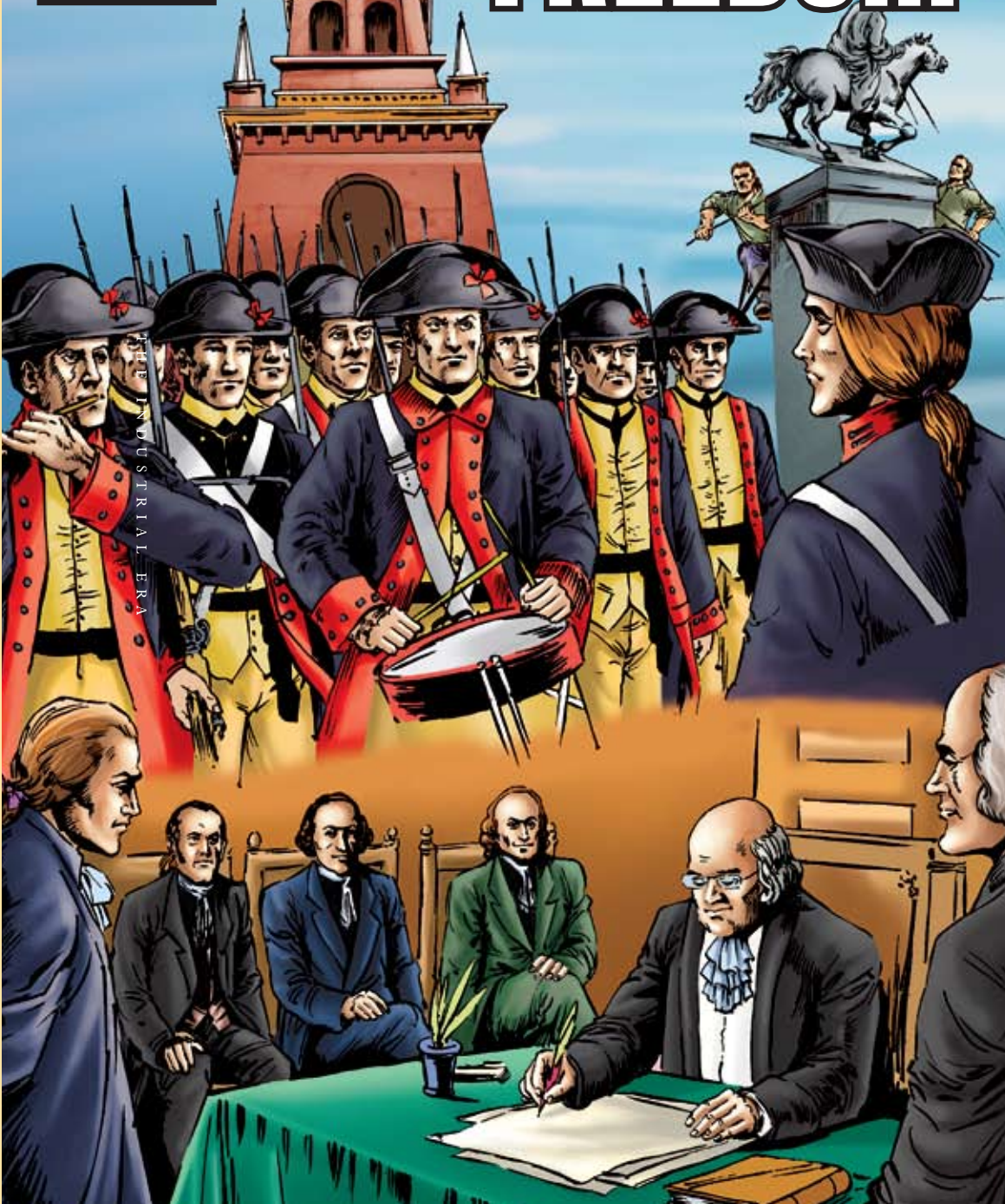
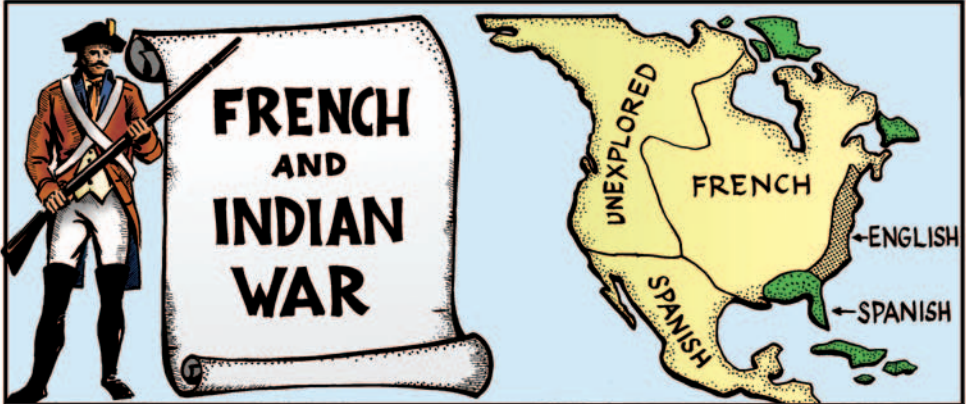




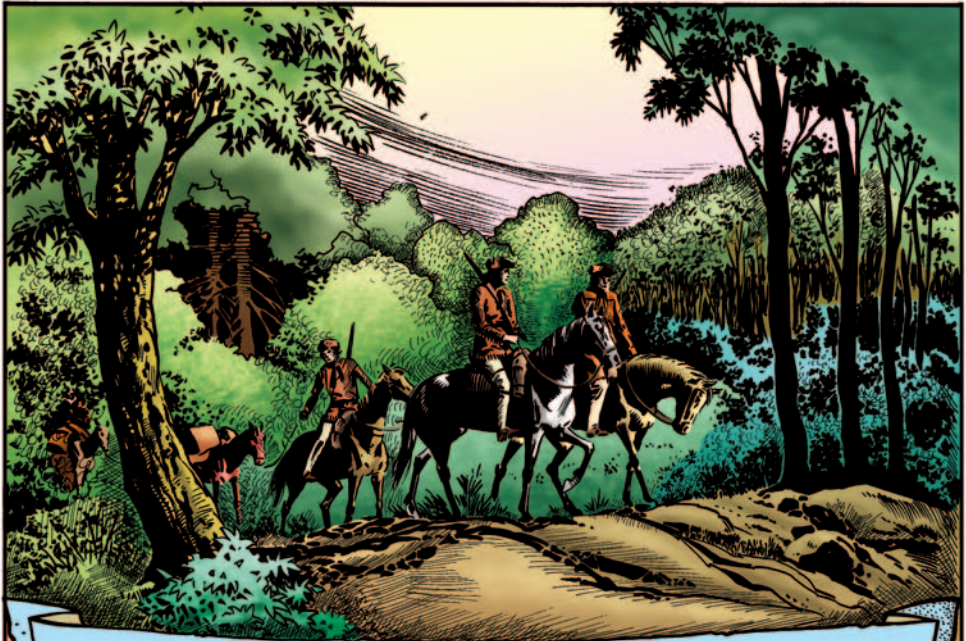
THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM



THE INDUSTRIAL ERA



By 1750, the English colonies occupied only a very small strip along the Atlantic coast. Population in the English colonies was increasing. Conflict between the English and French became certain because English settlers were pushing westward into French territory.



Young *George Washington* was a Virginia surveyor. He was asked to carry a letter through the wilderness to the French commander in the Ohio territory. It directed the French to leave land claimed by British forces. This was a dangerous journey in winter through country best known for Native Americans, bears, and rattlers.

They had a long, hard journey to the French headquarters.

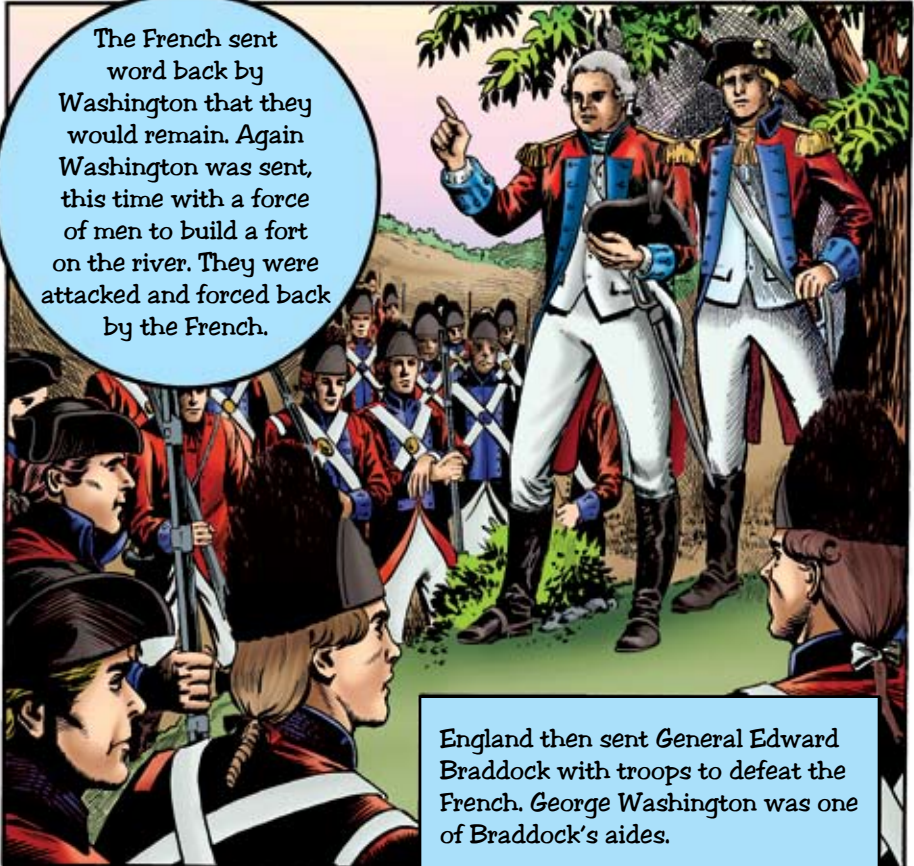


From Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, sir.



The trip back to Virginia was even worse.

The French sent word back by Washington that they would remain. Again Washington was sent, this time with a force of men to build a fort on the river. They were attacked and forced back by the French.



England then sent General Edward Braddock with troops to defeat the French. George Washington was one of Braddock's aides.

The foot soldiers advanced as British troops always advanced, in neat solid rows. Their bright red coats were brilliant in the sun.



Washington protested. This was not the way to fight the French.

We must fight them in open ranks, man to man.



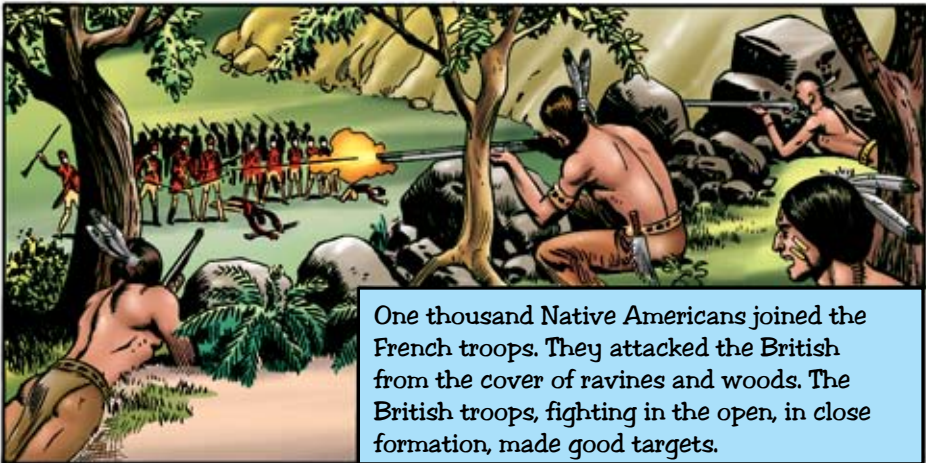
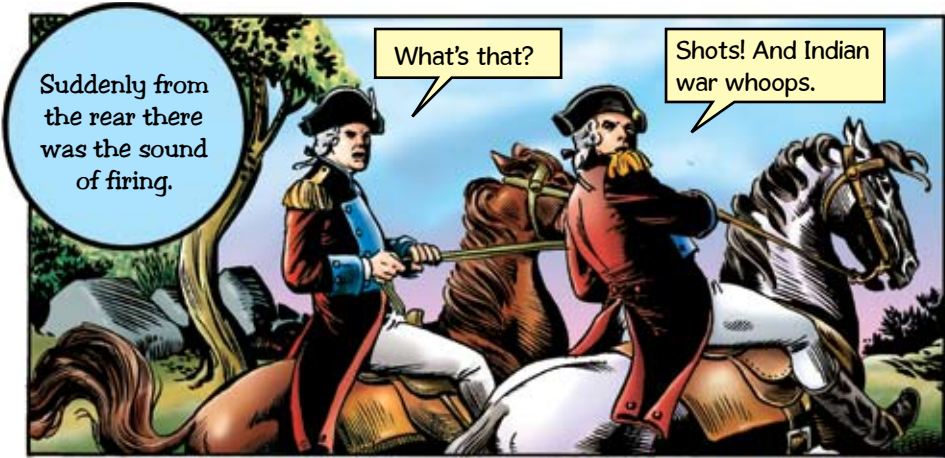
The savages may be formidable to your raw American militia. On the King's disciplined troops, they will make no impression.

Braddock's army took 32 days to cover 110 miles. As they neared the French Fort Duquesne, they had to ford the Monongahela River. They feared an ambush but crossed safely.

All across safely, sir!

Good! We'll rush the fort.





More than half the British troops, including General Braddock, were killed. Many more were wounded. Washington became a hero. Under his command the remaining British troops were able to retreat and save themselves.



But Braddock's defeat made life harder for the British colonies. Both the Native Americans of the North and the French took advantage.

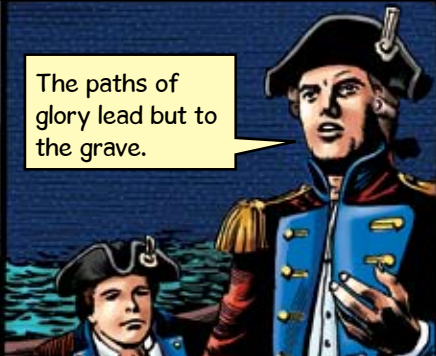
With his army ready, General Wolfe was determined to surprise the French troops.



On the night of September 12, Wolfe and his army boarded a fleet of small boats. Quietly they floated downriver toward the city.

In a leading boat, Wolfe recited *Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* to a young midshipman. Was he forecasting his own fate?

The paths of glory lead but to the grave.



Suddenly from the shore a French sentry challenged them.

Qui va là*?



A French-speaking Scottish soldier answered. The French sentry decided the British were French, and gave no alarm.

* Who goes there?

The boats reached a little cove. Twenty-four volunteers tackled the rugged cliff route.



Taking the French guards by surprise, they overwhelmed them before they could make a sound.

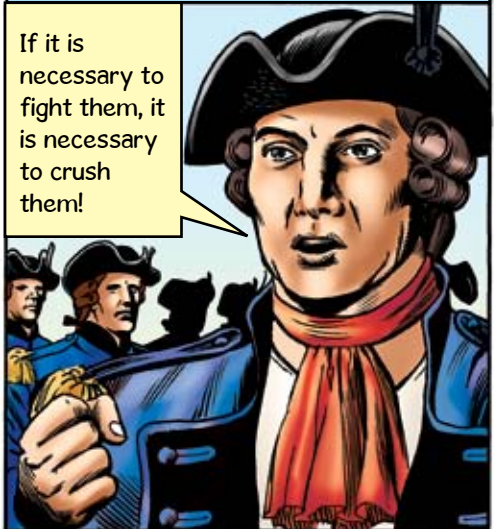


The rest of the British troops swarmed up the 300-foot cliffs onto the grassy field at the top. At dawn the French looked out on an unbelievable sight: 4,500 British soldiers stood outside the city ready to fight.

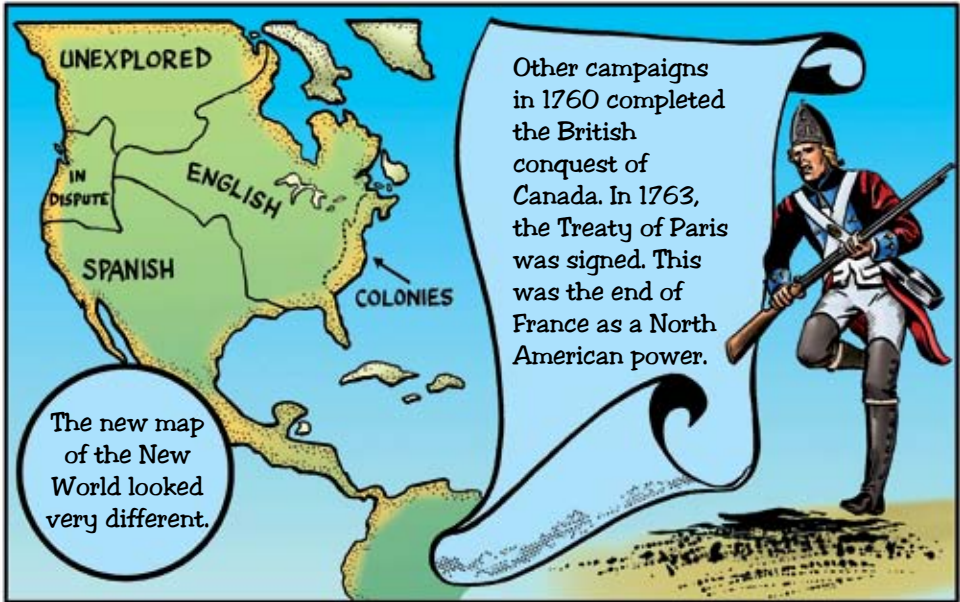


Outside the city walls, as the French formed ranks and marched to meet the English, Montcalm warned his officers.

If it is necessary to fight them, it is necessary to crush them!

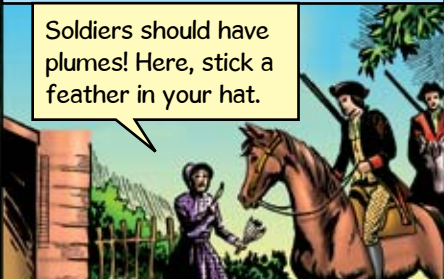


Now the French soldiers came running through the narrow streets of the city to meet the enemy.



The name Yankee Doodle started, it was said, in Norwalk, Connecticut, when Colonel Thomas Fitch's regiment reported for duty. His sister thought the men looked shabby. She ran to the henhouse and returned with a handful of feathers.

Soldiers should have plumes! Here, stick a feather in your hat.



The men rode into New York state to join a British force. An English army surgeon saw them, laughed, sat down, and wrote a song. It made a hit with the redcoats.

*Yankee Doodle came to town upon a little pony. He stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni.**



At the end of the French and Indian War, the colonists were happy. They were proud to be part of the powerful British empire. They were thankful that the French threat had been removed from their frontier.



They had found they could fight as well as the English soldiers—sometimes better. But, to the redcoated British soldiers, any colonial militiaman was “Yankee Doodle.”

*Slang for a fancy decoration

A wave of protest swept through the colonies. Ministers preached against the new law. People gathered in the streets and in taverns everywhere. Groups called "Sons of Liberty" were formed.



On the day the tax law was to go into effect, there was trouble all over the country.

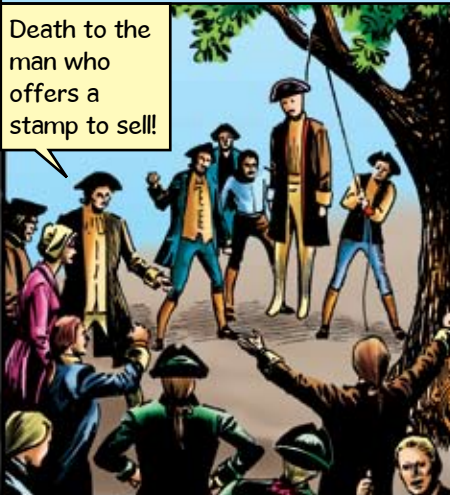
In New York, the Sons of Liberty burned the tax collector's coach.



In South Carolina, they captured the fort where the stamps were stored.



In Boston, a dummy figure of the collector was hanged from the Liberty Tree.



Death to the man who offers a stamp to sell!

The stamp sellers quickly resigned their jobs. Many hid to save their lives.

There he goes! After him!

No, no! I resigned!



But the English did not agree. They had not given up the right to tax the colonies. In 1767, they passed new taxes on such things as paper, paint, glass, and tea. The tax was to be an import duty paid when the goods were brought into the country. Once again the Americans fought back.

Smuggling became patriotic.



So did weathered gray houses.



British troops were to keep order and enforce collection of the taxes. Law officers were given warrants allowing them to search any home or building for smuggled goods.

Well, I never!
Tracking up my clean
floor and mussing my
linens!



More soldiers came to help. The crowd pressed closer. An African-American man, Crispus Attucks, ran forward and tried to seize a soldier's gun.

Come on!
Don't be
afraid! They
daren't fire!



The soldiers opened fire. Crispus Attucks and four other men were killed. Nine British soldiers were later arrested on a charge of murder.

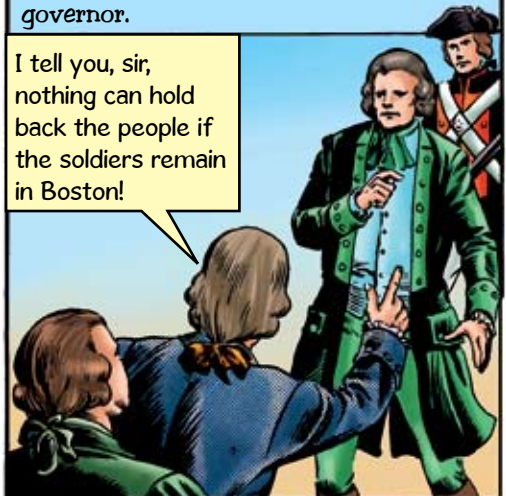
The next day a great crowd came to a meeting called by Sam Adams.

They are bloody
butchers! Not
another night should
we allow them in
Boston!



Adams and a committee went to the governor.

I tell you, sir,
nothing can hold
back the people if
the soldiers remain
in Boston!



The frightened governor sent the troops down the harbor to Castle William. The custom officers went with them.

Led by Sam Adams, about 50 men disguised as Native Americans boarded the three ships.



They chopped open and threw into Boston Harbor chests of tea valued at \$50,000.

No one will pay a tax on saltwater tea!



At that time, of course, there were no telephones, telegraph, radio, cars, railroads, or planes. Messages were carried by foot or on horseback. Communication between towns and between colonies was difficult and slow.

In 1772, Sam Adams proposed to the Boston town meeting that it set up a new committee.

The Committees of Correspondence were a success. Thomas Jefferson in Virginia carried the idea farther.

We need committees in each town to write and send letters, keeping patriots aware of the latest news.

We need such committees in all 13 colonies, to keep patriots in touch all over the country.

