

Part 2

The War of 1812



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Native Americans: Creek War

- Sided with the British
- 10,000 **Creeks** living in Mississippi Territory were in all-out war with the US for 10 months 1813-1814
 - **Creeks** aligned with **Tecumseh**
 - Angry about settlers
 - Guns from Spanish Florida
- Ends suddenly in 1814
 - **Jackson** leads 2,500 Tennessee militiamen in bloody Battle of Horseshoe Bend
 - 550 Indians killed, several hundred more trying to flee
 - Later in the year, **Jackson** squeezes a treaty out of them for thousands of sq. miles of their land



Phase two

- **U.S. Navy able to capture some victories in early months**
- **However**
 - **When the British defeat Napoleon's armies in 1814, they turn full attention to US and send more troops**
- **British raided the Chesapeake Bay moving into the US**
 - **5,000 troops landed**
 - **Citizens in panic, pack up and flee**

Burning of the White House

August 24, 1814


- **Madison**: Get troops here quick, and pack up important documents
- **Madison** and **Monroe** ride into the countryside to rally troops
- **General Windsor** makes stand in Maryland, 6 miles from D.C.
 - Biggest embarrassment of US – retreated back to Washington
- **Capture Washington D.C. – August 24, 1814**
 - Burn government buildings: Capitol, White House, newspaper office, arsenal
- **Dolley Madison** in the middle of prep. for a dinner party
- Had several servants save paintings
- British feast on Dolley's dinner before setting fire to the HOUSE
- **Hurricane** puts the fire out.



Lake Champlain: September 11, 1814

- British send forces across Lake Champlain from Canada into New York
- British goal: push south and cut off New England
- Americans hold off the British for a while
- British fleet arrives 16 vessels
- American fleet defeats the British fleet
- British go back to Canada
- British gather for attack on New Orleans





September 13-14, 1814: Baltimore

- Sept. 10, 1814 – ships go out to search for British
- **Sam Smith** chosen to lead the militia – shake them to reality
- **Major George Armistead**: in charge of protecting Ft. McHenry
- Merchants sink their own ships in the entry to harbor to block British warships



September 13-14, 1814: Baltimore

- **Two pronged attack, from north, and coast**
- **After burning of DC, British move toward Baltimore**
- **Believed to be base of American privateers preying on their shipping**
- **Sept. 12 – British land with 4,500 men headed toward Baltimore**



September 13-14, 1814: Baltimore

- Sept. 13, 1814 – Baltimore’s Fort McHenry held 25 hours of bombardment by the Royal Navy
- In the morning, the troops hoist huge American Flag
 - Where we get “the Star-Spangled Banner”
 - British troops leave the Chesapeake Bay

Treaty of Ghent: Dec. 24, 1814

Neither side wins -- No one gains land

- ▶ **IMPORTANCE: BRITAIN GAVE UP ANY HOPE OF RECLAIMING LANDS LOST IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.**
- ▶ **Peace talks began in Ghent (modern day Belgium—then Netherlands)**
- ▶ **Britain moved for an end of the war after failing in Baltimore.**
- ▶ **TERMS:**
 - ▶ **ALL CONQUERED LANDS WERE RETURNED**
 - ▶ **U.S.: Gave up claims to Canada**
 - ▶ **Opened the Great Lakes to the United States**
 - ▶ **Britain: promised to leave Canada's borders unchanged and abandon efforts to create an Indian state in the Northwest Territory**
 - ▶ **Commission established to settle the boundary between Canada and the United States.**
 - ▶ **Ratified in February of 1815**

(ISSUE OF IMPRESSMENT AND THE RIGHTS OF US SHIPPING WERE NOT EVEN ADDRESSED IN THE TREATY).

Battle of New Orleans: Jan. 8, 1815

- **TAKES TWO MONTHS FOR THE NEWS OF THE TREATY TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.**
 - Unaware of peace, British initiate a major attack New Orleans
- **December 1814 -Dozens of British ships and 7,500 troops stage near Louisiana**
- **January 8, 1815 – British attack**
- **General Andrew Jackson’s forces take them down**
 - Forces included French pirates, Native Americans, African Americans, and frontier settlers
 - 71 American casualties, 2,000 British Casualties



A REASON TO CELEBRATE

- ▶ **NEWS OF THE TREATY OF GHENT ARRIVES AT THE SAME TIME AS THE NEWS OF THE VICTORY**
 - ▶ **PEOPLE WERE UPSET THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE TREATY**
 - ▶ **NOW HAD SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE!!!**
 - ▶ **PUSHED ANDREW JACKSON INTO THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT**
 - ▶ **PRIMARY REASON FOR HIS SUCCESSFUL RUN FOR PRESIDENT**