



Colonial Warfare, 1607-1775

Combat Studies Institute



- **American Military Origins**

- **Militia**
- **Regulars**
- **Provincials**
- **Armies Reflect Their Parent Societies?**

- **Military Revolution?**

- **Gunpowder & Fortresses**
- **Drill & Combined Arms**

- **Limited War**

- **Thirty Years' War (1618-48)**
- **War in the Age of Reason**

- ***The First Way of War: American War Making on the Frontier***

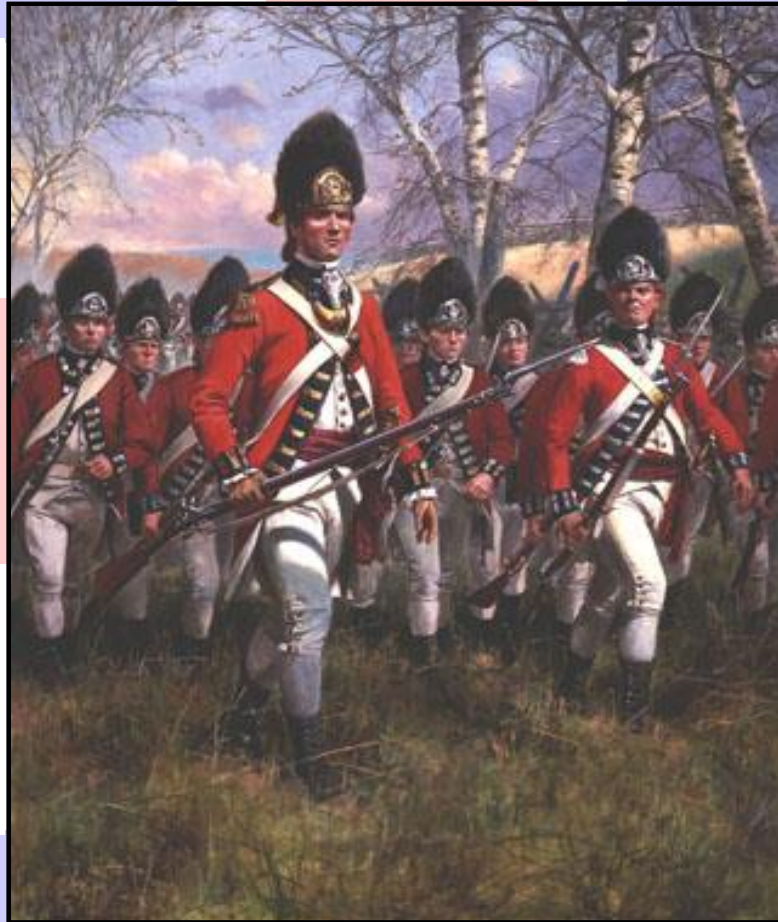
- **Contact, Conflict, and Conquest (1607-89)**

- **The Struggle for Empire (1689-1775)**

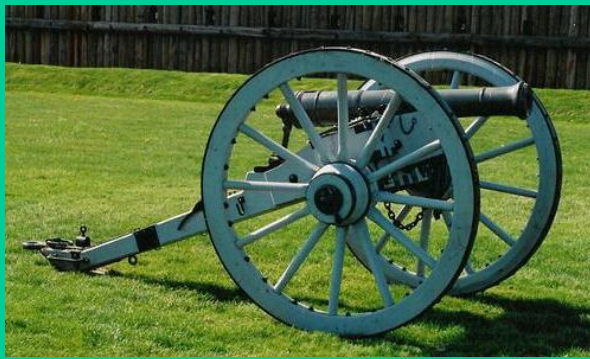
- **Triumph, Imperial Reform, and the End of Empire**



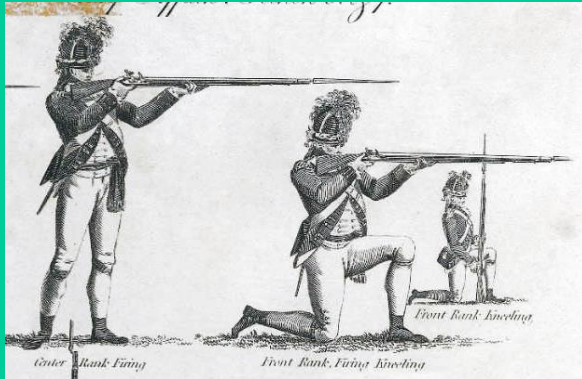
Colonial Warfare, 1607-1775



Militia, Regulars, & Provincials



1000 yards



100 yards



200 yards



**Maximum Effective Engagement Ranges:
6-pounder, Musket, and Rifle**





Gustav Adolf, 1594-1632

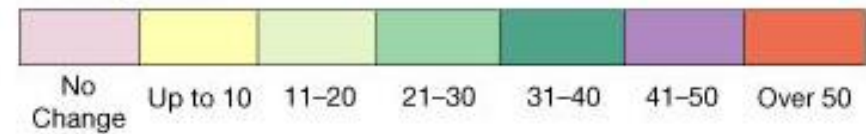


**Drill & Combined Arms:
Pike + Musket + Saber =
Shock, Firepower, & the Quest for Decisive Battle**



- **Thirty Years' War, 1618-48**
 - **Religious War: Catholic vs. Protestant**
 - **Counter-Reformation**
 - **Political War: France vs. Hapsburgs**
- **German Civilian Mortality Rate: 15-20%**
 - **War**
 - **Disease**
 - **Famine**
- **Mercenary Armies**
- **Peace of Westphalia, 1648**
 - **Lasting Religious Division of Europe**
 - **Religion of Prince = Religion of People**
- **English Civil War, 1642-51**
- **Commonwealth, 1651-60**
- **Restoration, 1660**

Percentage Loss:



Population Loss in Germany During the Thirty Years' War



Limited War: Thirty Years' War

•The Age of Reason, The Enlightenment

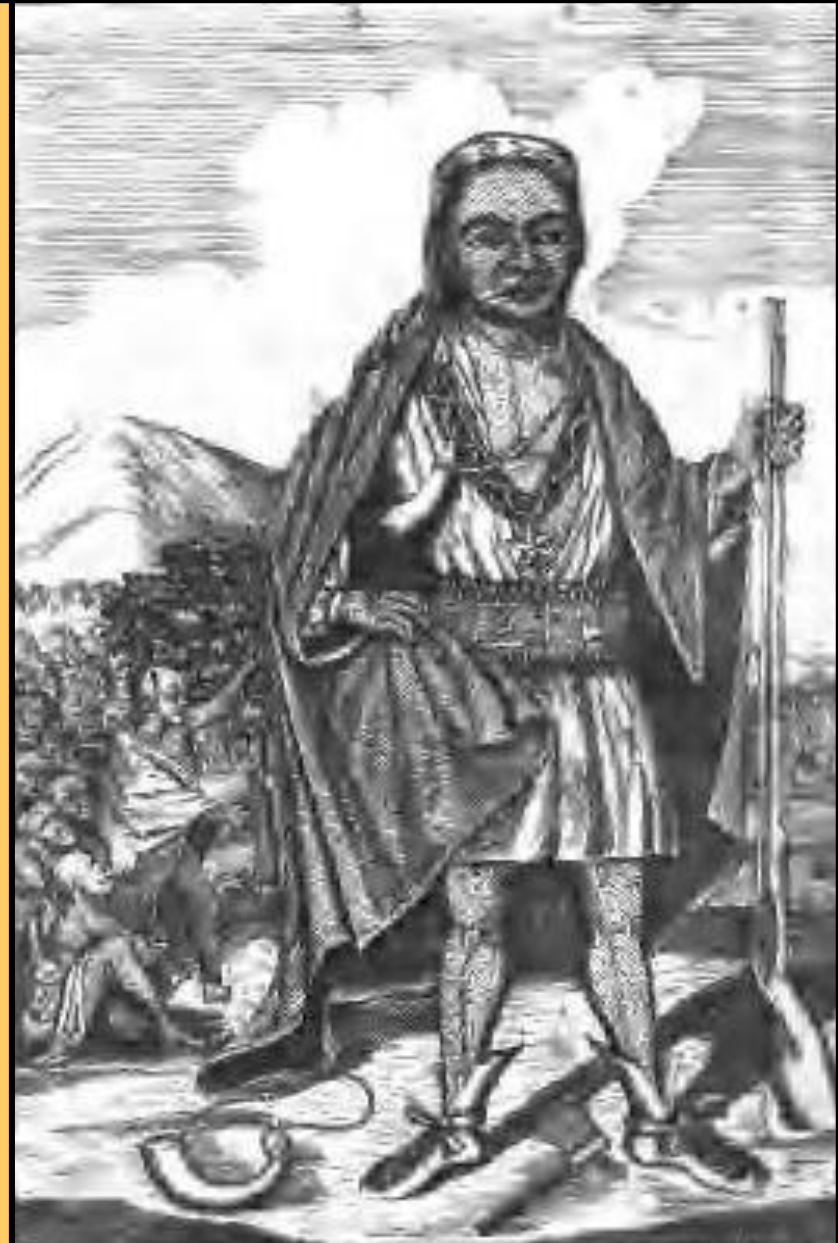
- Limit the Affect of War on the Population
- Project & Impose the Monarch's Authority
 - Regiments & Companies Personal Property of Commander
 - Ranks Personal Property to Bought or Sold
 - Rank of Lieutenant Colonel Created
 - Money, the “Sinew of War”
 - Taxes to Support War = Growth of Modern Central State
 - Bureaucracy to Oversee
 - Banking & Modern Finances
- Impose Order on Chaos
 - More Formalized Drill
 - Uniforms
 - Formations
 - Armies and Navies as Instruments of State or Dynastic Power
 - Conservative Strategies and Tactics to Preserve the Force

Limited War: The Age of Reason





A SUSQUEHANNA INDIAN WARRIOR.



The First Way of War: American War Making on the Frontier

American Military Tradition

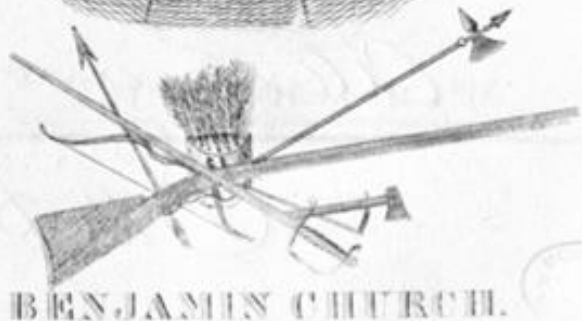
1. Unlimited War

2. Irregular War

“accepted, legitimized, and encouraged attacks upon and the destruction of non-combatants, villages, and agricultural resources.”

John Grenier

Lt. Col., USAF and Ph.D.



BENJAMIN CHURCH.



The First Way of War: American War Making on the Frontier

• Contact, Conflict, and Conquest

•Chesapeake

- Anglo-Powhatan Wars, 1609-14; 1622-32; 1644-46
- Bacon's Rebellion, 1676

•New England

- Pequot War, 1636-38
- King Philip's War, 1675-76

•Middle Colonies

- Kieft's War (1643-45)
- Covenant Chain, 1677

•Carolinas

•Canada (French-Iroquois, or Beaver, Wars, 1642-98)

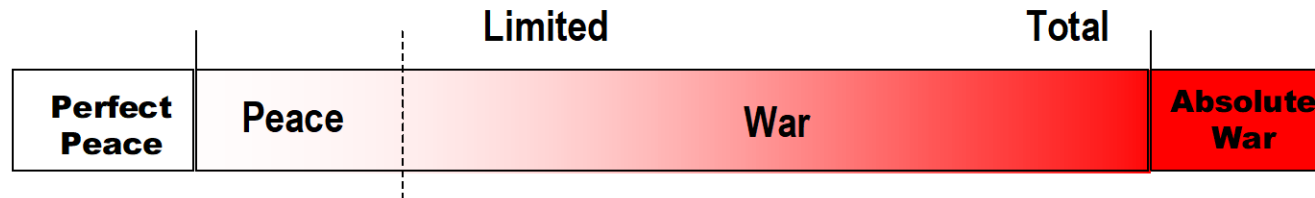
•New Spain (Pueblo Revolt, 1680)

•Insurgencies or Wars for Liberation?



**Colonial Warfare, 1607-1775:
Anglo-Indian Wars**

Spectrum of Conflict



Key Elements:

Objectives: What does each side want? Subjugation? Territory?

Means: Are the sides using every *resource* at their disposal?

Time: How *long* does the war last? How *intense* is it?

Geographic Area: How much relative *area* does the war encompass?

Non-combatants: What is the effect on those not directly behind the guns?

☞ Are restraints **voluntary** or caused by “nature”?

Other considerations:

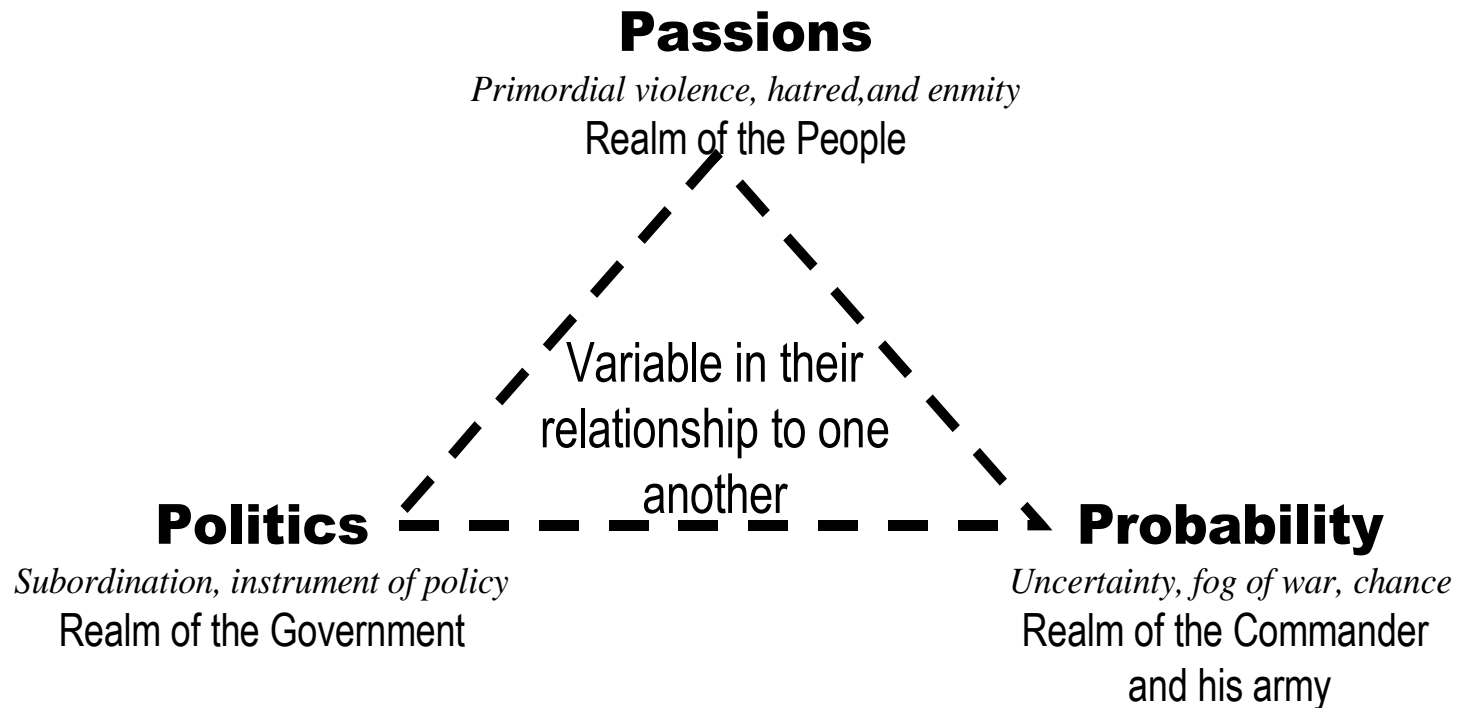
- Does one side restrain itself more than the others?
- Is technology a factor?
- Do organizational or doctrinal capabilities play a role?
- Do economic, social, or political factors restrain warfare or loosen restraints?
- Is the nature of a conflict at one level of war different from its nature at other levels?

- ★ At what point on this sliding scale do YOU think warfare becomes total? Limited??
- ★ Where do YOU think a particular war rests on this spectrum and why?

Colonial Warfare, 1607-1775: Anglo-Indian Wars



The “Remarkable Trinity”



“A theory that ignores any one of them or seeks to fix an arbitrary relationship between them would conflict with reality to such an extent that for this reason alone it would be totally useless.” (p. 89)

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