

MANAGER'S DESK FOR THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019

WELCOME TO THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA! WHO CAN TELL ME HOW MANY YEARS OLD WE ARE TODAY? IF YOU'RE GETTING A CARD, LOOK FOR A 243RD BIRTHDAY CARD!

HERE'S SOME AMERICAN HISTORY FACTS YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE OF:

On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the [Pennsylvania](#) State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the [Virginia](#) delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the [New York](#) delegation abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2 "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade... Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other."

On July 4th, the Congress formally adopted the [Declaration of Independence](#), which had been written largely by Thomas Jefferson. (Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.) WHICH DIDN'T SIT WELL WITH JOHN ADAMS WHO THOUGHT JULY 2ND WOULD BE REMEMBERED!

Did You Know?

John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. IN A BIT OF IRONY, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826--the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND.

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME FOR THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.