



The Duel for North America

1608 – 1763

The Struggle for North America

- ◆ Beginning in the late 1600s, England, France, and Spain fought for control of New World
 - Native Americans were swept up into these battles as well
- ◆ From 1688 to 1763 4 world wars were fought
 - These were a struggle to the death for domination of Europe and America
 - Last of these (Seven Years' War) led to American independence from Britain

France Finds a Foothold in Canada

- ◆ France was a latecomer to American colonization
 - Throughout the 1500s France dealt with foreign wars and conflict between Catholics and Protestants (Huguenots)
 - With the 1598 Edict of Nantes the granted limited toleration to French Protestants
 - In the 1600s France became one of the strongest countries in Europe
 - Powerful King Louis XIV (ruled 1643 – 1715) took a strong interest in the New World

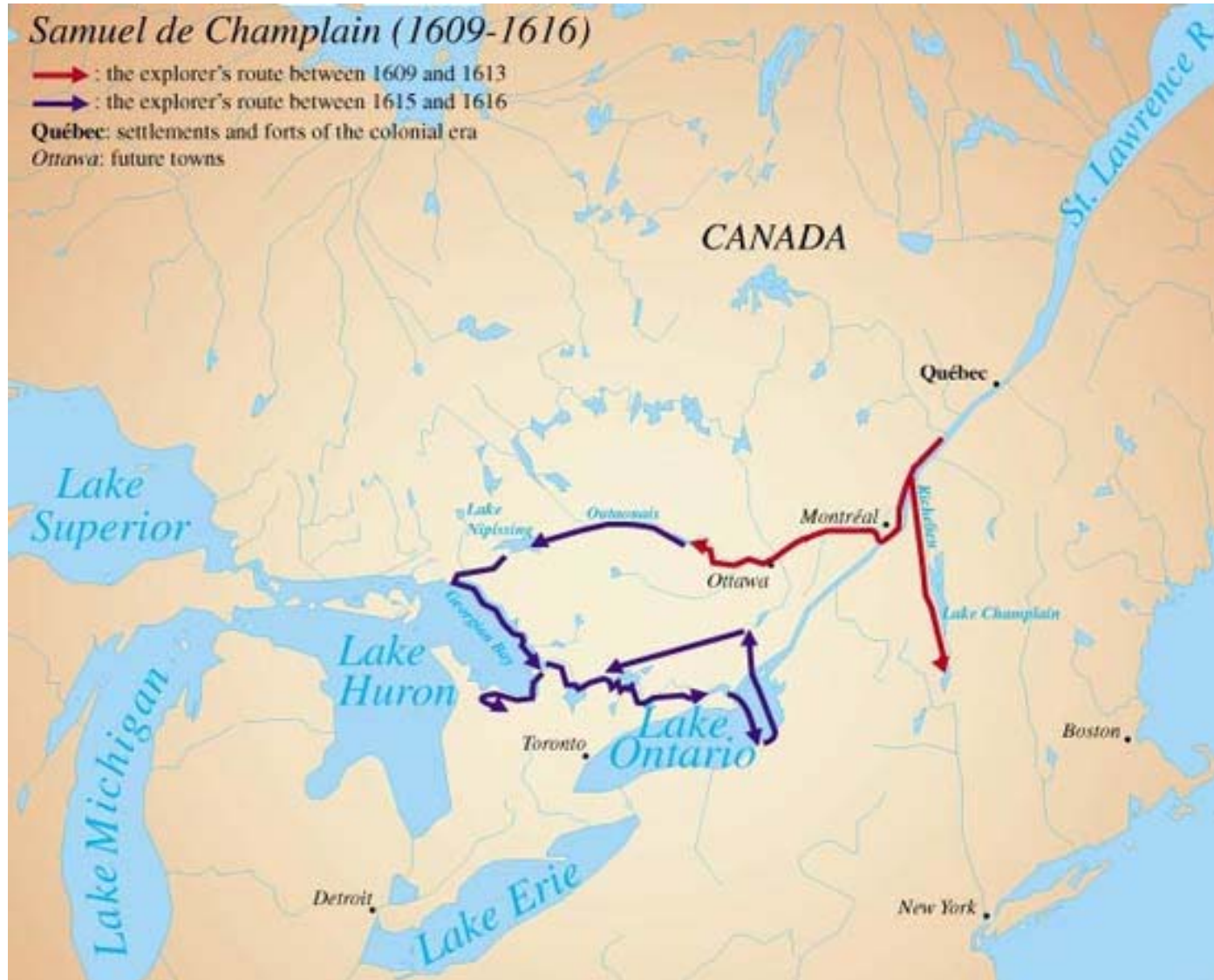
Catholic Mob Violence Against Huguenots During the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre, 1572



France Finds a Foothold in Canada

- ◆ In 1608 France established a colony in Quebec on the St. Lawrence River
 - Headed by Samuel de Champlain (“Father of New France”)
 - Champlain befriended the Huron Indians, fighting with their enemy, the Iroquois
 - Over the next 150 years, the Iroquois were France’s lasting enemy, blocking French colonization of the Ohio Valley and fighting with the British

The Explorations of Samuel de Champlain



France Finds a Foothold in Canada

- ◆ The government in New France (Canada) came under control of the king, after private companies had failed
- ◆ The king's rule was completely autocratic
 - The people had no elected assemblies and no right to trial by jury

Zones of Empire, 1700



France Finds a Foothold in Canada

- ◆ Population growth in New France was slow
 - By 1750 there were only 60,000 whites in New France
 - Peasants in France owned land (unlike landless tenant farmers in England) and had no reason to leave France
 - Protestants in France had no reason to move to New France because they were denied refuge there
 - The French government favored its Caribbean island colonies over Canada

New France Fans Out

- ◆ One valuable resource of New France was beavers
 - Beaver hats were very fashionable in Europe
 - French fur-trappers (coureurs de bois – “runners of the woods”) trapped beavers and lived hard



Courrier du Bois

Styles of the Beaver Hat



"CONTINENTAL"
COCKED HAT.
(1776)



"NAVY"
COCKED HAT.
(1800)



ARMY. (1837)



CLERICAL.
(Eighteenth Century)



(THE WELLINGTON.)
(1812)

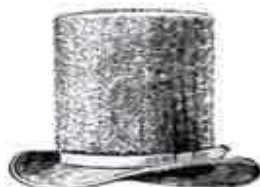
CIVIL.



(THE PARIS BEAU.)
(1815)



(THE D'ORSAY.)
(1820)



(THE REGENT.)
(1825)

MODIFICATIONS OF THE BEAVER HAT.

New France Fans Out

- ◆ French fur-trappers also got Indians to trap furs and then trade them to the whites
- ◆ This caused huge drawbacks for Indians
 - They were decimated by white diseases
 - Addicted to alcohol
 - Killing beaver violated Indian religious beliefs, an example of European wrecking of Indian traditional life

New France Fans Out

- ◆ French and Indian fur-trappers traveled deep into North America
 - Across Canada, through present-day US, to Spanish Texas
 - Killed almost all beaver in some areas, inflicting incalculable ecological damage

Fur-Trading Posts



New France Fans Out

- ◆ French Catholic missionaries
 - Worked to convert Indians to Christianity (especially Jesuits)
 - Few permanent converts were made, but the missionaries played an important role as explorers and geographers



A Jesuit Missionary Among the Iroquois Indians

New France Fans Out

- ◆ French empire builders
 - In 1701 Antione Cadillac founded Detroit to stop English settlers pushing into Ohio Valley
 - In 1682 Robert de La Salle sailed down Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico
 - He named area “Louisiana” in honor of Louis XIV
 - He returned to the Gulf of Mexico in 1685; did not find the Mississippi delta and was murdered in a mutiny

René-Robert Cavelier de La Salle (1670-1687)

- : the explorer's route in 1670
- : the explorer's route between 1679 and 1682
- : the explorer's route between 1684 and 1687

Québec: towns, settlements and forts of the colonial era
Detroit: future towns



The Explorations of Robert de la Salle

New France Fans Out

- ◆ French built forts on the Mississippi to stop Spanish expansion
 - The most important of these was New Orleans
 - These gave France control of the mouth of the Mississippi River, through which the important fur trade flowed to Europe

New France Fans Out

- ◆ France also established several forts and trading posts in Illinois
 - Became important for France as a grain-producing area, which was shipped to the French West Indies or Europe

Zones of Empire, 1700



The Clash of Empires

- ◆ The earliest wars between European powers for control of North America
 - King William's War (1689 – 1697)
 - Queen Anne's War (1702 – 1713)
 - In both, British colonists mainly fought French fur-trappers (coureurs de bois)
 - Both sides recruited whatever Indians they could
 - British and French did not think New World was worth large numbers of regular troops, so both sides fought primitive guerrilla warfare

The Clash of Empires

- ◆ Important battles, 1689 – 1713
 - French attacked British settlements at Schenectady, New York and Deerfield, Massachusetts
 - Spanish (allied with France) attacked South Carolina settlements
 - British failed miserably at attacking Quebec and Montreal
 - Important British victory at stronghold of Port Royal in Acadia (Nova Scotia)

Scenes of the French Wars

Arrows Indicate French-Indian Attacks



The Clash of Empires

- ◆ Peace treaty signed at Utrecht (Netherlands) in 1713
 - The terms of the treaty showed how badly the French and Spanish had been beaten
 - Britain gained Acadia (renamed Nova Scotia – New Scotland), Newfoundland, and Hudson Bay
 - The British had land on both sides of the St. Lawrence River, which would ultimately lead to France being forced to withdraw
 - This peace began decades of “salutary neglect” toward the American colonies, leading ultimately to the colonists' desire for independence

North America After Two Wars, 1713



The Clash of Empires

- ◆ British also won trading rights in Spanish America as result of 1713 Treaty of Utrecht
 - Led to problems over British smuggling to get around Spanish revenue laws
 - British captain Jenkins came across Spanish authorities
 - Spanish had one of his ears sliced off; he was told to take it back to the king, and tell the king that Spain would have done the same to the king if he had been there

The Clash of Empires

- ◆ In 1739 the War of Jenkin's Ear broke out as a result of that incident
 - This was a limited war between British and Spanish in Caribbean Sea and Georgia
- ◆ From 1740 to 1748, King George's War was waged
 - War of Jenkin's Ear merged into this war
 - France was again allied with Spain against Britain

The Clash of Empires

- ◆ American colonists fighting with the British fleet took the French fortress of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island, which controlled the entrance to the St. Lawrence River
- ◆ The peace treaty in 1748 gave Louisbourg back to France
 - New Englanders were outraged because this made their sacrifice seem pointless and allowed France to keep control of its colony in America

George Washington Inaugurates War with France

- ◆ During the mid-1700s, the fertile Ohio Valley became the primary area of fighting between France and the British colonists
 - The westward moving British colonists wanted to push into the Ohio Valley
 - France wanted to link its holdings in the Mississippi Valley and Canada
 - British colonists were now willing to fight French to protect their economic security because they worried about French land-grabbing and competition in the fur-trade

George Washington Inaugurates War with France

- ◆ In 1749, competition for the Ohio Valley led to open conflict
 - British – Virginian land speculators secured shaky rights to 500,000 acres
 - French – building chain of forts controlling Ohio Valley
 - The most important was Fort Duquesne (doo-kain); built at the point where Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers meet to form the Ohio River (now the site of Pittsburgh)

George Washington Inaugurates War with France

- ◆ In 1754, George Washington was sent to Ohio as a lieutenant colonel, commanding about 150 men
 - He came upon a small French force, attacked, and killed the French leader
 - Washington then quickly built Fort Necessity in the area
 - The French returned with reinforcements, surrounded Fort Necessity, and forced Washington to surrender

The Ohio Country, 1753–1754



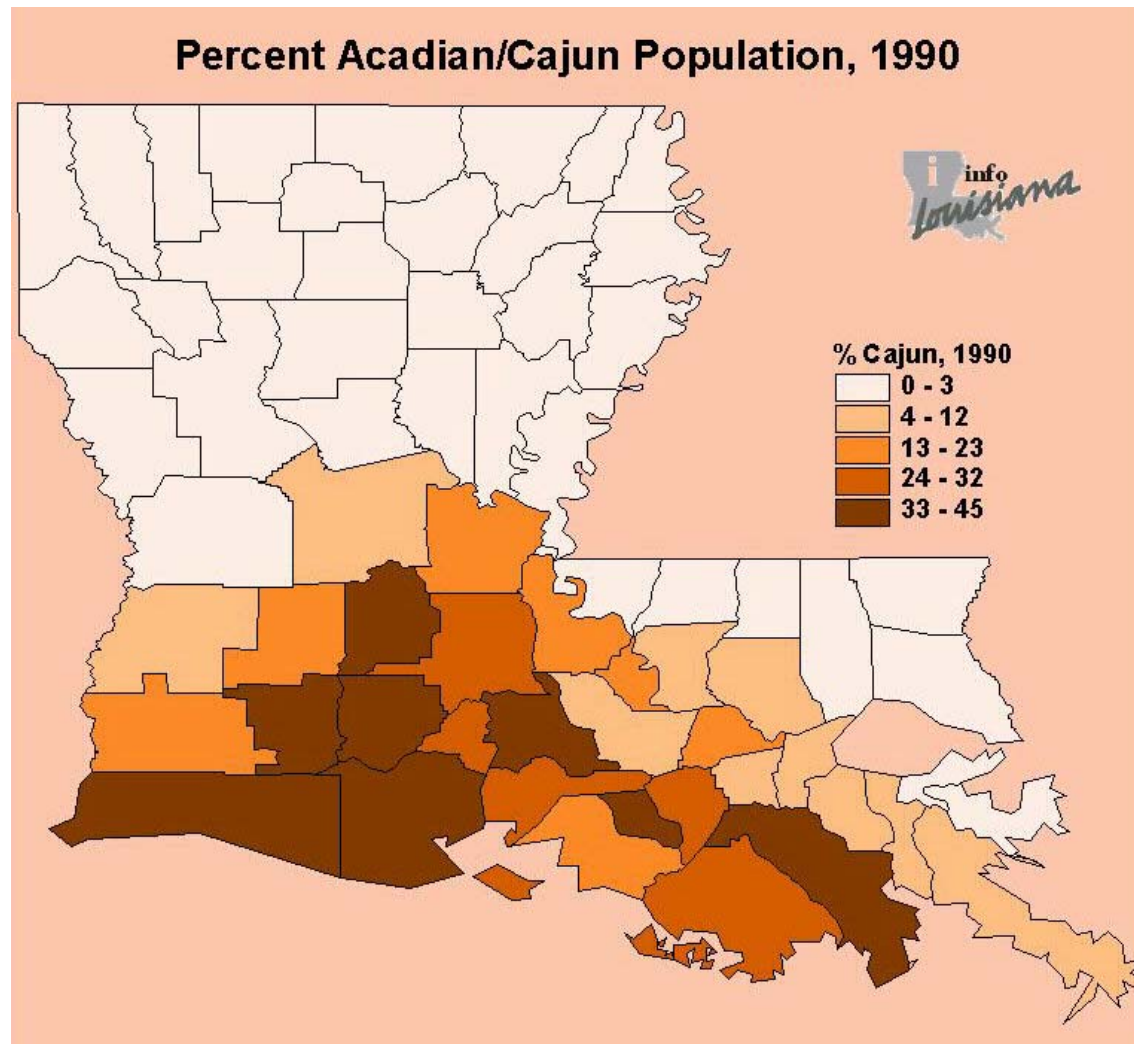
A Reconstruction of Fort Necessity



George Washington Inaugurates War with France

- ◆ As a result of these hostilities in Ohio, the British in Nova Scotia uprooted French Acadians and scattered them in Louisiana to prevent an uprising
 - Acadians are now called “Cajuns” in the South and have created a distinctive subculture

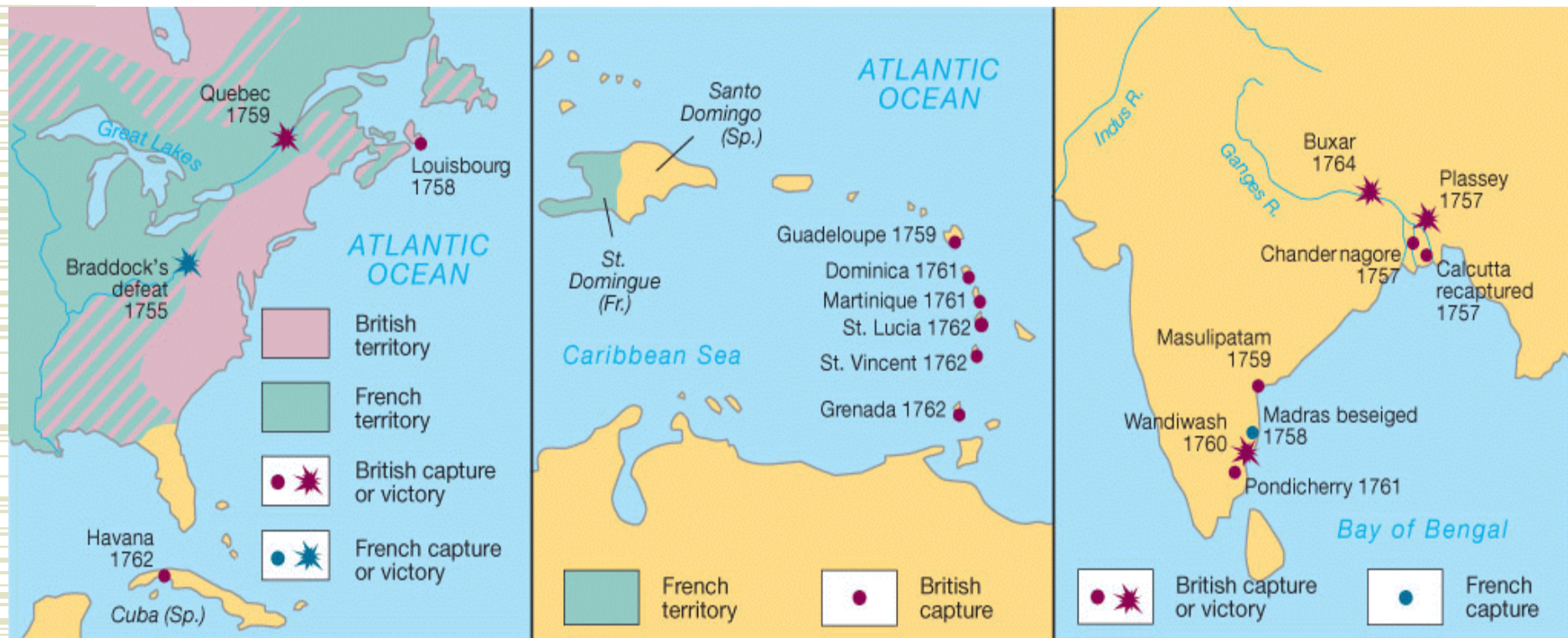
The Present-Day Cajun Regions of Louisiana



Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ Seven Years' War (French and Indian War)
 - Was started in America by Washington's actions in Ohio; the previous 3 world wars had been started in Europe first
 - From 1754 to 1756 an undeclared war in America between France and Britain
 - From 1756 to 1763 the Seven Years' War was fought in Europe, the West Indies, Philippines, Africa, and the ocean

The Global Reach of the Seven Year's War



Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ The Seven Years' War in Europe
 - Britain and Prussia fought against France, Spain, Austria, Russia
 - Most fighting was conducted in Germany; Frederick the Great pushed back the French, Austrian, and Russian armies
 - France wasted strength in Europe and was unable to attack adequately in America

Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ Fighting in America
 - In previous wars, America was disunited; the colonies closest to fighting furnished many more volunteers than colonies further away
 - The French and Indian War forced American to unite

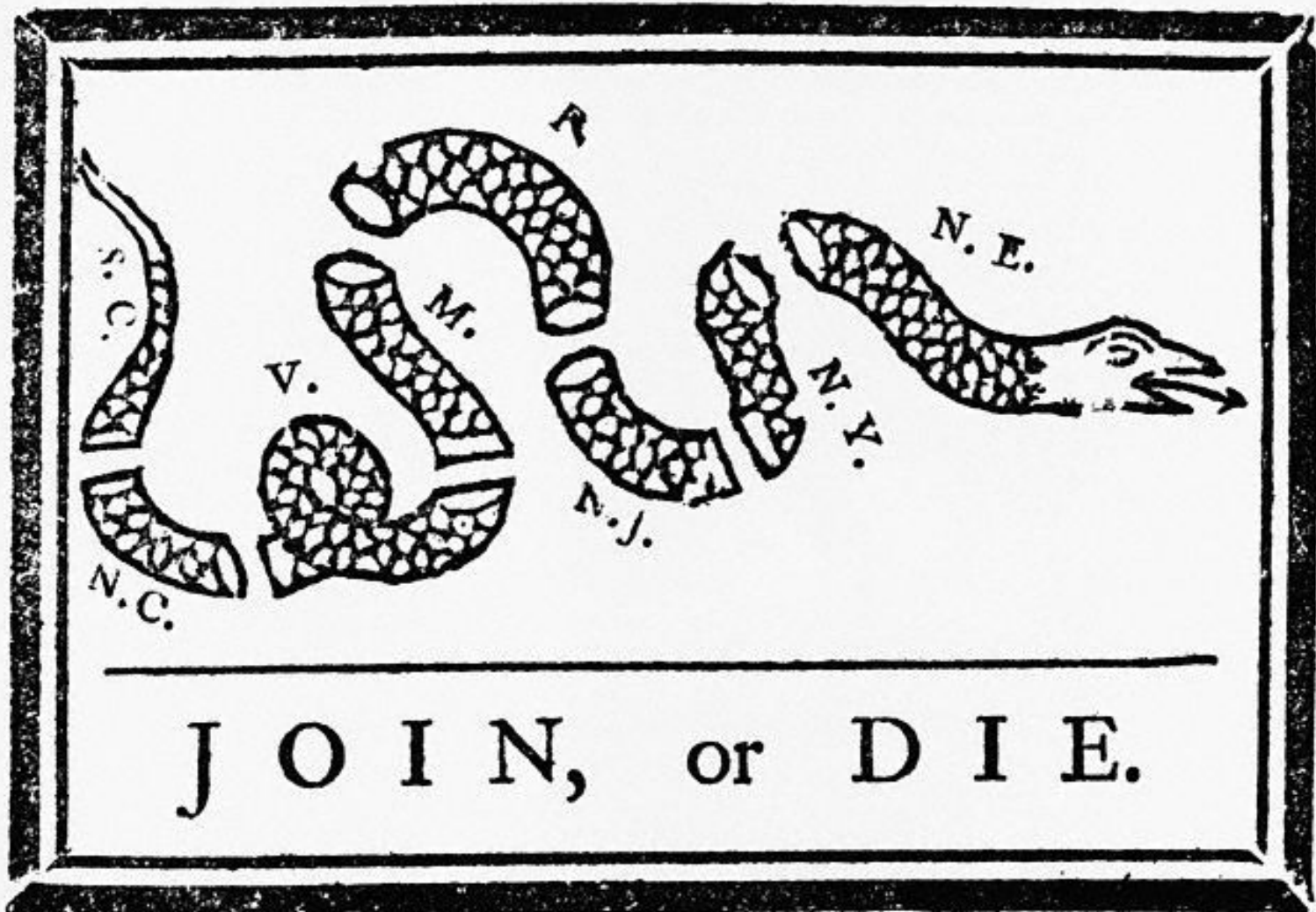
Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ In 1754, the British called an inter-colonial conference in Albany, New York
 - Only 7 of 13 colonies came
 - Purposes were to get the Iroquois to fight with the British (they were given 30 wagon loads of gifts) and to get greater colonial unity to fight France

Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ Ben Franklin and the Albany Congress
 - Franklin drew the most famous cartoon of colonial era – Join, or Die
 - Prematurely pushed to use Albany Congress as beginning of home rule in America

Join, or Die



Global War and Colonial Disunity

- ◆ Results of the Albany Congress
 - Albany delegates universally adopted plan for unity
 - This plan was rejected by the individual colonies and by the British government
 - Colonies thought the plan did not give them enough independence
 - British government thought the plan gave colonies too much independence

Braddock's Blundering and Its Aftermath

- ◆ Early on, the French and Indian War went badly for the British
- ◆ English General Braddock was sent with British soldiers to America
- ◆ In 1755, Braddock and 2,000 men (some British regulars, but also many colonial undisciplined colonial militiamen) marched to capture Fort Duquesne

Braddock's Blundering and Its Aftermath

- ◆ Braddock's forces moved slowly to Fort Duquesne, dragging artillery and hacking through forests
- ◆ A few miles from Duquesne, Braddock encountered a smaller French and Indian force
 - At first the British drove the French and Indians back
 - The French and Indians then retreated, hid in thickets, and attacked and badly defeated the British forces
 - During the battle Braddock was killed; Washington had 2 horses killed and several bullets in his jacket

Defeat of General Braddock in the French and Indian War in Virginia in 1755



DEFEAT OF GENERAL BRADDOCK, IN THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, IN VIRGINIA, IN 1755.

[For description, see page 34.]

Braddock's Blundering and Its Aftermath

- ◆ Indians now went on a rampage from Pennsylvania to North Carolina
 - The entire area was left undefended by Braddock's defeat
 - Washington with only 300 men tried unsuccessfully to defend the huge area
- ◆ Forte Duquesne didn't fall to the British until 1758; the French burned the fort when they abandoned it

At Point State Park, Bricks Mark the Outline of Where Fort Duquesne Was Located



Braddock's Blundering and Its Aftermath

- ◆ In 1756 the British invaded French Canada
 - Now the undeclared war in America was a worldwide war
 - The British unwisely attacked many outposts instead of concentrating on Montreal and Quebec
 - If those 2 cities had fallen, the smaller outposts would have fallen because of lack of supplies
 - British experienced continuous defeats in America and Europe

Pitt's Palms of Victory

- ◆ Great leader – William Pitt – in the British government finally brought success
 - He concentrated British forces on Canada (Quebec-Montreal) and withdrew from the West Indies, where the British had been spending strength without victory
 - He picked young, competent leaders; bypassing old, cautious generals



William Pitt



Pitt's Palms of Victory

- ◆ In 1758 a powerful British force attacked Louisbourg
 - The strong fortress fell after a British siege
 - This was the first significant victory of the entire war



Defensive Stone
Walls Ringing the
Fortress of
Louisbourg, a
Restored 18th
Century Fort

Pitt's Palms of Victory

- ◆ In 1759 the Battle of Quebec was fought
 - Led by James Wolfe, the British made a secret move in night up a poorly guarded rocky projection protecting Quebec
 - The next morning, both armies faced each other on the Plains of Abraham, outside of Quebec
 - The French were defeated and Quebec surrendered
- ◆ In 1760 Montreal fell, marking the end of France in Canada

The British Move in to Attack Quebec



Battle of the Plains of Abraham



The Anglo-American Conquest of New France, 1754-1760



Pitt's Palms of Victory

- ◆ The Treaty of Paris (1763) established Britain as the dominant power in North America
 - France was removed as a power from North America; the French population stayed, governed by the British
 - France allowed to keep several small, valuable islands in the Caribbean and 2 small fishing islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence
 - France gave to Spain (to compensate their ally for their losses) Louisiana and New Orleans
 - Spain gave Florida to Britain
 - Britain gave Cuba back to Spain (Havana had fallen to British during war)

North America Before 1754



North
America
After
1763
(after
French
losses)



North America, Before and After the French and Indian War



Restless Colonists

- ◆ As a result of the war colonists had increased confidence in their military strength (having fought with the British) and their military had gained valuable experience
- ◆ The myth of British military invincibility was shattered after Braddock's defeat
- ◆ Friction increased between British officers and colonial militiamen
 - The British viewed colonists with contempt; colonists wanted respect and recognition of their contribution

Restless Colonists

- ◆ Colonial shipping during the war
 - Shippers (using fake papers) had shipped food and supplies to enemy ports in the Spanish and French West Indies
 - British authorities forced to ban export of all supplies from New England and the middle colonies

Restless Colonists

- ◆ Some colonies had refused to provide troops or money during war
 - Not until Pitt offered to reimburse the colonies for expenses did they unite financially behind the war
 - Made the British (who fought to protect colonists from the French and Indians) bitter
 - Also brought up question of unity of colonies – if they would not unite to defeat an immediate enemy, would they ever unite to fight Britain?

Restless Colonists

- ◆ Causes of colonial disunity
 - Enormous distances
 - Geographical barriers
 - Conflicting religions
 - Nationalities
 - Different types of colonial governments
 - Boundary disputes
 - Resentment of backcountry against elites

Restless Colonists

- ◆ Colonial unity increased during the war, because of the war
 - Meeting others from different colonies, led colonists to realize they had much in common
 - Colonial disunity began to melt, although more was needed before independence

War's Fateful Aftermath

- ◆ Increased colonial independence from Britain
 - Colonists had to only confront weaker Indians, now that the strong French were gone from the northwest
 - The French hoped one day the British would lose America to independence (as revenge for their loss of Canada)

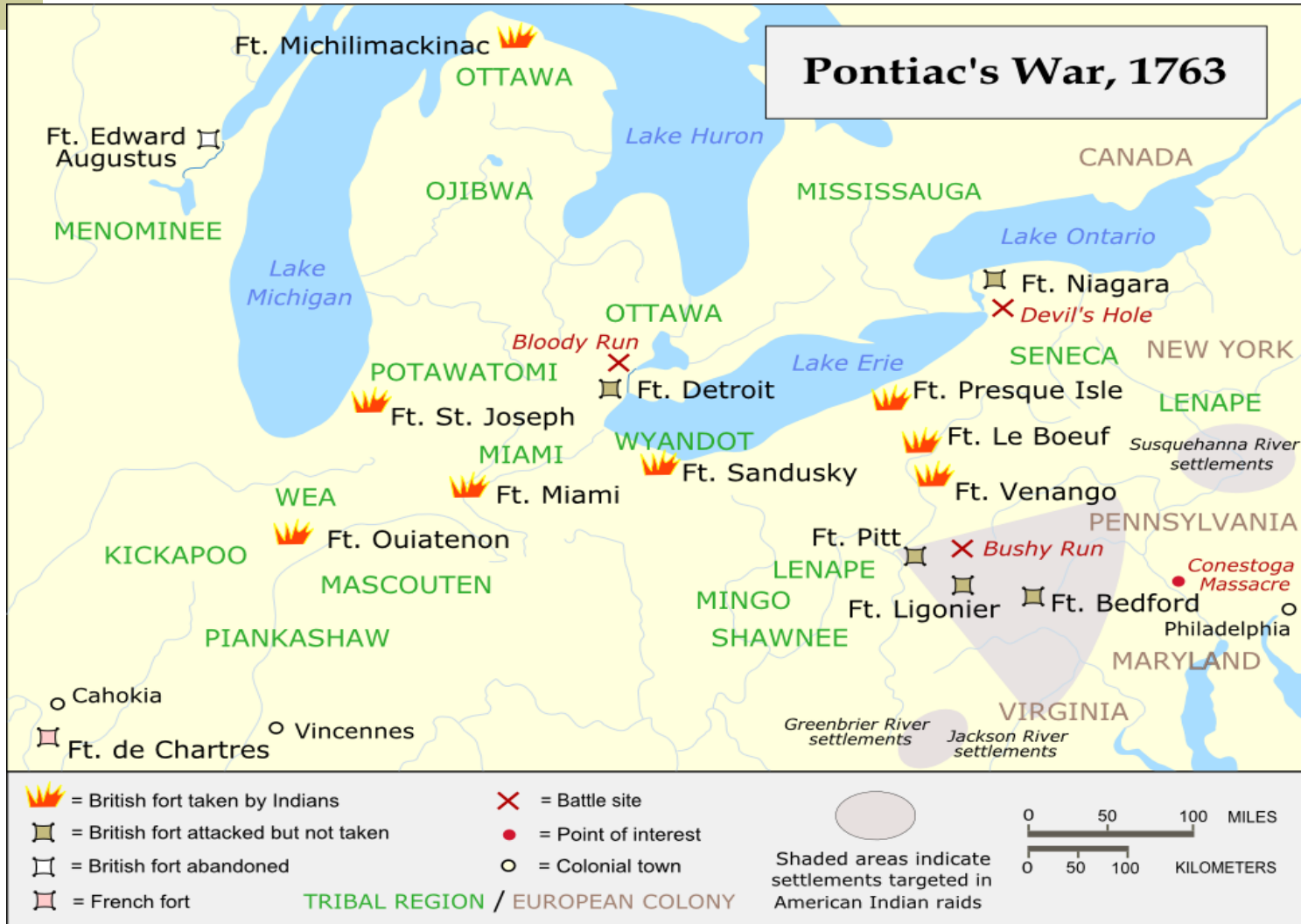
War's Fateful Aftermath

- ◆ Spanish and Indians weakened
 - Spain was removed from Florida
 - Although still controlling New Orleans, Louisiana, and western 1/2 of present-day US
 - Indians lost their most powerful tool – the ability to play off rival European powers against each other
 - Indians would now have to negotiate exclusively with the British

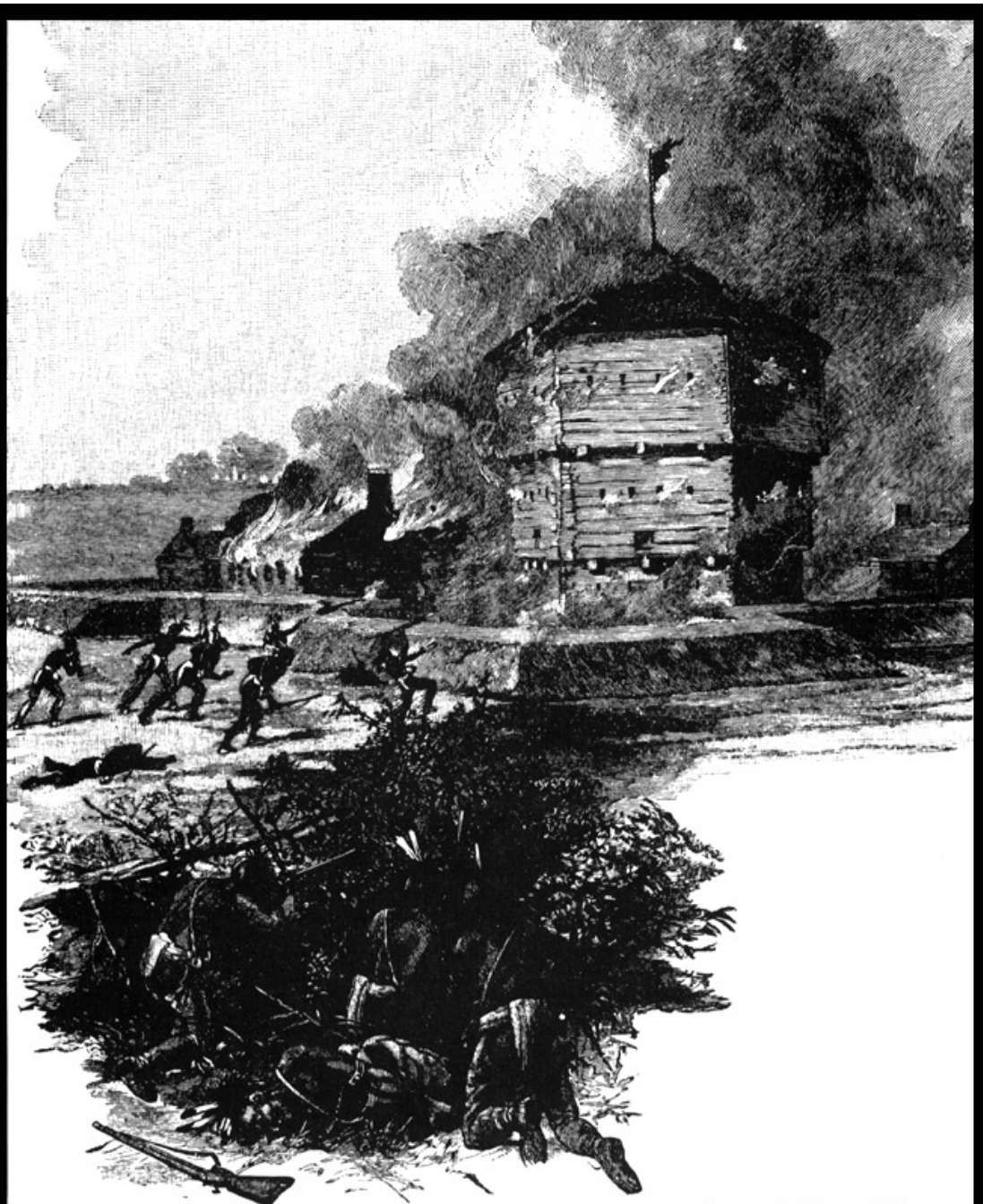
War's Fateful Aftermath

- ◆ Pontiac's Rebellion (1763)
 - Was an Indian drive to remove the British from Ohio Country
 - The Indians overran all but 3 British posts west of the Appalachians; 2,000 soldiers and settlers were killed
 - British counterattacked and crushed the rebellion
 - Included sending smallpox-infected blankets to Indians
 - The rebellion convinced the British of the need for stable relations with the Indians and need to keep troops on the western border (for which colonists would be asked to pay)

Pontiac's War, 1763



Pontiac's Rebellion



War's Fateful Aftermath

- ◆ After the defeat of the French, the colonists were now free to cross the Appalachian mountains and settle western lands
- ◆ The Proclamation of 1763
 - British government prohibited white settlement west of Appalachian Mountains
 - Was not designed to oppress colonists, but work out problems with Indians and prevent another uprising like Pontiac's Rebellion

Settled Areas at End of French and Indian War, 1763 and the Proclamation of 1763



War's Fateful Aftermath

- ◆ Colonial reaction to the Proclamation of 1763
 - Angry because they felt they had fought French for right to move west
 - Many moved west in defiance of British authority