

## TERMS AND PEOPLE

- **Nathan Hale** – Connecticut officer and American spy who was executed by the British
- **mercenary** – soldier who is paid to fight for a country other than his or her own
- **alliance** – formal agreement between two powers to work together toward a common goal

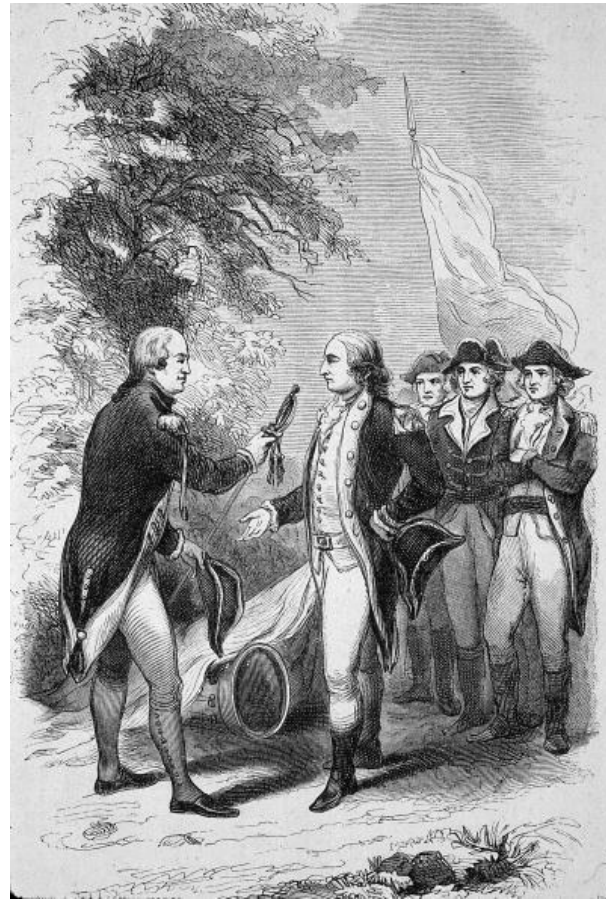


## TERMS AND PEOPLE

- **cavalry** – units of troops on horseback
- **Friedrich von Steuben** – German baron who helped train the Continental army
- **Marquis de Lafayette** – *French noble and high-ranking officer in Washington's army*



# REVOLUTIONARY WAR, 1776-1777



## OBJECTIVES

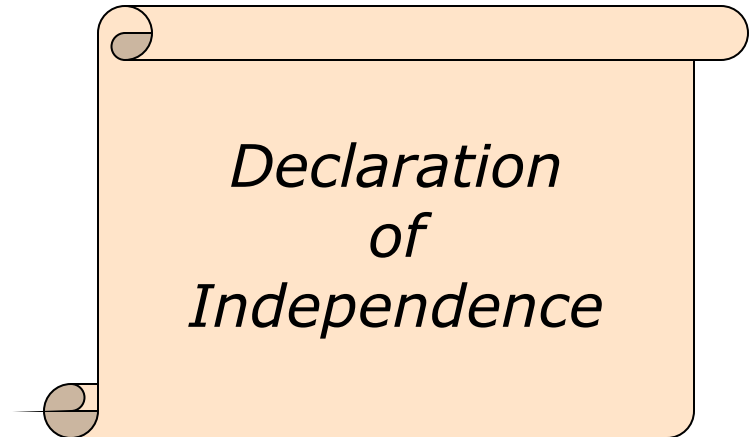
- Discover the results of fighting in the Middle States.
- Understand why the Battle of Saratoga was a turning point in the American Revolution.
- Learn how foreign nations and volunteers helped the Americans.





## How were the early years of the war a critical time?

In 1776, Americans declared their independence. But they were not yet free.



First, they had to defeat one of the world's most powerful nations.



**As the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, a large British fleet landed in New York.**



The fleet was commanded by Sir William Howe.



Using Staten Island as a base, Howe launched a series of attacks on George Washington's troops.

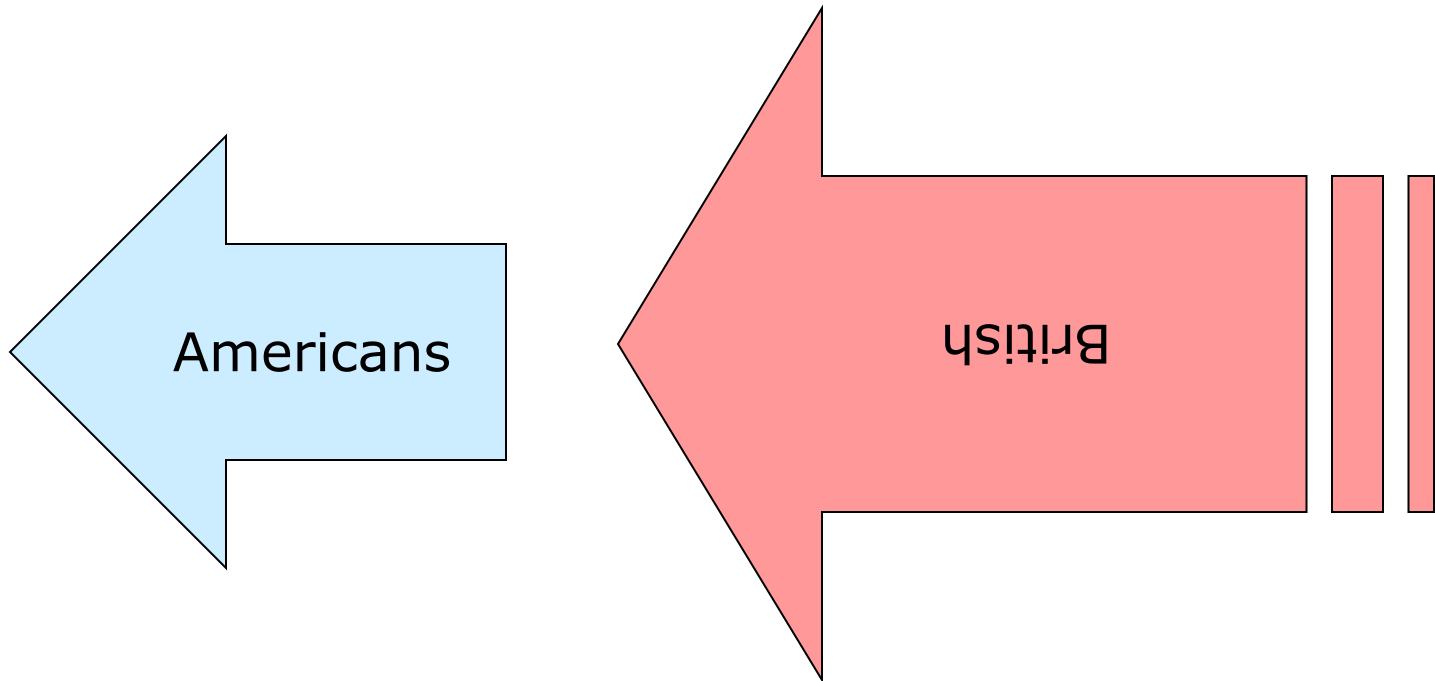


Washington expected the attack. But his troops were no match for the British.

<b>Americans</b>	<b>British</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 20,000 poorly trained volunteers</li><li>• No navy</li><li>• Little equipment; few supplies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 34,000 professional soldiers</li><li>• Naval fleet; 10,000 sailors</li><li>• Well equipped; fully supplied</li></ul>

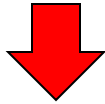


In a series of battles and American retreats, the British drove Washington from New York, across New Jersey, and into Pennsylvania.





During the fight for New York, **Nathan Hale**, a spy on a dangerous mission to gather intelligence on the British, was caught and executed.



It was later reported that his last words were, "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."



Hale became a symbol of American patriotism and defiance against British oppression.



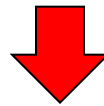
Losing New York and New Jersey hurt the spirits of the Americans, and many soldiers deserted.



To boost morale Thomas Paine wrote another pamphlet, *The Crisis*, urging Americans to fight for their cause.



Though his army was battered, Washington rallied his troops for a surprise attack.



On Christmas night, Washington crossed the Delaware, slipping into New Jersey. His army defeated Hessian (German) **mercenaries** and British troops in two key battles.

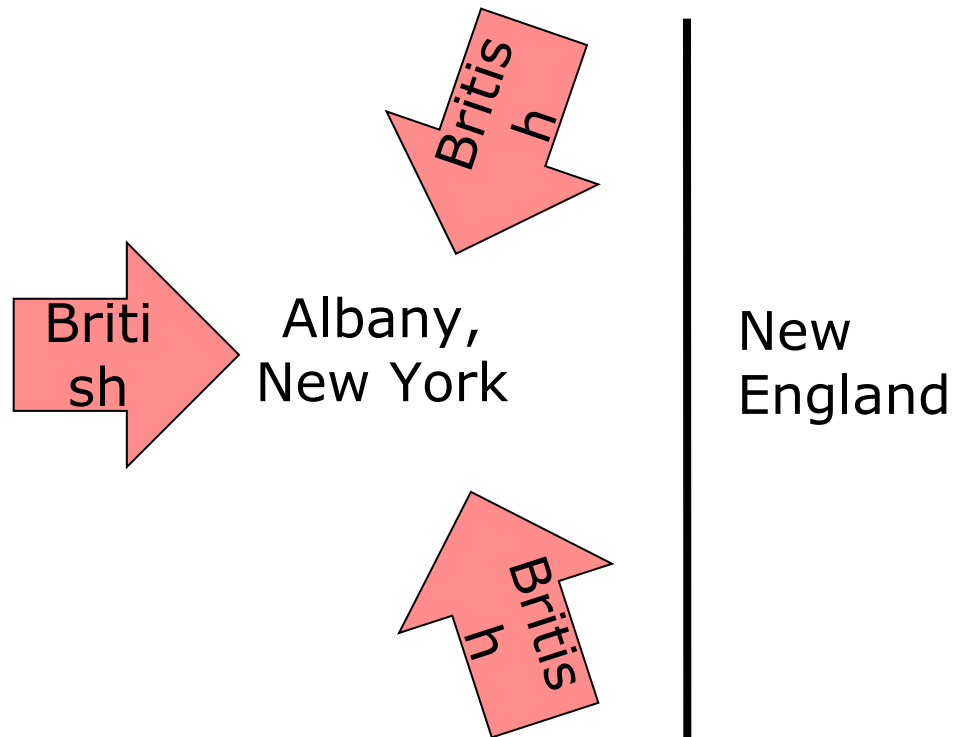


Another American victory soon followed.

The British planned to push toward Albany from three directions.



They hoped to cut New England off from the rest of the colonies.



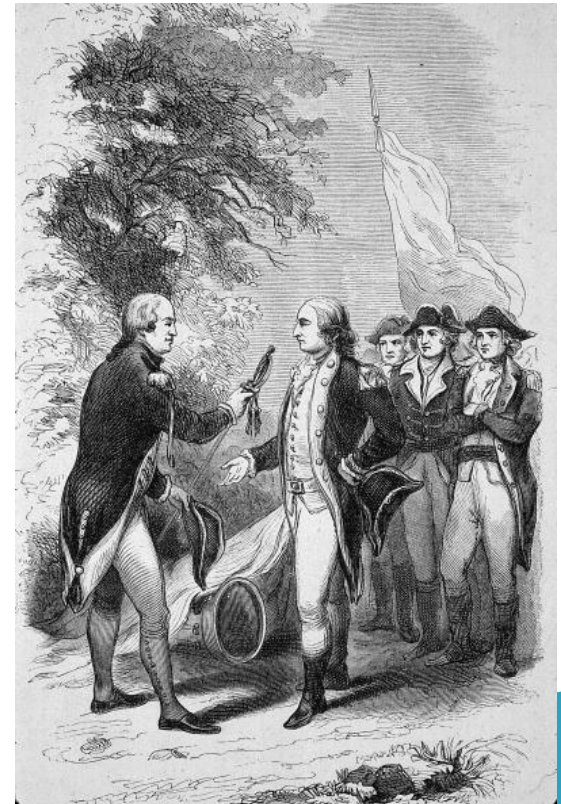
The first two forces ran into difficulties elsewhere and did not arrive. The third, coming from Canada, was led by British general John Burgoyne.



Americans led by General Horatio Gates surrounded Burgoyne's troops at Saratoga, New York.



After suffering heavy losses, Burgoyne surrendered.

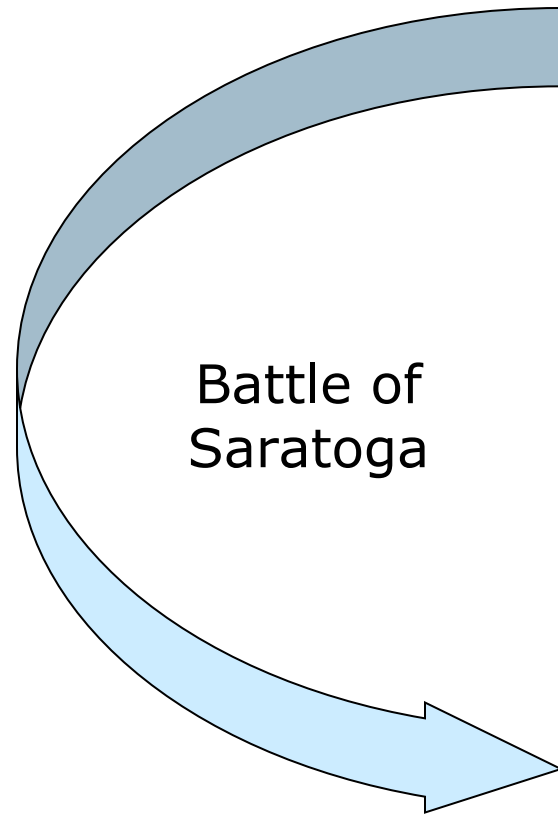


# The Revolutionary War, 1775–1777

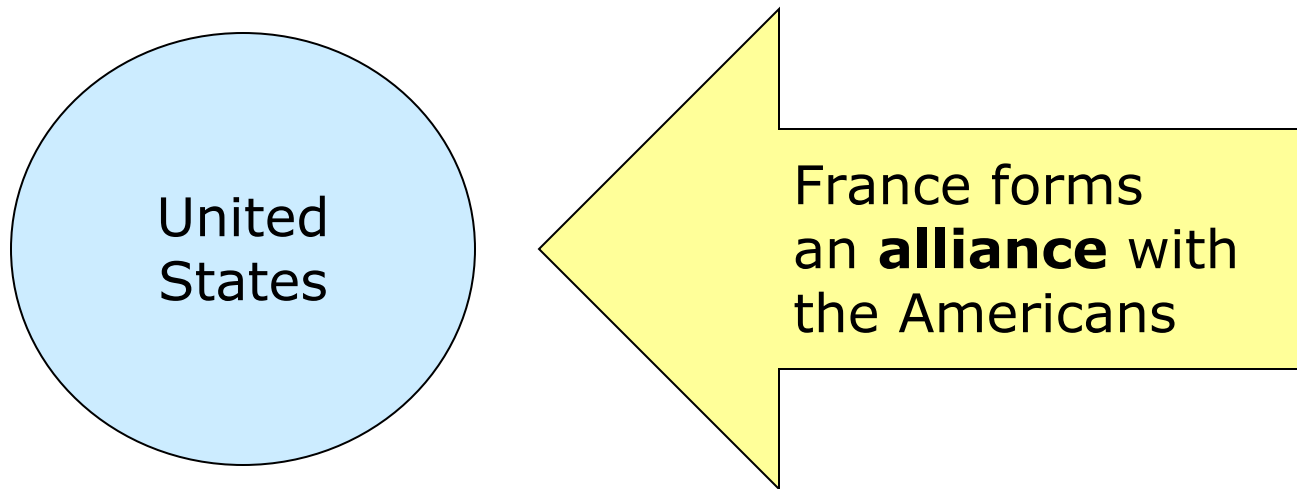


## **The Battle of Saratoga was a turning point for the Americans.**

- Ended British threat to New England
- Lifted Patriot spirits
- Convinced Europeans Americans could win



Soon after Saratoga, France agreed to support American independence.



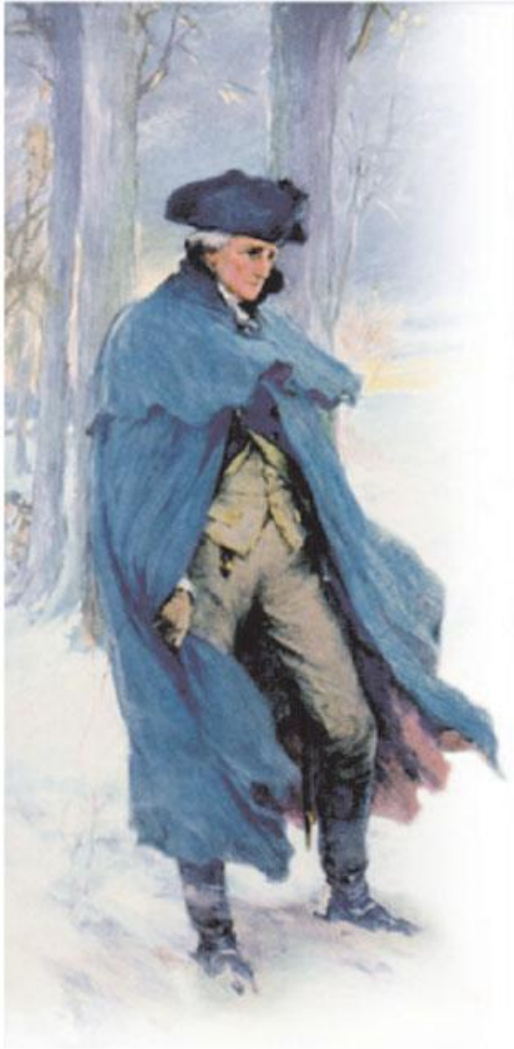
**Eager to weaken Britain, France took the war to Europe, forcing the British to fight on many fronts.**



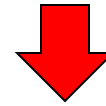


European volunteers from many nations made key contributions to the Patriot cause.

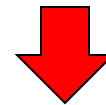




Despite Patriot advances, the winter of 1777–1778 was difficult.



Washington and his troops faced terrible hardships in the harsh cold at Valley Forge. Many died because of the lack of warm clothing and food.



Yet spring finally came, and the army slowly regained strength for the battles ahead.



# Quiz

1. A French noble called the \_\_\_\_\_ became a high-ranking officer in Washington's army.
    - a. Mercenaries
    - b. Marquis de Lafayette
    - c. Cavalry
    - d. Nathan Hale
    - e. Alliances
    - f. Friedrich von Steuben
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ was a German baron who directed the training of Washington's army.
  3. Casimir Pulaski led and trained mounted troops called \_\_\_\_\_ for the Continental army.
  4. In Trenton, Washington's soldiers captured almost a thousand Hessian \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. In the summer of 1776, George Washington gathered his forces on Staten Island.
  6. Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet called The Crisis that helped raise morale when American spirits were low.
  7. The Battle of Burgoyne is considered a turning point of the Revolutionary War.
  8. Washington's army spent the hard winter of 1777–1778 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
  9. How did Nathan Hale become an American legend?
- 