

New British Measures & the Conservative Colonial Stance



Topics of Consideration: 1763-1774

- I. British North America in 1763
- II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-66
- III. Townshend Debate, 1767-70
- IV. Tea Act Debate, 1773-74
- V. The Escalation of Tension



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I. British North America in 1763

1763 French and Indian War ends:
Treaty of Paris

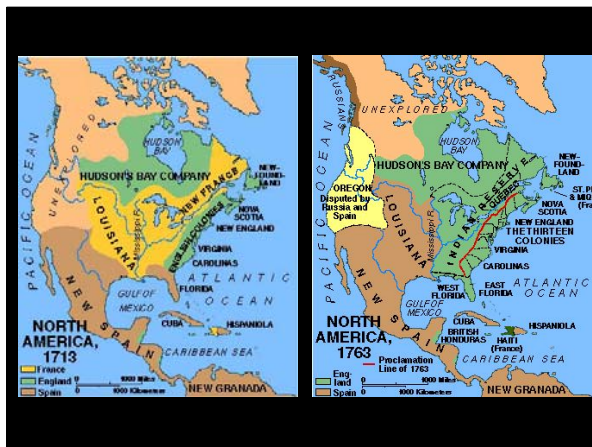
New Situation for British
New Situation for Colonials

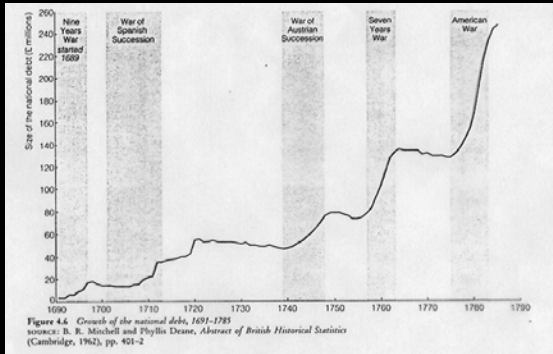
1763 Pontiac's Rebellion

1763 Proclamation of 1763

1763 10,000 British troops left in colonies







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II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-66

1765 Stamp Act Passed
Purpose?
Method of taxation?

1765 Conservative Colonial Response
Virginia Resolves
Stamp Act Congress, New York

1765 Virtual Representation Debate
Whatley: Virtual Representation
Dulany: Against Virtual Representation



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Thomas Whatley on Virtual Representation

"The Inhabitants of the Colonies are represented in Parliament: they do not indeed chuse the Members of that Assembly: neither are Nine Tenths of the People of Britain Electors . . . and yet are they not represented in Parliament? Is their vast Property subject to Taxes without their Consent? Are they all arbitrarily bound by Laws to which they have not agreed? The Colonies are in exactly the same Situation: All British Subjects are really in the same; none are actually, all are virtually represented in Parliament: for every Member of Parliament sits in the House, not as Representative of his own Constituents, but as one of that august Assembly by which all the Commons of Great Britain are represented."



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Daniel Dulany Opposes Virtual Representation

"There is not that intimate and inseparable relation between the electors of Great-Britain, and the Inhabitants of the colonies, which must inevitably involve both in the same taxation: on the contrary, not a single actual elector in England, might be immediately affected by a taxation in America, imposed by a statute which would have a general operation and effect, upon the properties of the inhabitants of the colonies. The latter might be oppressed in a thousand shapes, without any Sympathy, or exciting any alarm in the former. Moreover, even acts, oppressive and injurious to the colonies in an extreme degree, might become popular in England, from the promise or expectation, that the very measures which depressed the colonies, would give ease to the Inhabitants of Great Britain"



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II. Stamp Act Debate, 1765-66

1766 Stamp Act Repealed
Explanations

1766 Declaratory Act Passed

1766 Constitutional Issues Unresolved



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III. Townshend Debate, 1767-70

1767 Townshend Duties Passed
Reasoning
Method of taxation

1767 John Dickinson, *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania*.

1767 Customs Comm. arrive in Boston

1768 Colonial Boycott of British goods

1768 British Troops Arrive in Boston



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III. Townshend Debate, 1767-70

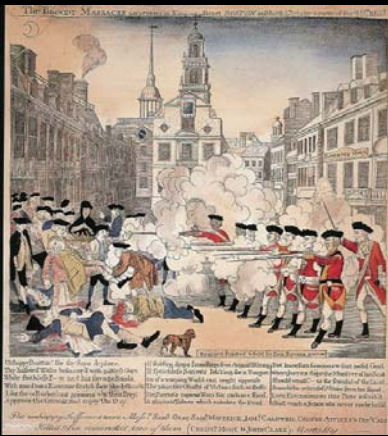
1770 Boston "Massacre"

1770 Repeal of Townshend Duties
(Except on Tea)

1770 Colonial Boycott collapses

1770 Resumption of good relations





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IV. Tea Act Debate, 1773-74

- 1770-73 Colonials pay tax on tea
- 1772 British Troops leave Boston
- 1773 Tea Act Passed
- 1773 Boston Tea Party
- 1774 Coercive Acts Passed



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V. The Escalation of Tensions

- Concluding Remarks
- Little room for negotiation left
- Coercive Acts lead to radicalization of the colonial position
- Coercive Acts lead to First Continental Congress, which we will discuss next