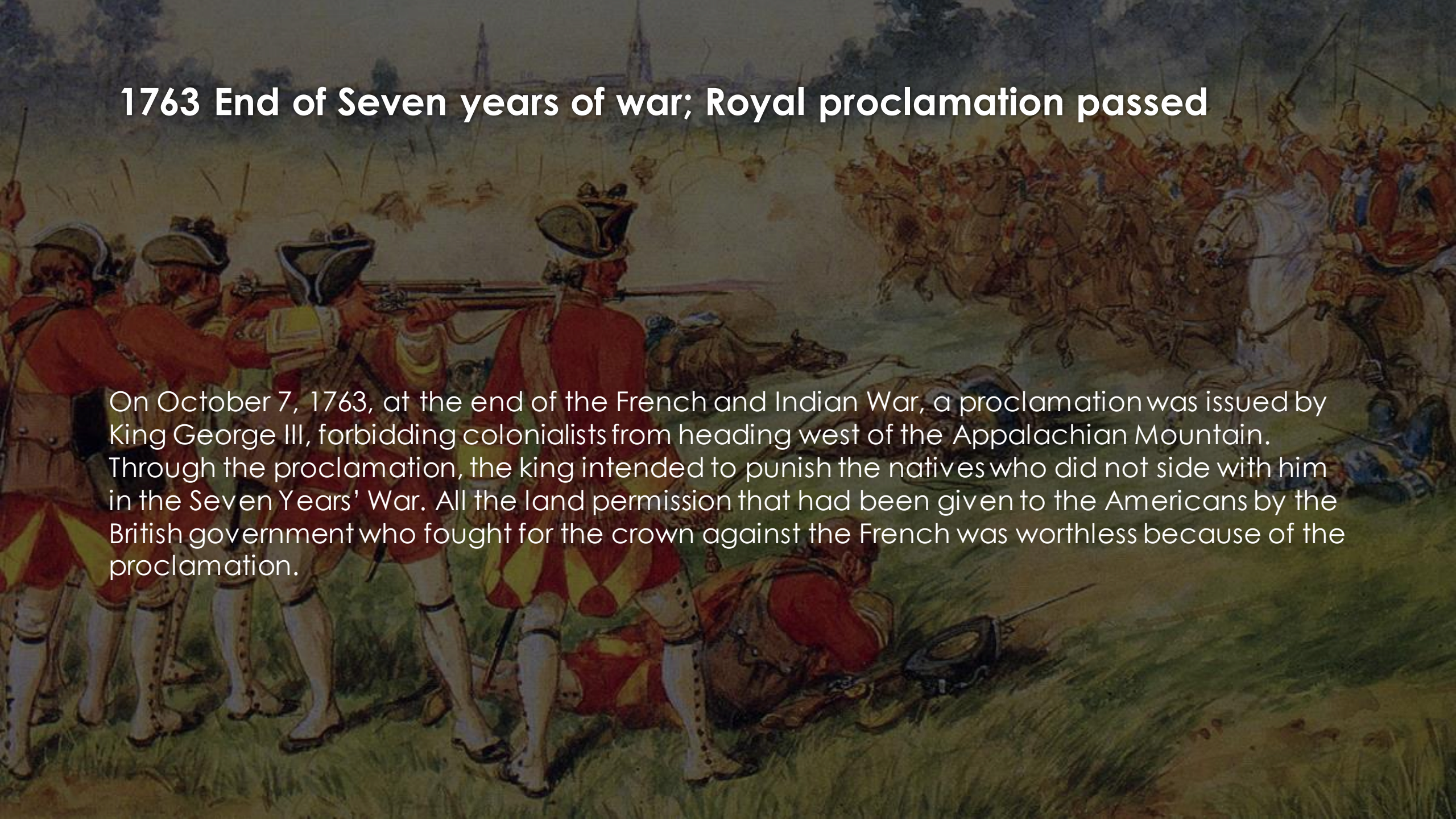


King George III, lived from 1738-1820. He ruled the British throne in 1760. During his 59-year reign, in the Seven Years War he pushed through a British victory, he led England's successful Revolutionary and Napoleonic France, and was seen to blame over the loss of the American Revolution.

After suffering infrequent bouts of acute mental illness, he spent his last decade in a cloud of insanity and blindness.

1763 End of Seven years of war; Royal proclamation passed

On October 7, 1763, at the end of the French and Indian War, a proclamation was issued by King George III, forbidding colonialists from heading west of the Appalachian Mountain. Through the proclamation, the king intended to punish the natives who did not side with him in the Seven Years' War. All the land permission that had been given to the Americans by the British government who fought for the crown against the French was worthless because of the proclamation.



1765 Stamp Act passed

The Stamp Act of 1765 was an act that was used by Britain to give direct tax on American colonies. The Act was made on March 22, 1765. This Act was meant to express tax to anything printed by the American Colonists. The printed sheets that were taxed included ship's papers, licenses, playing cards, newspapers, inventories, advertisements, court orders, testimonials, calendars, educational diplomas and certificates, pamphlets,, and other legal publications. Just like many other forms of previous taxes, the tax was supposed to be paid in British currency and not in the colonial paper money.



1770 Boston Massacre

The Boston Massacre began the evening of March 5, 1770 with a little argument between British Private Hugh White and a few colonists outside the Custom House in Boston on King Street. The argument began to escalate as more colonists gathered, they began to disobey and throw sticks and snowballs at Private White.

50 colonists were soon at the scene. British officer of the watch, Captain Thomas Preston, sent several soldiers over to the Custom House to guard Private White. However, the sight of British soldiers armed with bayonets just further angered the crowd. They began to shout at the soldiers, daring them to fire.

Captain Preston arrived and tried to get the crowd to leave. Unfortunately, an object thrown from the crowd hit a soldier, Private Montgomery it had knocked him down. He fired into the crowd. After a few seconds of stunned silence, a number of other soldiers fired into the crowd as well. two colonists died from wounds and three died immediately.

1773 Boston Tea Party

In Boston Harbor, a group of Massachusetts colonists disguised as Mohawk Indians and boarded three British tea ships and dump 342 chests of tea into the water.

The midnight raid, popularly known as the “Boston Tea Party,” was in protest of the British Parliament’s Tea Act of 1773, a bill designed to save the faltering East India Company by greatly lowering its tea tax and giving it a virtual monopoly on the American tea trade. The low tax gave the East Indian Company a chance to undercut even tea exported into America by Dutch traders, and many colonists viewed the act as another example of taxation tyranny.

When three tea ships, the Dartmouth, the Eleanor, and the Beaver, arrived in Boston Harbor, the colonists required that the tea be refunded to England. After Massachusetts Governor Thomas Hutchinson refused, Patriot leader Samuel Adams organized the “tea party” with about 60 members of the Sons of Liberty, his underground resistance group. The British tea dumped in Boston Harbor on the night of December 16 was valued at about \$18,000.

Parliament, outraged by the shameless destruction of British property, enacted the Intolerable Acts, in 1774.



1774 Quebec Act passed; first Continental Conference

Quebec Act, act of the British Parliament in 1774 that vested the government of Quebec in a governor and council and kept the French Civil Code, the seigneurial system of land occupation, and the Roman Catholic Church. The act was an attempt to deal with major questions that had arisen during the attempt to make the French colony of Canada a province of the British Empire in North America. Among these were whether an assembly should take place, when nearly all the inhabitants of the province of Quebec, being Roman Catholics, would, because of the Test Acts, be unsuitable to be representatives; whether the practice of the Roman Catholic religion should be allowed to continue, 1774 Quebec Act passed; first Continental Conference and on what conditions; and whether French or English law was to be used in the courts of justice.

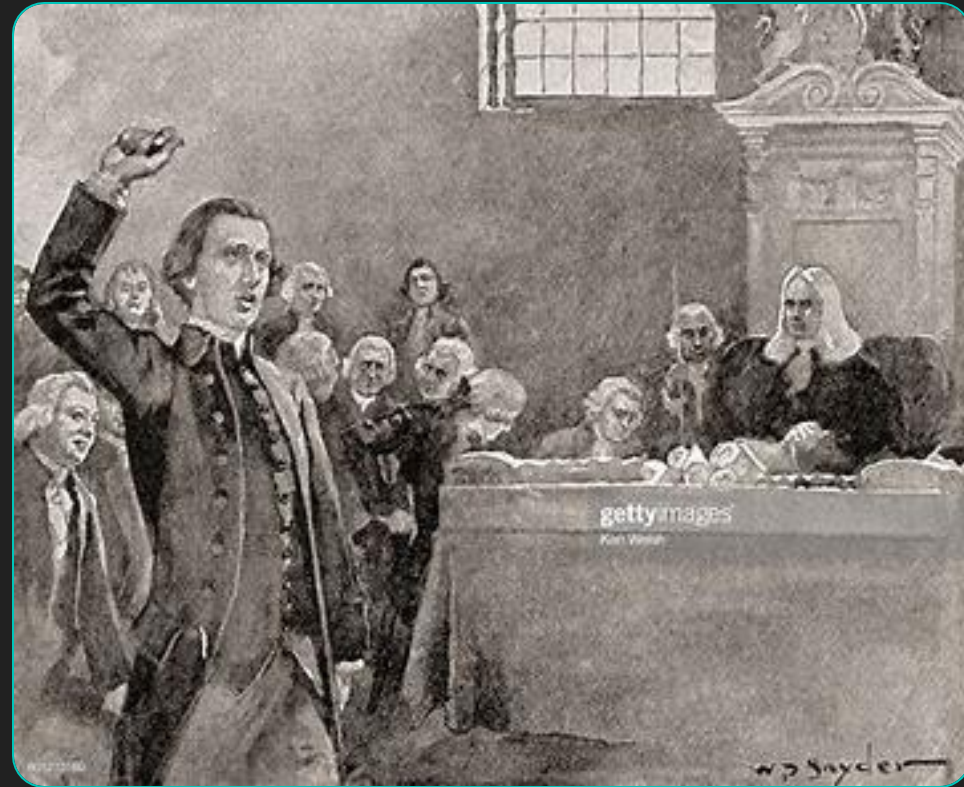
1775 The Battle of Lexington

The Battles of Lexington and Concord, were fought on April 19, 1775, kicked off the American Revolutionary War (1775-83). Tensions had been building for several years between residents of the 13 American colonies and the British authorities, particularly in Massachusetts. April 18, 1775, the night hundreds of British troops marched from Boston to nearby Concord in order to enclose an arms cache. Paul Revere and other riders sounded the alarm, and colonial militiamen began traveling to intercept the Redcoat column. A battle on the Lexington town green started off the fighting, and soon the British were quickly retreating under intense fire. Many more battles followed, and in 1783 the colonists formally won their independence.



March 23, 1775 Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death" speech

Virginian Patrick Henry was convinced that having a war with Great-Britain was bound to happen. So he made the Virginia militia fight against the British with a speech "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"



1776 Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was the first formal statement by a nation's people stating their right to choose their own government.

When armed conflict between bands of American colonists and British soldiers began in April 1775, the Americans were only fighting for their rights as material of the British crown. A later summer, with the Revolutionary War in full swing, the movement for independence from Britain had grown, and delegates of the Continental Congress were faced with a vote on the problem. In mid-June 1776, a five-man committee including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin was tasked with drafting a formal statement of the colonies' intentions. The Congress formally took the Declaration of Independence.



1778 France allies with America



During the Revolutionary War, representatives from the United States and France sign the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance in Paris.

The Treaty of Amity and Commerce realized the United States as an independent nation and sparked trade between France and the America, while the Treaty of Alliance provided for a military alliance against Great Britain, deciding that the absolute independence of the United States be recognized as a condition for peace and that France would be permitted to conquer the British West Indies.

1781 Surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown

On October 6, the first siege line had begun to be dug by allied forces Washington, and on October 9 the fighting started. British forces were cut off from their supply lines, and—running out of ammunition, suffering high casualties—Cornwallis tried to evacuate his troops. The evacuation was prevented by stormy weather, however. On October 17, Cornwallis was forced to cease-fire and negotiate his army's surrender.

1783 Treaty of Paris ends the American Revolution

In October 1781, at the Battle of Yorktown Following the British defeat, leaders in Parliament decided that offensive campaigns in North America should cease in favor of a different, more limited approach. This was spurred by the widening of the war to include France, Spain, and the Dutch Republic. Through the fall and following winter, British colonies in the Caribbean fell to enemy forces as did Minorca. With anti-war forces growing in power, Lord North's government fell in late March 1782 and was replaced by one led by Lord Rockingham.

