

June 14. 1775

Congress establishes the Continental Army.

June 15. 1775

The Congress unanimously votes to appoint George Washington general and commander-in-chief of the new Continental Army.

June 19. 1775

Boston residents are ordered to surrender their firearms or be deemed enemies of His Majesty's Government.

June 26. 1775

General George Washington states that after the "establishment of American liberty" he will return to his role as a private citizen.

June 10. 1776

In Philadelphia, Congress stops short of declaring "total independence" from Britain, but calls for a committee to prepare a declaration based on the premise: "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown: and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

June 11. 1776

Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Philip Livingston comprise a committee chosen to prepare the declaration of independence. Jefferson is chosen to prepare the first draft.

June 21, 1776

In Philadelphia, Thomas Jefferson shows his first draft of "a declaration of independence" to John Adams and other members of Congress.

June 14, 1777

Congress adopts the "stars and stripes" flag composed of thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, one for each of the original states, as the American flag.