

Section 4

The Presidency of John Adams

Troubles with France

- -The French expected America to help them in war with Britain
- -why?
- -_____made France more angry- thought it put US on British side
- -French ignored a US diplomat that arrived in Paris and continued to seize US ships
- The XYZ Affair
- -1797- Adams sends a 3 person team of diplomats to France
- -France agents demand

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- -US diplomats brought the bribe back to America- was made public
 - -French agents names kept secret, listed only as Agent X, Y, and Z- became known as _____

Troubles with France

- War Fever
- -XYZ Affair led many Federalists to _____
- -Adams asked Congress to increase size of military and create a _____
- -1798-1800- US _____ with France
- -many, including Adams, wanted to _____
- -new French dictator was _____
- -Adams sent new crew to deal with Napoleon
- -bc he was busy with European war, he agreed to stop seizing American ships
- -angered many Federalists- split the party

The Alien and Sedition Acts

- -war fever had divided the parties even further
- -Federalist fears of French revolutionaries led them to

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- _____
-felt to restore order they needed to control

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- Alien Act of 1798

- -alien

(_____)

- -act made citizenship require a minimum of _____
_____ of living in US (instead of 5)

- -also gave president the power to _____
_____ any immigrant he felt was
"dangerous"

The Alien and Sedition Act

- Sedition Act of 1798
- -targeted _____
- -sedition
(_____)
- -limited _____ (one of the worst in history)
- -made it a crime to write or say anything insulting or false about President, Congress, or the government in general
- -1798 and 1799- 10 people convicted- mostly Republican printers and editors

States' Rights

- -Republicans hated A&S Acts- said it violated Constitution
 - -at time, Supreme Court right to strike down a law unconstitutional was not clear
 - -Republicans brought up problems in state legislatures
 - -James Madison wrote a resolution denouncing A&S Acts- passed in VA legislature
 - -Thomas Jefferson wrote something similar passed by KY
 - -became known as
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- -said states did not have to obey federal law that was unconstitutional
 - -no other states followed VA and KY
 - -Alien Act was repealed in 1802, Sedition Act at 1801

States' Rights

- -VA and KY Resolution did bring up a BIG issue
 - - _____ aka nullify- the right of a state to declare a federal law unconstitutional
 - -reinforced states rights- the idea that the union of “these United States” was
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- -this would be an issue for the coming 65 years
 - -would be a major defense of slavery