

The French and Indian War

Chapter 3 section 4
(Part 2)

European claims to America

- 4 nations were building empires across the globe in the mid 1700's
 - France- Canada and the Great Plains
 - Great Britain- 13 colonies
 - Russia- Fur trading posts on the west coast
 - Spain- Claimed a large part of the south west as “New Spain” as well as Caribbean islands

Outline Map of North America



Trouble in the Ohio Valley

- The **Ohio Valley** was the center of land dispute
- Both the French and the British claimed this region
- The French moved into it first to expand their fur trade
- However, British trappers began moving onto the land as well
- This led to a competition in fur trade and upset the French



English Colonists Move into Ohio

- Tensions grew when not only British trappers began moving into the land, but also the British Colonists
- Colonists were then followed by business owners hoping to make a profit off people living on the frontier
- By 1750 a struggle for control of the Ohio Valley had started between France and Britain

Native Americans Take Sides

Although typically ignored, the Native Americans played a crucial roll in deciding who would control the Ohio valley

Why they should take the British side:

- The British had more money to offer them
- The British tried to change the native American lifestyle
- The six nations of the **Iroquois League** sided with the British

Why they should take the French side:

- The French could offer them respect
- The French tried to Understand the Native American lifestyle
- Most other Native American tribes sided with the French

First Steps Towards War

- The **French and Indian War** was part of a larger conflict known as the Seven Years War that was taking place in Europe
- The Seven Years War was part of the 100 years war that had been fought between Britain and France for almost a century
- These battles were fought in Europe, Asia, and North America

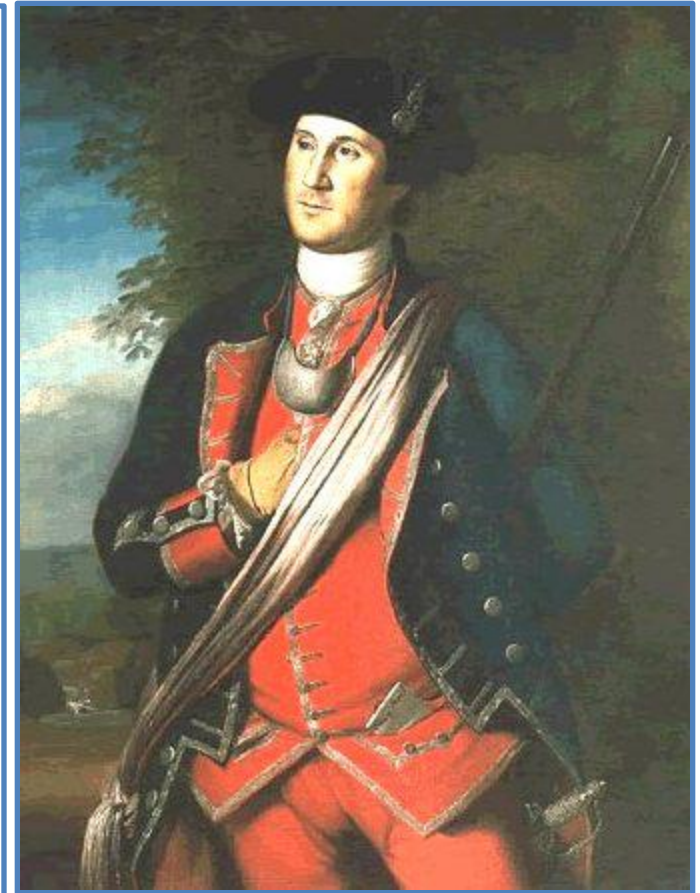
French Forts in the Ohio Valley

- To strengthen their claims to the land the French began to build forts in the Ohio Valley
- They ranged from Lake Erie to the Ohio River



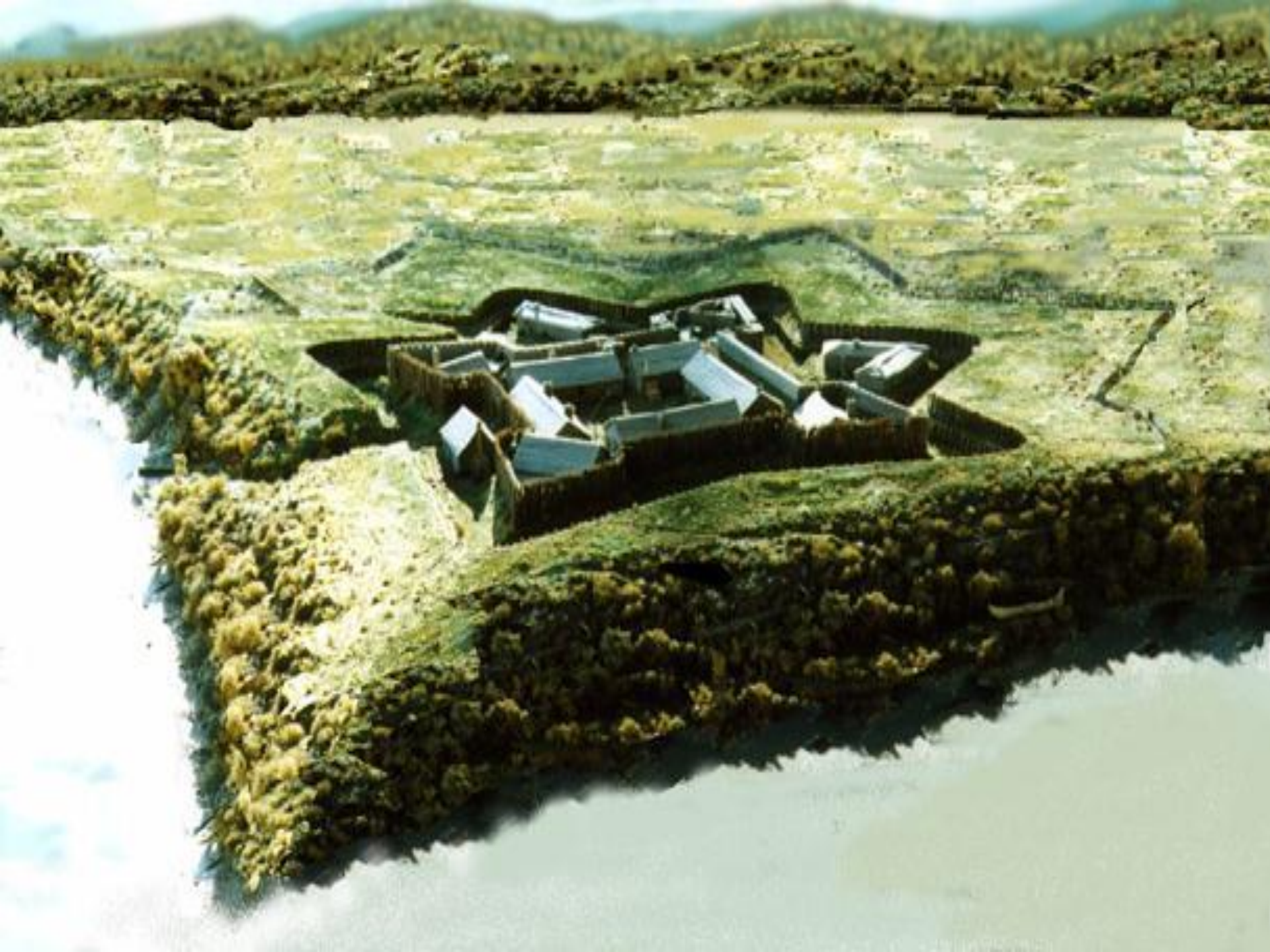
Washington

- Virginia and other colonies were upset with the French for building the forts
- The governor of Virginia sent a 21 year old major (George Washington) and the Virginia militia to deliver a warning message
- The French commander treated Washington politely but refused to leave



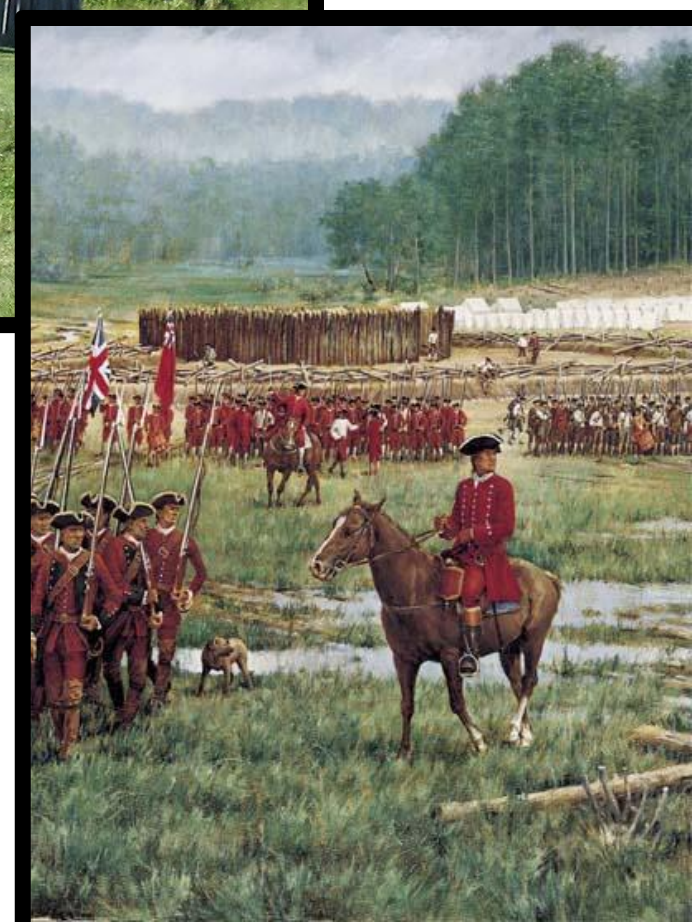
The First Battles:

- Upon his return Washington was promoted
- He was then asked to lead 150 soldiers to the “forks of the Ohio” to build a British fort.
- When he arrived, he discovered the French had already built Fort Duquesne
- Washington and his men ran into a French scouting party and he ordered an attack (50 French soldiers were killed)



Fort Necessity

- Under pressure, Washington and his men built a makeshift fort
- As soon as it was completed it was surrounded by the French
- Washington was outnumbered and had to surrender
- Washington and his soldiers were taken prisoner and later set free



Attempts at Colonial Unity

- Delegates from 7 colonies met with representatives from the Iroquois League
- They were hoping to insure that the native Americans would help the British soldiers



The Albany Plan

- The Iroquois League and the Colonists resolved many of their differences and agreed on a plan proposed by Benjamin Franklin
- The Albany Plan of Union called for a council made up of delegates from each colony who would control the military, taxes, and relations with the Native Americans
- All 13 colonies declined it, they all wanted to be in charge of their own affairs

Fighting the War

- In 1755 an army of over 2,000 set out to capture Fort Duquesne
- They were commanded by General Edward Braddock assisted by George Washington
- Braddock was used to European fighting techniques (Gentleman's warfare)
- Washington warned him that this style of fighting would not work well in the forest against the French and Native Americans

Braddock

- Braddock did not listen to Washington
- He insisted on dragging cannons along the muddy trails and having his men stand in formation
- The French fired from the woods
- 1,000 British soldiers were killed including Braddock



William Pitt Takes Charge

- By the summer of 1757 French and Native troops had captured British Forts on Lake Ontario
- King George was unhappy about this and appointed **William Pitt** as commander of the army
- The war between the British and French was being fought in Europe and India as well yet the British Navy was sent to North America

Louisbourg

- Around the globe the British were beginning to win
- They captured **Louisbourg** (French Fort on Cape Breton Island)
- They also captured Fort Duquesne which gave them control of the Ohio River

Battle of Quebec

- **General James Wolfe** was given the task of Capturing Quebec (the Capitol of New France)
- It supplied French forts up the St. Lawrence River, capturing it would cut off supplies to the French army

Quebec

- Quebec was a walled city built on top of steep cliffs that rise above the River
- Wolfe was given over 9,000 soldiers to help fight
- The British were held off for several months by the French
- Finally, in the middle of the night Wolfe lead his troops up a windy path on the outskirts of the city that ended on the **Plains of Abraham** (fields outside the city)



Battle on the Plains of Abraham

- The French commander **Marquis de Montcalm** marched his men to meet general Wolfe
- The French could not hold out against the 9,000 British
- The French were forced to surrender, however, both Wolfe and Montcalm were killed
- The capture of Quebec marked the end of French power in North America

Montreal

- The although the French lost their strong hold in North America, the War was not over until the British had captured Montreal (the other major city in New France)
- The War ended with the Treaty of Paris

The Treaty of Paris

- In 1763 the war officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris
- The peace negotiations had also included Spain because their land was taken over

Negotiations

- Great Britain now ruled- New France (Canada), the Ohio Valley, and all French Lands east of the Mississippi except New Orleans
- France Kept the Caribbean and 2 small fishing islands near Canada
- Spain had entered the war on the side of France so they had to give up Florida to Britain
- France repaid Spain by giving them the Louisiana Territory (Including New Orleans)

