

WAR of 1812

[Crash Course History – War of 1812](#) (video)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

- President – James Madison
 - Video click here- [War of 1812](#)
- Great Britain and France are at war (again)
- Napoleon Bonaparte – Emperor of France
 - Napoleonic Wars – Won most of his conflicts
 - Taking over most of Europe
 - Short Video -
<http://www.history.com/topics/napoleon>
- Remember Federalist are pro England and Democratic Republicans are anti-England

WAR HAWKS

- Favor of war
- Democratic Republicans
- From Southern and Western states
- Wanted war to protect American ships, trade, and economy
- Felt British were hurting our reputation
- Felt Britain was encouraging Indian attacks
- MAIN HAWKS
 - Henry Clay
 - John Calhoun

CAUSES OF WAR

- England imposed trade restrictions (Orders of Trade) & impressed of our sailors to help with war against France
- Native American Resistance
 - Tecumseh - causing issues for westward expansion
 - British were supplying the Native Americans with weapons and resources
- Canada
 - American wants land and go NORTH into British Territory (Manifest Destiny)
 - Look at Canada as a bargaining chip – we control Canada and trade it with England to leave our ships alone.

CAUSES OF WAR

- Politics
 - Democratic Republicans - Anti Britain
 - Federalist – Pro Britain
 - Called war “Madison’s War” because his party was anti British
 - Seen as a chance to sever any relations with Britain
- Communication
 - US declared war in June 1812
 - English Prime Minister was assassinated in May 1812
 - New Prime Minister lifted trade restrictions (1st cause)
 - News didn’t arrive to US until after we declared war

Declaring War

- First time US declares war
- Closes vote to decide in US History
 - 61% vote yes in House
 - 59% vote yes in Senate
- Democratic Republicans voted for war
- Federalist voted against war
- A major (early) bipartisan event in US History

Facts About the War

- United States assumed it would be easy
 - American people would be supportive / involved
 - People in Canada would join us
- Some Limited Success
 - Won some Battles in Lake Erie
 - Won Battle of Windsor
 - Killed Tecumseh / Ended Native American Resistance
- Burning Washington DC
 - General Robert Ross invades DC
 - Held it for 25 Hours
 - Hurricane forced British out put out fire

Facts About the War

- Battle of Baltimore –
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnRQ8-MMX28>
- Fireworks from Ft. McHenry – Star Spangle Banner (Poem)
- Treaty of Ghent
 - Signed and ended the war
- Battle of New Orleans
 - Took place after the Treaty of Ghent was signed
 - War was already over
 - General Andrew Jackson in charge
 - Battle made Jackson very popular – future President

Hartford Convention (video)

- Federalist met to discuss grievances about:
 - Embargo of 1807 (by Jefferson)
 - The Louisiana Purchase
 - The War of 1812
- Discussed removing 3/5 Compromise (counting slaves as 3/5s for taxation & representation)
- They wanted New England secede (break away) from the United States

- RESULT – With Andrew Jacksons HUGE success in New Orleans and celebration of the Treaty of Ghent made the Federalist seem silly and they lost credibility. This was the beginning of the end for the party.

Other Resources of Interest

- USS Constitution – Old Ironsides
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMdBWWDWRQ8>
- Burning of DC
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= LgV6KIDtoE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgV6KIDtoE)