

AP United States History

Common Sense and The Shot Heard Around the World

- Battle of Bunker Hill- June 1775
 - Colonists lose, but it's a pyrrhic victory for the British
- Colonists not necessarily ready for independence
 - Split between those who wanted independence and reconciliation
 - Those in the Middle Colonies largely remained loyal to the British
 - 2nd Continental Congress offer Olive Branch Petition to King George III
 - Doesn't even bother reading it even though it blames parliament
- Thomas Paine writes "Common Sense"
 - Advocates for an independent American Republic
 - Written in simple, vernacular English, easy to read
 - Based on enlightenment ideals and blames the king