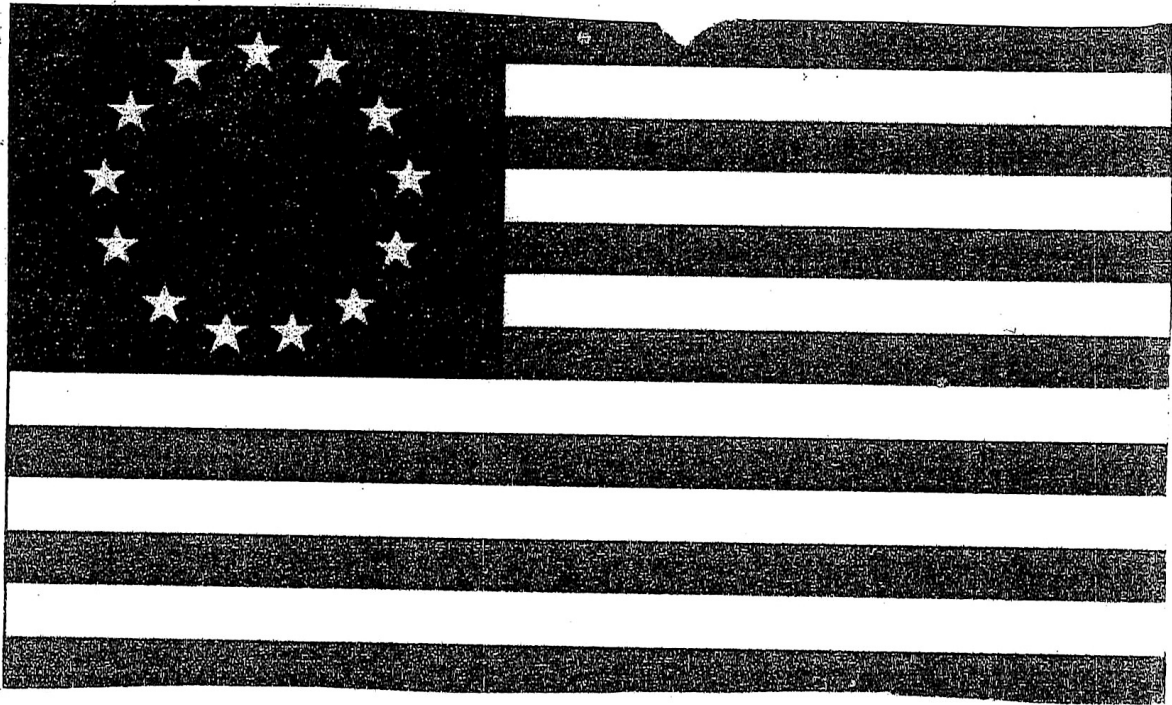


Americas Fight For Freedom



By Jude

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Many years ago one of the most famous war of all time happened. It all started in 1764 when the King of England along with British parliament passed the Sugar Act, which was the beginning of many other taxes. Soon came the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party.



Many people of the time thought the British deserved this, they were patriots. Others thought colonists were being highly disrespectful, they were loyalists.

The First Continental Congress

The First Continental Congress was a group of delegates from 12 of the 13 colonies. Georgia wasn't included. Georgia had its own problems and needed the protection of British troops. At Philadelphia's Carpenter's Hall they came together in response to the Intolerable Acts. They met from September 5th 1774 to October 26 later that year.

The Intolerable Acts were in response to the Boston Tea Party of 1773. One of the acts was the Quartering Act, which allowed British red coats to invade colonists' houses without permission. Parliament also closed Boston Harbor punishing colonists residing in Boston.

The 1st Continental Congress actually made everything a bit worse. Cause the 2nd Continental Congress to happen.

The Second Continental Congress was a group of 56 delegates, as well from 12 of the 13 colonies. Because of the recent battles of Lexington and Concord which were the first battles of the Revolutionary War.



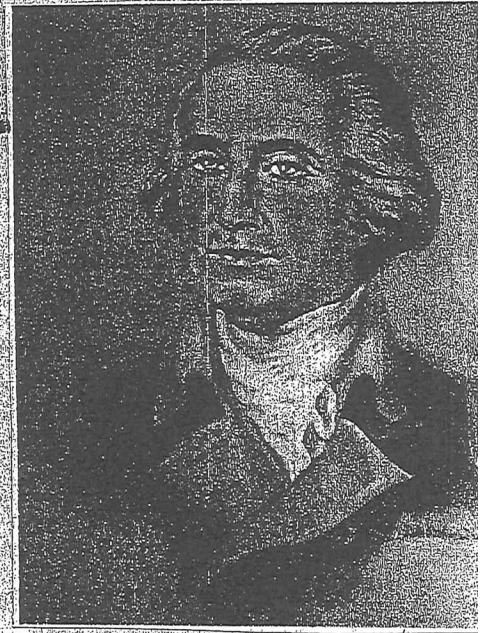
The congress met for about a year, from May 10 1775 - July 4 1776. During that time some delegates wrote the Declaration of Independence.

As you may see these delegates accomplished a lot more the second time around. But they kept going 7 more years!

Finding Out How To Fight Back

In 1776 during the 2nd Continental Congress the delegates elected the leader for the Continental Army. They eventually elected George Washington as the leader.

Now the colonists had an army. They could fight like they were as professional as the red coats. Many battles were fought. Some of them were the battles of Bunker Hill, Lexington, Concord, and Trenton. There were many others.



George Washington

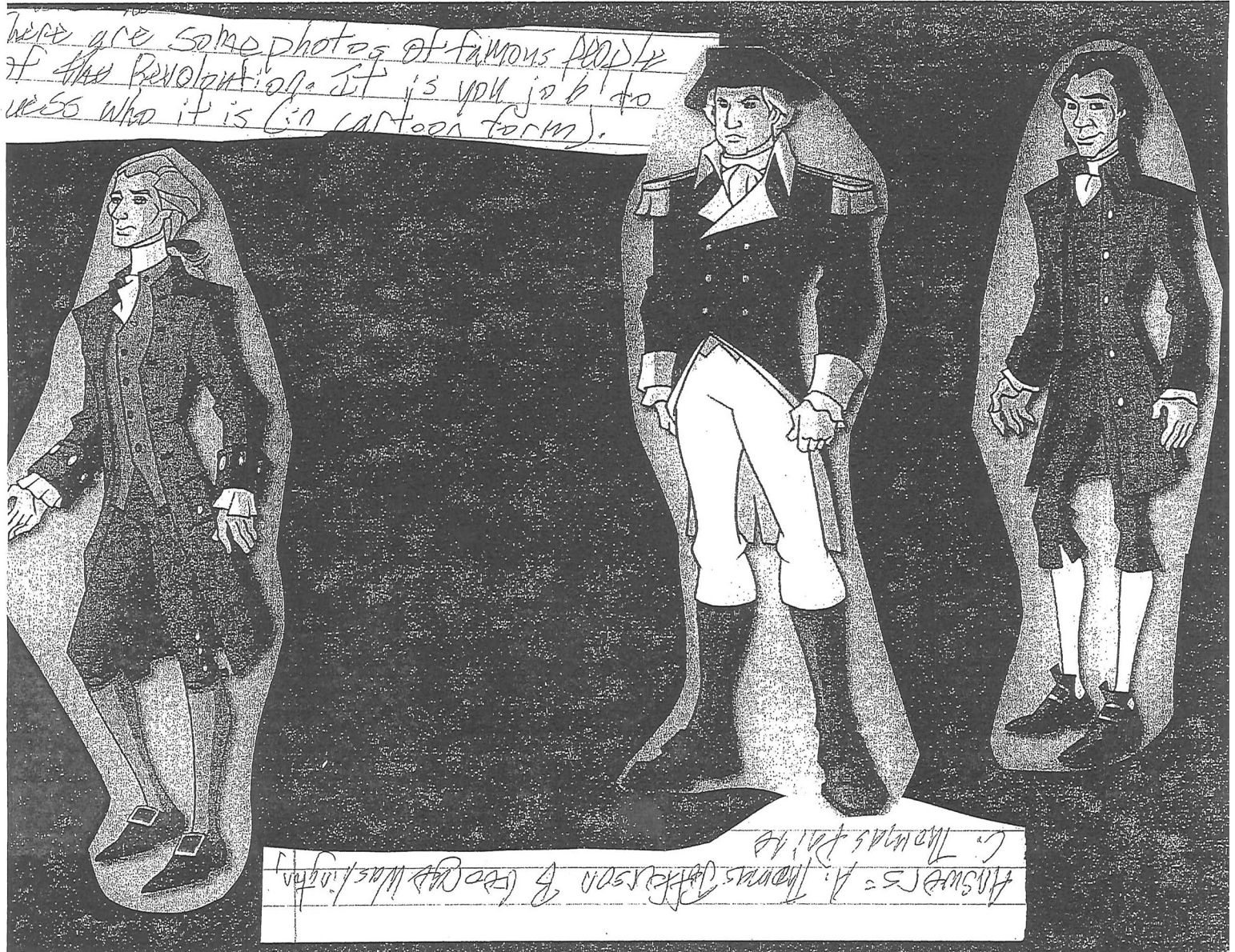


The Battles Of Lexington and Concord

In January 1776, an English immigrant named Thomas Paine published a pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*. It was written to explain why America should be independent. About 120,000 of the pamphlets were sold within 3 months. It had the largest sale and circulation of any book in American history.



Thomas Paine began to write *Common Sense* in late 1775. Paine published the pamphlet without saying he wrote it to avoid getting in trouble for treason.



The Continental Congresses

The Continental Congresses were important because they were discussions that really helped the colonists raise their hopes and will.

Common Sense

Common Sense was a turning point in the revolution because it inspired many Americans to stay as patriots and to keep fighting.

The Continental Army

The Continental Army is remembered today because they won many battles and helped the colonists win the war.