

THE WARS OF 18TH C.

BACKGROUND/SETTING

- War of the Austrian Succession--1740-1748, (War of the Pragmatic Sanction, Silesian Wars, King George's War) & Seven Years' War--1756-1763, (French and Indian War)

2 Key Issues:

- War of Austrian Succession (Prussia vs Austria)
- Seven Years' War (Britain vs France)
- self-interest-- "reason of state" concept
- international rivalry--balance of power
- taxes and standing armies
- states fought over:
- peace from 1715-1740
- 18th c. Wars were:

THE WAR OF AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION (1740-1748)

- 1740-1748
- Charles VI and the Pragmatic Sanction
 - All turned against
- Causes of War:
 - Immediate:
 - Big picture:

Two Sides

- Prussia: (France, Spain, Bavaria, Saxony)
- Austria: (United Provinces, Great Britain, Russia, Savoy)

Prussia

- Frederick II
- Silesia--First Silesian War (1740-1742)
- first of series of claims
- "reason of state"

France

- traditionally
- goal:
- A chance to:
- temporarily wins Austrian Netherlands

Other Players

- Spain:
- Bourbon family
- Italy
- Bavaria:
- Rival w/ Austria
- did not recognize Pragmatic Sanction
- Elector Charles wanted:
- German princes (Saxony):
- supported:
- Moravia

Austria

- Maria Theresa:
- Background:
- Hungary and Bohemia:
- Allies:
- Dutch:
- Great Britain:

Alliance Switches

- Saxony allies with Austria/Hungary along with Britain (& Hanover)
- 1745 HR Emperor dies and Bavaria supports MT's husband Francis as HR Emperor

Russia

- complicated due to anti-Prussian & Austrian attitudes in general
- Empress Anna--pro Austrian court
- Empress Elizabeth
- foreign minister was anti-French and Prussian (Frederick & Louis XV tried to influence his removal)
- 30,000 troops sent against Prussia leads Bourbons to push for peace treaty in 1748

WAR OF AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION CONT'D (1740-1748)

Outcomes:

- 1748 Treaty of Aix-la Chapelle (Aachen)
- Austrian losses:
- Maria Theresa:
- Prussia:
- French weakness:
- Spain:

Diplomatic Revolution of 1756

- reversal of alliances
- discord:
- Austrian Foreign Minister: Count Kaunitz
- proposal:
- encouraged France:
- arranged marriage of Maria Antonia to dauphin Louis
- leads to Seven Years' War

THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR 1756-1763

- 1756-1763
- continuation
- Prussia & Frederick the Great:
- France:
- Louis XV "lose/lose situation"
- coalition
- Russia
- Empress Elizabeth dies in 1762
- Peter III pro-Prussia policy implemented:

America

- French and Indian War
- international trade & tensions
- St. Lawrence River valley and Ohio River valley

Outcomes

- Treaty of Paris 1763:
- terms:
- 1763 Peace of Hubertusburg between Austria & Prussia (5 days later)
- terms:

Importance of 1763

- Britain:
- Prussia:
- Austria:
- France:
- balance of power:

Austrian Changes

- "rape of Silesia"
- reforms:

- son Joseph II