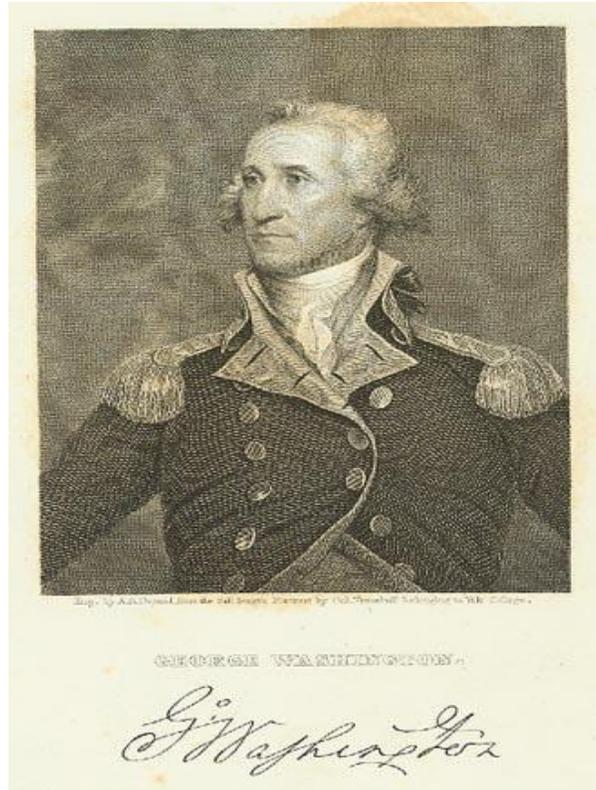


ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY AUGUST 14



George Washington, engraving from portrait by Trumbull (Boyd B. Stutler Collection)

On August 14, 1755, George Washington was appointed colonel of the Virginia Regiment.

CSO: SS.8.20

Investigate the Document: (*The Official Records of Robert Dinwiddie, Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony of Virginia, 1751-1758, Volume II* (Richmond: Virginia Historical Society, 1884), 184; Ma12-4, *Fort Duquesne, 1754*)

1. H. M'y's is an abbreviation for what?
2. Why were troops being "raised" in Virginia?

Think Critically:

1. The Ohio River is formed by the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers in *this* present-day city, where the construction of Fort Duquesne was strategically vital to controlling western Virginia during the French & Indian War.
2. If you were leading the British forces to capture Fort Duquesne, how would you successfully do so? Draw your conclusions based on of the map of Fort Duquesne.

COMMISSION FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE TO COLONEL
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Rob't Dinwiddie, Esq'r, His Majesty's L't G'r, &c., to George Washington, Esq'r:

By Virtue of H. M'y's Royal Com'o. and Instruct's appoint'g me L't G'r and Com'd'r-in-Chief in and over y's his Colony and Dom'n of Virg'a, with full Power and Authority to appoint all Officers, both Civil and Military, within the same, I, repos'g especial Trust in Y'r Loyalty, Courage and good Conduct, do by these Presents appoint You COLONEL of the Virg'a Regim't and Com'd'r-in-Chief of all the Forces now rais'd and to be rais'd for the Defence of y's H. M'y's Colony, and for repell'g the unjust and hostile Invasions of the Fr. and their Ind'n Allies. And You are hereby charg'd with full Power and Authority to act defensively or Offensively, as You shall think for the good and Welfare of the Service. And I DO hereby strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under Y'r Com'd to be obedient to Y'r Orders and diligent in the Exercise of Y'r several Duties. And I do also strongly enjoin and require You to be Careful in execut'g the great Trust and Confidence y't is repos'd in Y'r Managem't by seeing y't strict Discipline and Order is carefully observ'd in the Army, and y't the Soldiers are duly exercis'd and provided with all convenient¹ Necessaries. And You are to regulate Y'r Conduct in every Respect by the Rules and Discipline of War (as herewith given You) and punctually to observe and follow such orders and Direct's from Time to Time as You shall receive from me.

Given under my Hand, &c., Aug'st 14th, 1775. Pay to com-
ence 1st Sep'r.
