

American



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In a way, American Revolution started when the colonist set foot in America; and the triggering of it happening was time. The war may have lasted for eight years (1775-1783) however, a sense of an independent country had already begun to develop because London was 3000 miles away. Sailing across the Atlantic in a ship would take about 7 weeks. Survivors from the war felt physically and spiritually separated from Europe.

Colonists in America, without influence from superiors, felt that they were fundamentally different from England, and more independent. Many began to think of themselves as Americans. Although, why was it that the colonist felt so independent from Britain, and why did the Colonists rebel, and fight for independence. It starts with little things, which turn out to be big important decisive things. Like the 1650 Navigation Law loosely enforced, which restricted commerce from the colonies to England (and back) to only England ships, and no other.

Other of those laws stated that European goods consigned to America had to land first in England, where custom duties would be collected. Also, some products could only be sent to England, and no other country. Obviously, this upsetted the colonists, it was not fair for them, even being as far as 3000 miles. Various acts also influenced the colonists to fight for their freedom. Like the Sugar Act of 1764, which increased duty on foreign sugar imported from the West Indies; after numerous protests from spoiled Americans, the duties were reduced.

Also, the Quartering Act of 1765, it required certain colonies to provide food and quarters for British troops. Another Act... the Stamp Act mandated the use of stamped paper of the affixing of stamps, certifying payment of tax,

and well stamps were required on bills of sale for about 50 trade items as well as on certain types of commercial and legal documents. These acts angered the Americans eventually repealing the Stamp Act in 1766.

However, the the fuse for the American Revolution was when Britain started to enforce mercantilism in 1763. The colonists' disadvantages were that they couldn't buy, sell, ship, or manufacture under the most favorable conditions for them. The South, which produced crops that weren't grown in England, was preferred over the North. Virginia, which grew tobacco, were at the mercy of the British buyers, who often paid very low and were responsible for putting many planters into debt.

Many colonists felt that Britain was just milking her colonies for all their worth. So, after all these acts and decisions Britain was doing, it was obvious that the colonists weren't going to be all happy and hippie about it. It angered them, and it made them want to be independent from them. Theodore Roosevelt said, " Revolution broke out because England failed to recognize an emerging nation when it saw one. "