Goal 3 (1754-1820)

The Empire Rises… and Quickly Falls

* Colonial Policies
  + Mercantilism
    - More money is more power
      * Finite amount of wealth in the world, thus controlling the most is the end goal
    - Colonies exist to provide for the mother country
  + Navigation Acts (starting in 1650)
    - Trade only occurring on British or Colonial ships
    - All imported goods to colonies had to pass through England (and experience an extra duty)
    - Certain goods could be exported to England only
    - Impact:
      * Positive:
        + New England shipbuilding prospered
        + Colonial monopolies on certain goods (ex. Chesapeake tobacco)
        + English Military forces to protect colonies
      * Negative:
        + Limited colonial manufacturing
        + Low price for certain crops
        + High prices for goods coming from England (duties)
        + Resentment led to illegal operations (smuggling) which led to increased colonial control (i.e. more customs officers)
  + Salutary Neglect: legal neglect; relaxed British control of N. America
    - Generally, these acts were not properly enforced
* Issues in an Empire
  + Series of wars fought b/w GB, France, and Spain for trade control
    - King William’s War (1689-1697)
      * Results in British control of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland
      * Helps to further the idea of Salutary Neglect
    - Queen Anne’s War (1702-1713)
    - King George’s War aka “War of Jenkins Ear” (1744-1748)
      * Instigated by Spain over trading rights
      * Smaller part of the European theatre known as “The War for Austrian Secession”
      * The first time that colonial militia-men really get involved (inc. George Washington)
    - The Seven Years’ War (French and Indian War)
      * At first, fighting occurred in colonies
      * Why?
        + French built chain of forts in Ohio River Valley
        + Young George Washington is dispatched (with militia) to stop the construction of Fort Duquesne (future Pittsburg)

To take back control of the Valley

* + - * + Washington and his men surrender on July 3, 1754 (Signals beginning of war)
        + Algonquin Native allies of the French help ravage the Western countryside of several colonies
        + Iroquois Confederacy (Mohawk, Oneida, Seneca, Cayuga) ally with the British
      * The Albany Plan of Union
        + A congress consisting of members from the 13 colonies is called in 1754 in Albany New York
        + Albany Plan of Union, crafted by Benjamin Franklin, is adopted by 7 of the colonies

Plan of intercolonial government

System for recruiting troops

Collecting taxes

All in the name of self defense

Fails – why?

Colonies enjoy individual sovereignty and tax systems

* + - * British Victory
        + William Pitt – British Prime minister – concentrates military strength in Canada

Battle of Louisbourg 1758

Quebec in 1759

Montreal in 1760

* + - * + Peace of Paris 1763

Great Britain acquires French Canada and Spanish Florida

France ceded Louisiana territory to Spanish

* + - * Effects of War
        + Unchallenged supremacy in N. America for British
        + Est. Britain as dominant naval power in the world
        + No more threat of attack from Spain or France
        + British View

Low opinion of colonial military capability

Colonists are lazy and uninterested in helping spread the empire

* + - * + Colonial View

Proud of military capability and gained confidence in ability to defend if needed

* + Picking up the Pieces: Reorganization of the Empire
    - Colonial Policies:
      * Previously, Britain had exerted little direct control over colonies
      * Britain had generally allowed navigation acts to go largely unenforced
      * End of Salutary Neglect 1763
      * Cost of wars – George III and the Whigs (Political Party) implements taxes on colonies to help pay for the cost of British Troops sent to maintain the empire
  + The Creation of Boundaries
    - Pontiac’s Rebellion 1763
      * Chief Pontiac of Ottawa leads major attack against colonial settlements on the Western Frontier (Detroit) killing more than 2,000 people
        + Angry at Western movement of settlers
      * British troops sent to defeat Pontiac and the Natives
      * British use smallpox infected blankets to defeat the Natives
    - Proclamation of 1763
      * Creation of Boundary line that prohibited colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains
        + British aim: reduce hostilities bw colonists and Natives
      * Colonists wanted to have access to newly acquired lands, so many defied the boundary line, as created by the British.