

## **Ch 3 Section 4 The French and Indian War**

### **Rivals for an Empire**

#### **Britain and France Compete**

- In 1750s, Britain, France build empires; both want Ohio River Valley

#### **France's North American Empire**

- France claims St. Lawrence River region, Mississippi Valley
- By 1754, French colony of **New France** has small population
- French colonists mostly fur traders, missionary priests
- French have good relations, military alliances with natives

#### **Britain Defeats an Old Enemy**

##### **The War Begins**

- France and Britain fight two inconclusive wars in early 1700s
- French build Fort Duquesne in Ohio Valley, land claimed by Virginia
- In 1754, **George Washington** is sent to evict French; is defeated
- **French and Indian War** begins—fourth war between Britain and France
- Native Americans fight with both the British and French

##### **Early French Victories**

- General Edward Braddock's army ambushed near Fort Duquesne
- 1755–1756, British lose repeated battles to French, native allies

##### **Pitt and the Iroquois Turn the Tide**

- **William Pitt** helps British win battles; Iroquois join British
- In 1759, British capture of Quebec is turning point and leads to victory in war
- Treaty of Paris ends war (1763); land divided between Britain, Spain

##### **Victory Brings New Problems**

- Ottawa leader **Pontiac** fears loss of land; captures British forts
- British use smallpox as weapon; Native Americans greatly weakened
- **Proclamation of 1763**—colonists cannot settle west of Appalachians

##### **The Colonies and Britain Grow Apart**

##### **British Policies Anger Colonists**

- Halt to western expansion upsets colonists
- Tensions in Massachusetts increase over crackdown on smuggling
- Writs of assistance allow searches of ships, businesses, homes

##### **Problems Resulting from the War**

- Colonists feel threatened by British troops stationed in colonies
- Prime Minister **George Grenville** sets policies to pay war debt
- To reduce colonial smuggling, Parliament passes **Sugar Act** (1764):
  - duty on foreign molasses halved
  - new duties placed on other imports
  - smuggling cases go to vice-admiralty court