

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Milestone Events Timeline

MARCH 1770

The Boston Massacre

A confrontation in Boston where British soldiers shot and killed several people while being harassed by a mob.

DECEMBER 1773

The Boston Tea Party

American colonists, frustrated at Britain for imposing "taxation without representation," dumped 342 chests of tea into the harbor.

APRIL 1775

Lexington and Concord

The "shot heard 'round the world." The first military engagements of the Revolutionary War.

JULY 1776

Declaration of Independence

The Continental Congress adopted the formal statement asserting the 13 colonies' separation from Great Britain.

OCTOBER 1777

Battle of Saratoga

A turning point in the war that convinced the French to give the U.S. military support.

OCTOBER 1781

Siege of Yorktown

General Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington, effectively ending major land operations in North America.

SEPTEMBER 1783

Treaty of Paris

The formal end of the war; Great Britain officially recognized American independence.