

The Whiskey Rebellion (read this and answer questions using NOTABILITY) then send attached to an assignment.

The [US Constitution](#) was accepted in 1789 creating the United States of America. The new country had to deal with a number of debts which led to taxes. One of those taxes imposed to pay for the \$54 million national debt was placed on whiskey. This tax led to the first rebellion against the government of the United States. In 1791, the farmers living in the region around Pittsburgh could not send grain or flour down the Ohio or the Mississippi River because Spain had shut the river to navigation by Americans.

The farmers could not afford to send their flour over the mountains to Philadelphia or Baltimore because the cost of hauling their goods would cost more than they would be able to sell it for in the cities. Instead of growing wheat and making flour, many of them grew rye and made whisky on their own farms. They were able to sell this quite easily.

When the United States tax collectors attempted to collect the whiskey tax, the farmers of western Pennsylvania drove them away. For three years, tax collectors were harassed, shot at, tarred and feathered, and physically assaulted. An appeal was then made to the courts to protect them, but when marshals came, they too were driven away after a standoff at Bower Hill (today's Mt Lebanon). One of the rebels, Revolutionary War Major General James McFarlane was killed during the battle. He was seen as a hero and became a greater rallying cry for the rebels. By 1794, very little of tax had been collected in Pennsylvania. The concern was that there was no respect for the law of the land.

Secretary of the Treasury [Alexander Hamilton](#) saw the importance of squashing the rebellion as soon as possible. As the number of rebels increased to approximately 5,000 in Washington County, Pa, there was talk amongst them of attacking Pittsburgh. Some even designed a new flag composed of six stripes representing the six counties in rebellion within the state of Pennsylvania.

[President Washington](#) attempted to send in negotiators to deal with the rebels without resulting to military force, but this did not work. Therefore, he realized the need to seize upon this situation, and ensure that the US government established sovereignty. He used the power given him by an act of Congress and in September, 1794 called out 12,900 militia from the neighboring states: New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. These troops, led by Alexander Hamilton and Virginia Governor Henry Lee, marched into Western Pennsylvania towards Pittsburgh. During this time, Washington became the only president to review military troops while in the field.

Upon the arrival of this force, the rebel group fell apart and dissipated. A number of leaders were captured and sent to trial. Two of the leaders, John Mitchell and Philip Weigel, were later convicted of treason. Both were sentenced to death by hanging. However, President Washington pardoned them.

The insurrection or rebellion might seem like a small affair. However, the principles at stake for the national government were great. Washington showed that he and the government were willing to do what it took to enforce the laws, that the Constitution and the laws must be obeyed. Further, it was shown that it was treason to resist the government by force. In addition, if necessary, individuals and states would, at the call of the President, put down rebellion by force of arms.

Another consequence of the Whiskey Rebellion was the rise of the Democratic-Republican Party. As early as 1792, there were a number of individuals who were opposed to the acts of Congress and the President in terms of raising revenues to pay debts. Many things added to this including the large national debt, a national bank, and heavy taxes like the whiskey tax were all signs of a monarchy. They organized for election, led by [Thomas Jefferson](#), [James Madison](#), [James Monroe](#), John Randolph, and Albert Gallatin.

[TAP here for a local connection](#)

OK, You must send this to notability and use text boxes to answer the questions. When done, attach to assignment and send to me

1. **Why** did the new US government need to collect taxes?

2. **WHY** couldn't PA farmers send their crops down river?

3. To make it easier to travel with and sell, many farmers turned their corn, wheat and grains into _____ because it was much easier to transport to market.

4. What happened when tax collectors tried to collect tax money from whiskey farmers?

5. Where were over 5,000 rebel gathering?

6. To stop the rebels, what did President Washington have to do?

7. What happened to the rebels when Washington showed up in Pittsburgh with 13,000 militia?

8. What did this **show** the rest of the American people?