

Paul Revere's Ride



Paul Revere was a silversmith in Boston. He made cups and bowls and other things out of silver. He also supported the American Revolution. He believed that America should be an independent country. King George III and the other people in the English government believed that America should stay a part of England. Paul Revere and his group called themselves “Sons of Liberty.”

Several times before, Paul Revere had delivered messages to important men who supported the Revolution. On April 18, 1775, Paul Revere and another man noticed that the British were moving their ships. They believed that the British were getting their

soldiers ready to march or sail to Lexington.

Paul Revere arranged with his friend, Robert Newman, to hang lanterns in the tower of the Old North Church: one lantern if the British were coming on land, two lanterns if they were coming by sea. The tower glowed with the lights of two lanterns.

9:30 p.m. Another rider, William Dawes, left Boston. He went south of Boston to Lexington so he could save two leaders of the Revolution, Samuel Adams and John Hancock.

11:00 p.m. Friends took Paul Revere across the river. He rode his horse north of Boston to Lexington. Both men warned people all along the way. After they got to Lexington, another man joined them, Dr. Samuel Prescott.

1:00 a.m. The British stopped all three. Dr. Prescott and Dawes escaped. The British took Paul's horse and let him go. Paul wrote: “...*the Major ordered ..., if I attempted to run, or anybody insulted them, to blow my brains out.*”

5:00 a.m. Paul Revere went back to help Samuel Adams and John Hancock. There, he heard the first shots between the colonists and the British. Two hundred and ninety three British soldiers were killed and 95 colonists. It was the beginning of the Revolution.