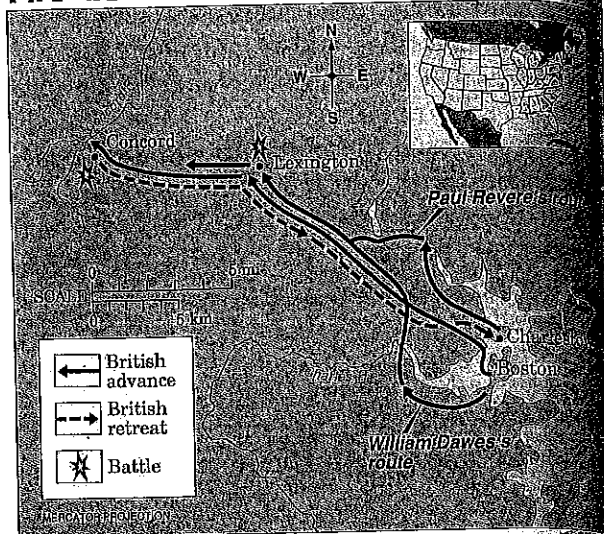


## THE REVOLUTION BEGINS, 1775



### MAP SKILLS

This map shows the first clashes of the American Revolution. What river did William Dawes cross? Why did Revere and Dawes hope to arrive before the British? In what city did the British retreat end? **CRITICAL THINKING** Why, in your opinion, did the colonists decide to fight the British?

### PAUL REVERE'S RIDE

Patrick Henry's prediction of war soon proved true. The British could not stand by while the colonists defied them by gathering guns and ammunition. In April 1775 General Gage discovered that the militia had stored arms in Concord, a town eighteen miles northwest of Boston. Gage hoped to crush the rebellion before it began. On the night of April 18, Gage ordered 700 troops to march on Concord and seize the weapons. He also ordered them to capture two rebel leaders, Samuel Adams and John Hancock, at the nearby town of Lexington. General Gage hoped to arrest Adams and Hancock and send them to stand trial in Britain.

Despite the care Gage had taken to keep the raid secret, Dr. Joseph Warren, head of the Sons of Liberty, observed that British soldiers were on the move. Warren warned the Patriots in Concord to get their supplies out of town and hide them. Then, as the red coats silently made their way to the edge

Boston harbor, Warren called two trusted messengers. They were Paul Revere and William Dawes.

Revere and Dawes rode to Lexington by different routes, waking up Minutemen along the way. Revere alerted Hancock and Adams, who made their escape. In Lexington, Revere and Dawes met Dr. Samuel Prescott of Concord. The three were making their way to Concord when they were surprised by a British cavalry patrol. They quickly split up. Prescott jumped his horse over a stone fence and galloped away to wake the Minutemen at Concord. Dawes fled into the woods on foot. Revere, however, was captured and his horse taken by the British. Finally, the soldiers al-

lowed him to go. Revere's famous midnight ride ended on foot along a moonlit country lane.

# Summarizing a Historical Event

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Who

When

Where

PAUL REVERE'S  
RIDE  
Event

How

Why

Significance