

## **Some Events Along the Hudson River (1776-1781)**

**1776**

30 April George Washington, Esquire, arrives in the city of New York and takes command of the Rebel army located there.

12 September The Quartermaster General in London dispatches 5,000 uniforms, with green coats and white small clothes, for the use of Provincial (Loyalist) regiments.

15 September A force of British regulars and German stipendiary troops lands at Kips Bay, on the east side of the island of Manhattan, just north of the city of New York. In response to this show of force, Rebel troops and Rebel sympathizers evacuate the city of New York.

16 September Rebel forces win the battle of Harlem Heights, on the northwest corner of the island of Manhattan.

20 September A great fire breaks out on the west side of the city of New York, destroying hundreds of buildings in the heavily built-up area between the Broad Way and the Hudson River.



**British Soldiers and Marines Fight the Great Fire in the City of New York**

## **1776 (Continued)**

23 September Rebel forces abandon the fort at Paulus Hook, on the west bank of the Hudson River, opposite the city of New York.

5 October Rebel forces abandon the fort at Bergen Point, on New Ark Bay, opposite the city of New Ark.

28 October Loyal forces under Sir William Howe defeat the main Rebel army at White Plains, causing the latter to retreat further north.

15 November Loyal forces capture Fort Washington, the last Rebel-held position on the island of Manhattan.

20 November Loyal forces capture Fort Lee, a Rebel outpost on the west bank of the Hudson River. In the weeks that follow, Loyal forces take possession of the northern half of the Province of New Jersey, down to the Delaware River.

26 December Rebel forces capture a Loyal outpost, garrisoned by German stipendiary troops, at Trenton.



**The Royal Navy Lands Loyal Troops on the Western Shore of the Hudson River**

## **1777**

3 January Following a Rebel victory at the battle of Princeton, Loyal forces withdraw to those parts of the province of New Jersey that lie along the western shore of the Hudson River.

5 January Loyal forces in New Jersey begin to conduct foraging expeditions in northern New Jersey, where they encounter active resistance from both Rebel militia and elements of the main Rebel army, in winter quarters at Morristown, some 25 miles due west from the city of New York.

21 April Sir William Howe, commanding all Loyal forces in North America, issues a proclamation promising land grants to those who served honorably in Provincial regiments. At the end of the war, each non-commissioned officer was to receive 100 acres and each private 50 acres of land.

28 April Brigadier General Samuel Cleveland, commanding the artillery of the Loyal forces in North America, offers to double the pay to men of Provincial regiments who transfer to the Royal Artillery.

26 June Loyal forces defeat a Rebel detachment at Short Hills, in the province of New Jersey, some 15 miles west of the city of New York.

26 September Loyal forces take possession of the Rebel capital of Philadelphia, in the province of Pennsylvania.

23 October The Rebel garrison of Fort Mercer, on the Delaware River, defeat a force of German stipendiary troops sent out from Philadelphia. The officer commanding the Loyal troops, Colonel von Donop, is killed.

## **1778**

5 July Having been defeated at Monmouth, Loyal forces at Sandy Hook, in the province of New Jersey, on the south shore of the Outer Bay of New York, embark upon the transports that will take them back to the “Loyal Counties” of the province of New York.

22 September Loyal forces, under the command of Lieutenant General Cornwallis, begin a three-week “grand forage” by driving off a regiment of Rebel dragoons at Paramus, on the western shore of the Hudson River, in Bergen County, in the province of New Jersey.

14 October Having completed the “grand forage,” Loyal forces return to their bases on the east shore of the Hudson River, in the “Loyal counties” of the Province of New York. In the course of doing this, they burn the two forts that they had built in the course of this operation.

## 1779

29 March Rebels in the town of Cloester make a grim display by hanging the mortal remains of Ensign Peter Meyer, a Loyal officer killed in the course of foraging operations.

19 April The Loyal garrison of the fort at Paulus Hook repels an attack by a larger Rebel force.

10 May Lieutenant Colonel Abraham Van Buskirk, of the New Jersey Volunteers, leads a raid against the Rebel-held town of Cloester, in Bergen County, in the Province of New Jersey. Unfortunately, Rebel militia prevent the raiding party from capturing any cattle.

18 May A Loyal foraging party defeats Rebel militia at New Bridge, near Bull's Ferry, in Bergen County.

## 1780

30 May While foraging near New Bridge, a detachment of Loyal troops under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Van Buskirk divides into two columns. Unfortunately, in the course of the night, one of the columns mistakes the other for Rebel militia. In the ensuing fight, "seven or eight" of the Loyal troops were killed, and several more wounded.

6 June German stipendiary troops based on Staaten Island land at Elizabethtown, on the west shore of New Ark Bay, with the aim of capturing the Rebel supply depot at Morristown.

8 June Frustrated in their attempt to reach Morristown, the German stipendiary troops return to Staaten Island. Before doing so, they burn the village of Connecticut Farms.

23 June German stipendiary troops make a second attempt to capture the Rebel supply base at Morristown. Prevented from doing this by a large force of Rebels, they burn the town of Springfield and return to Staaten Island.

21 July A large force of Rebel regular troops, under the command of Major General Anthony Wayne, assault the Loyal fort at Bull's Ferry, but are driven off with heavy losses. Soon thereafter, Major John André, Deputy Adjutant General, publishes *The Cow Chase*, a satirical poem about the incident.