

PHASE 1: 1812-1814

The War of 1812



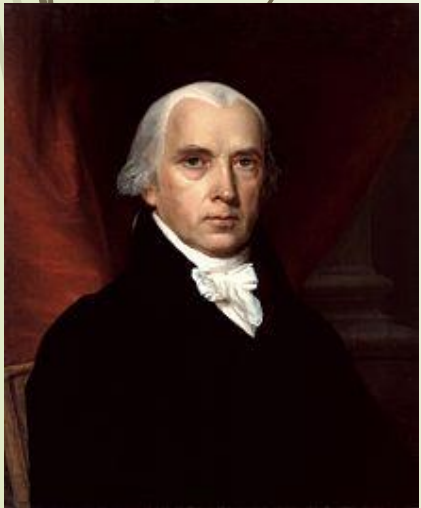
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New Congress: War hawks

- **New session of Congress in 1811**
- **War Hawks – Young Republicans eager to avenge Indian attacks and impressment**
 - **Henry Clay – Kentucky → Speaker of The House**
 - **John C. Calhoun – South Carolina → seated on Foreign Relations Committee**
- **Mostly came from west and south, mostly lawyers**
- **Wanted war with Britain**
- **Expansionists – want Canada and Florida**
- **Approved major defense increase – quadrupled size of the army**

Election of 1812

- ▶ **Madison (128 electoral votes)**
- ▶ **DeWitt Clinton (89) - Republican but had Federalist support**
 - ▶ **Won all of New England's votes (not Vermont) got New York, New Jersey, and Maryland**





Causes of War

- **#1: Impressments: shipping is huge connection of American states**
 - **Merchants in Northeast: British are friends in commerce**
- **#2: Inciting and aiding Native American attacks for settlers in west**
- **#3: Interference with shipping**

THE SITUATION

- **Great Britain really doesn't want to fight**
 - **At war with France**
 - **Declared an end to interference with American shipping**
 - **Notice does not arrive until after war declared!**
- **United States**
 - **Weak military because of the actions of Jefferson and Madison**
 - **ARMY: 7,000 (POORLY TRAINED & POOR LEADERS)**
 - **NAVY: 16 SHIPS**

WAR

- June 18, 1812 – Congress declares war on Great Britain
 - Divided by sectionalism – ALL Federalists say NO
- Britain decides to stop Impressment BUT!!!
 - Letter does not arrive in time
- *Report on the Causes and Reasons for War*
 - Written by Foreign Relations Committee, AKA Calhoun
 - Insulting Britain's “lust for power”
 - Fightin’ Words

Sectionalism

Federalists

- **New England and Mid-Atlantic states**
- **War would be too costly (livelihood is trade with Great Britain)**
- **Everyone votes against war**

Democratic-Republicans

- **Southern and Western states**
- **War Hawks**
- **War would be honorable**
- **War for revenge**

New England

- **NO** rush to raise troops
- **CONTINUE ILLEGAL TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN**
- **IN PROTEST: Drank East India tea in Liverpool cups throughout the war**



Phase one



- Britain mainly focused on war with France
 - Little energy to the US conflict
- American navy small, but fastest ships on the water
 - Naval officers gained experience in the Mediterranean
- Early victories for US naval ships



Phase I ON THE COAST

- ▶ **Britain sends ships to blockade the coast**
 - ▶ **THE BLOCKADE INTERRUPTED BUT DID NOT SHUT DOWN US COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY TRAFFIC.**
 - ▶ **THE ROYAL NAVY NEVER DEVOTED ENOUGH SHIPS FOR THE JOB.**
 - ▶ **Ships USED TO ENFORCE BLOCKADE**
 - ▶ **ENDURED HARD USE**
 - ▶ **HAD TO RETURN TO ENGLAND IF ANY MAJOR REPAIRS WERE REQUIRED.**

NAVAL BATTLES



The Battle for Lake Erie 12:15 PM

British Fleet



The Lawrence engages the Queen Chalotte and receives return fire from the Detroit



September 10, 1813: Battle of Lake Erie



➤ US

- Winter 1812-1813 on Lake Erie
 - Built fleet on the shoreline.
 - Oliver Hazard Perry takes command
 - Sept. 1813 British attack American ships
 - 2 hour battle
 - Perry's ship disabled: USS LAWRENCE
 - BANNER: "DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP"
 - Takes four men and row small boat to another ship
 - Destroyed 2 British ships forcing British to surrender
- "WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND THEY ARE OURS"**

LAND FORCES IN PHASE I



Battle of Detroit

- **Brigadier General William Hull, gov. of Michigan Territory and 2000 men arrive in Detroit – July 6-7**
 - **MOST ARE MILITIA**
 - **VETERAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR**
 - **ACCOMPANIED BY DAUGHTER AND GRANDCHILDREN**
- **July 12- Crosses Detroit River unopposed and occupies Sandwich, refuses to go any farther**
- **Concerned about supply lines**
- **Aug. 2 and 3- Tecumseh and British attack supply force**
- **Aug 8- General Hull sends 600 men to re-open supply road**
 - **Battle of Maguaga- Americans force British and Shawnee to retreat**
- **Aug 11 - General Hull orders troops to return to Ohio, convinced to stay**



BATTLE OF DETROIT (CONT'D)

- Aug 13- **Isaac Brock** (British) arrives with 300 men
- Decides to attack Fort Detroit
- Sends message to Hull to surrender Detroit
- Aug 15- British cross the river unopposed
- Aug 16 – double sided attack between British and Native Americans
- Hull surrenders without any shots fired
- British victory gave Michigan territory to hands of British
- General Hull court martialed and condemned to death (does not happen) for being a coward – gave up to “save his men”
 - MADISON COMMUTED SENTENCE BECAUSE OF SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION

Oct. 5, 1813: Battle of Thames

- British short on supplies retreat up Thames River (Swamp)
 - **Tecumseh** refuses to retreat- wanted action
- **General Harrison** pursues British
 - British decide to fight
 - British defeated
 - Americans
 - 7 killed
 - 22 wounded
 - Secures Northwest Territory in American hands
 - Kills **Tecumseh**

Jan. 22, 1813: Battle of QUEENSTON HEIGHTS (US LOSS)

- ATTEMPT TO INVADE CANADA
- Aftermath of Battle of Detroit
- Temporary cease-fire, both sides re-group
- Oct. 12: General Stephen Van Rensselaer (US) crosses Niagara River into Canada (Queenston)
 - Poorly organized, **Brock** thinks fake attack
 - MAJORITY OF US UNITS REFUSE TO CROSS RIVER
- Reorganize and reattack same night – seize clifftop gun emplacement and control
- **Brock** charges to attack and is killed by a sniper
- 1000 AMERICANS TAKEN PRISONER
- 300 KILLED OR WOUNDED



April 27, 1813

- Burn York (Toronto)
- 16 American ships make it to capital of Upper Canada, York
- 1700 men easily assume control of the shore and town
- British General Sheaffe retreats orders town to be destroyed
- Blows up ammunition storage, kills and injuries many on both sides
- Americans continue to savage the rest of the town

THE WAR OF 1812: Major Northern Campaigns

