

# The War of 1812

“America’s Second War for Independence”

# Causes

- Great Britain and France were taking U.S. ships. (interfered with trade)
- US makes deal with France: US will stop trading with Britain if French stop taking ships.
- US thought the British were arming Native Americans to attack settlers in the Northwest Territory and still interfering with its former colonies.
- US wanted to take Canada from Britain and Florida from Spain.

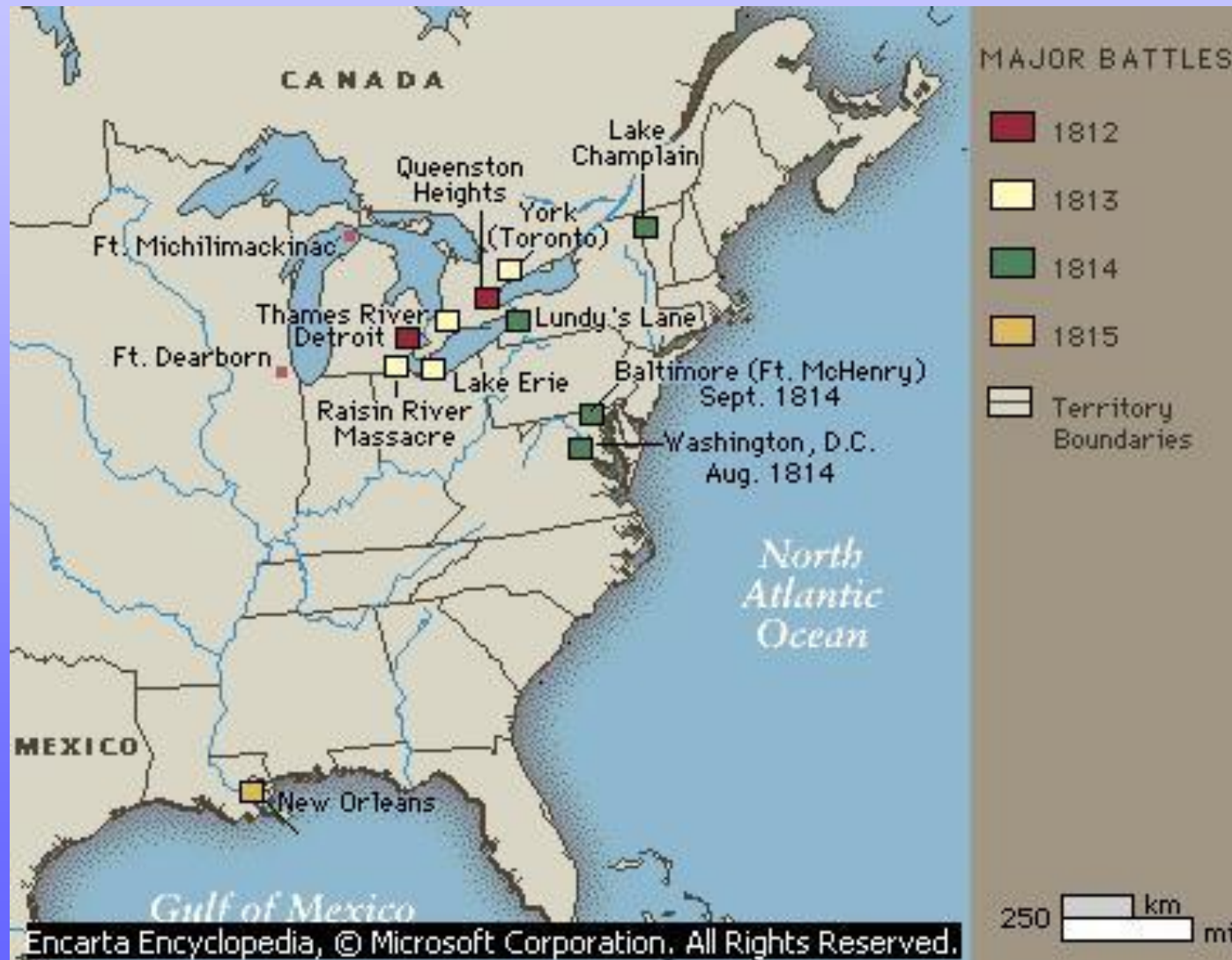


Napoleon

## To go or not to go to war?

- President James Madison very cautious
- United States now led by younger generation
- “War Hawks”: Andrew Jackson and John C. Calhoun (SC), Henry Clay (KY)—supporters of going to war
- 1812- declare war on Britain ~ first time that Congress had declared war

- Naval victory at Lake Champlain force Brits into Canada
- Must attack via mouth of Mississippi at New Orleans



# The Battle of New Orleans

- January 8, 1815
- Outnumbered  
Americans win; killing  
700 British
- SURPRISE! A peace  
treaty was signed in  
Belgium in December  
of 1814



Andrew Jackson

# The Battle of New Orleans

In 1814 we took a little trip

Along with Colonel Jackson down the mighty Mississip'

We took a little bacon and we took a little beans

And we caught the bloody British in the town of New Orleans

We fired our guns and the British kept a-comin'

There wasn't nigh as many as there was awhile ago

We fired once more and they began to runnin'

On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico

Old Hick'ry said we could take 'em by surprise

If we didn't fire our musket till we looked 'em in the eyes

We held our fire till we see'd their faces well

The we opened up with squirrel guns and really gave 'em...

2<sup>nd</sup> Ch: Yeah! They ran through the briars and they ran through the brambles

And they ran through the bushes where a rabbit couldn't go

They ran so fast that the hounds couldn't catch 'em

On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico

We fired our cannon 'til the barrel melted down

So we grabbed an alligator and we fought another round

We filled his head with cannonballs and powdered his behind

And when we touched the powder off, the gator lost his mind

REPEAT FIRST CHORUS then SECOND CHORUS



# War of 1812



# Symbols of 1812



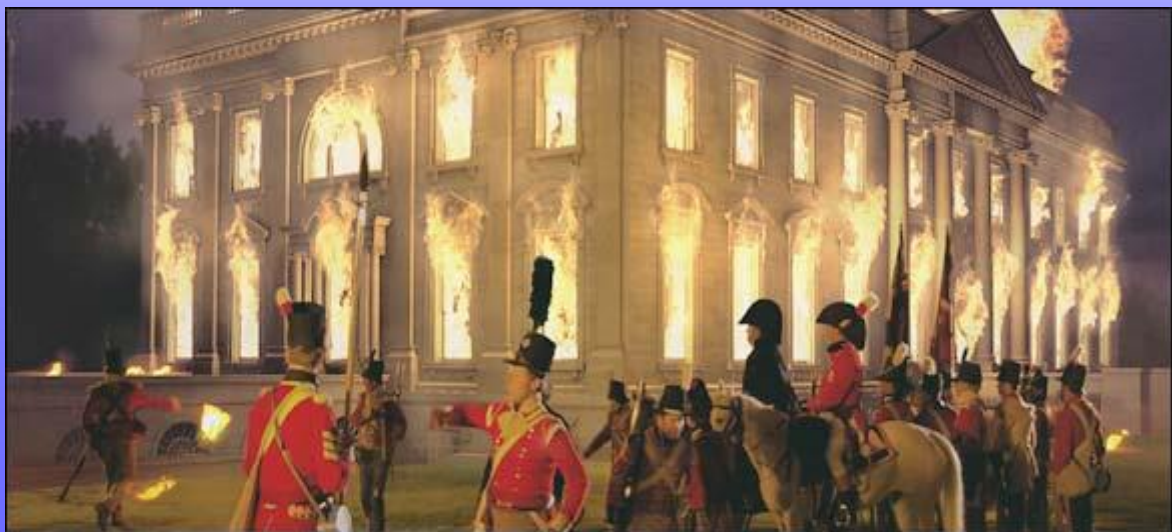
Fort McHenry



Old Ironsides – The USS Constitution



Uncle Sam

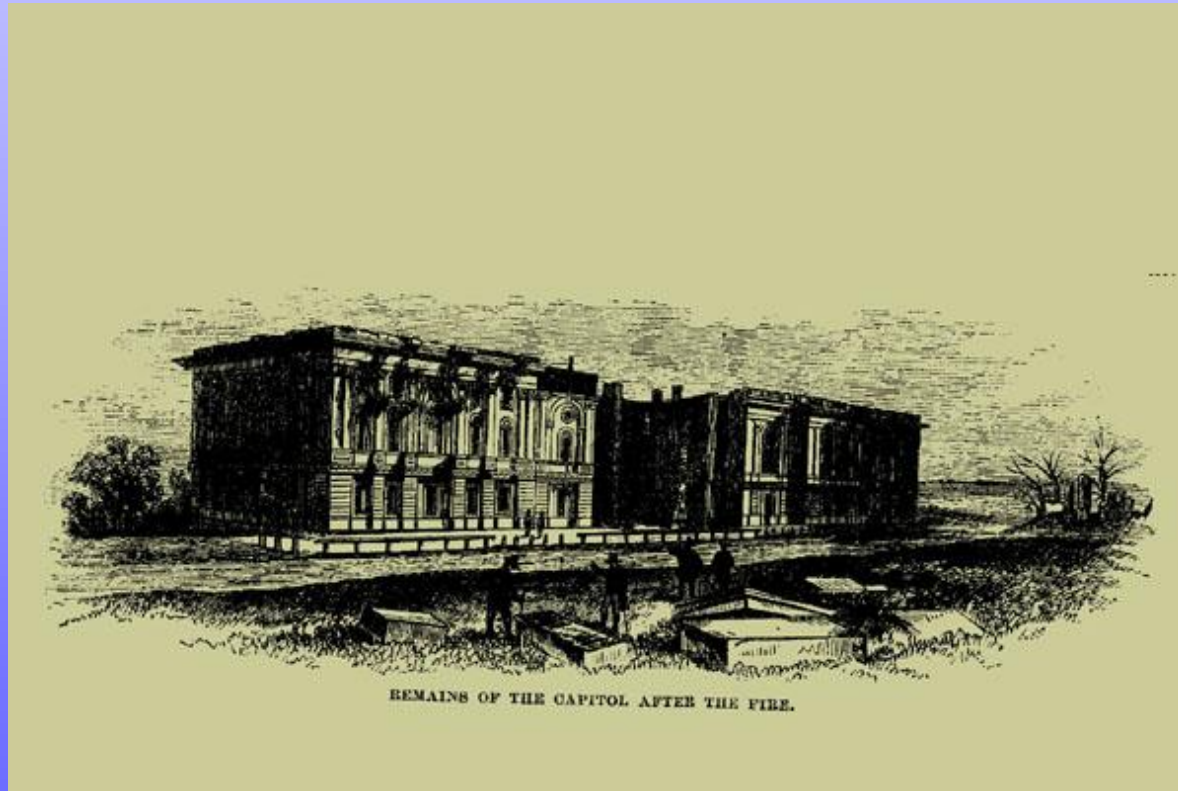


The Burning of Washington, D.C.



# The War of 1812 (through 1815)

## The Burning of Washington, D.C.



# Fort McHenry

- Francis Scott Key writes the Star Spangled Banner
- McHenry bombed for 25 straight hours; Americans prevail



# “Old Ironsides”—The USS Constitution



- The Constitution got her nickname while engaged with a British ship off Nova Scotia. Much of the fighting was close range and the cannon balls bounced off her thick oaken sides!



# Uncle Sam

- Samuel Wilson
- Meat (beef and pork) inspector for the Army during the War of 1812.
- Meat was stamped “US” to show it was approved.
- Did not become an official symbol until 1961.



# Outcomes of the War of 1812

1. No gain or loss of territory – status quo antebellum
2. Shipping issues were not settled