

Movie Notes - Liberty Part Two:

In 1774 did a lot of colonists want independence from England? How many –

- a. few
- b. majority
- c. most

Why was the Boston Tea Party such a problem for the British Parliament?

The action happened in a major city of the colonies – not the backwoods

What did the Colonists consider the set of laws passed after the Boston Tea Party?

Intolerable Acts

Let the Colonies unite with one spirit with one cause – John Dickinson

By age 39, what was the farthest distance that John Adams had ever travelled (100 miles) before being chosen to be part of the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia

What life experience did Adams experience where rank based on birth and family name was more important than grades earned – Harvard University

In the Continental Congress, what must Adams convince the other colonies to do for Massachusetts? – support the colony or it would have to go it alone against British power.

Was there a sense of unity amongst the British colonies with each other as colonists?

What did other colonies think of Massachusetts representatives? Hotheads

What did the thirteen colonies consider each colony? their own country in relation to England.

At the end of the first continental congress, what did its delegates drink to on their last day? To England

Congress decides to support Massachusetts and to arm all colonies

Why do the British think the colonists are betraying England? Because the British defeated France in North America.

The colonists arm themselves.

What happens to the british aristocrats in the colonies – they feel attacked, called spies, wish to leave the “provinces”

Why did the British attack at Lexington – to take control of rebel arms and weapons

How many British soldiers are killed during the retreat from Lexington and Concord? 269

What choice did Washington think colonists had to make – to live as slaves or to be drenched in blood

What did the second continental decide –

1. To form a national army
2. The collection of armed men around Boston
3. led by Washington (who thought he would be nominated to be the general – John Hancock) – picked Virginia citizen to get the largest colony into the fighting
4. How old was Washington when he was selected to be the Continental Army General – 43 year old

What is the first major battle in Boston where many British soldiers died – Bunker Hill, where soldiers had to charge up a hill. What fraction of British troops have been killed or wounded – more than 1/3

Was Washington at Bunker Hill?

Whose home took in survivors from Bunker Hill – Abigail Adams home, 9 miles away in Braintree.

How did officer get named in the early army at Boston – voted on by the citizens.

How did some state meet their soldier quotas when their quotas for the Army were not meant – they allowed slaves to fight for the army. How many black soldier fought – 25,000 on both sides. 20 percent (1/5) of colonial soldier were black – most integrated American war until the 20th Century.

What is the last effort by Congress for peace – to send the Olive Branch petition (1775). Did all in Congress think the petition was a good idea – no. John Adams felt that any effort at peace now would waste valuable to get money and troops for the war effort. John Dickinson felt the petition directly to the king, was the last hope for peace – July 5, 1775.

What was Thomas Paine calling for besides independence from England? That ordinary people can understand and participate in government daily. – Common Sense – best seller of the time. Read in church, by officers, to the streets.

What is part of the first colonial flag with 13 stripes – the Union Jack (the British flag in the corner)

In March 1776 the British evacuate Boston to regroup for an attack on New York City.

Why does John Adams support Thomas Jefferson to help write the Dec. of Independence –

1. Better writing; better liked than Adams

John Keegan – Historian – feels that the War of indep was a war of ideas, of political ideas, based on equality

July 2 – Congress decides that Independence

July 4 – adopts Dec of independence text