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by JJ

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Factors that Weighed Against the British in the Revolutionary War

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Factors that Weighed Against the British in the Revolutionary War

The British military was regarded as the strongest in the world at the height of the war between Britain and its colonies in 1775. In the French and Indian War, Britain vanquished France and established itself as its superpower (Black, 2016). On the other hand, the colonists were often forced to depend on the local militia, cultivators, and merchants who only volunteered for duty when the battle was impending. Despite their overwhelming military superiority, unfortunately, the British were unable to subjugate the colonists. The British often lost the Revolutionary War rather than suffering defeat (Black, 2016). This paper examines four problems the British experienced in the war and why each of the problems was difficult to overcome.

The British administration and commanders had no specific goal in mind when they took up arms. They did not have a practical purpose insight. Military success and authority throughout the land were insufficient to guarantee favorable postwar conditions and partnerships. As a result, they tried to find a way to find a resolution, but there was no genuine basis for negotiations. When the fighting started, the Americans saw no value in what Britain had to offer. In addition to that, there was no adversary stronghold that Britain could capture, bringing the campaign to a conclusion (Wetzel, 2017). Hence, the Continental Congress migrated from city to city, and each Confederate army fought as if it were its force. There was no adversary the British army could vanquish who could compel the whole colonial resistance to surrender swiftly. Thus, the British misjudged the revolutionaries' determination to win the battle when it began. When battalions of soldiers arrived in American, they assumed the American citizens would abandon their opposition (Wetzel, 2017). Specifically, they assumed the colonial backing for their leadership to wane, mainly since none of the colonial leaders had commanded a national

government or waged a major war. The cost of lags in information, commands, and commodities was considerable. The lack of certainty around arrival or replies usually led to substantial precaution, unnecessary delays, or confusing demands in crucial circumstances, all of which proved disastrous subsequently. Transportation and communications efficiency had never been considered vital in any of Britain's previous campaigns.

The four problems were difficult to overcome due to several reasons. For instance, the British had no clear goal or game plan for waging war. Without a clear strategy, it would be challenging to concentrate British resources on a concerted effort to defeat American soldiers without a definite course of action (Sanders & Houghton, 2016). In addition to that, the British initially thought that when thousands of British troops landed on American beaches, American resistance would shatter. Second, they believed that the American military and political leadership lacked expertise and were incapable of fighting a long-term war against a well-organized government and military force like Britain. The British military paid the ultimate price because the colonists fought like guerillas while the British insisted on traditional fighting tactics (Sanders & Houghton, 2016).

Furthermore, the British believed that war should be conducted in a "gentlemanly" manner and that officers should not be targeted during battle. The colonists were opposed to that viewpoint, and that is why the British lost the protracted war. The fourth problem was difficult to overcome because the British failed to move troops, supplies, intelligence, and instructions given the distance. The voyage from Britain to the territories was hazardous, and men frequently arrived fatigued and ailing. Transportation and communications infrastructures were usually unreliable and slow. Other obstacles were a lack of supplies, a dearth of roadways that prompted

the creation of pathways across the bush, and harsh weather, hindering British success in the revolutionary war.

To sum it up, one may argue that, being the most prominent global powerhouse at the period, the British ought to have put a bit more effort into neutralizing the colonies. Others may contend that the British authorities could have adjusted its policy to facilitate a peaceful reconciliation. Others may argue that the British army could have been armed in Canada or the West Indies and would have been more successful. However, the British made significant preventable mistakes, which led to their defeat in the revolutionary war.

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