

Chapter 1 : The U.S. Navy's First Jack

The Continental Army fought for the 13 colonies in the Revolutionary War.. The army served for the entire eight years of the Revolutionary War, from , in North America as well as in the West Indies.

In tiny ships they crossed the gray Atlantic to carve out settlements on the east coast of what is now the United States. Soon the Continental Navy was established and went on to distinguish itself during the American Revolution, as related here by Florida Associate Charles E. They then released the British commander and burned the vessel. Under the Resolves of the Massachusetts General Court dated August 21, , these two sloops became the first vessels of the Massachusetts Navy. But these were army vessels under the command of General Washington. Their flag was a pine tree on a white background on one side, and the words "Appeal to Heaven" on the reverse side. General Washington commissioned John Manley of Massachusetts to command the schooner LEE with 6 carriage guns, 10 swivel guns and a crew of 30 men, total weight 74 tons. All of these commissions were in the army. But then in July Manley and his crew were captured by the British and confined on a prison ship in New York Harbor. The Americans sank two of the enemy ships, but then Captain Mugford received a fatal blow to his body and died in battle on May 19, After Captain Mugford was killed, the British retreated. The two Lieutenants captured the transport HOPE of 10 guns, laden with 1, barrels of gun-powder, a terrific bounty for the Americans. But why do we hear of Washington, and not of Hopkins, who had an equal position? Hopkins was placed in charge of eight vessels and received orders to attack enemy ships off the coast of Virginia and the Carolinas. At this point Hopkins changed his mind and decided to attack Fort Nassau on New Providence Island in the Bahamas, because of the cannon and gunpowder stored at the fort. The surprise attack on Fort Nassau was successful, capturing the fort on March 6, The Marines seized 71 cannons, 15 brass mortars and 24 barrels of gunpowder. The British fleet then escaped, much to the dismay of the Americans. Sickness and disease was rampant on the American side, especially smallpox, which spread through the seamen. Hopkins Dismissed The Continental Congress summoned Hopkins to appear before them in June , and despite his victory at New Providence Island, he was censured by Congress for his failure to carry out orders. In December the naval base at Newport was occupied by the British and Hopkins was unable to sail. He was suspended from his command in the Continental Navy on March 26, for the loss of Newport, and dismissed from the service on January 2, Despite his great victory in capturing munitions at Fort Nassau, he was dismissed. Hopkins retired to Providence to live with his wife, Desire, and their ten children. Offin Boardman of Newburyport, Massachusetts was an interesting character. On February 1, he escaped, but was recaptured April 10, He escaped again, but was retaken on December 21, , having to spend Christmas in prison. Boardman escaped from the prison a third time on January 3, ; this time he made it back to America. But Boardman managed to escape a fourth time and returned to America. He probably was the prize escape artist of the American privateersmen. His mother was Mary Scull, and his father was William Biddle. Of the men on board, only four were saved. That was the tragic end of the handsome and wealthy bachelor, Nicholas Biddle. As the land war dragged on, the Continental Navy and privateers engaged in combat all across the Atlantic Ocean, capturing enemy vessels and cargoes. But many American ships were captured and the seamen imprisoned in England. French Fleet Causes Surrender When the French fleet under Admirals de Grasse and de Barras blockaded Chesapeake Bay preventing British ships from landing ammunition, supplies and reinforcements from reaching the enemy, Lord Cornwallis was forced to surrender at Yorktown, Virginia on October 19, These were the last naval shots of the American Revolution.

Chapter 2 : Need ur help URGENTLY!!? | Yahoo Answers

The Continental Army was formed by the Second Continental Congress after the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War by the colonies that became the United States of America. Established by a resolution of the Congress on June 14, , it was created to coordinate the military efforts of the Thirteen Colonies in their revolt against the.

In a prologue to that conflict, Pennsylvanian and Virginian colonists were looking westward to extend the frontier. A young major in the Virginia militia was ordered by the royal provisional Governor Dinwiddie to deliver a demand to a French force to discontinue building a series of forts along the Alleghany River. This followed a series of murders of English speaking traders committed by Indians and provoked by their French ally. The Governor, acting under a special grant from the Crown, dispatched the militia to end French actions. In , the provincial force was led by the young major. George Washington led the new force and engaged the French killing an officer and nine soldiers. He would later serve on the staff of General Edward Braddock and gain wartime experience. This early skirmish did not start a war, but it was a beginning, with bloodshed soon thereafter, and emblematic of the centuries old relationship between these feuding European powers. War between France and Britain was inevitable. The difference was that the battleground was the New World and their colonial surrogates were deeply immersed. His history mirrored the fortunes of the French presence in the New World. Their Indian allies were a much reduced problem except for the hardy pioneers pushing west into traditional Indian territories. The British security blanket was past tense, but their parliamentary presence was invasive. With the old security issues resolved, the Colonial- American mind-set now turned to social and political grievances. Unresolved by peaceful redress, patriots sought resolution through the battles of the Revolutionary War. Note to the reader: Some battles described have significant sequels. We have taken the liberty to include later chronologies under the earlier date to present a coherent historical journal for those events. As a result, historical hindsight is focused on the patriots who were victorious in their battle for liberty. Overlooked are the hardships and crushing defeats that time has diminished. Loss and victory in minor skirmishes and raids had a cumulative effect on future strategies and moral. There were bleak moments after defeats that weighed heavily on American leaders. Their ability to focus on the ultimate goal of self government attests to their long view of history. George Washington, after years of war said: It was their reaction to repressive acts of Parliament. Henry and other patriots began an effort to recover the powder. By October, Lord Dunmore, reacting to further patriot provocations in the province, fled to safety on board of a British warship anchored off shore. The British general directed that Lt. Colonel Francis Smith 10th Regiment of Foot and his men seize suspected military stores at the nearby village of Concord. Secrets, even military ones, were immediately circulated into the public domain before the ink dried. The villagers, having been forewarned, had moved almost all military stores to safer, secured locations. Messrs Paul Revere and William Dawes rode to warn the affected targets in the villages of Lexington and Concord that an attack was imminent on the following day.. On April 19, the British regulars en route to Concord, first reached Lexington in their line of march. They found the Americans assembled on the village common under the command of Captain John Parker. He had ordered his "training band" not to be confused with the "sons of liberty" to "stand your ground", but not to fire. Although this statement is not consistent with the sworn testimony of John Parker, the substance was verified. Parker, in the face of a stronger British force, ordered his men to disperse. A shot rang outsource unknown--and the British then fired a volley. The patriots returned fire and were soon faced with a bayonet charge. The militia fell back, retreating toward Concord. Eight colonists were dead. Nevertheless, even the following incident reports rendered by each side are in conflict with each other which so often begins a wider armed conflict. We had a man of the 10th light Infantry wounded, nobody else was hurt. We then formed on the Common, but with some difficulty, the men were so wild they could hear no orders; we waited a considerable time there, and at length proceeded our way to Concord. Unexpectedly, they met Patriot resistance at the North Bridge. This began a retreat and forced march in the direction of Boston. Captain John Parker had followed the British from Lexington and fired on their retreating forces. He was devastating their

ranks and fortuitously British reinforcements arrived to extricate them. Unfortunately he did not live out the year and died of tuberculosis. This chronic disease had plagued him for months prior to the British engagements. The men, mainly from the home province, and lesser numbers from surrounding New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island comprised 24 regiments. There was a recognition of a mutual purpose between the emerging states, but the variety of "uniforms" emphasized a lack of unanimity in battle dress. Battles of the Revolutionary War Charles M. The lake was a mile gateway between British Canada and the American colonies to the south. This placid scene had erupted into fierce war between the British and French in the Indian wars when Ticonderoga was known as Fort Carillon. The British commander, at that time, George Howe, had met his untimely death assailing the walls of the fort originally built by French settlers in His family name would survive in America when his brothers, one a general, William, and the other an admiral, Richard, would play a part in the British defense of its colonial empire. This family reportedly was not unsympathetic with some of the demands of the Americans, but tradition and loyalty to the Crown over shadowed personal beliefs. The Massachusetts Committee of Safety raised a small force under the command of the newly promoted Colonel Benedict Arnold. He was ordered to capture Fort Ticonderoga that lies about miles west of the Massachusetts border. The two Patriot forces met, merged and embarked vessels to float down Lake Champlain to the fort lying at the foot of the lake. When that was consumed they were ready to move on. The friction between Allen and Arnold, particularly about the credit for the capture, remained through-out their joint occupation. Battles of the Revolutionary War National archives May Allen, immediately upon landing, attacked the fort with a small force. There was no resistance from the garrison. Some of the big guns remained to defend the fort as they did under the flags of French. British and American defenders. He was met on the lake by forces of Benedict Arnold and repulsed in the battle of Valcour Island October Arnold was bloodied and beaten but had enough left in the tank to delay Carleton. This tactic was rewarded by an early snow storm that forced Carlton to retire to winter quarters. The encounter deserves mention as the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Together, the forts were to serve as a blocking strategy to blunt any Canadian drive southward into the heart of the New England and New York. They expended energy and resources to fortify adjacent hills. One was renamed Mount Independence. They were aided by a Polish engineer, Thaddeus Kosciusko, who was recruited to the patriot cause in Paris by Benjamin Franklin. He remained a dedicated warrior as Chief Engineer of the Continental Army. In the summer that followed, General John Burgoyne, reinforced and strengthened in Canada, commanded a flotilla sailing south on Lake Champlain. It was evident to the Americans that the fleet was headed for Fort Ticonderoga. He immediately co-opted the defenseless Sugar Loaf Hill and his guns now overlooked the fort. The march of his forces was a micro view of the military action dominating the early years of the Revolutionary War many early victories for the British General that proved to be Pyrrhic. He was ultimately defeated at Saratoga. Clair that defense would be futile. He planned to abandon the fort under cover of darkness on July 6, The American troops escaped but not unscathed. His plan for a secret retreat was disclosed by a spy that enabled Burgoyne to pursue the fleeing St. The patriots were hit by Hessian cannon and assailed by German bayonet charges. American casualties included captured, but the bulk of his troops would reform for the Saratoga campaign on the near horizon and meet Burgoyne under different circumstances, and where he met his "Waterloo". Significantly, Burgoyne left 1, men to garrison Ticonderoga a compelling decision that depleted his fast moving forces. For the Americans, it was a poor way to celebrate a one year anniversary of American independence. Battles of the Revolutionary War Engraving by E. Many in the fort claimed that the fort was well prepared to defend itself and chastised St. Clair for abandoning it. The implication was an accusation that the hasty withdrawal was an act of cowardice. The general insisted on a court martial to defend his honor. He presented as his defense his intent to preserve his force in tact, and thus capable of later joining the larger American forces against Burgoyne. A "live to fight another day" defense. The court martial system was mandated by the Continental Congress on June 28, The war had just begun and the Congress had appointed a committee that included George Washington to make recommendations.

Chapter 3 : George Washington assigned to lead the Continental Army - HISTORY

The Continental Army was the army raised by the Second Continental Congress to oppose the British Army during the American Revolutionary War. The army went through three major establishments: the first in 1775, the second in 1776, and the third from 1777 until after the end of the war.

The Rattlesnake Jack and the Modern Navy A jack is a flag corresponding in appearance to the union or canton of the national ensign. In the United States Navy, it is a blue flag containing a star for each state. For countries whose colors have no canton, the jack is simply a small national ensign. On a sailing vessel, the jack is hoisted at the jack-staff shipped at the bowsprit cap when at anchor or in port. The evidence is inconclusive. There is reason to believe that the Continental Navy jack was simply a red and white striped flag with no other adornment. The rattlesnake emerged as a symbol of the English colonies of North America about the time of the Seven Years War, when it appeared in newspaper prints with the motto "Join or Die. The rattlesnake and the motto also appeared on military accoutrements, such as drums, and on state paper currency, during the Revolution. Elsewhere, Hopkins mentions using a "striped flag" as a signal. Since American merchant ships often displayed a simple red and white striped flag, there is a good chance that the striped jack to which Hopkins refers was the plain, striped flag used by American merchant ships. The other print is in English and French and was apparently based on the first. In the prints, behind the commodore, several warships are displayed. First, the flags in these prints are not at the bow, where a jack would go, but at the stern, the proper place for the national ensign. Second, no one suggests that the pine tree flag was the Continental Navy jack, even though that flag appears in the same print. Most secondary accounts state that the stripes of South Carolina naval flag were red and blue. One, Figure 3 courtesy Naval Historical Center, a French print, includes the pine tree flag and the rattlesnake flag, the latter without stripes, draped over military accoutrements. Roosevelt Library, include a plain striped flag, without snake or motto. The historical evidence makes it impossible to say for certain whether the Continental Navy used the striped rattlesnake flag as its jack. Joseph Reed to Col. Crowell, p. For example, the vessels of war of the state of Massachusetts Bay have sometimes a pine tree; and those of the state of South Carolina a rattlesnake in the middle of thirteen stripes. Merchant ships have often only thirteen stripes, but the flag of the United States ordained by Congress is the thirteen stripes and the thirteen stars above described. I remember to have seen a flag designed for one of them on which was extremely well painted a Rattle Snake rearing his Crest and shaking his Rattles, with this Motto "Dont tread on me". But whether this Device was generally adopted by the fleet, I am not able to say. I rather think it was not. The "standard" refers to the Gadsden flag and the "ensign" to the Grand Union flag. The signal instructions do not describe the Continental jack.

Chapter 4 : Historical Flags of the United States

Commodore Matthew Perry is widely credited with prescribing the first enlisted uniform. False During the Navy's early years, enlisted uniforms were prescribed by _____.

Betsy Ross Flag Since there was no official United States Flag for the first year after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, there were a great number of homespun flag designs. This flag is without question the most well known of those. Fully sewn and embroidered nylon outdoor flag. Select your size here. This flag is the first to lead American armed forces on land. The original is preserved in the museum at Bennington, Vermont. The flag that Hopkins used as his personal standard on the Alfred is the one we would now recognize. Gadsden also presented a copy of this flag to his state legislature in Charleston. This is recorded in the South Carolina congressional journals: The original flag is now at Annapolis, Maryland. For seagoing ships, however, the official banner was the Union flag better known as the Union Jack , which combined England St. As of that date, all of present-day Georgia was included within the area claimed by the second Carolina charter , so the Union flag would have been the official flag of what would one day become Georgia. The Kings Colors were placed on a red field. Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown under this flag. The best known of the British Maritime flags, or Ensigns, which were formed by placing the Union flag in the canton of another flag having a field of white, blue or red. This flag was widely used on ships during the Colonial period. This was the first National flag of the United States. It is displayed daily from the jackstaff of all U. This powerful American symbol was used by the Continental Navy in and is being used again by the U. Navy in the War on Terrorism. Though this skirmish was militarily inconsequential, as an act of defiance, it began the Texas Revolution. In the not too distant future, you may be required to surrender some or all of your guns to the police or military. How will you respond? About years ago, early Texans faced the same dilemma. This Flag was born from that struggle. This Flag can Take It! To call attention to this, Texans removed the coat of arms from the center of a Mexican flag, and replaced it with the date of the constitution. It was this banner that flew from the walls of the Alamo. In eastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and the southern corner of Maine, there lived a nomadic tribe of Amerindians known as the Penacook. Volumes have been written about the battle of Bunker Hill, but we have no real knowledge that any American Flag was flown in this battle. John Trumbull, whose paintings of Revolutionary War scenes are widely famous, was an eye-witness and his subsequent drawings depicting the battle prominently displayed this flag. This flag was a republic flag for one month before being replaced by the Stars and Stripes and eventually became the state flag of California. Also known as the Continental flag, it is the first true U. George Washington liked this design so well that he chose it to be flown to celebrate the formation of the Continental Army on New Years Day, , on Prospect Hill in Somerville, near his headquarters at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Chapter 5 : Commodore Barry

On 1 January , Captain John Manley, Continental Army, was appointed Commodore of the Fleet and hoisted his flag in Hancock. She captured two enemy transports on 25 January , fending off an eight-gun British schooner in a brisk engagement while prize crews took the captured ships into Plymouth Harbor.

A few months after the British defeat at the Battle of Yorktown Oct. Nearly a year later, the Confederation Congress issued a proclamation on April 11 in , "declaring the cessation of arms" against Great Britain, which had passed a similar proclamation Feb. It was an incredible victory for an upstart nation with no navy against the power of Great Britain and the fleet of the Royal Navy. Aboard sloop Success, commanded by Capt. Nathaniel Pope and Capt. Daniels Egery, a small force of men from the town of Fairhaven captured two British sloops and their crews. In mid-June moving north we come to the port of Machias, Maine, then part of northern Massachusetts. Local towns were experiencing first hand harassment by the British, so, like in Fairhaven, they took matters into their own hands. That was followed in August when the townspeople of Gloucester, Mass. These first battles sparked a level of confidence among the townspeople and seafaring communities that they could challenge and overcome the British as they seized American merchant ships of commerce and harassed local communities up and down the Eastern seaboard. And it finally convinced the leaders of our developing nation they needed to combat the vulnerability of the coastal seafaring communities to British waterborne assault. They selected a commander for the Continental Navy, Esek Hopkins, and commissioned 18 naval officers, established two Marine battalions; even established pay and subsistence standards; authorized prize moneys for the capture and sale of enemy warships; adopted a naval code of discipline drafted by John Adams; and formed an administrative body, the Marine Committee, to give guidance and direction to our new navy. Commodore Hopkins was responsible for one of the early American naval victories when his squadron traveled south to the Bahamas in February Along with a battalion of Marines, the Hopkins-led squadron launched an amphibious landing on March 3 and raided the British colony of Nassau for military supplies that would benefit the Continental Army. Another American naval legend, Capt. John Barry, was doing his part protecting merchant ships as they brought supplies into the port cities of Philadelphia and Delaware Bay. In June , as the American brig Nancy, loaded with her cargo of weapons and supplies intended for the Continental Army, moved closer to Cape May, New Jersey, two British ships were seen in pursuit of the brig. Barry, aboard his frigate Lexington and his companion schooner Wasp, were called to engage the two ships. Heavy fog caused Nancy to sail into the delightfully-named Turtle Gut Inlet. Barry and his men boarded and successfully unloaded her cargo while manning and engaging the British who had heavily damaged the ship. In a daunting gamble, Barry abandoned the Nancy, lowered her flag but not before leaving 50 pounds of gunpowder wrapped in the mainsail leading to the powder hold below deck. Barry, his ships and crew safely eluded the British and claimed both the victory and much-needed supplies. While those battles were mostly in American waters, another legendary Continental Navy captain was making a name for himself a bit closer to the motherland. Then more than a year later on Sept. Despite his sinking and burning [of the] ship, Jones refused to strike his colors. A well-timed grenade landed near ammunition on Serapis, and its ensuing explosion allowed Jones to get the upper hand and board the British ship upon their surrender. The captain who struck his colors that day was British. The Bonhomme Richard, however, sank the following day. So what Revolutionary naval battle was the most important? The records and many historians might say it was the Battle of Nassau, the first victory of the newly-formed Continental Navy. That mission brought much-needed ammunition and gunpowder to the American army. A few months later, on Sept. That treaty was ratified by Congress on Jan. Navy which was disbanded after the war, leaving the new nation without a Navy until March 27, , when President George Washington signed the Naval Act of authorizing the construction of six frigates. To learn more about U. Navy history, please go to the Naval History and Heritage Command website: Oil on canvas, by Thomas Mitchell , signed and dated by the artist, Richard Pearson, off Flamborough Head, England. Firing at right is the Continental frigate Alliance, while at left the British sloop-or-war Countess of Scarborough is engaging the French frigate Pallas. The original painting is in the U.

Naval Academy Museum, Annapolis, Md. It was donated by the U. Naval Institute in Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives. Treaty of Paris, signed Sept. This painting is by Arthur N. The brig Nancy flying the flag of the United States, first hoisted at the island of St. Thomas upon the news the United States was declaring its independence from Great Britain. Before that declaration could be signed, however, the brig was destroyed after her supplies were off loaded by Lexington and Wasp crew commanded by Capt. Drawn and engraved by John Sartain.

Chapter 6 : Alexander Murray (â€™) - Wikipedia

On this day in , George Washington, who would one day become the first American president, accepts an assignment to lead the Continental Army. Born a British citizen and a former Redcoat.

Benjamin Baxter, aged 74 years, revolutionary soldier and pensioner - American Traveler, 8, Nov. Stephen Bayard, aged 67 years, an officer in American army during whole of Revolutionary War. Elizzas Blackman, aged 85 years, 7 months; the last survivor of the massacre of Wyoming. A Highly respectable citizen - Boston Advertiser, 17 Dec. Jacob Bower, aged 61 years; a hero of the revolution further details may be found in the issues of the press cited, See also more comprehensive copy of in "Collections of the Genealogical Society" - Columbian Centinel, 22 Aug. James Bowen, aged 83 years. He was in the battle there; also at capture of Burgoyne and at Kingsbridge. One of two officers who led, arm in arm, the unfortunate Andre to execution. Luke Broadhead; was in 1st Pa. Served 3 years and 6 months, in the revolution - Boston Transcript, 22 Nov. Benjamin Budd and Mrs. Budd was in a volunteer in Col. John Cochran, aged 78 years. Samuel Cogswell, of the late army. Death was accidental - Ibid 9 Sept. James Evans in 95th year. William Findlay, a hero of the Revolution and many years a member of Congress. Godfred Frick, a native of Germany, Soldier of Revolution, age years. Six children, forty grandchildren, forty-five great grand children, Boston Advertiser, 15 Aug. Alexander Geyer, a native of Germany, who commanded a rifle corps in the revolution. John Hehman; regimental surgeon in Revolutionary army, Ibid, 15 Sept. Frederick Hesser, aged 85 years. Actively engaged on shipboard during Revolution. Held commission in Revolutionary army at age of sixteen. Aide de camp to Major General Lincoln. David Jones, chaplain in Revolutionary army and in late war-Ibid, 16 Feb. Alexander King, age 75 years. Emigrated to this county or Andrew Lee, aged 82 years. In entered Rev. Montgomery on expedition to Canada; taken prisoner and kept in captivity two years. Later appointed to command a company of light troops. Barney Merkle, painter, in 65th year. In active service throughout Revolution. Presley Neville, aged 63 years, formerly an aide de camp to Marquis Lafayette. Henry Schupp in 66 year. Entered as private, German regiment commanded by Col. Nicholas Housaker, attached to Pennsylvania Line in the Revolution. Appointed adjutant, Fought at Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown, etc. Boston Patriot, 16 Apr. Served as dragoon in Capt. A patriot of the Revolution, during which he was sole secretary of Congress, Boston Recorder, 28 Aug. George Turner, aged 93 years. John Whipple, aged 81 years. Born at Danvers, ; a son of Capt. Job Whipple who was wounded at Bennington fight in regiment of his uncle Col. For questions and comments, email me at

Chapter 7 : OBITUARIES OF PENNSYLVANIA REVOLUTIONARY VETERANS

In the words of @caspien88, "the Continental Army was a conventional military force that effectively blocked the British in New York, fought the British in multiple battles in the South, and then besieged the British army when it moved to Yorktown (both the northern and southern British armies)." that is why the answer is False.

In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Commodore Abraham Whipple of the Continental Navy: University Press of Florida, The military history of the American Revolution has been largely land-based, and for good reason: The Continental Navy underperformed its potential, despite the sacrifices and heroism of individuals. In their very different works, George C. Daughan and Sheldon S. Cohen seek a fresh appraisal of the early American Navy. Cohen, meanwhile, focuses on one captain, Abraham Whipple, and his services at sea in the revolutionary era. Taken together, Daughan and Cohen use naval affairs to offer glimpses of the origins, progress, and effects of the American Revolution. Daughan organizes his work around the fundamental naval policy debate of the day: Should America build a large, British-style force capable of blue-water cruising and confronting enemies abroad? Or should it build a small navy capable of guerilla-style attacks on a larger force and designed to operate close to home? When the Continental Congress created a navy, it imitated Britain. The position had its logic. Thus, the Continental Congress did as the British did: It created separate chains of command for the army and navy; committed to building thirteen frigates and ships of the line; dispatched naval vessels on prestige missions, such as transporting diplomats to Europe; and assigned the navy to raid British commerce. Each of these choices proved costly. Army and navy commanders failed to coordinate. Building thirteen large new vessels was more expensive than anticipated of course and simply added to the competition for scarce war materials. John Adams may have enjoyed the dignity of arriving in France aboard a national vessel, but a merchantman would have delivered him just as well. Privateers could have handled commerce raiding. Worst of all, the most talented commanders and the most powerful vessels were often far from the most critical battles. He was sent there to take command of the gun America, a vessel that had been under construction since Jones never did command the vessel. By the time it was finished, the war was over and the government gave her to France. Daughan builds a convincing case that a navy of row galleys, whaleboats, and gun boats could have performed much better. In fact, early in the war, before Royal Navy admiration took hold, swarms of small boats made effective raids on British vessels. These boats allowed the colonists to take advantage of their local knowledge: They could hide in creeks, strike at the enemy, and escape into the shallows. This was precisely the strategy British commanders feared most, but the Continental Congress wanted a large navy. Overall, Daughan offers a strong explanation for the poor performance of the Continental Navy and issues an important challenge for policymakers today: Fight the war you are faced with by using the strategy it demands. Moving into the early republic, Daughan frames the large navy-small navy debate against the formation of parties and the foreign affairs challenges of the Napoleonic Wars. Here he navigates seas well known to early republic scholars. The Republicans argued for a [End

Chapter 8 : Continental Army - Wikipedia

Soon after, Commodore Esek Hopkins, commanding a small flotilla of converted American merchantmen, attacked British-held Nassau in the Bahamas, capturing two forts, along with dozens of cannons and mortars and an impressive store of shells, balls, and powder.

While tens of thousands of old Gaelic names of 17th and 18th Century Irish immigrants appear with astonishing regularity in completely verifiable colonial records, any reference to these people is almost totally omitted from our standard American histories, including the American Revolution. At the Battle of Lexington April 19, , Irish were present. At the Siege of Savannah, Irish were killed. During the 18th century, more than , additional Irish Catholics arrived, many as indentured servants. In the s, nine out of ten indentured servants were of Irish origin. They were descendants of Scottish and English tenant farmers who had been settled in Ireland by the British government during the 17th-century Plantation of Ulster. An estimated , migrated to America during the colonial era. The descendants of Scotch-Irish settlers had a great influence on the later culture of the United States through such contributions as American folk music, Country and Western music, and stock car racing, which became popular throughout the country in the late 20th century. The two groups had little initial interaction in America, as the 18th century Ulster immigrants were predominantly Protestant and had become settled largely in upland regions of the American interior, while the huge wave of 19th-century Catholic immigrant families settled primarily in the Northeast and Midwest port cities such as Boston, New York, or Chicago. However, beginning in the early 19th century, many Irish migrated individually to the interior for work on large-scale infrastructure projects such as canals and, later in the century, railroads. Irish Settlement in the South During the colonial period, the Scotch-Irish settled in the southern Appalachian backcountry and in the Carolina piedmont. They became the primary cultural group in these areas, and their descendants were in the vanguard of westward movement through Virginia into Tennessee and Kentucky, and thence into Arkansas, Missouri and Texas. By the 19th century, through intermarriage with settlers of English and German ancestry, the descendants of the Scotch-Irish lost their identification with Ireland. They became local leaders in the Democratic party, generally favored preserving the Union in , but became staunch Confederates after secession in That included nearly 1, officers of Irish ancestry, among them 22 generals and more than a dozen sea captains. Shortly after the conclusion of the peace between England and the U. Cantankerous Gustavus Conyngham of Donegal captured 60 ships for the patriot cause although he was not given a commission in the U. Navy and resumed work as a private sea captain. A wealthy merchant active in shipping, he had cast his lot with the rebels and spent considerable amounts of his own fortune outfitting privateers to harass British ships. In he brought 50 cannon from captured Fort Ticonderoga, thus saving them from British capture. Appointed the first secretary of war under the U. ME, and Knoxville, TN all bear his name. He played a key role in defeating an allied force of Iroquois and Loyalists along the NY frontier. He later served as governor of New Hampshire. By the early s he was a prosperous captain in the transatlantic trade. Statutes in Philadelphia, Washington D. Richard Montgomery was born in Swords, Co. His father, Thomas, was a baronet and member of the Irish Parliament. He was second in command in the successful Montreal Expedition. He joined forces with Benedict Arnold not yet a traitor , and was killed leading an assault on Quebec City on the last day of December in Sharpshooter Timothy Murphy of Pike Co. PA, was a member of Col. His contributions are immortalized with a monument at Saratoga erected by the local chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. James Moore was born in New Hanover Co. That successful engagement, the first major battle of the South, was a crucial factor in determining the early course of the American Revolution. That event took place five days before the Battle of Bunker Hill and is considered the first naval battle of the Revolution. Master Spy, Hercules Mulligan was born in Co. When the British took over New York City during the American Revolution, he remained in the city as a secret agent, posing as a loyalist. He gathered vital intelligence by eavesdropping on British soldiers during their frequent meetings in his clothing store. Thanks to this gentleman, Washington received early notification of his proposed kidnapping by British agents and the British plan to invade Pennsylvania. Many fought as

soldiers in several of the Irish regiments in the British Army. In the summer of 1776, as the British prepared to invade New York, Sgt. Thomas Hickey plotted to assassinate General Washington. When the plot was exposed, he was arrested along with Private Michael Lynch. The latter was acquitted, but Hickey was convicted of mutiny and sedition and hanged on the Bowery Road before a crowd of thousands. Two of these regiments Dillon and Walsh actively took part in the French attack on British-controlled colonies in the Caribbean. Lincoln sent word to the French commander for assistance in attacking British-controlled Savannah. Joining the French Admiral in Savannah were well over eager Irish volunteers from the two Irish regiments. Siege of Savannah The siege of Savannah was a disaster for the attacking force. Lincoln reluctantly agreed to a frontal assault. Dillon was second in command of the French and led one of the attacking columns, spearheaded by his Irish detachment. While some historians placed the Dillon and Walsh regiments at Yorktown there is no firm evidence of this. There was another Irish general at Yorktown but, ironically, he was serving with the British forces. Charles, the grandson, was second-in-command to British commander Lord Cornwallis. There were no all-Irish regiments in the British order of battle at Yorktown, though there were Irish among the rank-and-file. For example, the roster of the 76th Foot, a Scottish regiment that was at Yorktown, listed Irish among its soldiers. During the 1770s, the Dublin government was funding a British military reserve of 12,000 soldiers, and Cork was the primary logistical base for the British forces in North America. The city of Cork exhibited its loyalty to the king by offering an enlistment bonus. The Roman Catholic citizens of Limerick also did, offering one guinea to the first to enlist there. Three more Irish Regiments: Ultonia Ulster, the Irlanda, and the Hibernia Mention should be made of yet another group of Irish who were peripherally involved in the American Revolution in a manner that had an influence on the battle of Yorktown. Spain had an Irish brigade consisting of three regiments—the Ultonia Ulster, the Irlanda, and the Hibernia. The Hibernia was in Cuba at the time of the American Revolution and, in May 1762, 22 officers and men from it participated in the Spanish conquest of Pensacola, Florida. After the British surrendered, they were allowed to sail to New York. This reinforcement of the British garrison in New York influenced the American and French decision to march against Cornwallis at Yorktown, rather than lay siege to New York. Richard Irvine was born in Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh. A surgeon by profession, after a period in the British Navy he set up practice in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Charles Thomson was Secretary of the Continental Congress during the Revolution, and was the author of the original draft of the Declaration of Independence. Born in Co Derry. Richard Butler came from Dublin and set up as an Indian agent. He rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Continental Army. After the war he returned to his Indian activities where he met his death. Matthew Thornton from Limerick, practiced medicine in Londonderry N. He sat in the Continental Congress and was the signatory for Pennsylvania of the Declaration of Independence. Edward Hand, another medical man, practiced in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He was born in Tacumshane, Co Wexford. As a commodore he became renowned as a trainer of naval officers. John Shee from Co Meath commanded the Pennsylvania Line, one of the most effective combat outfits of the Revolutionary war. These troops came largely from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware, and included a large number of Irish volunteers. With his red waistcoat, buckskin breeches and bright green coat he brought a touch of color to the cavalry. He served as secretary of war under both George Washington and John Adams. He was a member of the Second Continental Congress and was the youngest signatory to the Declaration. John Sullivan who countersigned the Washington order was the son of a Corkman. Grandson of a Co. He died in 1794, the last surviving signatory of the Declaration of Independence. Richard Montgomery was slain in the assault on Quebec in December 1775. Initially fighting with the British against the French, he was converted to the American cause and led the forces which captured Montreal. Montgomery County is named in his honor. Reproduced courtesy of Ireland of the Welcomes Vol.

Chapter 9 : Happy rd Birthday to the United States Navy | October 13,

Some participants in the new Continental Army developed their marginal military skills in the crucible of the French and Indian Wars (). In a prologue to that conflict, Pennsylvanian and Virginian colonists were looking westward to extend the frontier.

Obscured by his contemporary, naval commander John Paul Jones, Barry remains to this day an unsung hero of the young American Republic. As most naval historians note, Barry can be classed on a par with Jones for nautical skill and daring, but he exceeds him in the length of service 17 years to his adopted country and his fidelity to the nurturing of a permanent American Navy. Indeed, Barry deserves the proud epithet, "Father of the American Navy," a title bestowed on him not by current generations of admirers, but by his contemporaries, who were in the best position to judge. In the space of 58 years, this son of a poor Irish farmer rose from humble cabin boy to senior commander of the entire United States fleet. Intrepid in battle, he was humane to his men as well as adversaries and prisoners. Wexford, at the southeasternmost part of Ireland, has always had a strong maritime tradition. The family was forced to relocate to the village of Rosslare. Barry grew to be a tall, muscular, well-respected seaman. At a young age Barry learned of the massacre of some 3,000 Wexfordians under an invading force led by Oliver Cromwell in 1649. Barry had good reason to make Philadelphia his new home. Further, the city was emerging as a great maritime trade center. Its growing population, which exceeded 30,000 by the start of the Revolution, hungered for imported goods brought in by ships piloted by captains such as Barry. Plying back and forth between Philadelphia and the West Indies, Barry gained his early skills of command at the helm of several merchant ships. In the West Indies trade, Barry honed his nautical skills making at least nine round trips without a single mishap. Philadelphians came to like "Big John" Barry due to his reliability, personable nature and his success in the merchant shipping business. His next command, the *Patty and Polly*, was a small brigantine which he took on but a single voyage. Shortly after, Barry took command of the *Industry*, a ton vessel which he described as a "good schooner. About the time colonial difficulties with the mother country necessitated the convening of the First Continental Congress in 1774, Barry began a lifelong friendship and collaboration with the Revolutionary financier, Robert Morris. Barry was assigned to their sleek ton ship, *Black Prince*. It was aboard *Black Prince* on a return voyage from England that Barry made the amazing and unparalleled record of travelling miles by dead reckoning in a 24 hour period – the fastest day of sailing recorded in the 18th century. Barry was consoled by his second marriage, this time to the socially popular and attractive Sarah Keen Austin, nicknamed "Sally" by her friends. The Barrys were regular parishioners at several Philadelphia Catholic churches: Rosseter was a neighbor of the Barry family in Ireland, and the captain also wound up living on the same street as John Barry in Philadelphia. His close association with the Barrys continued even in death, as the Rosseter plot lies next to the Barry plot in Old St. At the outset of the Revolution, Barry was given the singularly important task of outfitting the first Continental Navy ships which were put to sea from Philadelphia. Upon completion of his work, Barry was rewarded with what he most desired from the Marine Committee: I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that at 1: They killed two of our men, and wounded two more. We shattered her in a terrible manner as you will see. I shall give you a particular account of the powder that was taken out of her, as well as my proceedings in general. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that all our people behaved with much courage. This victory had a tremendous psychological effect in boosting American morale, as it was the first capture of a British warship by a regularly commissioned American cruiser. During the building of *Effingham*, Barry was approached by an acquaintance, perhaps his Tory brother-in-law William Austin or a member of the Cadwalader family that sympathized with the British, and offered a bribe of 15, guineas in gold or 20, pounds British sterling, plus a commission in the Royal Navy if he would turn *Effingham* over to the British. Barry was promised his own ship under Royal authority but he indignantly refused. In his own words, he "spurned the eyedee of being a traitor. The problem of getting enough hay for their horses proved problematic to the British throughout the war. With the British assault on Philadelphia imminent, Barry was forced to scuttle his new command, *Effingham*. Having to make do commanding only small craft, Barry carried out the boldest

adventure of his career. His mission included the destruction of all British hay forage in the region, capture of enemy shipping in the Lower Delaware, and fighting off whatever came his way. He served with a company of Marines under the command of Philadelphia militia commander General John Cadwalader. Cadwalader was part-owner of the merchant shipping company that Barry had worked for before the war. His old employer selected Barry as his aide-de-camp. Thus the seaman became a soldier, and participated in the Battle of Trenton and led a spirited defense during the Battle of Princeton. General Washington chose Barry as his courier in conveying wounded prisoners through British lines and carrying a dispatch under a flag of truce to General Cornwallis. Back to the Sea On March 8, , Barry attacked a British fleet with a tiny squadron of tubs

â€” a plan made to order for the daring Irish commander. Barry took his mix of seven small craft, including rowboats, barges and longboats, and surprised two armed sloops as well as a fortified schooner capturing all three. Show me the Money Barry was on the active roll of American Navy until the end of his life. But he received little in the way of compensation from the always hard-pressed Continental Congress during the Revolutionary War. Washington sent Barry a letter commending him, stating "may a suitable recompense always attend your bravery. Unfortunately, shortly after getting out of port in late September of that year the Raleigh was sighted by the superior British forces which included the frigate, Unicorn, and the ship-of-the-line, Experiment. Cornered on Wooden Ball Island in the rocky Maine inlets, Barry determined to save his crew and fire his ship rather than let the British take possession. Barry saved two-thirds of his crew. But the perfidy of a traitorous American midshipman of English ancestry prevented the blowing up of the Raleigh and the complete escape of all hands. Nevertheless, Barry successfully guided 88 of his men to safety in rowboats to Boston. Pirating Colonial seamen in the Revolution often found it more lucrative to sign up with "pirates," private ship owners who raided British ships, rather than with the fledgling Continental Navy. When a pirateer captured a British ship, the booty belonged to that captain who divvied it with his crew. While Continental Navy men would also receive some share of the spoils if they caught a British ship, it was nothing compared to work in the private sector. Further, life in the U. Navy imposed much more discipline than the freewheeling freebooters. The Brawny Barry Obviously, Barry was a commanding figure. His handsome, Irish features were accentuated by a small mole located at the upper bridge of a Grecian nose and unusually inverted eyebrows. Hazel eyes glistened brightly and his determination was evidenced by a square, Irish chin. Barry was owner of a wry sense of humor and had to control a sudden Irish temper on occasion. His great strength was well known in naval circles especially after he single-handedly suppressed three ship mutinies and threw the mutinous ringleaders in the hold. As a disciplinarian, he was firm though fair. Barry was still able to raise crews, despite the mass exodus to the pirateering business. Barry was a firm believer in Divine Providence and regularly opened his ship day with a Bible reading to his crew. It was the one regularly commissioned ship afloat at the close of the Revolution In Barry captured numerous British prizes during the Revolution and holds the record for prize money returns in a single voyage. His Continental commands included successively: Unfortunately, however, the Alliance soon lay becalmed in the water due to a lack of wind. The two smaller British ships were able to employ sweeps and maneuver close to the prow and stern of the Alliance. They thus were able to rake the Alliance from either end. Barry conducted a relentless defense from the quarterdeck until a hurtling projectile of canister shot broken nails, metal fragments, and minnie balls struck him in the left shoulder. The rigging is much cut, damage everywhere great, many men killed and wounded, and we labor under great disadvantage for want of wind. Have I permission to strike our colors? If this ship cannot be fought without me, I will be brought on deck; to your duty, Sir. Replying to her helm, the battered Alliance swung about. The whole starboard battery was employed with decisive effect. Fourteen pound cannons were brought into the fray. After two successful broadsides, both the Atlanta and the Tresspassy struck their colors. The grueling battle had lasted nearly four hours and had cost the British two ships, 11 dead, including one of the two captains, and 25 wounded. The surviving British commander, Captain Edwards, appeared on the deck of the Alliance for the customary surrender ceremony. Edwards presented his sword. Barry received it, then returned it with the message, "I return it to you, Sir. You have merited it, and your King ought to give you a better ship. Here is my cabin, at your service. Use it as your own. On March 10, , Barry was returning from Havana aboard the Alliance escorting the Duc de Lauzon, a transport carrying a

shipment of 72, Spanish silver dollars destined for the Continental Congress. In order to protect his escort and its precious bullion, Barry engaged the Sybil. A minute exchange of gunfire ensued, with Barry directing his gun crews to superb results. The British vessel sheared off after experiencing severe punishment from the American crews who shattered her rigging, masts and hull. Between the years , Barry helped to open commerce with China and the Orient while captaining the merchant ship, Asia. Barry outfitted and supervised the construction of the first frigates built under the Naval Act of March 27, , including his own forty-four gun frigate the USS United States, which was to serve as his flagship. Commodore Barry Barry held the courtesy title of Commodore from this period since he served as squadron commander of the fleet which assembled in the West India Sea. He commanded all American ships during the undeclared naval war with France and personally captured several French merchantmen. Barry finished his active career as head squadron commander of the United States Naval Station in the West Indies at Guadaloupe Perhaps most significantly he trained numerous future sea heroes who won fresh laurels in the War of Despite being so engaged with naval matters, Barry was active socially while on land.