

# BR: D7

This is a picture of the **Boston Massacre**; who looks like the aggressors to you?

Who looks like they are at fault?

Discuss as a table, then create a **caption** for the photo (1-2 sentence description)



# U.S. History I

Ch. 5.2 Building Colonial Unity

# Trouble Brewing

The efforts to raise money from taxes only strained the relationship between Britain and its American Colonies. By **1768**, Britain sent **2 more British Regiments** were sent to Boston, MA, to keep the peace.

Many of the colonists felt that things had **gone too far**. Not only were they being oppressed with taxes without any say, but now **an army** had been sent to **occupy** a colonial city!

Another issue was the soldiers themselves. Poorly paid, many of them were undisciplined, and they got into arguments with the locals easily. They also **competed** for **work** part time, **taking away job** opportunities for locals.



# The Boston Massacre

**Boston, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1770:** Townspeople and soldiers got into a scuffle, and the townspeople began to jeer, and throw rocks, stones, sticks, whatever they could find at a group of British soldiers. They soon had sticks, shovels, and clubs, looking for a fight.

The angry crowd gathered around a local **British Customhouse**, where taxes were paid, etc. They taunted the soldiers, yelling: **“Fire, you bloodybacks, you lobsters! You dare not fire...”**

A soldier was knocked down, and at that point, the confused & afraid soldiers **DID** fire, to defend themselves. 5 colonists were killed, including **Crispus Attucks**, a half-black half Native American dockworker. He became a **martyr**, and the tragedy was called the **Boston Massacre**. The incident would fuel the fire of revolt in the coming months. [VID](#)

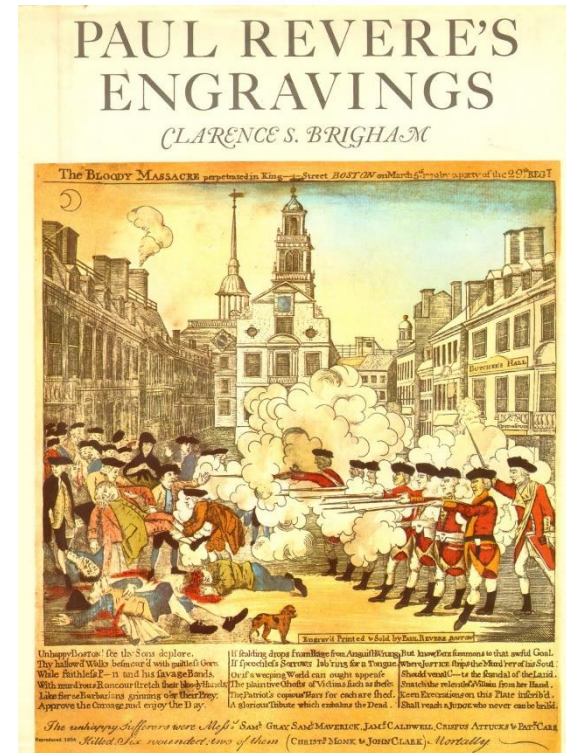
# Word Spreads

The soldiers were tried, and defended by a lawyer named **John Adams**. [VID](#) Many called him a traitor to the colonies, but he felt that they deserved a fair trial. 2 were found guilty of manslaughter, the rest acquitted for self-defense.



Meanwhile, **Paul Revere's** engraving, showing a British officer giving the order to fire, which wasn't true, stirred people to even more anger. The Sons of Liberty put the posters everywhere, to make the British look bad.

The boycotts continued, and the British repealed all the taxes, except the one on tea. Things seemed to settle down for a bit, though some leaders, like **Samuel Adams** (cousin to John Adams), continued to argue against British rule.



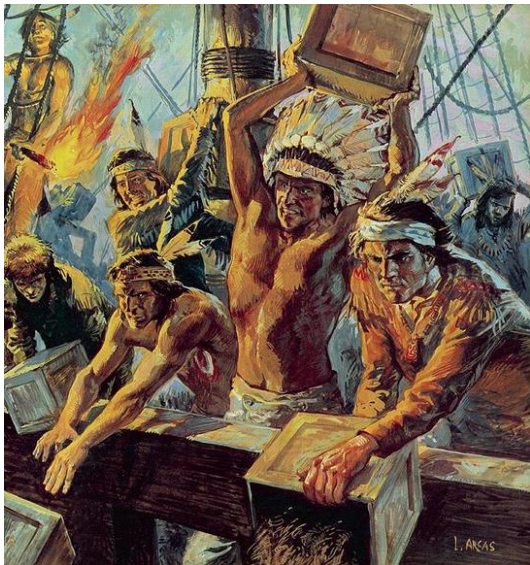


# More Crisis

In 1773, things again came to a head. The **British East India Company** was in trouble, and the **Tea Act of 1773** was passed. It gave an **unfair advantage** to the **company** over colonial merchants, allowing them to not pay taxes that everyone else had to pay. The colonists meanwhile got jipped as a result.

As a result, colonists called for renewed boycotts, and denounced the new **Tea Act**, as a way to crush colonial liberty. The ships were not allowed to land. Finally, 3 ships landed in **Boston Harbor** late 1773. The British governor ordered the tea to be unloaded, though the ships' captains weren't so sure.

As soon as word spread that the tea would be unloaded, **Samuel Adams** and his **Sons of Liberty** dressed up as **Mohawk Indians**, and got onboard, dumping nearly 350 chests of tea into the harbor. This became known as the **Boston Tea Party**. [VID](#)



# The Intolerable Acts

While the colonists celebrated their “**victory**”, the British were infuriated. Boston **MUST** be punished! In the Spring of **1774**, the **Coercive Acts** were passed. They were very harsh, and meant to punish the Bostonians for their rebellious behavior.

As a result:

**Boston Harbor** was closed until the tea was paid for.

People weren't allowed to **meet** in **large groups**

British officers would **not be tried in Boston**, but elsewhere for any crimes they might commit

Bostonians were forced to **quarter**, or shelter British Soldiers in their homes.

The American colonies respond by sending supplies that otherwise the Bostonians wouldn't be able to get now. Many people are losing faith in the British.

Then, the **Quebec Act** was passed, giving the land east of the Appalachians to that province, **not to the American colonies**. Because of these insults, these two acts became known as the **Intolerable Acts**. [VID](#)

# HW Reminder:

You are creating either an **Editorial Letter**, or a **Political Cartoon** that shows how you as a colonist feel about any or all of these taxes.

You may do this with a partner, or individually. **Due: D9**

Here is an example Editorial Letter: [LETTER](#), [Letter](#), [Letter](#)

Here is an example Political Cartoon: [Vet](#), [Tax Reform](#), [Shooting Independence](#), [Revolution](#)