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EXECUTIVE OFFICES

November 14, 1973

STEWART BELL, JR.
MAYOR

JAMES H. FLEMING
VICE MAYOR

Mr. Parke Rouse, Jr.
Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Mr. Rouse:

The American Independence Bicentennial Celebration certainly involves a comprehensive retrospective view of the roots and origins of our Country's beginnings. We will trace the growth of the idea of self-government and of political independence here in the Colonies. We will note the growth of economic and social forces which invigorated the Colonies and moved them toward independence. We should look with equal interest at educational and formative experiences which produced such a galaxy of superior men to lead the Colonies in their revolutionary struggle as has seldom been assembled to assist at the birth of any other nation or political system.

Many of the founding fathers were political philosophers, but chief among them was a man of action. Without his towering presence and persistent determination, it is doubtful if the young nation could have come to birth. Each time the American Revolutionary Event is reviewed, it becomes apparent again that George Washington was, in very truth, the Father of His Country!

It follows then, that a review of the origins of this figure that so dominates the period with which the AIBC is concerned must be an important phase of Bicentennial activity. What went into the making of this very superior man? What equipped him for the role he played? What schooling had he? What experiences trained him to be a general? A President? A symbol?

Dr. Douglas Freeman, in his definitive biography of George Washington, notes with emphasis the formative influences in Washington's life which arose from his family background and from the "ambitious landed society" in which he was nurtured. Of even greater significance, as Dr. Freeman enumerates them in Chapter XXI (Douglas S. Freeman, George Washington Vol. II, N.Y. 1948, p.p. 368-399) were the "ABC's of leadership that every officer has to learn in the school of experience" which young George Washington learned on the frontier" (IBID. p.369)



These observations lead me to suggest that a major emphasis in Virginia's Bicentennial activity must be to recapitulate and elucidate in various ways this phase of Washington's career. This would involve his experiences from 1748 to 1753 tramping over the mountains and valleys of western Virginia as a surveyor in the then-opening western lands, and the five years of his service during the French and Indian War in the same area with headquarters generally in Winchester. It was here Washington was first elected to public office. It was here he began to found his fortune and first acquired large tracts of land. (IBID. Vol. I, p. 243). It was here he abode more than in any other place away from his home. Besides its importance in the account of Washington's own development, it is a story replete with adventure and action which would be of wide interest.

As to the substance of such an emphasis, I can think of no better reference than that to which I have alluded - the first two volumes of Dr. Freeman's Washington.

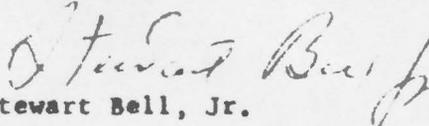
As to the manner of presentation, I would suggest that your staff and consultants be requested to study in some detail this phase of Washington's life and prepare suggestions for incorporating it with the other presentations you will be making at Alexandria, particularly; and perhaps also at Yorktown and Charlottesville.

It should be noted also that the early life and development of General Daniel Morgan, one of Washington's ablest and most successful lieutenants occurred in the same area and against the same background events.

It is an unfortunate fact that we have in the Valley few remaining buildings associated with Washington other than Washington's Office in Winchester. We are seeking diligently to locate and identify other specific sites and scenes associated with the American Revolution.

The scarcity of tangible monuments to remind us of those times makes it all the more important that other means be employed to tell the important tale of Washington's Valley years and of the normative effect these years had upon his later career. Such a story is interesting, important, and instructive. I would certainly like the opportunity to discuss this matter with you further.

Sincerely,


Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor

SBjr/bs



The Valley in the Revolution

It is to be hoped that those who determine Virginia's part in the observance of the bicentennial of our nation's Independence will not overlook the part played in that period by the trans-montina or western section of the State, particularly the Valley of Virginia, and even more particularly Winchester and old Frederick County.

While it is true that the Valley was far removed from the major battles of the Revolution, the same could be said of eastern and southern Virginia, if we except the Battle of Yorktown; and if we speak of the revolutionary spirit, it was undoubtedly strongest in the western part of the State. There were not many tories over the Blue Ridge. Even Thomas Jefferson in Albemarle was a westerner, and he spoke for the frontiersman, not for the conservative patricians of the tidewater.

It is to be hoped, we repeat, that in this time of celebration we shall not forget:

1. That George Washington, the military architect of our freedom, received his training for responsibilities to come in the struggle for freedom in Old Frederick County during the bloody decade of 1748 to 1758, that he undertook his first independent command and established his first headquarters in Winchester; that he was first elected to office at the same place.
2. That many of the officers of the Virginia Regiments, later to play so large a part in the Revolution, received their first baptism of fire in the same theater.
3. That on June 8, 1774, over a year before the Declaration of Independence, "at a meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the County of Frederick" a resolution was unanimously adopted containing the following startling language: "that it is the inherent right of British subjects to be governed and taxed by Representatives chosen by themselves only, and that every Act of the British Parliament respecting the internal policy of North America is a daring and unconstitutional invasion of our said rights and privileges." Contemporary records prove that the revolutionary spirit was high in the Valley from this time on.
4. That Winchester and Frederick County had the unpleasant duty during the Revolution of serving as a prisoner-of-war center for the Continental Congress, providing stockades and housing for such captives from the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Saratoga, and even Yorktown.
5. That the Northern Valley furnished some of the major military leaders in the struggle for independence. Dr. Freeman H. Hart in his volume The Valley of Virginia in the American Revolution says: "If we count Washington as one, the Valley furnished four major generals in the American Revolution and not less than three able prominent brigadiers. We would list with pride:
a- Daniel Morgan "Thunderbolt of the Revolution", probably the most successful military leader, hero of Saratoga and Cowpens leader of the fabulous "riflemen" recruited in Old Frederick.
b- Peter Muhlenberg Lutheran Minister turned warrior, leader of the famous "German Regiment" and a General in the Continental Line.
c- James Wood Junior, as Colonel a hero at Brandywine, later Governor of Va.
d- Isaac Zane, "A Quaker for the season" who turned his iron works at Martletboro in Frederick County into an arsenal for the continental cause.

And many Others

Original to Bobby Edwards

Barland R. Quarles



B. Cent reference file.

MAKERS OF THE REVOLUTION

Among those who fanned the flames of revolution in America were Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Paine.

Adams was perhaps the leading advocate of American independence in the years preceding the Revolution. A native of Boston, he led the resistance to British colonial policy, and played a major role in the Boston Tea Party. He was instrumental in setting up committees of correspondence, which exchanged information and drew the colonies together for the Revolution. He was a cousin of John Adams, who became the second U. S. President. After the Revolution, Samuel Adams served as Governor of Massachusetts.

Another who furthered the cause of freedom was Patrick Henry of Virginia, probably the most eloquent orator in the colonies. As a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, he made many electrifying speeches aimed at the British, but his most famous oration was delivered in St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond in 1775, less than a month before the outbreak of hostilities. Urging that Virginia take up arms against the British, Henry closed his oration with these words:

"Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God!



Sam Adams Patrick Henry Thomas Paine

I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Patrick Henry later served 5 terms as Governor of Virginia.

Still another who made a priceless contribution to the cause of independence was Thomas Paine. A native of England, he came to America on the recommendation of Benjamin Franklin—whom Paine had met in Paris—and went to work for the freedom cause. His pamphlet, *Common Sense*, published in 1776, demanded complete independence from Great Britain, and called for the colonies to join in a strong federal union.

Thomas Paine wrote other pamphlets which were widely read and bolstered the American cause. They were read aloud to the Continental soldiers upon Washington's orders, and gave the troops encouragement during the war's darkest days.



BOSTON, CRADLE OF LIBERTY

Boston, the capital of Massachusetts and a port city of about 20,000 people, was the center of pre-Revolutionary activity in the colonies.

One incident which heightened feelings between the British and the colonists occurred on the evening of March 5, 1770. The trouble began when some boys pelted a British sentry with snowballs and stones. A squad of troops was called to help the sentry, and a hostile crowd gathered. An uproar resulted, and the soldiers—acting against the specific orders of their captain—fired into the jeering crowd. Eleven citizens fell, three of them dead and two mortally wounded, in what came to be known as the Boston Massacre.

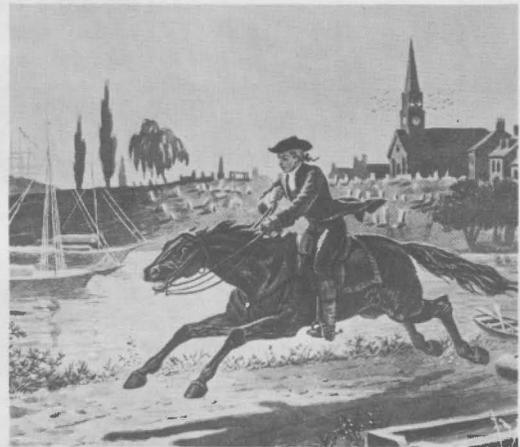
Another incident occurred in December 1773 shortly after British ships arrived in Boston Harbor with a cargo of tea. Angry over a tax which the British Parliament had placed on tea coming into the colonies, a band of Boston patriots disguised themselves as Indians, boarded the ships, and threw overboard the contents of 342 tea chests.

From that moment on, relations between Great Britain and the American colonies became progressively worse. Parliament retaliated by closing the port of Boston as one measure in what Americans called the Intolerable Acts, and General Thomas Gage was appointed

Governor of Massachusetts to enforce these acts.

It was Gage who gave orders for British troops to leave Boston quietly on the night of April 18, 1775, and march to Concord to destroy military supplies which the colonists had accumulated there. A Boston silversmith, Paul Revere, learned of the secret expedition. He and another patriot, William Dawes, set out on horses that night to warn the sleeping countryside that the British redcoats were on the march.

By the time the British reached Lexington the next morning, a band of minutemen was drawn up on the village green, and hundreds of other Massachusetts militiamen were on the march from their villages.



Paul Revere warns of the redcoats' approach

WOMEN IN THE REVOLUTION

When American men were called upon to bear arms, their wives often had to plant and harvest crops, and to see that other normal tasks were carried out. Thousands of women performed these duties.

A few women made special contributions to the Revolutionary cause. Mary Hays was the wife of a young gunner in the Pennsylvania artillery. She joined her husband in camp at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-78, and the following June accompanied the troops to battle at Monmouth.

The day of the battle was extremely hot, and Mary proceeded to carry water in a pitcher to the thirsty soldiers, thereby earning the name by which history knows her—Molly Pitcher. Later when her husband fell from a heat stroke, she took his place in the gun crew.

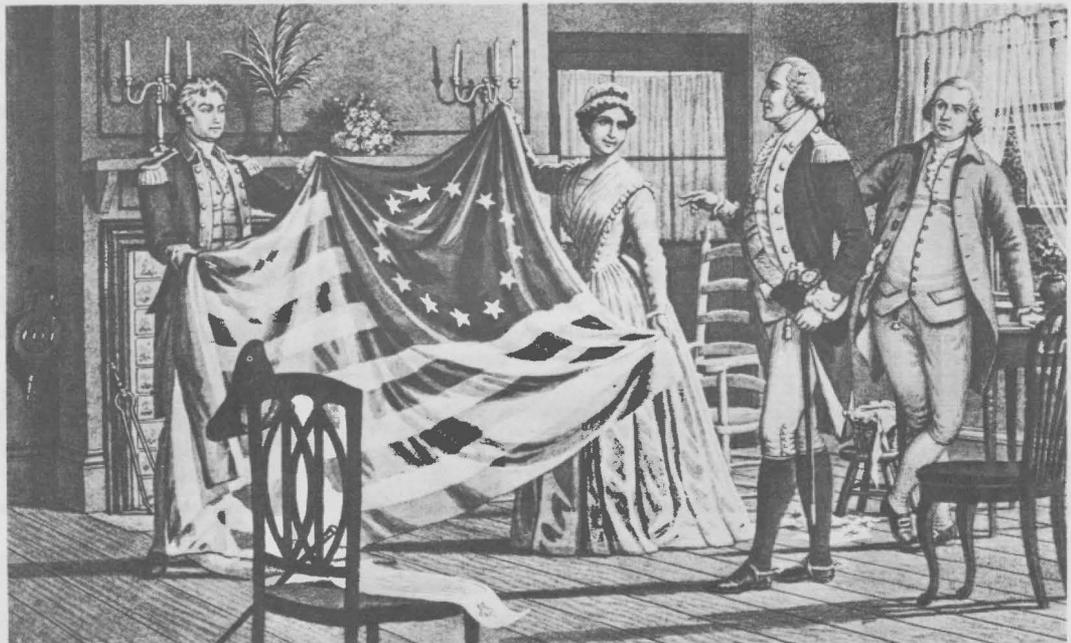
Lydia Darragh, a quiet Philadelphia housewife, was an effective spy for George Washington. During the time

that the British occupied Philadelphia, her family lived in a house across the street from enemy headquarters.

Mrs. Darragh kept her eye peeled, collected vital information, and had it written in shorthand on bits of paper that were enclosed in hollow buttons. Her 14-year-old son, wearing the buttons on his clothing, then slipped through the loosely-drawn British lines and delivered the messages to his older brother, an American lieutenant. The latter transcribed the notes for Washington.

Another native of Philadelphia is remembered for her unique contribution to the American cause. Betsy Ross had long been known as a fine seamstress. When Washington wanted a flag made, someone recalled that Mrs. Ross was adept with the scissors and needle.

By a resolution of the Continental Congress, the stars-and-stripes which Betsy Ross devised became the national flag on June 14, 1777.



Betsy Ross shows the first U. S. flag to George Washington



THE WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE

No place name is more closely linked with the American Revolution than that of Valley Forge, the camp occupied by Washington's army during the winter of 1777-78. It lay alongside Valley Forge Creek in Pennsylvania. The small stream had received its name from an iron foundry, or forge, that once stood on its banks.

The site of the winter quarters was chosen for strategic reasons. It was on high ground, commanded a number of roads, and placed the Continental Army between the British forces in Philadelphia and the Continental Congress, then meeting in the Pennsylvania town of York.

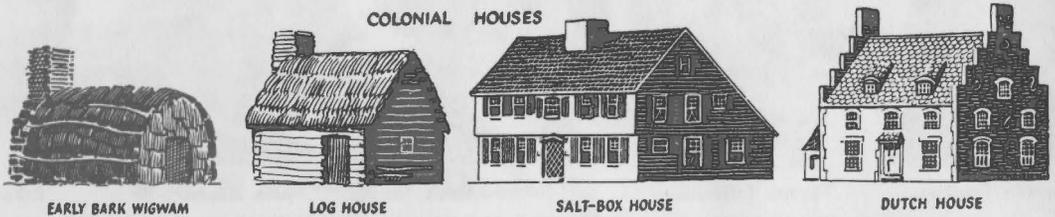
The winter of 1777-78 was one of the most difficult periods of the war. The Continental Army lacked both food and clothing. Many soldiers were actually barefooted. Washington found it almost impossible to purchase supplies with the depreciated Continental currency. It had so little purchasing power that the phrase,

"not worth a Continental," came to mean "of little or no value."

Crude log huts were built to shelter the 11,000 men in Washington's army. Suffering was widespread, and more than 3,000 died during the winter at Valley Forge. Hundreds were victims of a smallpox epidemic.

Some politicians chose this time to question whether George Washington was a fit person to command the Continental Army, and the Continental Congress sent an investigating committee to Valley Forge. After returning to York, it made a report favorable to Washington.

Late in the winter, conditions improved. Baron von Steuben, a German professional soldier recommended by Benjamin Franklin, joined the army, and immediately set to work drilling, training, and disciplining the ragged rabble. He did a fine job of introducing efficiency into the army. When the Americans marched out in the spring, they were a capable fighting force.



LIFE IN COLONIAL AMERICA

At the outbreak of the Revolution, America was a country of farms and small villages, hemmed in by forests. The most prominent cities included Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Charleston, Baltimore, and Salem.

Living conditions varied greatly, but most people lived in simple frame homes. They wore homespun garments, and produced about all the food their families consumed, except for sugar, molasses, and spices. Furniture was often hewn from log slabs. Houses were lighted by candles and whale-oil lamps.

Wealthy northern merchants and southern planters often had imposing homes built in the Georgian style that was popular in England. They ordered their furniture and much of their clothing from England—tight knee-breeches of velvet or satin together with embroidered coats and silk stockings. Their wives often wore brightly colored silk-and-satin gowns. Among wealthy gentlemen, powdered wigs were popular.

Most people did not travel a great deal. When they did go on a journey

inside the colonies, it was by horseback or stagecoach. The roads were narrow and coaches often became stuck in the mud. Along the coast and on a few of the larger rivers, boat travel was popular.

Schools were well established throughout the colonies, but books were scarce and charcoal was used in place of pencils. The amount of schooling differed greatly. As soon as boys were big enough to work with their fathers in the fields, they often attended school only for a few weeks during the winter months.

The education of girls, too, was generally limited. At an early age most girls were expected to help their mothers cook meals, make clothing, soap, and candles, and churn butter. Occasional recreation for the colonists included barn-raisings, husking bees, quilting parties, spelling bees, and singing schools. The men and boys sometimes competed in wrestling, shooting, and running.

A HERO . . . AND A TRAITOR

Nathan Hale, a 21-year-old native of Connecticut, became one of America's foremost Revolutionary heroes. A brilliant student and an outstanding athlete, Hale was graduated from Yale at the age of 18, and was teaching school at the time of the Lexington skirmish.

Having joined the Connecticut forces, Captain Hale volunteered his services in September 1776 for a secret mission. Disguised as a Dutch schoolmaster, he penetrated British lines on Long Island, and obtained valuable information about the enemy.

On his way back, Hale was arrested by British soldiers, and sketches of British fortifications were found in his shoes. The youthful spy was sentenced to be hanged the next morning.

Permitted to make a speech from the gallows, Hale—according to tradition—spoke these words: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Quite another story is that of Benedict Arnold, also a native of Connecticut. A tradesman and bookseller, Arnold headed a militia company at the outbreak of the war. Possessing high qualities of leadership and exceptional courage, he quickly made a name for himself



Benedict Arnold



Nathan Hale

in the combat around Lake Champlain, and at Quebec, Fort Stanwix, and Saratoga. Eventually he became a major general.

But Arnold was overly ambitious and self-centered, and he became embittered over what he considered his country's ingratitude. While in command of West Point in 1780, he offered to betray that key fortress to the British. The capture of a British courier exposed the plot, but Arnold escaped to enemy lines. Becoming a brigadier general in the British army, he led forces that burned Richmond, Virginia, and New London, Connecticut.

Arnold spent most of his life after the war in England where he engaged as a merchant in the West Indian trade. Scorned by Americans as a traitor and distrusted by the British, he died in London in 1801.

A monument erected in 1877 at Saratoga contains 4 niches. Three of them hold statues of military leaders who played a big part in the American victory there. The fourth niche is vacant. Known as the "Arnold Niche," it would have held a statue of Benedict Arnold had he not committed treason.



George Washington Nathanael Greene Horatio Gates Daniel Morgan John Paul Jones

AMONG AMERICA'S TOP-RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS IN THE FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

MAJOR BATTLES AND LEADERS

1775-1783

MAJOR BATTLES AND OTHER ACTIONS Numbers correspond to those on map		DATE	PRESENT STATE OR AREA	LEADING COMMANDERS AMERICAN SIDE	LEADING COMMANDERS BRITISH SIDE	NO. OF TROOPS AMER. SIDE	NO. OF TROOPS BRIT. SIDE	EVENTS PRECEDING THE MILITARY ACTION	OUTCOME OF ACTION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE WAR
1	LEXINGTON and CONCORD	April 19, 1775	Mass.	Capt. John Parker Col. James Barrett	Lt. Col. Francis Smith Maj. James Pitcairn	70 at Lex. 350 at Conc. (Later that day, 3,300)	700 reinforced to 1,700	British marched from Boston, aiming to destroy patriots' supply depot at Concord. Paul Revere gave warning of British advance.	Patriots resisted in "shot heard round the world." Returning to Boston, British were harassed along the way by minutemen.
2	BUNKER HILL	June 17, 1775	Mass.	Col. William Prescott	Maj. Gen. William Howe	1,500	2,400	Americans moved onto Charlestown peninsula overlooking Boston, and fortified Breed's Hill (near Bunker Hill).	After running out of powder, Americans were forced to withdraw, but British suffered heavy losses.
3	QUEBEC	Dec. 31, 1775	Canada	Brig. Gen. Richard Montgomery killed in attack; Col. Benedict Arnold assumed command.	Maj. Gen. Guy Carleton	800	1,800	Two American forces (Montgomery's via Ticonderoga and St. Lawrence and Arnold's via Maine woods) converged on Quebec.	Americans were repulsed, and the following spring withdrew from Canada.
4	LONG ISLAND and HARLEM HEIGHTS	Aug. 27, 1776 Sept. 16, 1776	New York	Maj. Gen. Israel Putnam Gen. George Washington	Maj. Gen. William Howe	7,000	18,000	After evacuating Boston, British moved by sea to Halifax and then to New York area, which had been fortified by Washington.	British forced Americans to withdraw from Long Island. Washington's army checked British temporarily at Harlem Heights.
5	WHITE PLAINS	Oct. 28, 1776	New York	Gen. George Washington	Maj. Gen. William Howe	1,600	4,000	In face of mounting British pressure, Washington's main force moved northward from Manhattan Island.	Howe's forces captured key hill, and a bit later seized Ft. Washington on the Hudson. Washington's army retreated to New Jersey.
6	TRENTON and PRINCETON	Dec. 26, 1776 Jan. 3, 1777	New Jersey	Gen. George Washington	Col. Johann Rall Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood	2,400 5,000	1,500 1,200	Main American force retreated into Pennsylvania. Howe's army then went into winter quarters in New York and New Jersey.	Americans crossed Delaware at night and seized Trenton from Hessians, then defeated British at Princeton. Victories boosted patriots' morale.
7	ORISKANY	Aug. 6, 1777	New York	Brig. Gen. Nicholas Herkimer	Brig. Gen. Barry St. Leger	800	1,200	A British force (mostly Loyalists and Indians) drove eastward from Lake Ontario into the Mohawk Valley and laid siege to Fort Stanwix.	Militiamen marching to relief of Stanwix were ambushed but withstood attack despite heavy losses. St. Leger soon retreated from Mohawk Valley.
8	BENNINGTON	Aug. 16, 1777	New York	Brig. Gen. John Stark	Lt. Col. Frederick Baum	2,000	700	Burgoyne's army pushed southward from Canada via Lake Champlain. Baum's force was sent eastward to seize patriots' supply depot.	American victory kept British from securing needed supplies, and strengthened resistance to Burgoyne.
9	SARATOGA (2) (also called Freeman's Farm and Bemis Heights)	Sept. 19, 1777 Oct. 7, 1777	New York	Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates	Lt. Gen. John Burgoyne	6,000 6,000	11,000 5,000	British troops reached Hudson Valley. Burgoyne aimed to reach Albany and link with British force coming up the Hudson.	British advance was stopped in first battle, and Burgoyne surrendered after second battle. The victory prompted France to become America's ally.
10	BRANDYWINE	Sept. 11, 1777	Pa.	Gen. George Washington	Lt. Gen. William Howe	10,500	15,000	Meanwhile, Howe's army sailed up Chesapeake Bay, and marched toward Philadelphia. Washington's army blocked the way.	Americans were forced to fall back, and about 2 weeks later, Howe occupied Philadelphia.
11	GERMANTOWN	Oct. 4, 1777	Pa.	Gen. George Washington	Lt. Gen. William Howe	11,000	9,000	Howe established his main camp at Germantown just outside Philadelphia.	Washington failed to retake Philadelphia, but vigorous American attack impressed French and helped bring about Franco-American alliance.
12	MONMOUTH	June 28, 1778	New Jersey	Gen. George Washington	Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton	11,000	10,000	British evacuated Philadelphia and set out for New York, pursued by American army which had wintered at Valley Forge.	Washington's men, trained by Steuben, fought well, but the British succeeded in reaching New York.
13	GEORGE ROGERS CLARK EXPEDITION	May 1778 to Feb. 1779	Illinois and Indiana	Brig. Gen. George Rogers Clark	Lt. Col. Henry Hamilton and others	125 to 175	several hundred	British held certain frontier posts between Ohio River and Great Lakes from which Indian attacks were launched on border settlements.	Clark seized British forts at Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes, and secured control of the Illinois country.

14	BONNE HOMME RICHARD and SERAPIS	Sept. 23, 1779	North Sea off England	Capt. John Paul Jones	Capt. Richard Pearson	322	325	Jones ventured into British waters to raid enemy shipping.	Jones and his crew captured British warship Serapis after bitter fight.
15	CHARLESTON	March 29 to May 12, 1780	South Carolina	Maj. Gen. Benjamin Lincoln	Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton	5,500	10,000	British then attacked the South, captured Savannah, and besieged Charleston, which had withstood attack in 1776.	British siege forced surrender of American forces, and gave British control of South Carolina.
16	CAMDEN	Aug. 16, 1780	South Carolina	Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates	Maj. Gen. Charles Cornwallis	3,000	2,200	An American force marched southward to challenge British hold on South Carolina.	British won complete victory. American troops fled to North Carolina.
17	KING'S MOUNTAIN	Oct. 7, 1780	South Carolina	Col. William Campbell, Col. Isaac Shelby, and others	Maj. Patrick Ferguson	900	1,000	Resistance rose among frontiersmen to British control of the Carolinas.	Patriots' victory over Loyalist force put British on defensive in the South.
18	COWPENS	Jan. 17, 1781	South Carolina	Brig. Gen. Daniel Morgan	Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton	1,000	1,100	Americans embarked on hit-and-run campaign in South. Greene sent Morgan west, while he moved east.	Morgan's force achieved smashing victory, boosting American morale.
19	GUILFORD COURT HOUSE	March 15, 1781	North Carolina	Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene	Maj. Gen. Charles Cornwallis	4,400	2,200	Greene and Morgan reunited their armies, were reinforced, and took a position inviting attack.	British forced American army back, but suffered such losses that they abandoned the Carolinas.
20	YORKTOWN	Sept. 28 to Oct. 19, 1781	Virginia	Gen. George Washington Lt. Gen. Jean de Rochambeau Adm. Francois de Grasse	Maj. Gen. Charles Cornwallis	16,600 plus 40 manned ships	8,000	Cornwallis retreated to Yorktown.	French set up naval blockade, and American and French troops laid siege to Yorktown. Cornwallis surrendered.



Marquis de Lafayette



Count de Rochambeau



Count de Grasse



Count Pulaski



Baron von Steuben

THESE MILITARY MEN FROM EUROPE HELPED AMERICA IN ITS STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

PRODUCED BY CIVIC EDUCATION SERVICE,

PUBLISHERS OF

AMERICAN OBSERVER WEEKLY NEWS REVIEW JUNIOR REVIEW

CIVIC LEADER HEADLINE-FOCUS WALL MAPS

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CAUSES OF THE REVOLUTION

Economic rivalry and political conflicts led to the outbreak of strife. The British government regarded the colonies mainly as a source of raw materials for the mother country and a market for manufactured goods. Therefore, Britain restricted American manufacturing and trade.

The impoverished government of King George III—with Lord North as Prime Minister—looked upon the American colonies as a likely source of tax revenue. New taxes were imposed on the colonies. When the colonists demanded that the acts be repealed, Britain restricted the rights of self-government in certain rebellious areas, and sent more soldiers to America. The colonists argued that they were being deprived of basic rights, and were being subjected to “taxation without representation.”

At first, most colonists did not ask for independence. But as tension rose and fighting erupted, demands for independence mounted.

MILITARY COMPARISONS

In 1775, about 2,500,000 people lived in the colonies and some 8,000,000 in Great Britain.

America’s armed forces included volunteers in the Continental Army and militiamen in the towns and villages. Washington seldom had more than 15,000 troops under his command, and often had less. France became an American ally in 1778, and French troops and naval forces played a prominent part in the victory at Yorktown. Among individual Europeans who volunteered their services to the Continental Army were the Marquis de Lafayette, a Frenchman who joined Washington’s army before his country became an ally; Baron von Steuben, a German; and Count Pulaski, a Polish cavalryman.

The forces of Britain included the regulars, or redcoats; Loyalists, or Tories (colonists who sided with the British); hired soldiers, such as the Hessians from Germany; and certain Indian tribes. At peak strength, the British army totaled about 50,000. Britain had much the larger navy.

ON THE WAY TO INDEPENDENCE

The First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in September 1774 to consider how American rights could be defended. It denounced many laws passed by the British Parliament, and recommended that the colonies not export or import goods to or from British ports.

The Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in May 1775. The delegates voted to raise an army, and made George Washington of Virginia the Commander-in-Chief. The Second Continental Congress took on many of the duties of a government during the war.

The Declaration of Independence was authorized by the Second Continental Congress, and was issued on July 4, 1776. It was written by Thomas Jefferson of Virginia. It declared that all men are created equal; that they have a right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and that they are justified in revolting when these rights are violated.

AFTERMATH OF THE WAR

Under the Treaty of 1783, the United States of America was at last recognized as an independent nation by Great Britain. It was agreed that U. S. boundaries would extend from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi River, and from the Great Lakes and Canada in the north to the 31st parallel (northern Florida) in the south.

To bring about a union of the 13 states, Articles of Confederation had been drawn up by the Second Continental Congress, and had gone into effect in 1781. Weaknesses in the setup quickly became apparent. The central government could not compel the states to obey its orders. It had no effective method for raising money, and it could not regulate commerce.

In 1786 a call went forth for the states to send delegates to a convention for the purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation. That meeting convened in Philadelphia in May/1787, and the U. S. Constitution was drawn up to replace the Articles of Confederation.



George III



Lord North



William Howe

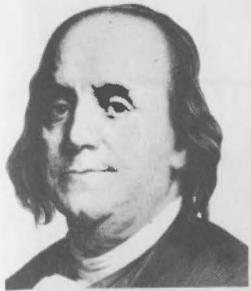


John Burgoyne



Charles Cornwallis

SEVERAL OF THE LEADING CIVILIAN AND MILITARY FIGURES OF GREAT BRITAIN



Benjamin Franklin



Thomas Jefferson



John Hancock



John Adams



Robert Morris

FIVE OUTSTANDING CIVILIAN LEADERS WHO SERVED IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

MAJOR ACTIONS OF THE WAR



State boundaries shown are the present ones. Most western and northern boundaries were in dispute at time of Revolution.

February 13, 1974

The Honorable
Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor of Winchester
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Mayor Bell:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm your appointment with Mr. John Marsh on Wednesday, February 20th at 10:00 a. m. Again, Mr. Marsh's office in the Old Executive Office Building at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Seventeenth Street, Northwest, Room 294.

Mr. Marsh is looking forward to seeing you and Mr. Edwards.

Sincerely,

Nancy C Chirton

NCC/ncc



103-667-1815



EXECUTIVE OFFICES

February 4, 1974

STEWART BELL, JR.
MAYOR

JAMES H. FLEMING
VICE MAYOR

The Honorable John O. Marsh
Assistant Secretary
Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Jack:

Your remarks at the Chamber of Commerce dinner here in Winchester in regard to Daniel Morgan's Rifle Company, linking it with possible significance in the U. S. Army's own Bicentennial, were of great interest. This is especially true inasmuch as our Bicentennial group has been talking about the possibility of re-staging in some fashion the March to Boston of Daniel Morgan's famous rifle company.

I am eager to have an opportunity to elicit your ideas on this subject and any other local activities in connection with our Independence Bicentennial observance.

H. Robert (Bobby) Edwards, President of the Commercial and Savings Bank, is chairman of the Winchester-Frederick-Clarke Bicentennial Committee. We would like to come to Washington at your convenience to discuss with you this and a couple of other ideas in relation to the Bicentennial.

I find I have to come to Washington Thursday, February 7, for a short appointment at 2:30 P.M. in the Cannon Building. Would you possibly have an opportunity to see me any time before or after that? If not, any time Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, February 13, 14 or 15 would suit me, or in the week following.

Congratulations on your new appointment. I am delighted to know that the Vice President is getting such able assistance. I believe it is good for the country, even if your changing positions does perhaps make it more difficult for you to find time to discuss the Bicentennial with me!

Sincerely,

Stewart Bell, Jr.

SBrn

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 10:00
with H. Robert ~~Edwards~~
Edwards

Winchester Evening Star

2/13/74

M

RE-CREATION OF MORGAN'S MARCH

Bicentennial Plans Include Reestablishing Rifle Unit

Plans are underway for the reestablishment of an area riflemen's unit as part of the bicentennial celebration in 1976.

The plans also include the re-creation of General Daniel Morgan's march to Boston with a company of 96 men, known as Morgan's Riflemen. Morgan was the first Virginian to respond when Massachusetts made a stirring appeal to the Colonies to stand by her side following the battle of Bunker Hill.

These and other plans for the celebration were disclosed by H. Robert Edwards, chairman of the Clarke, Frederick,

Winchester Bicentennial Commission, following his return from Alexandria, where he attended a "Bicentennial Countdown", sponsored by that city's bicentennial commission.

EDWARDS accompanied Mayor Stewart Bell, Jr. of Winchester and Ben Belchic, president of the Winchester - Frederick County Historical Association, to Alexandria. Bell and Belchic work with the Clarke, Frederick, Winchester Bicentennial Commission.

Other plans for the area's celebration include a special Christmas opening of an historic home decorated in 18th century Yuletide style by area garden clubs.

Revolutionary War round table discussions also are under consideration.

Some restoration work is contemplated for Greenway Court in Clarke County and Zane's Iron Works at Marlboro in Frederick County.

SPECIAL bicentennial youth commissions will be set up in area schools, including Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music and Lord Fairfax Community College.

High school art students will be invited to design a bicentennial logo for use on stationery and other promotional materials.

DECA clubs will distribute historical material to local residents and design other publicity material.

The Winchester - Frederick County Historical Association plans to bring out a special bicentennial publication, Edwards said.

During the annual Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival there will be a reference to the Frederick resolution of 1774.



H. ROBERT EDWARDS
President

LOUDOUN AND PICCADILLY STREETS
703 • 662-2561



Commercial & Savings Bank
Winchester, Virginia 22601

February 27, 1974

Honorable John O. Marsh
Room 294
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20000

Dear Jack:

Deepest thanks for seeing Stewart and me the other day in your office. Your suggestions and guidance are going to be invaluable to those of us who are working on a local Bicentennial celebration. We believe we have a good celebration planned and shall make every effort to keep you posted as we go along.

Please tell Nancy Chirdon that it was a great pleasure meeting and talking with her.

I send my kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

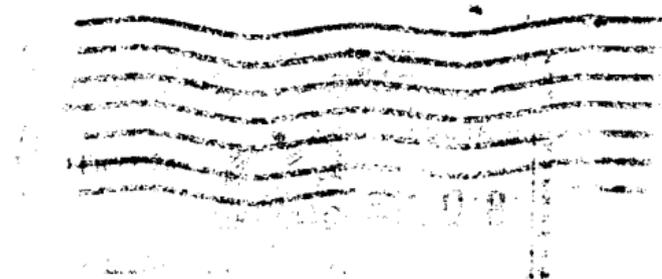
H. Robert Edwards
President

HRE:tm



**Commercial &
Savings Bank**

Winchester, Virginia 22601



Honorable John O. Marsh
Room 294
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20000

March 4, 1974

The Honorable Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor of Winchester
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Stewart:

Thank you for your letter, and we have made overtures with the Department of Defense to follow up on our meeting.

I believe that there will be an official announcement coming shortly in reference to John Warner, but the fact that he is going into the Bicentennial post is still off the record.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs



April 12, 1974

The Honorable Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor of Winchester
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Stewart:

Recalling our last conversation about your Bicentennial plans, I was just writing to see in what way, if any, I can assist in following up.

I have dropped a note to Lieutenant General Daniel J. (Chappy) James who is not only a good friend but I feel one of the outstanding senior officers in the Department of Defense requesting his guidance and advice.

As soon as I hear from Chappy, I will be in touch.

Sincerely,

Signed - John O. Marsh, Jr.

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs

c. c. General James





EXECUTIVE OFFICES

March 26, 1974

STEWART BELL, JR.
MAYOR

JAMES H. FLEMING
VICE MAYOR

The Honorable John W. Warner
Secretary of the Navy
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20350

Dear Mr. Warner:

I am pleased to learn that you have undertaken the responsibility of heading up the National Bicentennial observance.

This event will give us an occasion to take notice once more of the qualities that have made this nation great. It is a time to note that there once were men of stature who pledged and gave their "lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor" to the service of their country.

The Bicentennial is an occasion when we can note that we still have such people and that they are scattered throughout this great land working at a thousand tasks to make their communities, their towns, and their states better places because of their unselfish service. So I wish you every success in leading the Bicentennial observance which should bring to our Nation inspiration and confidence - values we need desperately today.

Turning from the general to the particular, I would like to draw your attention to the Frederick County Rifle Company led by Col. Daniel Morgan, which marched from Winchester to join Washington at Boston in twenty-one days in the summer of 1775. It has been suggested by no less an authority than the Honorable Jack Marsh that this Company was one of the ten authorized by the Continental Congress in June, 1775 and was, therefore, one of the first ten units of the United States Army.

It has been suggested further that Morgan's Company may have been the first unit of the United States Army to take the field. If this be true, it is certainly a fact that we here in Frederick County would want to note. It would lend greater significance to the project that our own Bicentennial Committee has dreamed of - the reenactment of Morgan's 21-day march to Boston.

Honorable John W. Warner
Page -2-

March 22, 1974

Jack Marsh says the Army will be celebrating the Bicentennial of its Birth in 1975. Perhaps the reenactment of the Morgan march might be of interest to the Army in this connection. Thus, we would have an opportunity to draw attention to the fact that Old Frederick County was not only the school and training ground for George Washington, who led the army of independence, but it also furnished one of the very first units of the Continental Army to take the field in the War of Independence.

Mr. H. Robert Edwards, President, Commercial and Savings Bank, Winchester, is the Chairman of the Clarke-Frederick-Winchester Bicentennial Commission and I believe he will be in further correspondence with you in regard to this matter.

Meantime, I will appreciate any advice you may be able to give.

Sincerely,


Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor

SB, JR/brs



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

19 APR 1974

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jack:

This is in reply to your note of April 12 concerning the request from Winchester, Virginia officials who desire to meet with us on their Bicentennial plans.

Please advise Mayor Bell that we would be happy to arrange for such a meeting at a mutually convenient time. Dr. David A. Smith of our DOD Bicentennial Office, OXford 5-1976, should be contacted when the group wishes to visit the Pentagon. Once he knows the time and the date, Dr. Smith also will be able to arrange for appropriate representation from the Department of the Army.

We are looking forward to hearing from Mayor Bell.

Sincerely,

Daniel James, Jr.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

*Call
Mayor
Bell*

Talked to Mayor Bell's secretary on 4/24.



April 30, 1974

The Honorable Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor of Winchester
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Stewart:

Thank you for your status report on your Bicentennial plans.

Miss Chirdon tells me she has been in touch with your office in reference to your Pentagon appointment.

Sincerely,

Signed - John O. Marsh, Jr.

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs



JOM/ncc



EXECUTIVE OFFICES

April 24, 1974

STEWART BELL, JR.
MAYOR

JAMES H. FLEMING
VICE MAYOR

The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your follow-up note about the Bicentennial.

I enclose herewith copy of letter I received from the office of John Warner, to whom I wrote following our meeting with you. I hope I'll hear from him soon.

Meantime, we are proceeding with our local plans. Mr. Willroy Wells, of the Virginia State Bicentennial Commission, who is preparing the exhibits in the three Virginia tourist centers, will be in Winchester. We are trying to communicate to them that someone in the Valley had something to do with the success of the Revolutionary effort so that they can reflect it in the exhibits they prepare!

Thanks for your help and interest.

Sincerely,

Stewart Bell, Jr.
Mayor

SB, JR/brs

Dr. Smith in Bicentennial office just called and we are trying to set up an appointment at the Pentagon next week or night after the festival.





AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL ADMINISTRATION

736 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20276
(202) 382-1776

April 8, 1974

Honorable Steward Bell, Jr.
Mayor of the City
Winchester, Virginia

Dear Mayor Bell:

Mr. Warner sends his thanks to you for your letter of greeting to him and for bringing to his attention details of the Morgan march.

I shall forward your letter on to Dr. Scott, the Bicentennial Coordinator for the Department of Defense, so he may be aware of your information and perhaps suggest how the Morgan Company's march might relate to the Army's Bicentennial commemoration in 1975.

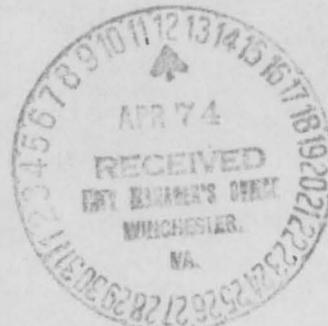
Copies of your letter will be sent to the Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission, your State Bicentennial organization and persons on the ARBA staff working in the areas of history and public information.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Cathy Farrell
Public Information Officer

phc. WLS (4-15-74)

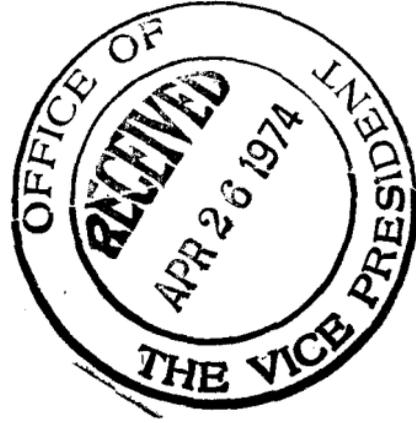




22601



The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President for
Defense Affairs
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D.C. 2



C-12



EXECUTIVE OFFICES

STEWART BELL, JR.
MAYOR

JAMES H. FLEMING
VICE MAYOR

5-2-74

Dear Jack—

This is just to let you know that with your assistance and encouragement, we are pursuing the Bicentennial plans and it looks as though we may find some interest and response in the Defense Department as evidenced in the attached. Your further suggestions and participation would be welcomed. Thanks for what you have done.

Sincerely
Stewart

Hon. John C. Marsh
Washington, D. C.





OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

April 30, 1974

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Honorable Stewart Bell
Mayor of Winchester
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Mayor Bell:

This is to confirm an appointment for Tuesday, May 7, 1974 at 10:00am, in Room 2D-779, The Pentagon, with Dr. David A. Smith, DOD Bicentennial Coordinator, to discuss Bicentennial activities planned by the City of Winchester.

Mr. Sam Green, Special Assistant for Bicentennial Affairs, Department of the Army, Office of Information, has been informed of the meeting and plans to attend.

Please come to the Mall Entrance of the Pentagon and call me from the reception desk (ext. 5-1976). I will meet you and escort you to Dr. Smith's office.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the 7th.

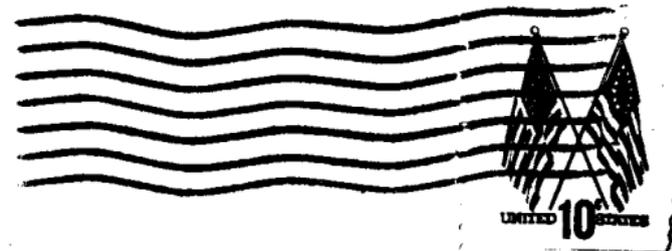
Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Fields
CYNTHIA A. FIELDS
Admin. Assistant.





22601



Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Assistant to the Vice President
for Defense Affairs
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D.C.



6V

September 25, 1974

Mrs. Virginia W. Sherman
Executive Vice Chairman
Westmoreland Independence
Bicentennial Commission
P. O. Box 1976
Montross, Virginia 22520

Dear Mrs. Sherman:

Thank you for your letter and I particularly appreciate the complimentary remarks which it contained in reference to my appointment.

I noted with interest the suggestion in reference to the James Monroe birthplace and I am making some inquiries to appropriate federal agencies about this suggestion. However, this is simply exploratory and I have no idea as to what the response might be.

Should you have occasion to be in Washington during October, I would be more than pleased to meet with you and I suggest you call the office and arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

JOM:sc

*Sent to D. Lukstat (copy)
2/12/75*



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND

Jm

Westmoreland Independence Bicentennial Commission

P. O. BOX 1976 / MONTROSS, VIRGINIA 22520

JAMES G. McCANN, JR.
CHAIRMAN

MRS. VIRGINIA W. SHERMAN
EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN

September 3, 1974

Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr., Counselor to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mr. Marsh:

May I congratulate you on your appointment as Counselor to President Ford, and I wish you much success in your new assignment. It is comforting to know that a Virginia gentleman, who has served on the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, is now an Advisor to the President. You'll not remember the brief chat we had after the Bicentennial luncheon at the Rayburn Building in August 1966 when you were the guest speaker, but I recall that you said that you had a warm feeling for the Northern Neck because your Marsh ancestors had originally settled in Northumberland county.

From the above heading you can see that I'm still active in Bicentennial programs. Recently I was appointed by the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors to represent the County in contacting Federal, State and private agencies to secure assistance for the County's prime Bicentennial project, which is the development of the President James Monroe birthplace site, here in the County, as a National Historic Shrine. The Westmoreland County government now owns about 70 acres, including the house site, of the original Monroe plantation. Through State and County funds the Monroe house site will be excavated by archaeologists within the coming year to stabilize the site and retrieve any Monroe artifacts for posterity.

As you know George Washington and James Monroe, both born in Westmoreland County, were the only two Presidents of the United States who served as officers in the Revolutionary War. The Federal Government has given so much recognition to General George Washington and in contrast James Monroe has so far been neglected by the Government. ~~Therefore, as its Bicentennial gift to the Nation, Westmoreland County is desirous to deed (not sell) the Monroe property to the Federal Government with the assurance that James Monroe, Father of the Monroe Doctrine and twice elected President of the United States after distinguished political and diplomatic careers, will be honored by having his birthplace site maintained as a National Historic Shrine.~~

GERALD R. FORD

Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr., Counselor to the President
September 3, 1974
Page 2

Furthermore, Westmoreland County appeals to you for your valuable assistance in making the necessary contact with the Secretary of the Interior, Honorable Rogers Morton, and to present to him the need for his Department to accept the gift of the Monroe property. ~~If it can be arranged the County would like to transfer title to the Federal Government on 28 April 1976, which date will be the 218th anniversary of Monroe's birth in Westmoreland County.~~

Of course the County Bicentennial Commission would plan an appropriate ceremony for this historic occasion and the County would be greatly honored if President Ford, Secretary Kissinger, Secretary Morton and yourself would attend and be participants in the transfer program. We do appreciate any assistance you can give us and trust that our proposals will be favorable received by you, the White House and Cabinet members.

~~I'll be glad to meet with you in Washington at a time convenient with you in October, to further discuss the County's Bicentennial plans.~~

Yours sincerely,

Virginia W. Sherman

Mrs. Virginia W. Sherman
Executive Vice Chairman
Westmoreland Independence Bicentennial
Commission

VWS/r



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MARSH
FROM: Charley Mott
SUBJECT: Bicentennial Gift to the Nation--
James Monroe Birthplace

The attached letter from Mrs. Virginia Sherman, Executive Vice Chairman of the Westmoreland Independence Bicentennial Commission, requires your attention.

Westmoreland County wishes to donate the James Monroe birthplace property to the Federal Government as a national historic shrine.

How do you wish to acknowledge this letter? _____

What coordinating action should be taken at this point?

September 26, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: TOM LATIMER
FROM: JOHN O. MARSH, Jr.

Attached is forwarded for your consideration. I would suggest that it be sent to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and the information branch of the Department of the Army.

Attachments



G. WILLIAM WHITEHURST
2ND DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

DISTRICT OFFICES:

COMMITTEE:
ARMED SERVICES

R. BURNETT THOMPSON
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

424 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4215

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

ROOM 201, FEDERAL BUILDING
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23510
(804) 441-6763

ROOM 428, PEMBROKE ONE
281 INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23462
(804) 499-1910

September 19, 1974

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counselor to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear *John*:

Enclosed is a letter from a constituent of mine who suggests President Ford take action on a bicentennially oriented project. Mr. J. T. Davis proposes reactivating the II Virginia Regiment of Foot as an honorary regiment for bicentennial events. Let me know your reaction to this and whether it is appropriate action for the President.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,



G. WILLIAM WHITEHURST

GWVvp

✓ enclosure

II Virginia Regiment of Foot, Inc.

September 11, 1974



The Honorable G. William Whitehurst
424 Cannon Bldg, H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Whitehurst:

This letter is to confirm our telephone conversation of Sep. 10 in response to my inquiry into the feasibility of having President Ford reactivate the II Virginia Regiment of Foot as an honorary regiment of the Continental Army (Revolutionary) for the Bicentennial.

The II Virginia Regiment of Foot was a regular line company of the Continental Army and was composed of companies from many counties of Southern and Western Virginia. Col. Alexander Spotswood was one of its more famous Regimental Commanders. The Regiment was with Washington at Valley Forge under Col. Spotswood and served with distinction in the Southern Campaigns of the Continental Army.

The II Virginia Regiment of Foot, Inc. has been established to continue with service with distinction. The Corporation is a non-profit organization that is aimed at the furtherance of the Bicentennial in Virginia and Nationally, where possible. The primary goals of this corporation are as follows:

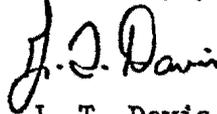
1. The reactivation of the II Virginia Regiment of Foot. The Regiment will consist of voluntary companies from each city and civic organization within Tidewater and will participate in various mock battle reenactments and civic occasions.
2. To support the Bicentennial Commissions of Tidewater and all other civic organizations that are interested in a viable Bicentennial Program;
3. To develop historical research and education programs based on the Bicentennial Theme for Tidewater.
4. Publicize and promote programs locally and regionally that will heighten the awareness of the populace to the Bicentennial and to promote tourism within Tidewater during the Bicentennial Years.

I wish to thank you personally for accepting our invitation to become an Honorary Member of the Advisory Committee for the Corporation. I hope you will accept various invitations to different social and civic events as your time allows.

If the President's Administration feels our cause is worthy of the reactivation of the Regiment, I will be more than happy to have printed a large Certificate of Commission based upon the original commissioning certificates issued by the Continental Congress and the Commander in Chief.

If you wish to contact me by phone, my home phone is 855-0200 which is an unlisted number. I look forward from hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. T. Davis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

J. T. Davis
President

DEC 19 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

19 Dec '74

MEMO for Jack Marsh

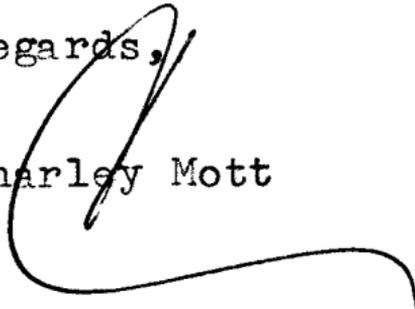
FROM: Charley Mott

Edwin Cox, III (Maj USAR) is the Chairman of the Richmond Independence Bicentennial Commission, and gave a speech recently. The attached is his conclusion which has some interesting quotes which may be of interest to you.

This may also be of interest to Bob Hartmann.

Regards,

Charley Mott



R Short Ack Not too much praise M

Your responsibility as members of the Quota Club is that you must know the Revolution or at least understand its nature.

Thus, for a little bit I shall speak about the nature of the war for independence.

It is unfortunately the common idea that the Revolution was different from any other war, that all the people were patriots and heroes, that the war was noble, and that there were no troubles other than those already known, such as Valley Forge. Indeed, today many self-styled experts are seeking headlines trying to deny the greatness of our forebears by citing the fact (as though it was new and novel) that the people who won us our independence were after all human. Even honest writers make this same mistake. A noted military review says of Patton:

|| Nor is war any longer a game. Gone forever are the elaborate parading and showmanship that characterized European combat in the days of Marlborough. We will never see again the gentlemen's agreements never to fight after dark or in winter or the gallant offer of the British guards at Fontenoy to let the French fire first.

Since it has become such a messy, desperate business, we must learn to cherish those military techniques that can not only win but win quickly. ||

The suggestion of this review, of course, is that the nature of war is changed and that it is now horrible. Let us go back to a description of the Indians in the 1600's and the terror which they inspired, remembering that Virginians were fighting ^{when} before 1620 and Plymouth Rock ^{was} unknown to Englishmen.

The feeling of horror was made intense by the noiselessness with which the enemy moved, the care with which they hid their tracks, the suddenness with which they appeared at unexpected points. The wildness of the Indians' physical aspects also added to this horror--his naked and painted skin, his sinewy frame, as live and active as that of a panther or a wildcat, his hawk-like eye, his scream of triumph which curdled the blood far more than the cry of some fierce wild animal at midnight. The very image of the terrible creatures stamped itself upon the imagination like some menacing figure conjured up from the region of devils.

From Jamestown on, wars in Virginia or involving Virginians elsewhere have been horrible. We are familiar with the hardships at Valley Forge, but "how many are actually familiar with the fact that the sufferings were even



worse at Morristown?" Dr. Freeman cites in his life of Washington that, "Morristown tested the mettle of our men, and of General Washington, far more than did Valley Forge?" The Army which spent the frigid winter of 1779-1780 at Morristown was freezing and starving and without adequate shelter, clothing or bedding. It was also largely without pay for its services. These conditions also were present at Valley Forge, but few realize that there was simply misery and more of it two years later at Morristown.

John Stewart Mill described war and related it, or contrasted it (whichever you will) to selfservice. His quotation written years ago is as apt today as it was then:

War is an ugly thing but not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks nothing worth a war is worse. A man who has nothing which he cares more about than he does his own personal safety is a miserable creature who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself.

It is common when looking at history or looking at our present situation to think that things have changed. We often think that our problems are greater than anyone before us has suffered. James Farley put this splendidly in perspective:

There are prophets of doom among us who dolefully report that these are times of greatest challenge. I cannot bring myself to believe that this generation faces greater challenge than the Continental Army at Valley Forge, freezing in the snow and with three major cities--Boston, New York and Philadelphia--in the hands of an invading army. I cannot believe that this generation or the ones succeeding are likely to encounter heavier tests than our country invaded, the White House in flames, and an American president driven from Washington. Consider the Americans who crossed the plains in Conestoga wagons or walked across infested jungle paths of the Isthmus to settle our own far west. I say that if we are not made of such stuff then we have failed our heritage. Certainly this is a time of challenge and for myself I welcome it."

Now, what has happened to us. Do we have it or do we not? Of course, we have it. It was exemplified by Private Richard E. Morris. February 14th of 1966, Private Morris was killed in action. This letter was sent home as his



last will and testament:

First of all, I want to say that I am here as a result of my own desire. I am here because I have always wanted to be a Marine and because I always wanted to see combat.

Since I have been here, I have done my job to the best of my ability. I have been scared many times, but I have also been proud an equal number of times.

I am fighting to protect and maintain what I believe in and what I want to live in--a democratic society.

If I am killed while carrying out this mission, I want no one to cry or mourn for me. I want people to hold their heads high and be proud of me and the job I did. I don't like being over here, but I am doing a job that must be done, I am fighting an inevitable enemy that must be fought now or later.

And thus we see that the spirit of the Revolution, and the nature of the men who fought it, are no more patriotic and no less patriotic than we have today, and it bears out the words of the third and fourth stanza of our own Star Spangled Banner:

And where is that band, who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution;
No refuge could save the hireling or slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the grave.

O, thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their lov'd homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

If this be correct and if there are people today who are as patriotic and are as heroic as our people were 200 years ago, how do we understand the criticism today, the apparent division of our nation, the name-calling by many



of everyone else. Unfortunately such is not unique. We have gone along in the life of our country with that same attitude. Our ambassadors to the French during the Revolution hardly spoke to each other and did not trust each other. The hardships of the Army at Valley Forge were not made simpler by civilians, trying to gouge the Army of all money that they could.

The hard tones used then were probably as hard or harder than those used today. There is no question that George Washington was respected and revered then as he was now--by many, but certainly not by all.

After the Revolution, Thomas Paine fell out with Washington, and he wrote of Washington:

Treacherous in private life and a hypocrite in public life.

Apostate The world will be puzzled to decide whether you are an ~~apostle~~ apostate or an imposter, whether you have abandoned good principles or whether you ever had any.

Certainly, this is not the modest, temperate statement we like to think of as typical of gentlemanly discussion.

Once again, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to speak to the Quota Club. I hope that the background I have set forth makes understanding the challenge, and the opportunity facing the Richmond Independence Bicentennial Commission clearer. It is only through the interest of groups such as the Quota Club that the celebration of our Independence, and the fight which left it for us, will be successful.

Thank you for your courteous attention.

Crossed
Coldsmith

February 3, 1975

FEB 4 1975

Dear Mr. Coldsmith:

This is in response to your letter to Mr. Jack Marsh in which you invite President Ford to visit the Alexandria, Virginia Bicentennial Center.

At the present time, we are unable to commit the President's schedule for Sunday, February 23. However, your request is under consideration and I will be back in touch with you soon.

Thank you for your kind invitation to the President and for your interest in the Bicentennial.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Lukstat

Richard H. Lukstat
Special Assistant to the
Counsellor to the President

Mr. James W. Coldsmith
Chairman
Alexandria Bicentennial Commission
Room 314 City Hall
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

bc: ✓ Jack Marsh
Warren Rustand

RHL/sjd



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1/8

TO: DICK LUKSTAD
FROM: JOHN O. MARSH, JR.

_____ For Direct Reply
_____ For Draft Response
_____ For Your Information
_____ Please Advise

The attached is forwarded to you
for appropriate handling. Thank
you.

cc: Warren Rustand



ALEXANDRIA BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION
ROOM 314 CITY HALL
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314
(703) 548-1776

nick 1/6/75

December 31, 1974

Mr. Jack Marsh
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marsh:

On behalf of the Alexandria Bicentennial Commission I am writing to invite President Ford to our Bicentennial Center at 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia. I am sure the President is familiar with this old (1839) restored building and much of the history that surrounds it. He may not, however, realize that it is the first and only Bicentennial Center to date in this country.

We feel that an appropriate date for his visit would be ~~Sunday, February 23~~, and that this visit be combined with ~~services at Christ Church, Alexandria, at 10:30 A.M.~~ Many presidents have attended services at this most historic church where George Washington served as a vestryman. It would be well timed to have the President visit this church during the celebration of George Washington's birthday and after the service to proceed to the George Washington Bicentennial Center--located two blocks from the church--to view the exhibits housed in the Center. The exhibits are concerned with the period which marks beginnings of Alexandria (1749) and continue through the War of Independence (1783). I think the President would find his time well spent.

We are anxious to hear from you about our proposal. Naturally there will be no press until your office is ready for such.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

James W. Coldsmith, Chairman
Alexandria Bicentennial Commission

crossed
Coldsmith

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WASHINGTON

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Rec'd 1/6/75

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Sincerely,

James W. Coldsmith, Chairman
Alexandria Bicentennial Commission

Westmoreland Independence Bicentennial Commission

P. O. BOX 1976 / MONTROSS, VIRGINIA 22520

JAMES G. McCANN, JR.
CHAIRMAN

3 March 1975

MRS. VIRGINIA W. SHERMAN
EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN

*Sent to Lubotak
3-6-75*

Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D. C. 200

Dear Mr. Marsh:

It was gratifying to read in Sunday's Richmond Times-Dispatch (2 March 1975) that you are still in close contact with President Ford, and the enclosed news story prompts me to write to you again as we've not heard from you since we left your White House office on last November 14th for Mr. Warner's office.

However, the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors is still hoping for some word from you concerning the County's offer to give, without cost, the James Monroe Birthplace property to the Department of the Interior. We trust you recall that you offered to contact the Secretary of the Interior, Hon. Rogers Morton, for us and to advise him of their desire to give such an important historic site to the Government to be maintained as a National Historic Shrine.

Unfortunately, our visit with Mr. Warner, ARBA Administrator, has so far only produced adverse results which are negating the County Bicentennial plans for 28 April 1976, which is the date of James Monroe's 218th birthday.

Also is enclosed a copy of Virginia Senate Joint Resolution No. 11 (introduced by Senator Paul W. Manns) that has recently passed the Virginia General Assembly, so you'll know that the State Legislature has endorsed the Westmoreland County's "Gift to the Nation".

In behalf of the County's Board of Supervisors and myself, I send you best wishes for your continued success in your White House assignment.

Yours sincerely,

Virginia W. Sherman

Mrs. Virginia W. Sherman

Birthplace of Washington, Monroe, and the Lees

NEWS/focus

Rabbi Baruch Korff, staunchly loyal throughout Richard Nixon's ordeal, is negotiating with the networks for a half-hour TV interview with the ex-president. But he wants payment of \$250,000 to the Nixon Legal Defense Fund, badly strained by the necessity to respond to more than 40 private suits. Korff also wants agreement in advance that there will be no questions on Watergate, but some complain that this would be like a Babe Ruth interview with no mention of baseball.

SARGENT SHRIVER, who has been more cordially received by Soviet officialdom than other foreign lawyers, has just received an extraordinary invitation. The Russians have asked him to spend two weeks lecturing and meeting with student groups in cities from Siberia to the Ukraine. Traveling with his own entourage, including a TV film crew, he will presumably have more access to ordinary Soviet citizens than has previously been given any American figure. It appears the Russians want to show their people and American liberals that they are opening up their society.

THE POWER GAME is getting to see the President, and one big winner is the self-effacing Virginian John O. Marsh Jr., who is often apt to be the only aide around when Ford goes into action at about 5:30 a.m. The two early risers have fallen into the



John O. Marsh Jr.
Meets Ford for Coffee

Sargent Shriver
Soviet Invitation

custom of meeting over coffee. Another big winner is Henry Kissinger, for whom 45 minutes is reserved every day. Nelson Rockefeller wants similar access to improve his leverage on domestic decisions, but he has not secured it.

WASHINGTON'S enjoyment of Ambassador Elliot Richardson's background remarks on his own prospects of becoming secretary of state is heightened by a belief that he and Malcolm Laird are running a hot race for the job. Laird has the apparent advantage of being an old friend of the President, but there have been rubs in the relationship. Laird says he is having so much fun writing and lecturing that he has no taste for any public office, but friends insist this is one job he really wants.

THE HOUSE of Representatives, which won few plaudits for taking a two-week holiday in February, is wondering what about the two-week holiday it has scheduled for Easter. Some want to keep working, but Speaker Carl Albert and minority leader John Rhodes have set up a visit to Japan and many others have travel plans. This is the first year the House has set its day schedule in advance, and the accumulation of embarrassments may cause the useful practice to be abandoned.

— CHARLES BARTLETT

(C) Field Enterprises, Inc.



~~Eliza Hark~~ 7

TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

FULL RATE OR
STRAIGHT TELEGRAM
DAY LETTER
NIGHT LETTER

MR. KENT DRUYVESTYEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RICHMOND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION
4208 SEMINARY AVENUE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23227

MARCH 22, 1975

AS WE BEGIN THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, LET US TAKE NOTE OF INDIVIDUAL EVENTS THAT MOVED US DOWN THE ROAD TOWARD INDEPENDENCE. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WAS NOT A SINGLE EVENT. IT WAS A CONTINUING PROCESS OF REALIZING THE NEED FOR INDEPENDENCE AND THEN IMPLEMENTING A NEW GOVERNMENT.

IN REVIEWING THE FORMATIVE YEARS OF OUR REPUBLIC, THE OVERWHELMING POWER OF WORDS TO MOVE AND CHANGE EVENTS IS OBVIOUS. PATRICK HENRY'S FAMOUS PLEA FOR "LIBERTY OR DEATH" IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH 200 YEARS AGO BECAME A WATCHWORD FOR THE REVOLUTION. THEN AND NOW, A DEMOCRACY MOVES ON THE STRENGTH OF ITS IDEAS.

IN SALUTING PATRICK HENRY'S ORATORY, WE HONOR THE POWER OF WORDS TO CHANGE AND IMPROVE OUR LIVES. WE CHERISH THE IDEALS OF THE PAST. LET THEM NOW INSPIRE US TO ACHIEVE FOR THE FUTURE.

GERALD R. FORD

APPROVED FOR DISPATCH *ck/AT*

DEC 10 1975

Bicentennial

see: Ebert

~~Rev. Douglas G. Ebert~~
121 N. Ripley St. #101
Alexandria, Va. 22304

The Honorable John O. Marsh
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marsh,

The Bicentennial year is one that will be vital for the re-evaluation and affirmation of the principals and ideas that made our nation a leader for freedom. I have written in 200 words "The Bicentennial Proclamation" that I believe uniquely expresses the meaning for the cause of freedom.

As you are aware my hometown of Winchester, Virginia is rich in "Revolutionary War" history and I graduated from the University of Virginia that gave me a deep concern for what Thomas Jefferson meant to our nation.

I hope that in someway, this Proclamation can be used by the White House for making America more aware of what greatness we possess.

Respectfully yours,



Douglas G. Ebert
964-3022

to Ted Marsh

THE BICENTENNIAL PROCLAMATION

Two hundred years ago fifty-six courageous and foresighted men affixed their signature to a declaration risking their lives, fortunes and honor for freedom's cause. In a larger sense, they were signing a "Birth Certificate" granting a birth of Freedom, a Right to Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness.

Indelible affirmations of divine rights were emblazoned upon historical chronicles by blood of patriots - rights that could never be expurgated. Their valiant deeds would inspire compatriots to greater deeds of sacrifice.

An unshakeable foundation was laid for the pyramid of democracy to be constructed by the labors of multitudes. No apex could be installed until every American citizen, in a fuller sense, world citizen becomes an integral part of that democratic pyramid.

We are entrusted with the unequalled task of keeping aflame the lamp of freedom so the world might behold our light of unextinguishable hope; that these expressions of God given freedom will never be obliterated.

Though not perfect yet seeking a more perfect union, let us conclude that our Government is the noblest and most productive Government on earth. Therefore, let us resolve that we will never cease our struggles for freedom and by righteous power assure that every human being shall be free.....

Rev. Douglas G. Ebert

September 2, 1976

Dear John:

Many thanks for your recent letter concerning the Virginia Hellenic American Bicentennial Festival.

We greatly appreciate your contacting us promptly concerning the change in the date.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

The Honorable John N. Parker
Consul of Greece
Virginia Hellenic American
Bicentennial Commission
7220 Granby Street
Norfolk, Virginia 23450

cc: Bill Nicholson

dl

