

Chapter 7 - The Colonists Seek Greater Freedom (1763 - 1775)

Topic I - Why Did Britain Tighten Its Control Over The American Colonies?

A - STRIFE ON THE FRONTIER

- 1). The new territories draw attention
 - The colonists moved to the western lands even though the Native Americans lived there already
 - As a result of the Treaty of Paris 1763
- 2). Pontiac's War interferes with western settlement
 - Chief Pontiac led other Native American tribes in an attack against the colonists
- 3). The Proclamation of 1763 closes the frontier
 - King George III made a law that forbade the colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains to avoid further conflicts with the Native Americans

B. GRENVILLE'S NEW PROGRAM

- 1). Britain needs money to pay war debts
 - Prime Minister Grenville needed more revenue so he decided that the colonists should help to pay back the war debt (from the French and Indian War)
- 2). Britain tries to enforce the Navigation Acts
 - They enforce the Navigation Acts to ensure that England would get a large portion of the profits from colonial trade
- 3). Parliament approves 2 new taxes.
 - Sugar Act and the Currency Act
- 4). Parliament passes the Stamp Act
 - To raise money to pay for the British soldiers in the colonies

TOPIC 2: HOW DID AMERICAN COLONISTS REACT TO STRICT CONTROLS BT BRITAIN?

- 1). Grenville's new policies anger the colonists
 - Colonists were angry because they were denied the right to the new land
- 2). The colonists oppose "taxation without representation"
 - They wanted representation in Parliament, especially for internal taxes
- 3). The colonists take action against the Stamp Act
 - They organized the Stamp Act Congress, wrote a formal protest, boycotted British goods and created the Sons and Daughters of Liberty

- 4). Parliament repeals the hated Stamp Act.
 - The boycott was severely hurting British trade

B - NEW LAWS AND NEW PROTESTS

- 1). Parliament passed the Townshend Acts (1767)
 - This law was to replace The Stamp Act because the English were determined to raise money in the colonies
 - It also included some punishments towards the colonists
- 2). Townshend Acts outrage the colonists.
 - Merchants were outraged by the writs of assistance
 - Many colonists were also outraged that the New York Assembly was closed
- 3). The colonists resist the Townshend Acts.
 - Organized another boycott and Sam Adams wrote letters to inform the other colonies
- 4). The Boston Massacre strengthens opposition.
 - As the number of troops increased in Boston there was greater anti-British feelings and tension
- 5). The Tea Act stirs up trouble
 - As the British lowered the price of tea the colonists refused to unload the tea and Sam Adams organized the destruction of tea at the Boston Tea Party
- 6). Boston holds a tea party.
 - They refuse to unload the tea and they destroy the tea

TOPIC 3 - WHAT HAPPENED WHEN BRITAIN PUNISHED THE COLONISTS?

A. BRITISH RESTRICTIONS

1. Parliament passes laws to punish Massachusetts.
 - Coercive Act (Intolerable Acts) 1774
2. Patriots organize resistance to the Intolerable Acts
 - Organized the Committees of Correspondence
 - Formed the First Continental Congress 1774
 - Boycotted
3. First Continental Congress meets
 - To demand the repeal of the Intolerable Acts
 - Reorganized the boycott
 - Demanded that their English rights be respected by Parliament

B. - TAKING UP ARMS

- 1). The colonists prepare to fight
 - Massachusetts minutemen began to arm themselves because the boycott was not working
 - They stored their weapons in the town of Concord
- 2). The British move on Lexington and Concord
 - They wanted to steal the minutemen's weapons
 - They wanted to arrest John Hancock and Sam Adams
- 3). A "shot heard round the world"
 - The first shots of the American Revolution
 - The first time colonies stand up to their mother country