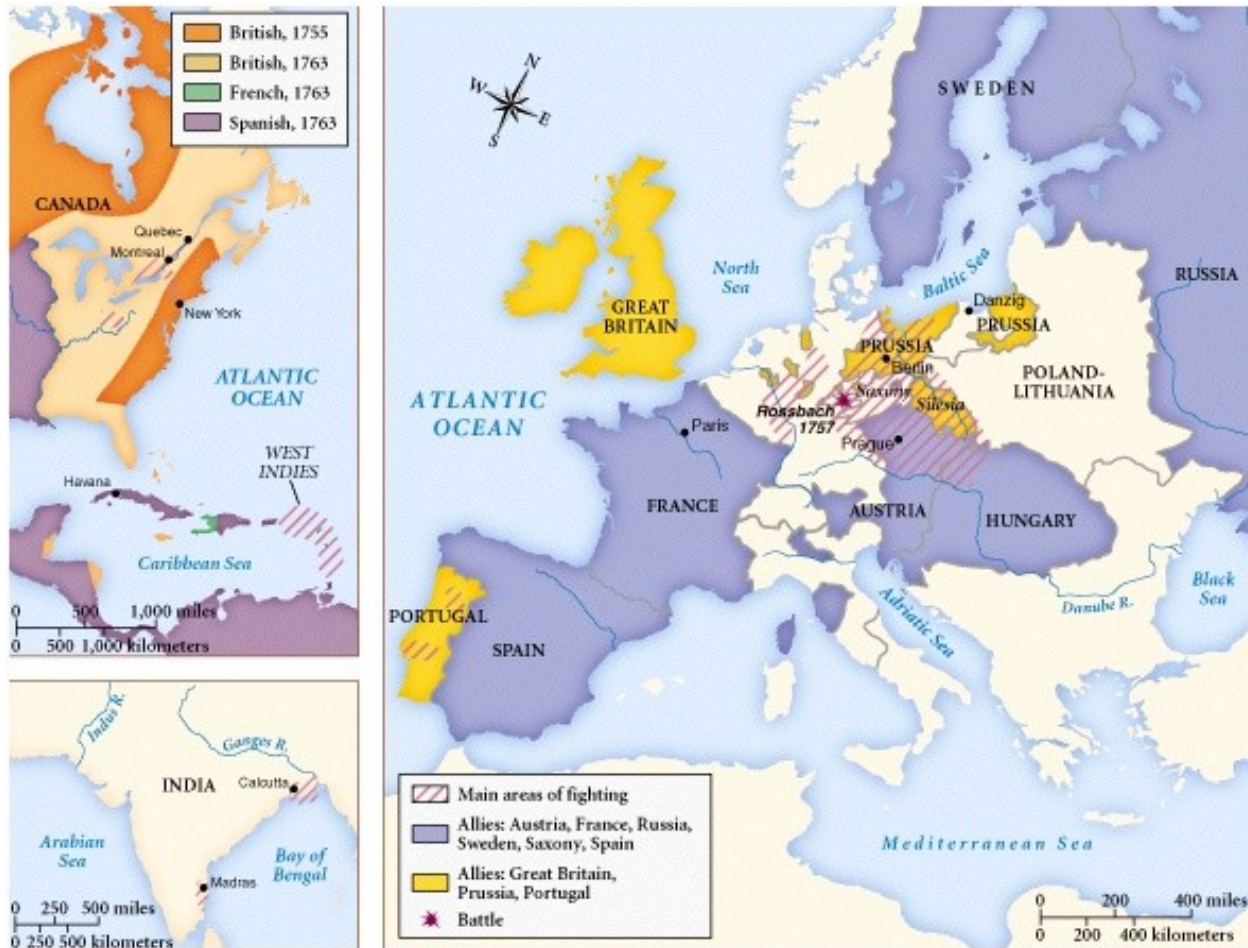


Patriotism and Revolt: The American and Surrounding Revolutions

ONE IN A SERIES OF CONFLICTS

- 7 years war (France vs Britain [and Spain, and Austria, and Prussia...]) 1754 - 1763
- French and Indian War (N. American aspect of the 7 years war) 1754-1763
- Pontiac's War 1763 (including biological warfare in the form of smallpox-infected blankets... and also involving a split in the Iroquois...)
- American Revolution
- Shay's Rebellion
- Whiskey Rebellion

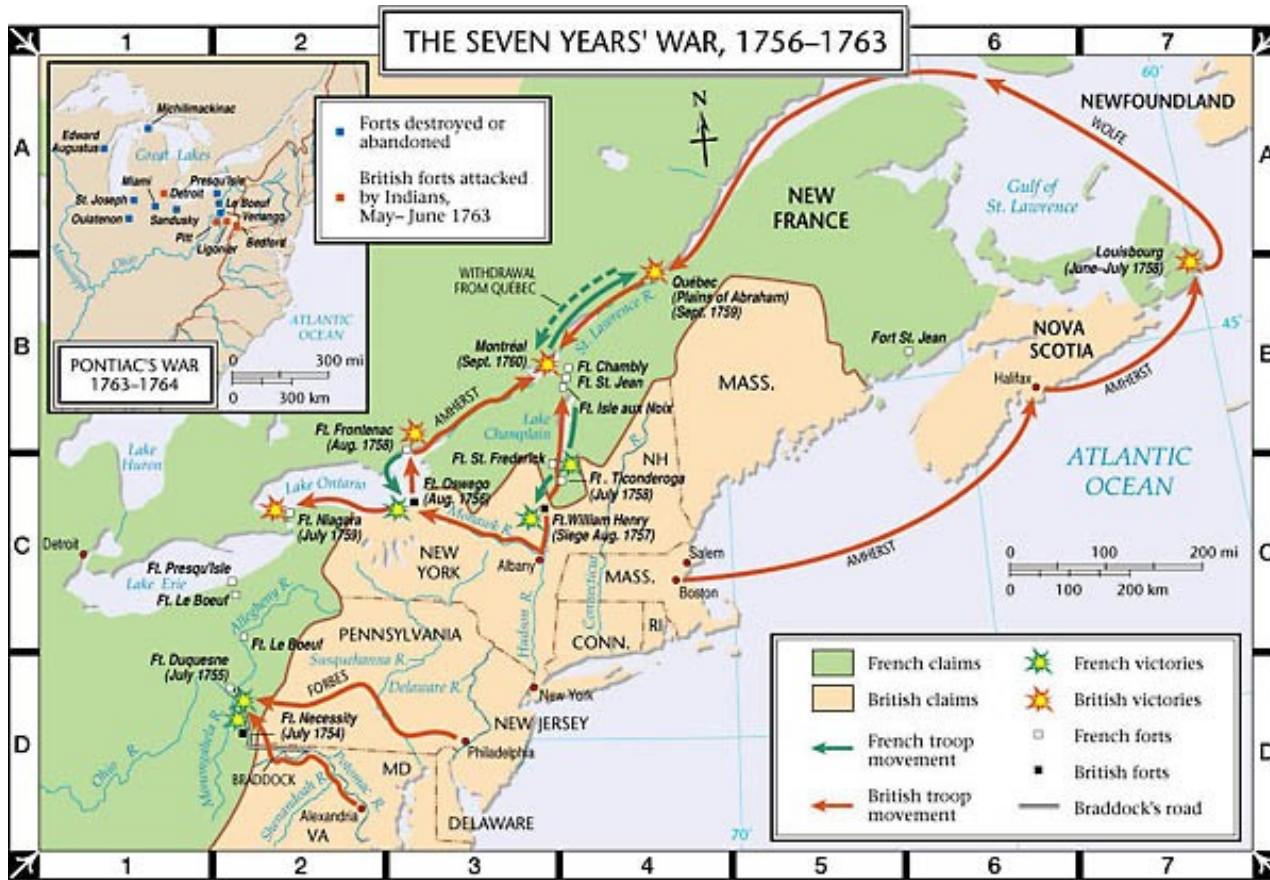
The 7 years war: geographical extent



North America 1755-60



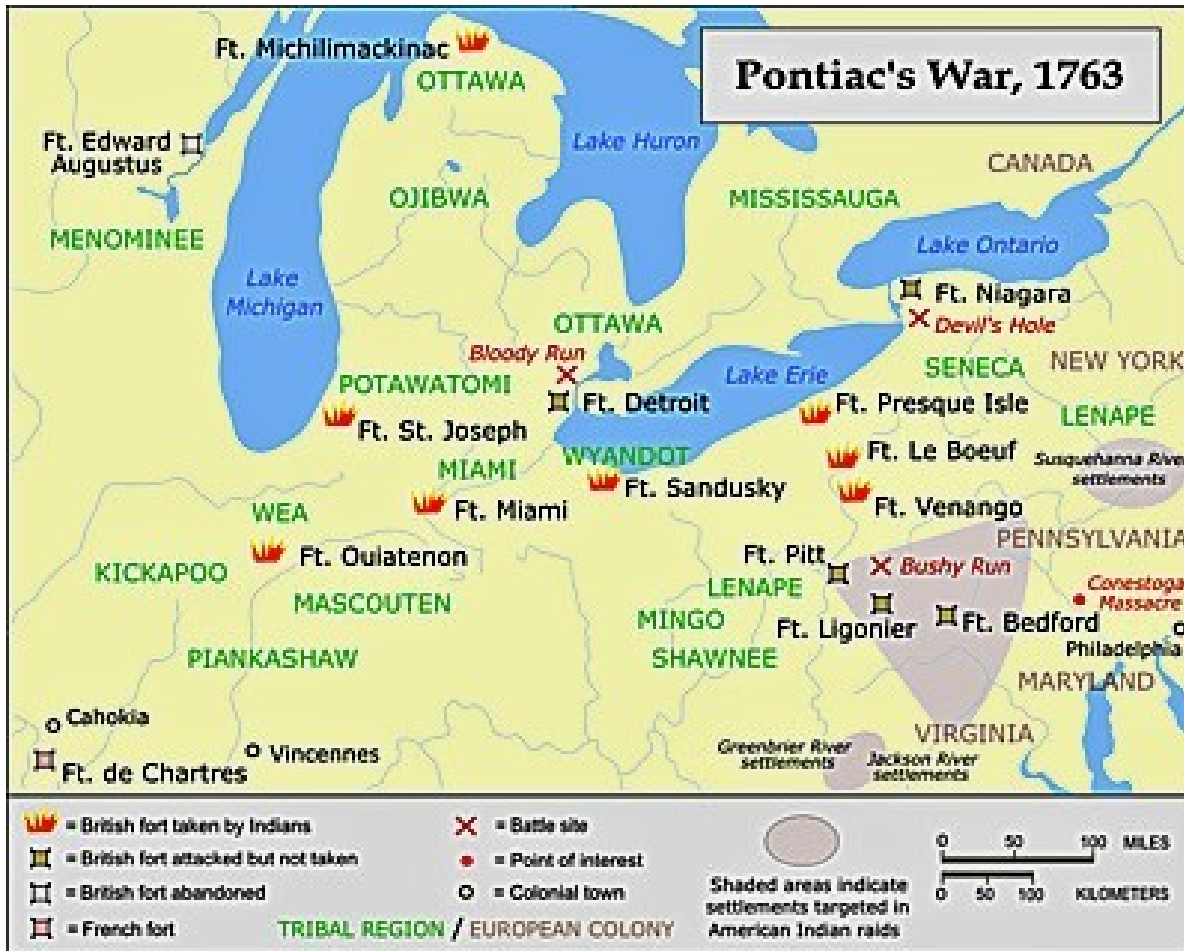
French and Indian War



1763



Pontiac's War, 1763





British Pressures on the American Colonists:

- Writs of Assistance : 1760 (searches, vs smuggling)
- Proclamation of 1763 (closing off Ohio, after Pontiac's War, and controlling the fur trade)
- Sugar Act : 1764 (vs smuggling, and trying to recoup war debt), repealed 1766 after a boycott
- Stamp Act: 1765, repealed 1768
- Townshend Acts : 1767 (still in debt, still need money)
- Declaratory Act : 1768
- Tea Act : 1773

American Pressure / Resistance to the British

- Directed **Riots**. For example, specific targeting and intimidation of tax agents.
- General or uncontrolled riots, for example by the “Loyal Nine” in Boston and “Sons of Liberty” elsewhere. Picking fights with soldiers... street-fighting
- *(note that organizing such riots, especially by Samuel Adams, meant utilizing the lower classes... as thugs)*

Propaganda/Rhetoric

- Thomas Paine: Common Sense. England is tyrannical, the colonists enslaved. (Note that they pay 1/50 of English tax, and have the highest per capita in the European-derived world...)
- James Otis: “No taxation without representation.” (It’s an issue of democratic principle, not of commercial interest.)
- Thomas Jefferson: “Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Property... err... Pursuit of Happiness.” It’s about *natural rights*...

Economic

- Smuggling
- Boycotts
- Refusal to pay taxes

Military

- George Washington and the army... “the army is the revolution...”
- Guerilla harassment? Lots of confrontation and running away...
- Then: one big victory... Saratoga... and then the French join... leading to the final battle at Yorktown
- 1783... it's over

Shay's Rebellion: 1786-1787, vs tax and debt collection

- Massachusetts
- After the war, creditors in Mass. Pursuing debtors and owed taxes.
- Many poor people called to court.
- Daniel Shays, who'd been in the war, rise against govt and court. Seize weapons from an armory

Whiskey Rebellion, 1791

- Protest against tax on liquor in Pennsylvania. Whiskey was often used as currency—thus enabling exchange to take place outside of the jurisdiction of the govt.
- Tax collectors attacked by 500 men...
- Washington himself rides with 13,000 militia to suppress the insurgency...



FAMOUS WHISKEY INSURRECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA. 1794

Hostilities

PAINE'S "COMMON SENSE"

- Enlightenment principle: “prejudices” vs reason / “common sense”... (but is it really “common sense”? Or is it sophisticated rhetoric?)
- Rhetorical positions: “be a man” / “the king is an enemy of liberty and thirsty for arbitrary power” / “islands governing continents reverses the order of nature” / only cowards, sycophants, the interested, the weak, the prejudiced, the stupid... are for reconciliation... / “injuries and disadvantages without number”
- And the most lingering rhetoric—with real historical impact for American ideology: Americans are “lovers of civil and religious liberty”... 1492 opened a “sanctuary” for freedom... as if God willed it so...
- ... *Remember Adam Smith said that colonies are very desirable because they facilitate rapid economic growth. Perhaps they are also particularly open to (new) ideologies / thought...*

Arguments / Counterarguments

- Argument: Colonies are aided by England...
- No...we're injured. We become England's enemies enemy; and we'd have grown more quickly without them
- Argument: England protects us
- No... they protect us at our expense, and for their own interest
- *And... while the king has reason to keep England strong, he has good reason to keep America weak (note this seems a generally-applicable logic for any relation of colonization or subjugation...)*
- Argument: England is our parent
- No... Europe is the parent...

Paine's key concerns

- Primary emphasis: COMMERCE... best without interference, and best without wars with Europe (referring to the 7 Years War)
- Self-government simply will WORK better...
- And yes, democracy is the only “natural,” valid form of government for him

The Legacy of Rousseau

- “Prefer Liberty; Disdain Submission.”
- Republics are formed on more “natural” principles than other governments
- Freedom and property for all
- Free exercise of religion
- Relations of “sympathy” are the bond uniting the social fabric. And this mutual feeling *should* lead to sympathy with the suffering Bostonians. The Americans *should* be angry...

On Thursday you'll see Paine's rhetoric contradicted on a couple of points

- “We're brothers with every European Christian”
- We'll put our law on the bible, the “word of god,” and say that here “law is King”...
- God opened the New World as a “sanctuary” for religious freedom etc...