

AP US HISTORY NOTES: THE BIRTH OF POLITICAL PARTIES & JOHN ADAMS' PRESIDENCY

Political Parties

- Hamilton/Jefferson feud
- National Bank (loose v. strict construction)
- French Revolution Led to: two parties (SEE CHART)
 1. Democratic/Republicans (Jefferson) (Republican, no relation to modern parties)
 2. Federalists (Hamilton)
- Washington urged AGAINST parties (& permanent alliances -important part of farewell speech)

Election of 1796

- John Adams (Fed.)
- Thomas Jefferson (Rep.)
- Adams' Victory (71 to 68 in electoral college)
- Largely because: French
 1. Began attacking U.S. merchant ships
 2. Supported Jefferson
 - * Trying to overturn Jay's Treaty
- Also a result of Federalist majority in Congress
- Division hurt Adams' presidency
- Adams' goal: Avoid war!

-XYZ affair changed American opinion and course

1. Talleyrand (France) sent three agents (X, Y, Z) to demand a "bribe" from the U.S.
2. American response = No!
3. Adams administration publicized the bribe attempt to gain support against France
4. Adams asks Congress for funds for Army and Navy and got it (Under Washington, 40+ ships - now more!)
 - Controversial **taxes** on houses and land provided the money
 - Republicans (Jefferson) opposed this - Used newspapers to voice opinions (many were French immigrants)

-Alien and Sedition Acts (Attempts to silence critics of the Adam's administration/policies)

- Alien:
 1. 14 years before citizenship (change from 5)
 2. Deport any 'danger'
 3. Many left country

Sedition -Forbade scandalous remarks against government
- Punishable by incarceration

LED TO: Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions (Jefferson and Madison)

- Resolved in their legislatures that states could declare an act of congress (Alien and Sedition Acts) unconstitutional. Proclaimed that these laws would not be enforced in their states.
- Not implemented because of federal presence yet important because it demonstrates the STATES RIGHTS VS. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT controversy.
- No other states followed

Undeclared naval war with France

- Hamilton wanted all-out war
- Adams did not (like Jefferson, he also didn't trust Hamilton's motives)
 1. Broke with federalists
 2. Sent peacekeeping mission to France where Napoleon (newly in power) agreed to honor American neutrality