Screen 1

In April 1775, tensions over British colonial policies in the [Thirteen Colonies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies) boiled over into war with the [Battles of Lexington and Concord](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battles_of_Lexington_and_Concord).

Patriot colonists surrounded the city of [Boston](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boston,_Massachusetts), placing it under [siege](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Boston), although the encirclement was incomplete: the city could be resupplied by sea. News of this action and the June [Battle of Bunker Hill](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Bunker_Hill) fanned the flames of independence throughout the colonies

Screen 2

In December of 1775, a fleet was sent to Georgia to buy rice and provisions for the isolated troops. When the ships began arriving in Georgia in January, the local patriots were alarmed, thinking they had come to capture Savannah

The dispute in Georgia reached a crisis point when British [men-of-war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Men-of-war) began arriving at [Tybee Island](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tybee_Island,_Georgia) in January 1776

Screen 3

For the next month, he attempted to negotiate with the Provincial Committee of Safety and was able to buy some supplies for the immediate needs of the fleet. The larger mission, however, of buying much needed supplies for the troops in Boston was at a standstill. Local merchants had agreed to a continent-wide ban on trade with the British in protest against British policies and actions. The agreement not to trade with the British would end on March 1, however, and that’s when the British made their move.

Colonial Georgia, 1777

They had already talked with the owners of some of the rice stored on boats at Savannah who agreed to sell their rice on March 1 when the non-trade agreement ended. On that day, several ships of the fleet sailed up the Savannah River from the coast. The local militia, who had taken up positions around the town, assumed they were attempting to take Savannah and fired on one of the ships, beginning the Battle of the Rice Boats.

Brits Win

On March 30, having accomplished their mission, the fleet set sail from Georgia with Governor Wright aboard, ending British rule in Georgia for the time being.

America win

The Committee of Safety met during the gun battle and decided the rice boats had to be destroyed to prevent the British from getting the supplies. They lighted the supply ship Inverness on fire, loaded it with explosives and set it on course to crash with the other occupied boats. Three other rice boats were caught on fire and burned into the night. Two ships escaped upriver, but their crews were caught. Twelve rice boats, however, escaped downriver, were captured by the fleet on the coast and their provisions confiscated.