

In May 1803, two weeks after selling Louisiana to the U.S., Napoleon declared war on Great Britain—a war that would last 12 years, until the defeat of France at Waterloo in 1815. Like Federalist presidents George Washington and John Adams in the 1790s, Republican presidents Thomas Jefferson (1801-09) and James Madison (1809-17) found neutrality difficult, for France and Britain each blockaded the other's coast and seized neutral ships attempting to trade with the other Americans—after losing more than 500 ships to France and 900 to England—finally had enough! In what might be called a "Second War of Independence," the United States declared war on Great Britain in 1812, emerged with a settled peace in 1815, and remained free of entangling European alliances for the next 100 years.



FOREIGN ACTION



FRANCE

1803: FRANCE DECLARED WAR ON GREAT BRITAIN

1806-07: CONTINENTAL SYSTEM

- 1) blockade of British ports (Berlin Decree).
- 2) confiscation of neutral ships bound for Britain (Milan Decree).



GREAT BRITAIN

1805: ESSEX CASE—British court ruled against shipping goods from the French West Indies to France via the U.S. (500 U.S. ships were seized under this ruling.)

1807: ORDERS IN COUNCIL (series)

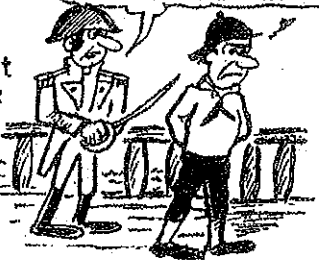
- 1) blockade of French ports,
- 2) confiscation of neutral ships bound for French ports.

1803-12: BRITISH IMPRESSMENT OF AMERICAN SAILORS

Chesapeake-Leopard Affair

(1807)—The British ship Leopard fired upon the American ship Chesapeake just off the U.S. coast. Then the British captain impressed (captured for service) four of the U.S. sailors. Americans called for war!

ONCE AN ENGLISHMAN, ALWAYS AN ENGLISHMAN!



1803-1812: BRITISH INCITEMENT OF INDIANS IN NORTHWEST TERR.

HERE YOU ARE, BOYS!

WOW! BRITISH-MADE RIFLES!

WHO ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIGHT?



1811: Battle of Tippecanoe
William H. Harrison destroyed the Shawnee town of British-aided Chief Tecumseh and his brother the Prophet, who organized northwest Indians against the whites.

AMERICAN REACTION



2nd Adm. of Thomas Jefferson

1807: EMBARGO ACT

Seeking to retaliate short of war, Jefferson pushed through the Republican Congress an embargo, which forbade U.S. trade with all foreign ports. This drastic measure hurt New England businessmen, driving them into the federalist camp, and caused an economic depression. So, just before Jefferson left office, the Republicans passed the Non-Intercourse Act.



1809: NON-INTERCOURSE ACT

- 1) repealed the Embargo Act,
- 2) opened trade with all ports except French and British,
- 3) provided for resumption of trade with France or Britain if either ceased violating U.S. neutral rights.

1st Adm. of James Madison

1810: MACON'S BILL NO. 2

- 1) opened trade with France and Britain,
- 2) provided that if either France or Britain ceased violating U.S. neutral rights, U.S. would restore non-intercourse with the other.



1810: WAR HAWKS, such as Henry Clay (Kentucky) and John C. Calhoun (South Carolina), were a group of new, nationalistic congressmen from the agrarian, land-hungry West and South, who pressured President Madison to declare war against Britain, for these reasons:

- 1) preserve national honor,
- 2) restore farm prices depressed by trade restrictions,
- 3) annex Canada to end British incitement of Indians,
- 4) annex Spanish West Florida,



AMERICA GOES TO WAR: A TRAGIC IRONY

JUNE 1, 1812: Madison asked Congress to declare war on Britain.

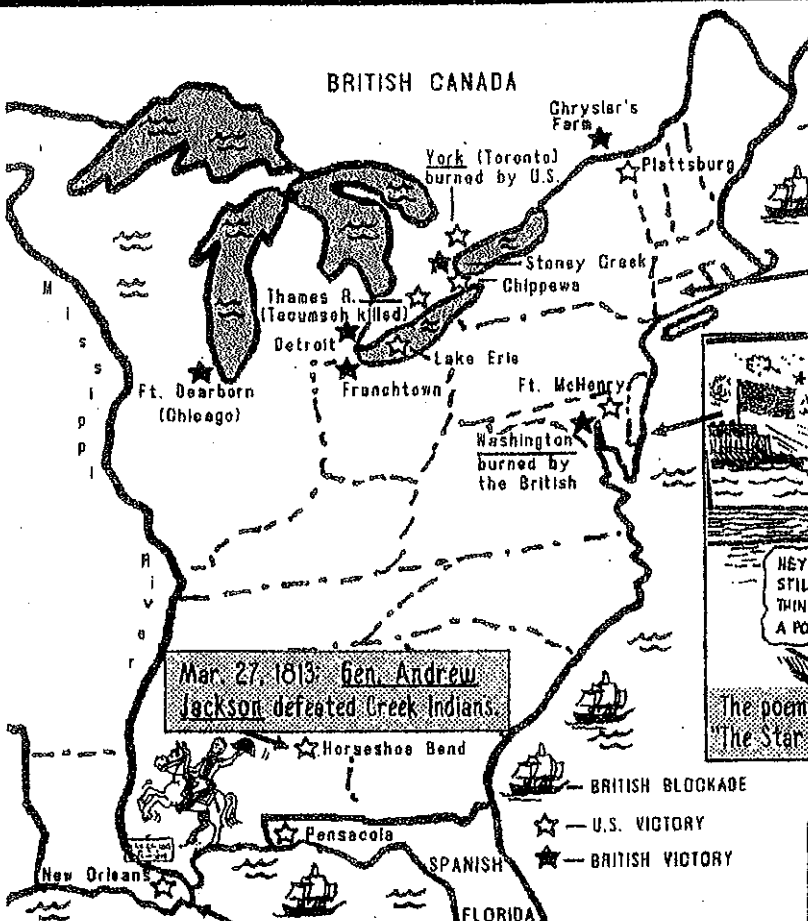
JUNE 16, 1812: Britain, unaware of the U.S. action, yielded to the pressure of her merchants and repealed the Orders in Council.

JUNE 18, 1812: Congress, unaware U.S. sanctions had worked, declared war on Britain—the war that need not have been!

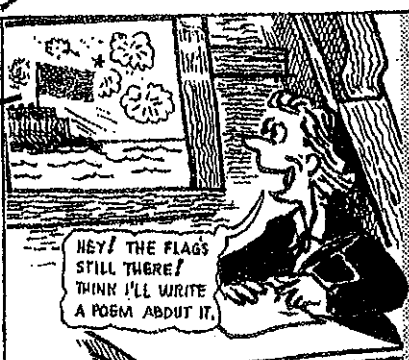
The War of 1812 was a stalemate; each side's disadvantages counterbalanced the other's. It ended in a truce and return to the status quo. Yet the war had important results: European nations finally recognized U.S. independence, freeing the U.S. to pursue domestic rather than foreign concerns.

 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	GREAT BRITAIN 
<p align="center">DISADVANTAGES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The U.S. was unprepared for war.</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Small, poorly trained and equipped army; never more than 35,000 Old generals, left over from Revolutionary War; average age, 60 yrs. Raw militias, many of which refused to fight outside own states Small navy: 20 frigates and sloops, 170 small gunboats <u>Lack of a national bank limited financial resources.</u> The Bank of the U.S. charter was not renewed by the Republican Congress in 1811. <u>New England and New York opposed "Mr. Madison's War,"</u> as they called it, for—unlike the agrarian West and South—the commercial Northeast suffered from the war's curtailment of trade. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Britain did not want war with the U.S.</u> The Napoleonic wars had cost Britain four billion dollars and a 33 percent cut in exports by 1811. Britain needed the U.S. trade, worth 60 million dollars per year. <u>Second-string resources used for U.S. war.</u> Britain's main resources and efforts were used in the war with France. <u>Treasury depleted by 1814.</u>

MAJOR BATTLES AND EVENTS



Dec. 15, 1814-Jan. 5, 1815: Hartford (CT) Convention—New England Federalists who opposed the war met secretly to revise the U.S. Constitution, giving states more power. (Moderates quashed talk of secession.) Cut short by news of the Dec. 24, 1814, peace treaty, the discredited Convention disbanded. Accusations of disloyalty led to the death of the Federalist party.



HEY! THE FLAGS STILL THERE! THINK I'LL WRITE A POEM ABOUT IT.

1814—Francis Scott Key, a lawyer seeking release of a U.S. hostage, was held overnight on a British ship in Baltimore Harbor, where he watched the fierce British shelling of Ft. Mchenry. "By the dawn's early light" he joyfully saw the U.S. flag, the "Star-Spangled Banner," yet waving "o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." The poem he quickly wrote was sung later to a British tune and called "The Star-Spangled Banner." It became the U.S. national anthem in 1931.

Mar. 27, 1813: Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated Creek Indians.

Jan. 8, 1815: Gen. Andrew Jackson, outnumbered 2 to 1, became a hero by defeating the British at New Orleans. National pride soared, despite the battle's being fought (unknowingly) 2 weeks after the peace treaty.

December 24, 1814: PEACE TREATY OF GHENT SIGNED
February 15, 1815: TREATY RATIFIED BY U.S. SENATE

- War ended in a cease-fire.
- Terms of peace: status quo ante bellum (restoration of prewar territorial conditions)
- Certain issues given to commissions to settle later.

Storm Clouds and the War of 1812, 1803 – 1815

1. What was the goal of American foreign policy during the administrations of Washington and Adams?
2. Why was a policy of neutrality difficult for presidents Jefferson and Madison to maintain?

Foreign Action

3. During the war between Britain and France in the early 1800s, what was the most significant challenge to U.S. neutrality posed by the 2 nations?
4. What actions of the British led to William H. Harrison's attack of Chief Tecumseh at the Battle of Tippecanoe?

American Reaction

5. Why did Thomas Jefferson push for the Embargo Act of 1807?
6. What negative effect did the Embargo Act have on the U.S.?
7. Who were the two leading War Hawks, and what groups of Americans did they represent?
8. What reasons did the War Hawks have for supporting war with Britain?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
9. What was the tragic irony of the War of 1812?

The War of 1812, 1812-1815

10. Even though the war ended in a truce and a return to the status quo, what were the important results of the war?

Disadvantages

11. What was the most significant weakness facing the U.S. entering the War of 1812?
12. What Americans typically opposed the war?

Major Battles and Events

13. What was the purpose of the Hartford Convention, and how did it affect the Federalist Party?
14. Under what circumstances did Francis Scott Key write the *Star Spangled Banner*?
15. Who became a war hero by defeating the British in the Battle of New Orleans?
16. What was so controversial about the Battle of New Orleans?
17. What was the most significant consequence of the Battle of New Orleans?
18. What treaty ended the War of 1812?