

## #106 The French Connection – The Surrenders to America in France

**Key Understanding:** *The surrenders to America in France.* So as to magnify the French Connection in history, for the purpose of verifying that America *inherited* France's role and would ultimately represent the *western* part of the *Charlemagne Split*, the key surrenders to America, or treaties regarding the American-French alliance in wars with foreign powers, *occurred in France* (including the Revolutionary War, World War I, and World War II).

**The Revolutionary War, Treaty of Paris –** Cornwallis' defeat at Yorktown brought down the ministry of Lord North, and a new group of British ministers came to power. They began peace discussions with the Americans in Paris in April 1782. Richard Oswald represented the British government. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay negotiated for the United States. What was called the **Treaty of Paris** was signed on September 3, 1783. **America would grow in power through the victorious Treaty of Paris, which occurred in France.**



Painting by Benjamin West depicting the Treaty of Paris, (from left to right) John Jay, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Henry Laurens, and William Temple Franklin. The British commissioners refused to pose, so the painting was never finished.



This photograph was taken after reaching the agreement for the armistice that ended World War I. This is Ferdinand Foch's own railway carriage and the location is in the forest of Compiègne. Foch is second from the right.

**World War I, the Surrender at Compiègne, France, on November 11, 1918, 11 a.m. –** In June 1918, American soldiers helped the French stop the German advance less than 50 miles northeast of Paris. The last offensive of World War I began in late September 1918, with about 900,000 U.S. troops participating in heavy fighting between the Argonne Forest and the Meuse River. Germany could no longer overcome the strength of the Allies. Ferdinand Foch, the French military leader who had become the supreme Allied commander in April 1918, headed an Allied delegation that met with German representatives in a railroad car in the Compiègne Forest in northern France. In the early morning hours of November 11, 1918, the Germans accepted the armistice terms demanded by the Allies. Foch ordered the fighting to stop on the Western Front at 11 a.m. World War I was over. **America would grow in power through the German surrender, which occurred in France.**

**World War II, the Surrender at Reims, France, on May 7, 1945, 2:41 a.m.** – On April 30, 1945, Adolf Hitler had committed suicide. Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz briefly succeeded Hitler as the leader of Germany. Doenitz arranged for Germany's surrender. At 2:41 a.m., May 7, 1945, General Alfred Jodl signed a statement of unconditional surrender at Eisenhower's headquarters at Reims, France. World War II had ended in Europe. The Allies declared May 8, 1945, as V-E Day, or Victory in Europe Day. **America would grow in power through the German surrender, which occurred in France.**

The instrument of surrender was signed on May 7, 1945, at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims by Gen. Alfred Jodl, Chief of Staff of the German Army. At the same time, he signed three other surrender documents, one each for Great Britain, Russia, and France.



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