



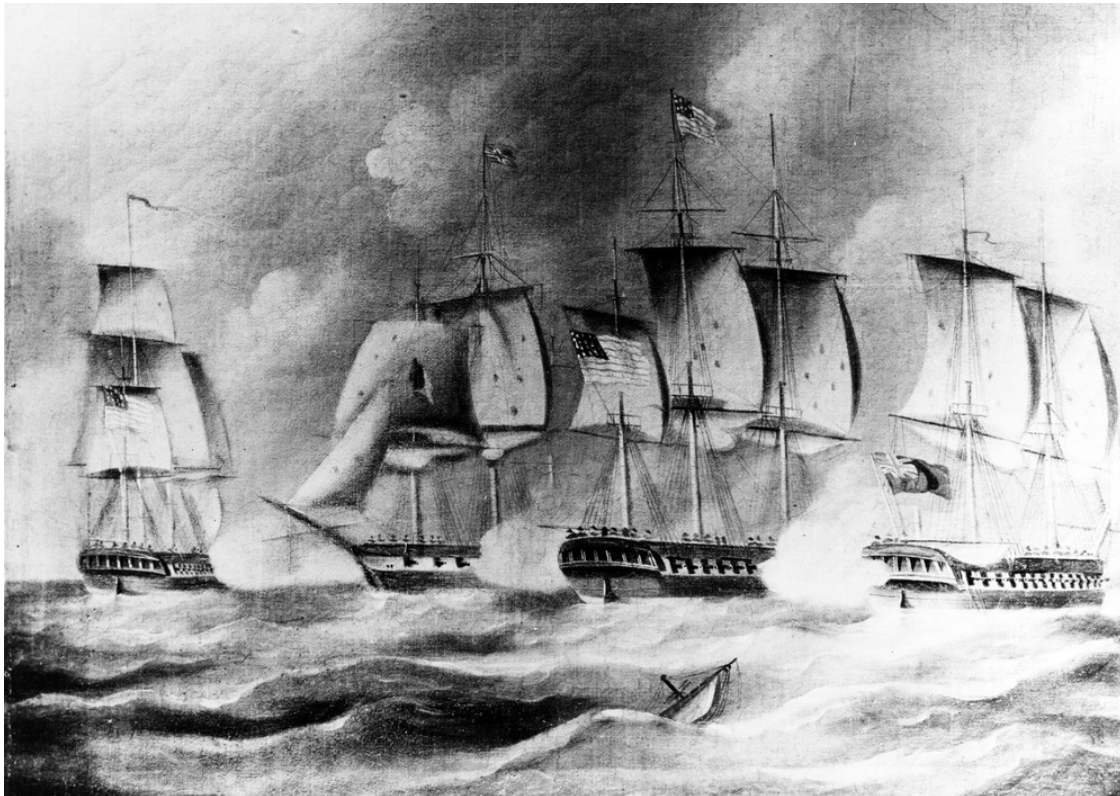
Background to the Battle

What was happening on Aquidneck Island during the British Occupation?

British and Hessians Land on Aquidneck Island - December 1776



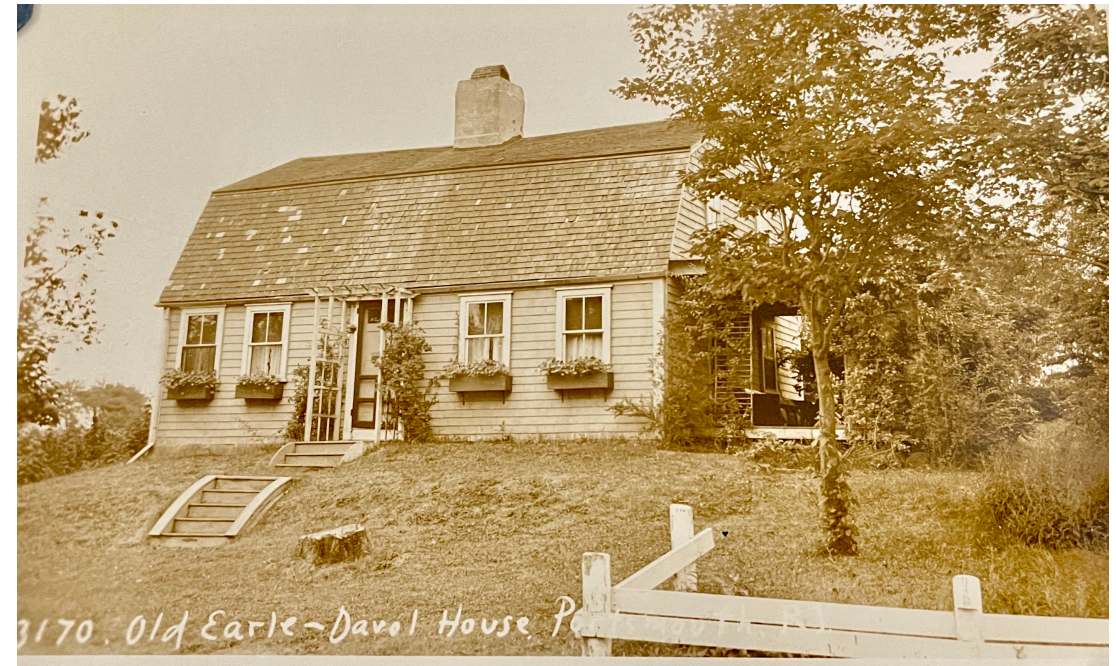
What happened to the Americans?



Blockade of Ships - goods cannot come in.



People couldn't move off Island



British and Hessians took over their houses



Wood needed for heating was chopped down



Throughout the war, British often sailed or rowed up inlets and raided coastal regions, burning and destroying supplies, granaries, and terrorizing patriot communities.

It wasn't just Aquidneck Island that suffered

1778 the French joined the Americans.
They made a plan to rescue Aquidneck
Island. This was called the
Rhode Island Campaign

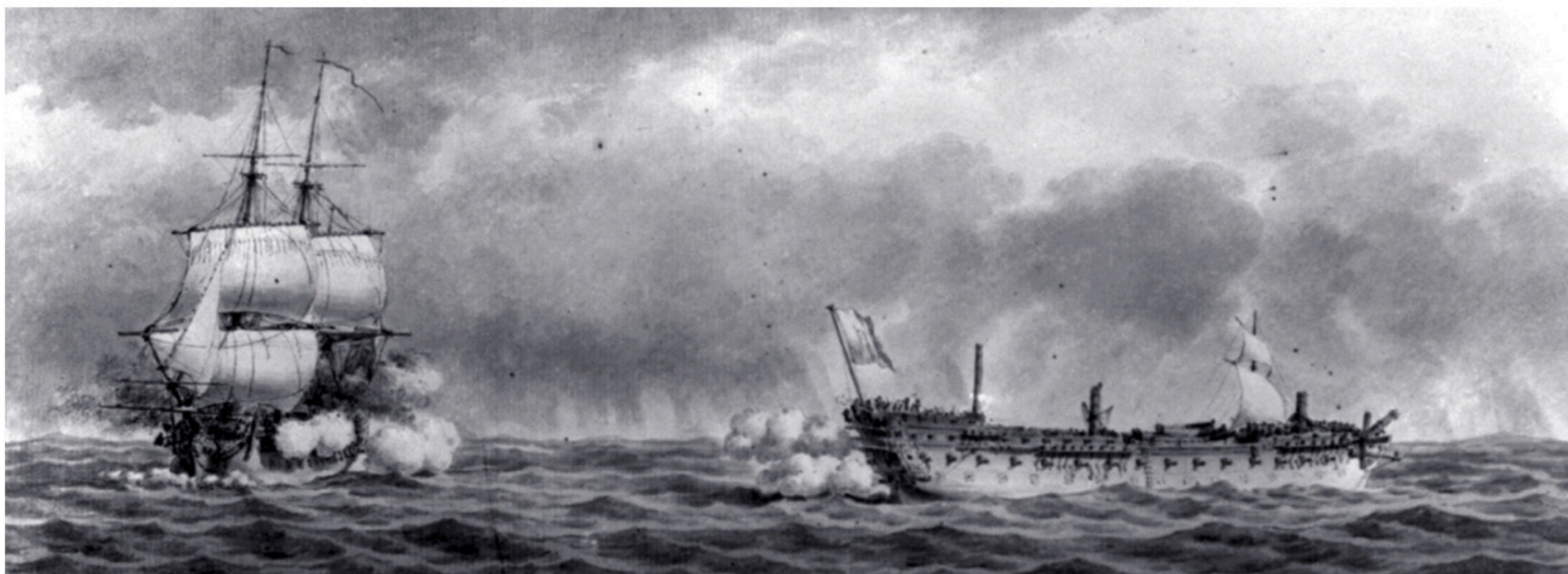


10,000 Americans came over from Tiverton
August 11

French Fleet Comes into Newport

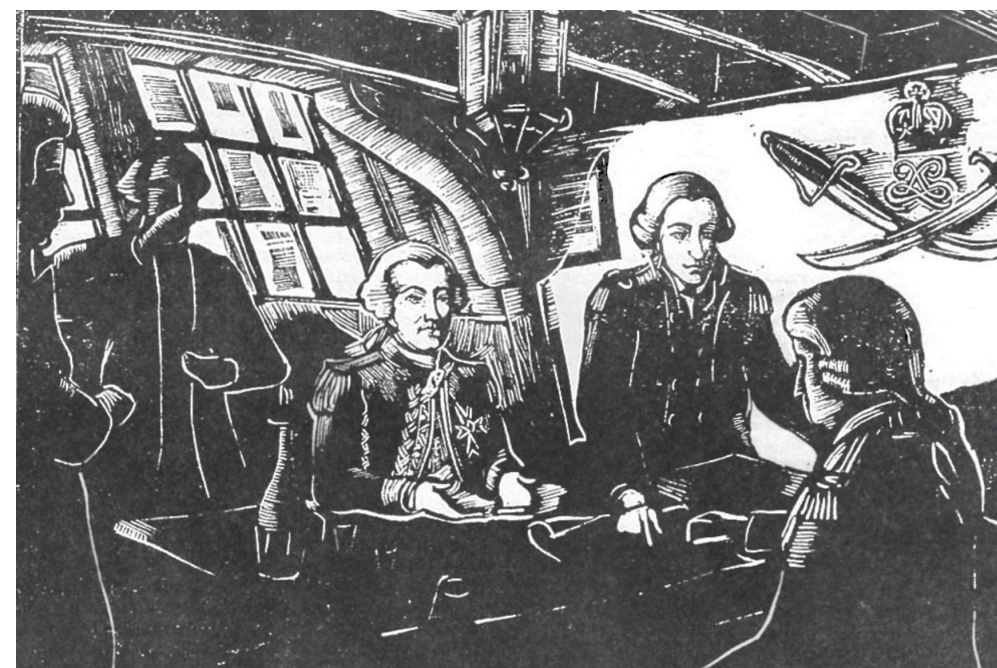
Nor'easter Damages Both Fleets, French Withdraw to Boston for Repairs

**August
12, 1778
Fierce
storm**



British 50-gun ship *Renown* rakes the French flagship *Languedoc* at the Battle of Rhode Island, killing 60 and wounding far more. The Frenchman lost masts and her rudder during the severe gale that damaged both fleets.

**Lafayette and Nathaniel Greene try
to persuade
French Commander D'Estaing to
stay.**

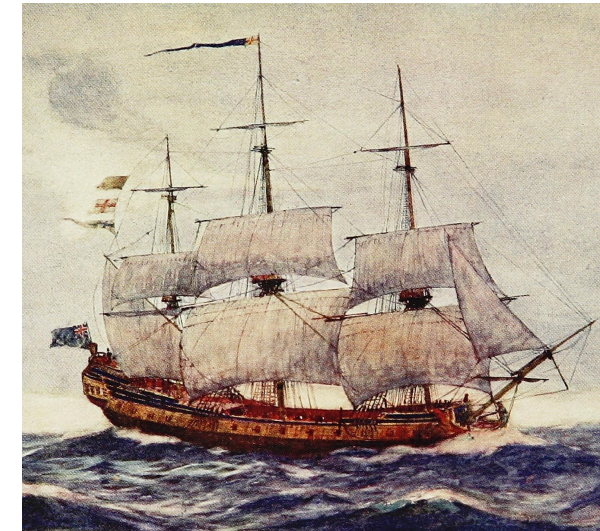


British Prepare for Battle

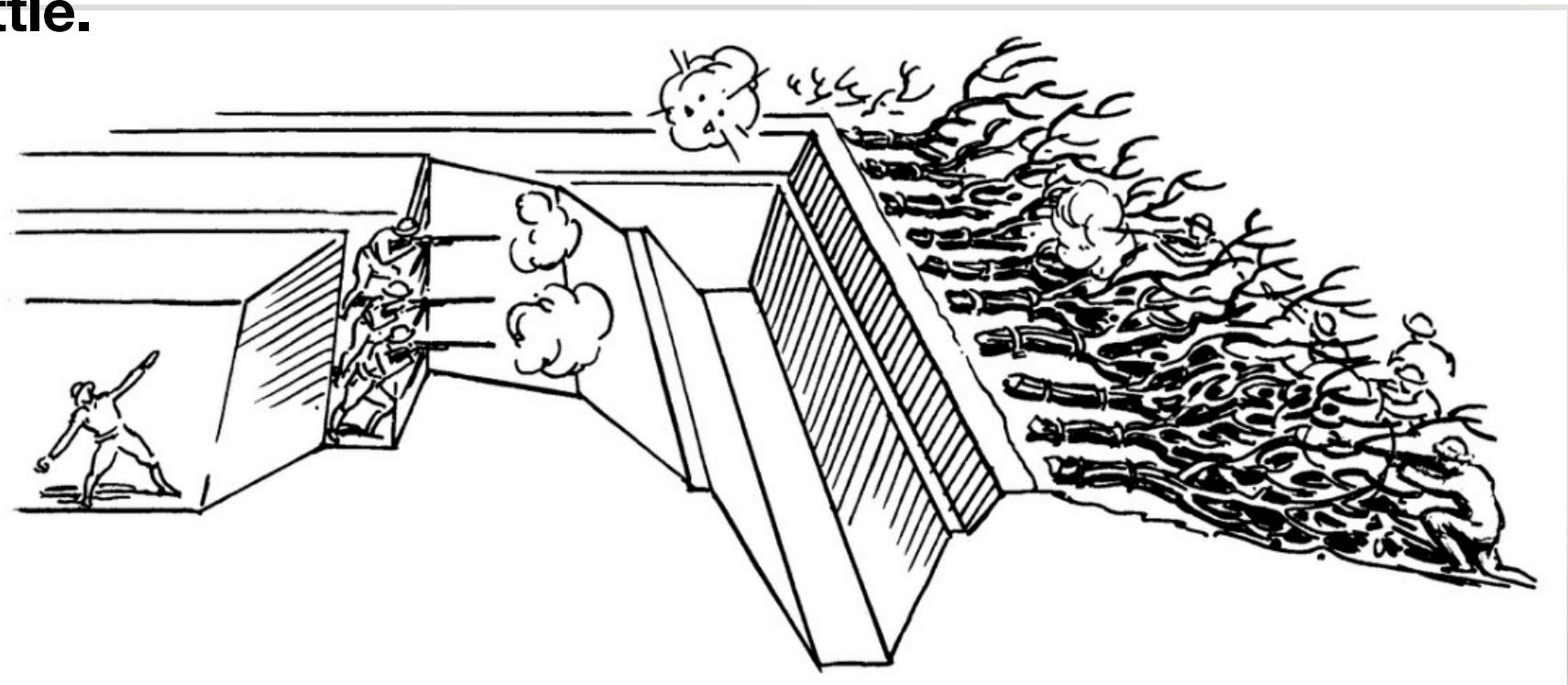
*British ordered ships destroyed rather than be taken by the enemy.
Lark, Cerberus, Orpheus and the Juno

The Lark's 76 barrels of gunpowder exploded and ignited the Wilcox home. Flaming debris landed as far away as three miles."

*British engineer Frederick Mackenzie wrote: "It was a most mortifying sight to us, who were Spectators of this, to see so many fine Frigates destroyed in so short a time, without any loss on the part of the Enemy."

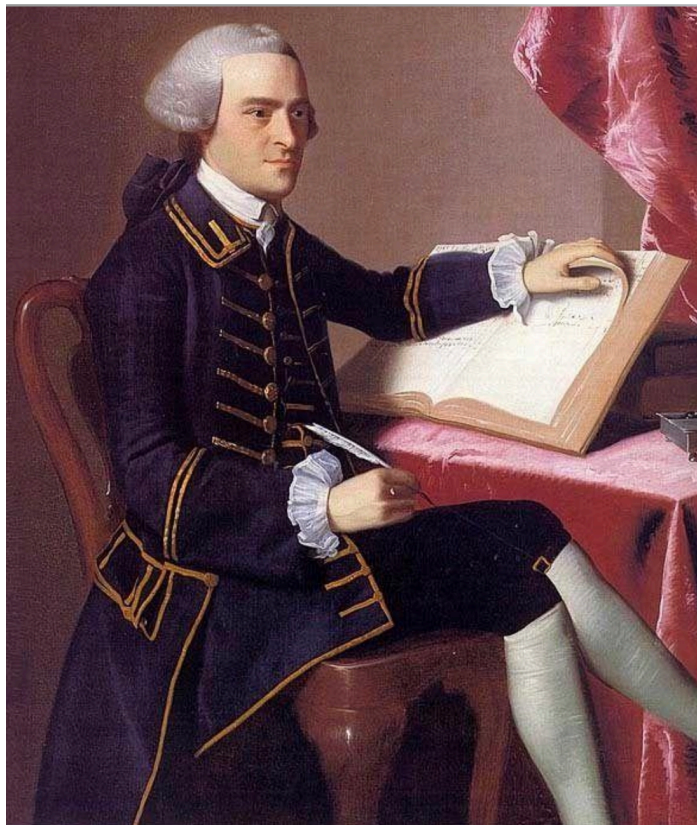


**British cut down orchards,
Burn American houses to
clear sites for battle.**

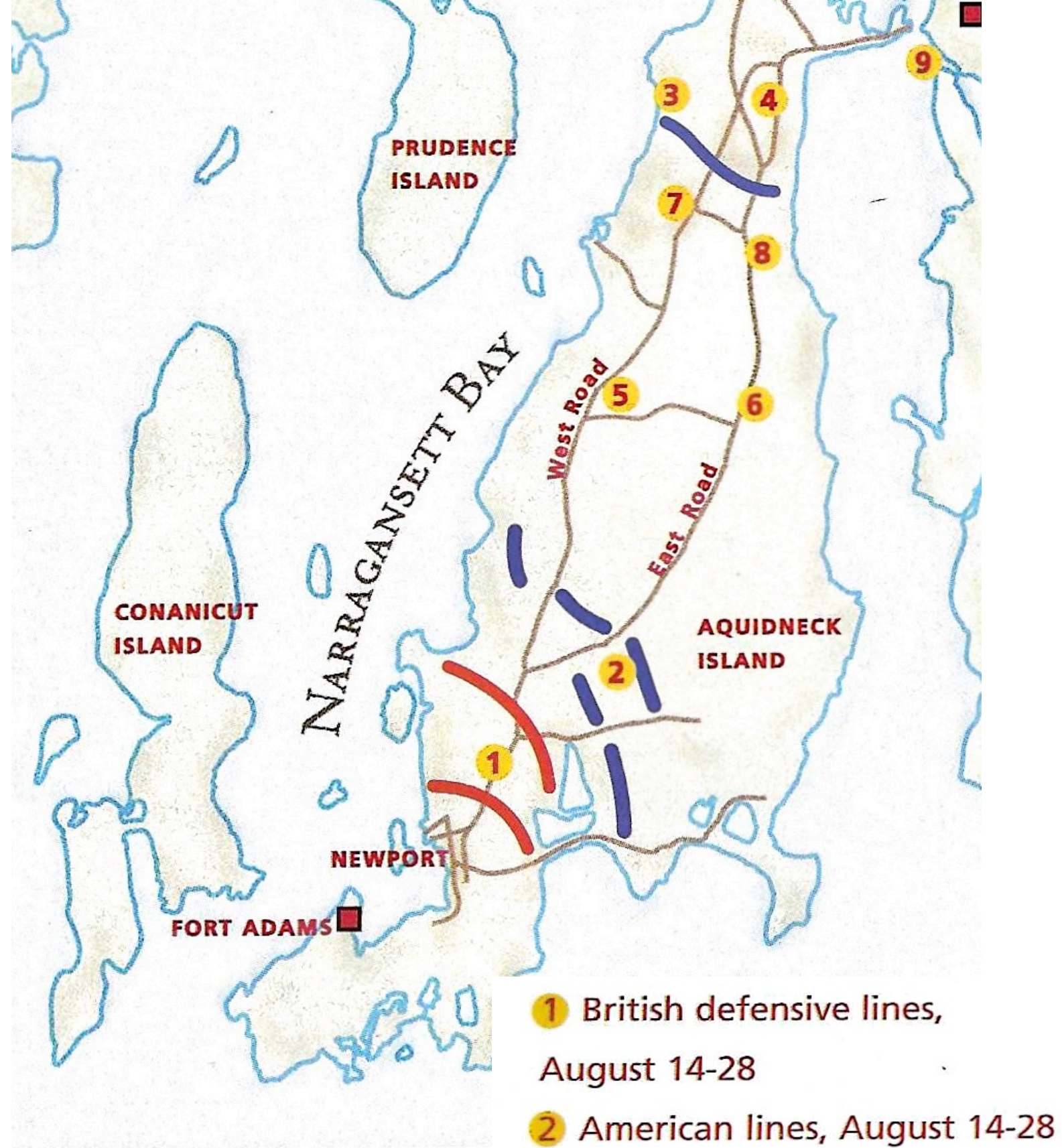




Paul Revere



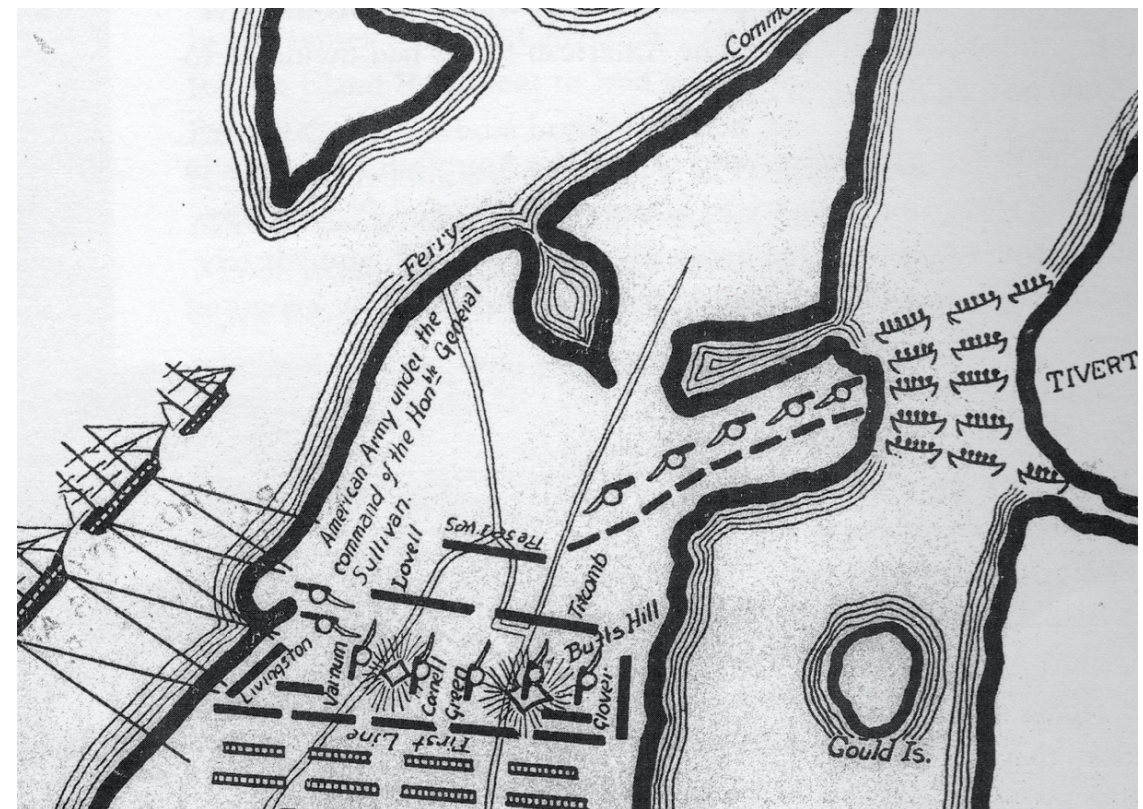
John Hancock



Siege of Newport

Retreat

- August 26: Americans know that the British fleet is coming and that it would be at least three weeks before the French would arrive.
- They begin to send their heavy cannon back to Butts Hill.
- Americans wanted to get all weapons out so it they would not fall into enemy hands.
- Fight again another day.





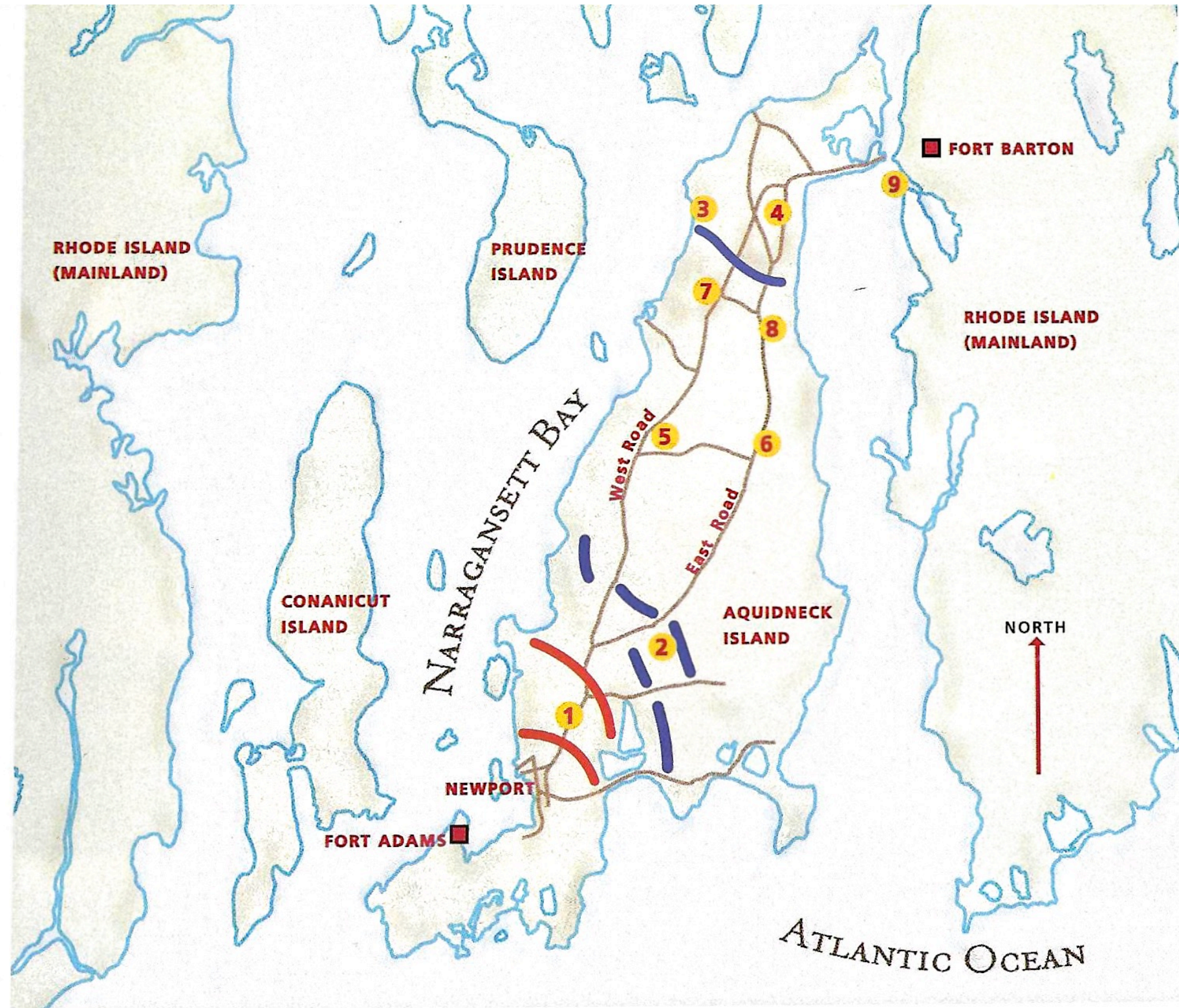
The Battle Begins

August 29, 1778

Before the Battle Begins - August 28, 1778

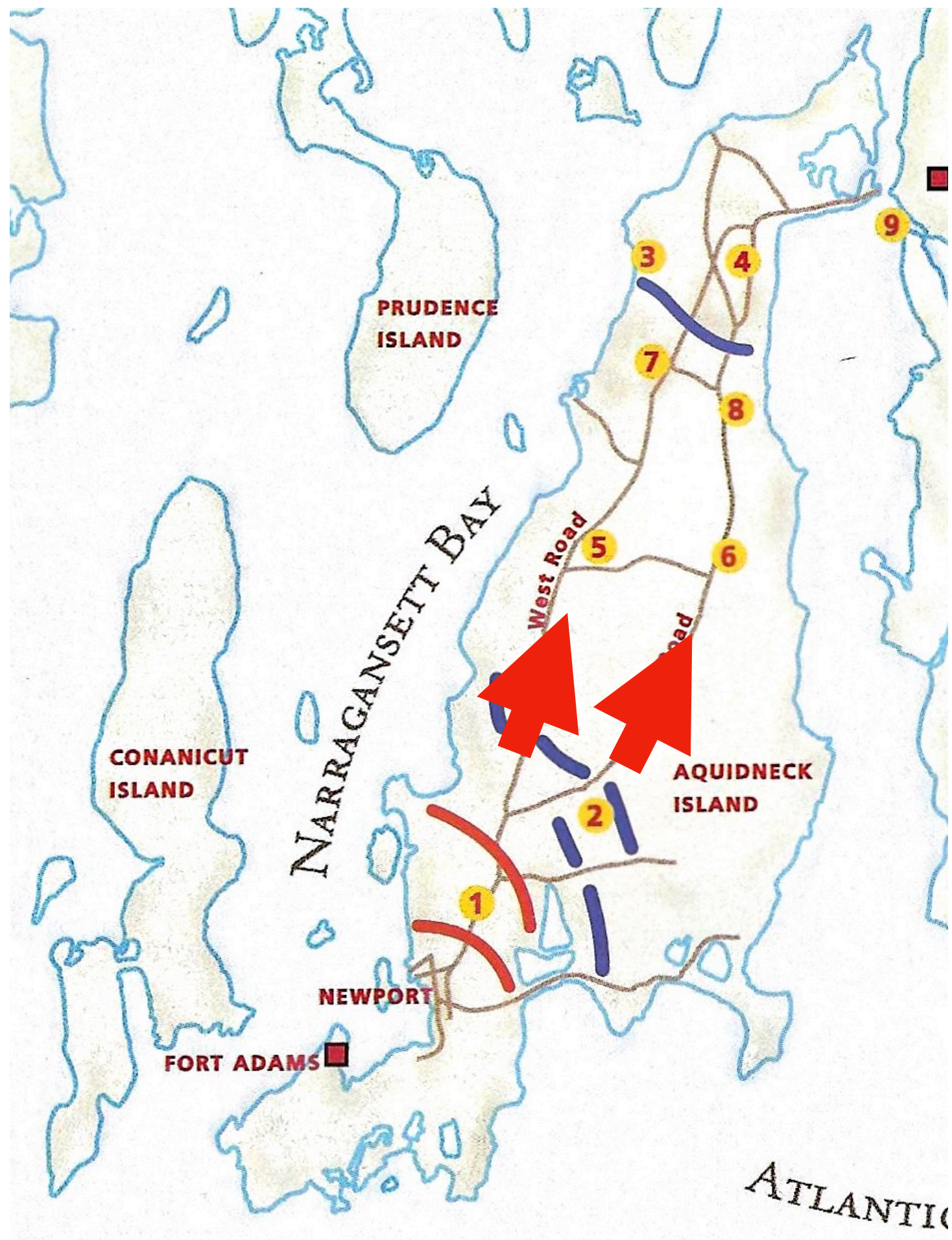
THE BATTLE OF RHODE ISLAND

- 1 British defensive lines, August 14-28
- 2 American lines, August 14-28
- 3 American defensive line, August 29
- 4 American headquarters
- 5 Americans ambush Hessian advance, morning, August 29
- 6 Americans ambush British advance, morning, August 29
- 7 Hessian Hole, furthest Hessian advance, afternoon, August 29
- 8 Furthest British advance, afternoon, August 29
- 9 American retreat by boat, August 30



Americans Prepare





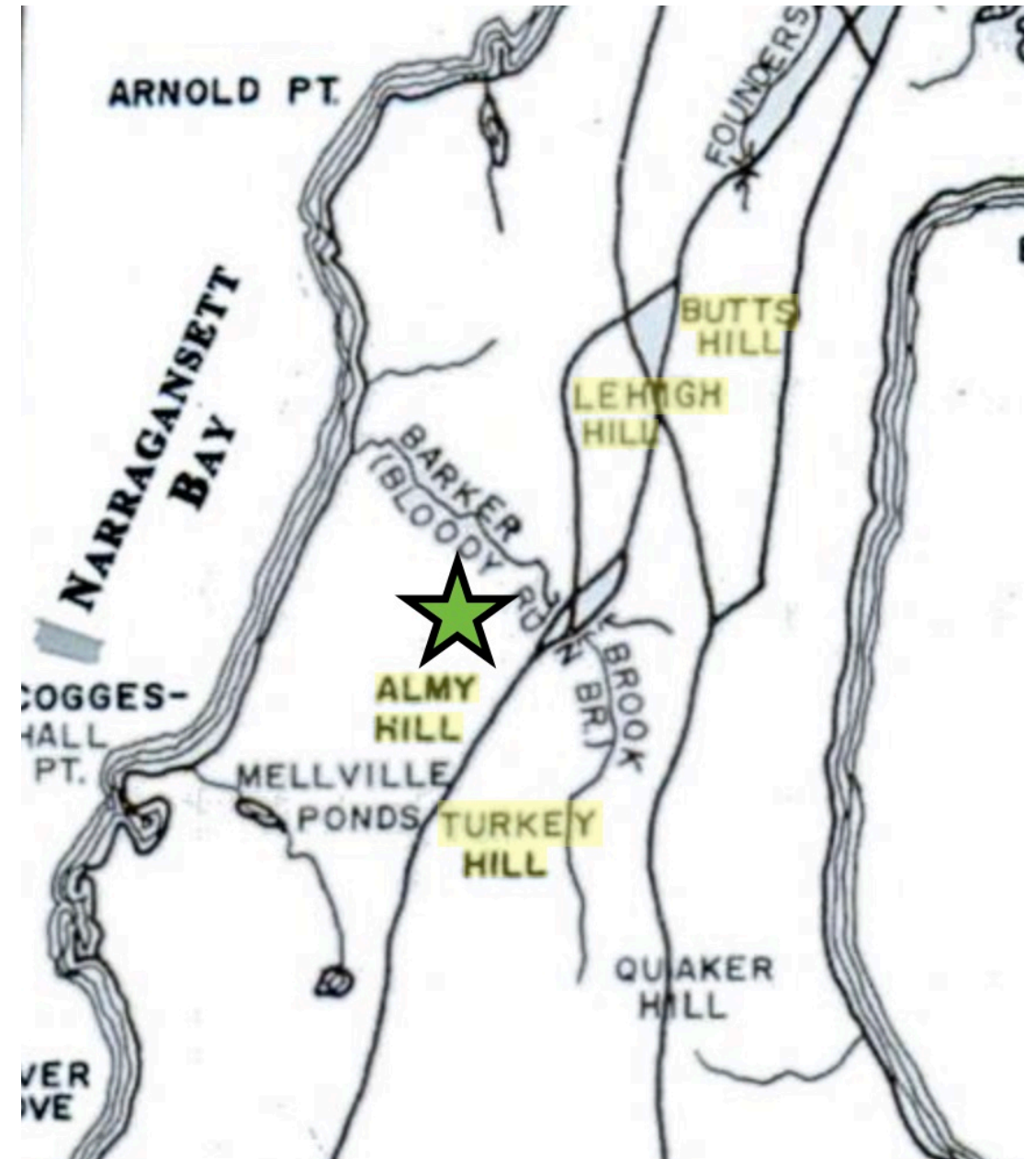


Union and East Main

Middle Road and Union



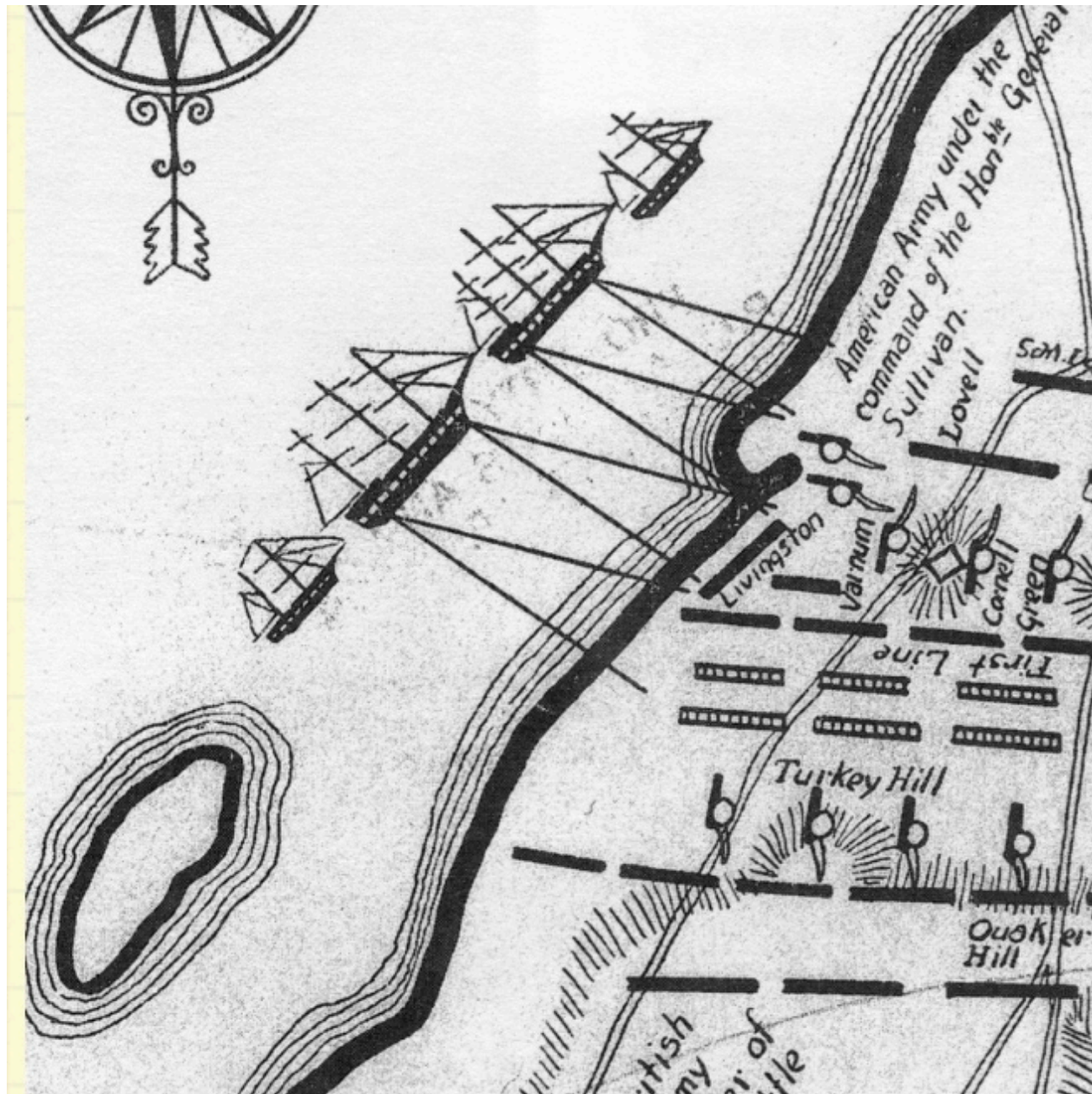
8 AM - Turkey Hill



Black Regiment Defends Redoubt near Lehigh Hill



11:30 -Ships Attack



**Vigilant
Sphynx
Spitfire**

9 AM - 2PM Quaker Hill



**Cannon and Musket Fire for the next
7 hours**



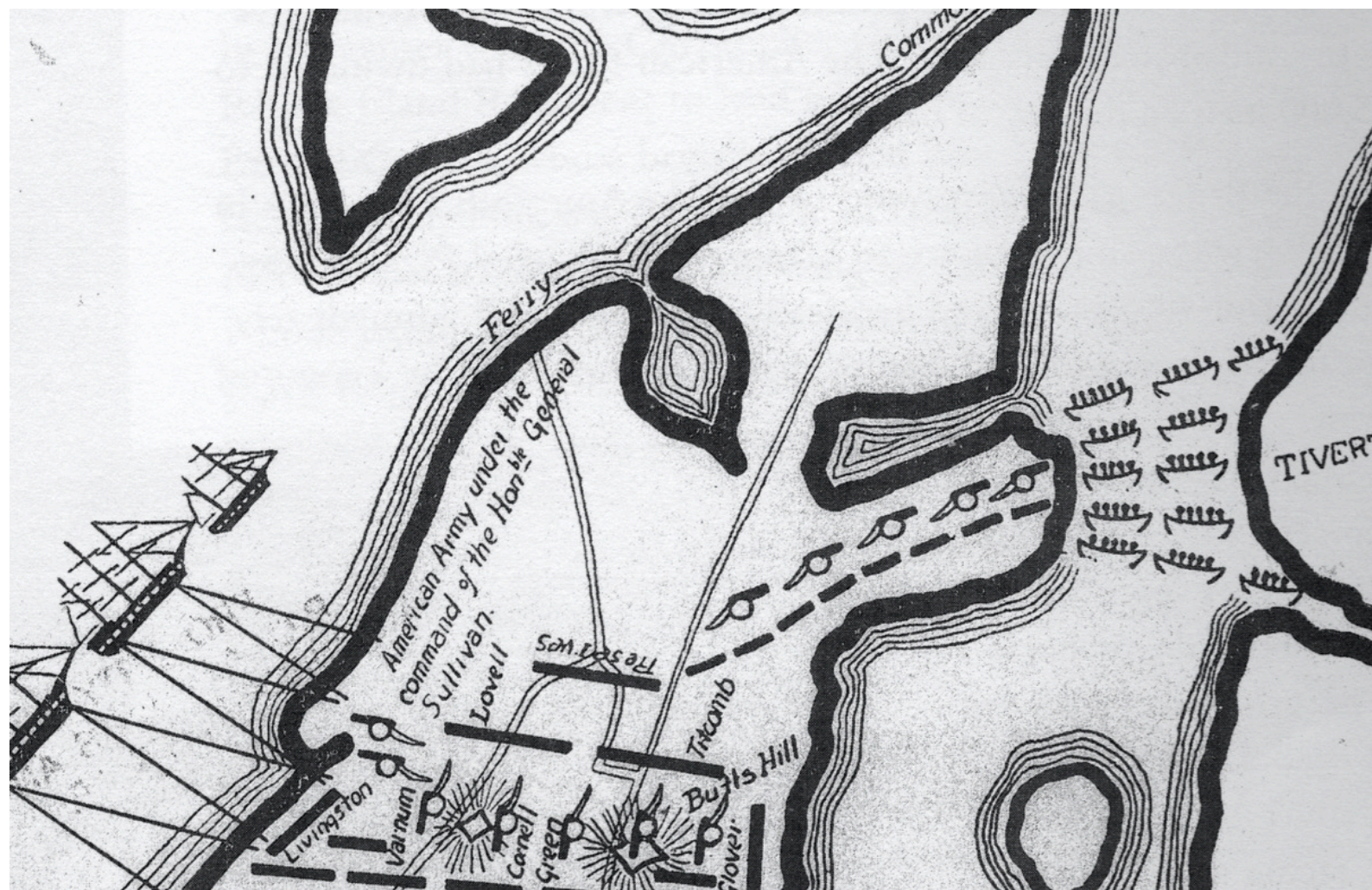
The Battle Is Over

August 30,
1778





Retreat Complete Overnight - August 30



**We fight, we lose, we live to
fight again.**

Nathanael Greene

