

FROM EMPIRE TO
INDEPENDENCE,
CHAPTER 6 NOTES,
PART 1

Seven Years' War in America

- First attempt at cooperation among leaders of the British colonies occurred in 1754
- Representatives from New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland met to consider a joint approach to the French and Indian challenge
- World War: Britain (and Prussia) versus France, Austria, and Spain

Albany Conference of 1754

- ⦿ Convened by the British Board of Trade
- ⦿ British officials wanted the colonies to consider a collective response to the conflict with New France and the Indians
- ⦿ Conference adopted Benjamin Franklin's Plan of Union
 - Indian affairs, western settlement, and other items of mutual interest be placed under one colonial government
 - Albany Plan was rejected by the individual colonies

What was the fighting about?

- ◎ In North America, it was a fight for land:
 - Nova Scotia
 - Niagara Falls to Lake Champlain
 - Ohio River Valley
 - Primary focus
 - Refuge for Native American tribes who left the Northeast
 - Settlers were moving west into the Ohio Valley

Frontier Warfare

- Colonel George Washington surrendered Virginia militia troops to a French force at Fort Duquesne
- In response, General Edward Braddock's British forces were sent to attack Fort Duquesne but were destroyed by a smaller number of French and Indians

New Orleans?

- French farmers in Acadia (north of Maine) refused to fight for Britain
- Even though they were peaceful towards Britain, they were kicked out of Acadia by British troops
- Some ended up in Louisiana, where they became known as “Cajuns”

Conquest of Canada

- William Pitt, prime minister of Great Britain in 1757, when Britain was losing the war
- He sent 20,000 British regular troops (full time soldiers) to North America
- 50,000 total troops were sent to fight the French Canadians
- Iroquois and Ohio Indians were recruited to fight the French and promised territory

British Success

- Fort Duquesne was captured and was renamed Fort Pitt (now Pittsburgh)
- The British took Quebec and Montreal
- Treaty of Paris in 1763:
 - France lost all of its North American land
 - Land east of the Mississippi River went to Britain
 - Land west of the Mississippi River went to Spain
 - Spanish Florida went to Britain

Struggle for the West

The British Military Governor of the West decided to stop the practice of giving Native Americans gifts

The British stopped giving out ammunition, and many Native Americans began to starve

Neolin “The Enlightened One” or the Delaware Prophet

- Neolin, an Indian leader taught that the Indians needed to return to their traditions and drive out the European settlers from the frontier
- Leader of Indian resistance was Chief Pontiac
- Indian confederacy was formed and started attacking British forts in 1763
- In response, the British distributed smallpox infected blankets to the tribes—early example of intentional germ warfare

Chief Pontiac



Proclamation of 1763

- Pontiac could not take Fort Niagara, Detroit, or Pitt
- Pontiac's Rebellion ended in a stalemate
- Royal Proclamation of 1763
 - British set aside the region west of the Appalachian Mountains as "Indian Country"
 - Colonists were angry, and Britain was not able to stop westward expansion

American Identity

- ⦿ British soldiers shocked colonists with their behavior: profanity, lewd behavior, and violence
- ⦿ British officers were violent to keep order
- ⦿ Colonial forces were volunteers, and officers tried to keep up morale instead of using violence
- ⦿ Animosity between British regulars and Colonial militias

Effects of the Seven Years' War

- Colonists traveled out of their state to fight, helping to create an American identity
- Trade among colonies increased by 400%
- Post-roads were created and improved to allow for an effective postal service, making the colonies more connected