

Essential Question

What were the challenges to the nation's stability during the late 1700s and early 1800s?

Reading Guide**Content Vocabulary**

tribute (p. 287)

embargo (p. 290)

neutral rights (p. 289) nationalism (p. 293)

impressment (p. 289)

Academic Vocabulary

react (p. 289)

restriction (p. 291)

Key People and Events

Embargo Act (p. 290)

Nonintercourse Act (p. 290)

Tecumseh (p. 291)

Battle of Tippecanoe (p. 293)

Henry Clay (p. 293)

John Calhoun (p. 293)

Reading Strategy

Taking Notes As you read, create a chart like the one below, and describe the actions the United States took in each of the situations.

	Action Taken
Demand for Tribute	
Attacks on the Chesapeake	
Tecumseh's Confederation	

American Diary

"We are now about to embark upon an expedition, which may terminate in our sudden deaths, our perpetual [eternal] slavery, or our immortal glory. The event is left for futurity [the future] to determine. The first quality of a good seaman, is, personal courage,—the second, obedience to orders,—the third, fortitude [strength] under sufferings; to these may be added, an ardent [passionate] love of country. I am confident you possess them all."

—Lt. Stephen Decatur to the crew of the USS Essex

Stephen Decatur and U.S. sailors attack a gunboat in Tripoli's harbor.

Americans on Foreign Seas

Main Idea Pirates made travel by sea dangerous and brought the United States into conflict with Tripoli.

History and You Think about the dangers at sea that sailors face. Read to learn about the challenges of those Americans who traded on the open seas in the early 1800s.

Sea travel was dangerous in the early 1800s. Sailors fought deadly storms and were threatened by pirates. Many Americans, however, depended on trade with foreign nations and were forced to rely on traveling by ship.

In 1785 the *Empress of China* returned to New York from China with a highly prized cargo of tea and silk. The goods sold for a fabulous profit. Soon, ships from New York, Philadelphia, and New England sailed regularly to China and India, transporting furs and other goods. American merchant ships began sailing to South America, Africa, and lands along the Mediterranean Sea.

War between France and Britain in the mid-1790s gave an additional boost to American shipping. To avoid being captured or destroyed by the enemy, many French and

British merchant ships remained at home. American shippers profited from the situation and increased their trade. By 1800, the United States had almost 1,000 merchant ships trading around the world.

Barbary Pirates

Sailing on foreign seas could be dangerous because of piracy. For example, pirates from the Barbary Coast states of North Africa—Morocco, Algiers, Tripoli, and Tunis—terrorized European ships that were sailing on the Mediterranean Sea. Pirates demanded **tribute**, or protection money, from their country's governments to let their ships pass safely. European countries routinely paid tribute so that their ships would be undisturbed. They believed that it was less expensive to pay the Barbary Coast pirates than it was to go to war with them.

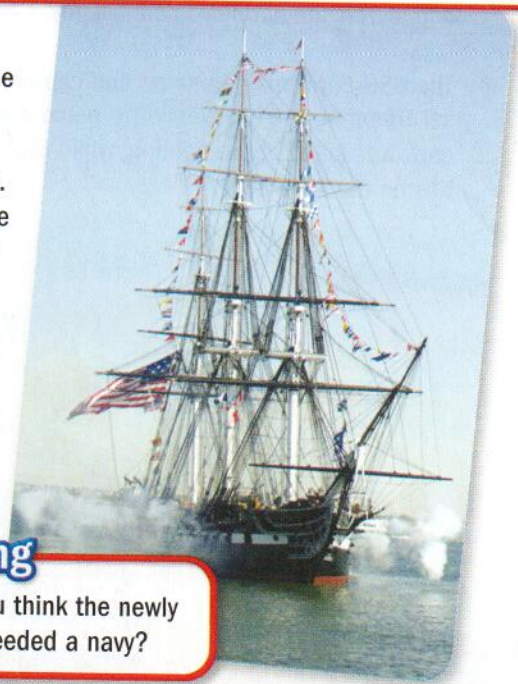
War With Tripoli

The United States, too, had to pay tribute to the Barbary Coast states. The ruler of Tripoli, however, did not think it was enough. In 1801 he asked the United States for more money. When President Jefferson refused, Tripoli declared war on the United States.

Primary Source **USS Constitution**

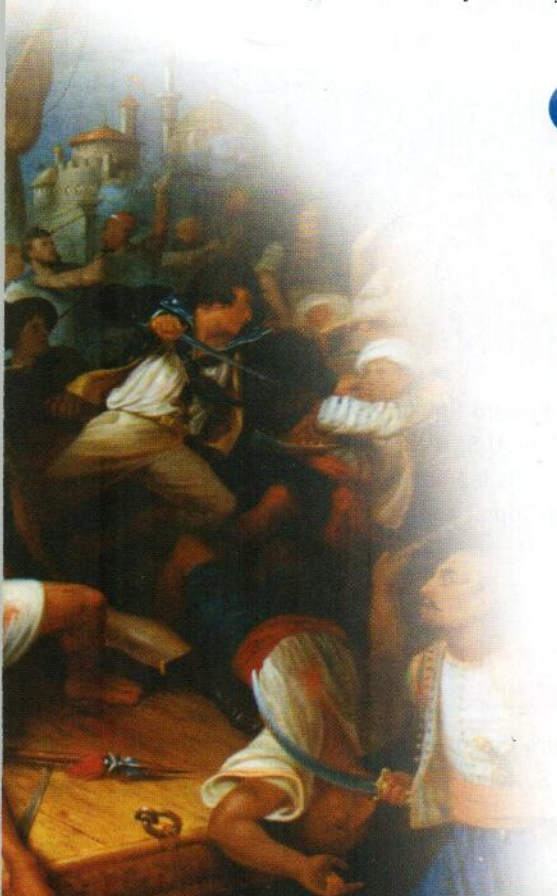
Still Serving In 1794 President George Washington authorized the construction of six warships, including the *Constitution*, to protect American merchant ships. Today, the *USS Constitution* is the oldest active ship serving in the United States Navy.

The *USS Constitution* in Boston Harbor ▶



Critical Thinking

Speculating Why do you think the newly created United States needed a navy?



Jefferson sent ships to blockade Tripoli. The Americans, though, could not defeat the pirates, and the conflict continued.

Pirates seized the United States warship *Philadelphia* in 1804. They towed the ship into Tripoli Harbor and threw the crew into jail. Stephen Decatur, a 25-year-old U.S. Navy captain, took action. He slipped into the heavily guarded harbor with a small raiding party. Decatur burned the captured ship to prevent the pirates from using it. A British admiral praised the deed as the “most bold and daring act of the age.”

The war ended in June 1805. Tripoli agreed to stop demanding tribute, but the United States had to pay \$60,000 for the prisoners to be released. It would not be until 1815, however, that American tribute payments ended completely.

Reading Check **Explaining** Why did Tripoli declare war on the United States?

Freedom of the Seas

Main Idea A war between Great Britain and France threatened the security of the United States, as well as American shipping and trade.

History and You What problems might develop when a country refuses to trade with other countries? What do you think happens to that country's industries and its standard of living? Read to find out what happened when Thomas Jefferson tried to stop trade to avoid getting drawn into a war.

Thomas Jefferson was reelected in 1804, and his second term began with the nation at peace. Across the Atlantic Ocean, however, Great Britain and France were fighting a war that threatened to interfere with American trade. The United States ended the war with Tripoli in 1805. Now the United States was caught in the middle of a war between Great Britain and France.

Primary Source The Barbary Wars

An Ongoing War The first Barbary War took place from 1801 to 1805. In 1805 Tripoli agreed to stop demanding tribute from the United States. Pirate raids, however, continued on American ships. After the War of 1812, Stephen Decatur and the United States Navy used military force to stop the raids and end tribute payments permanently.

The USS *Enterprise* defeated and captured the pirate vessel *Tripoli* in 1801. Seventy-five percent of the *Tripoli*'s crew was killed in the fighting, while there were no casualties on the *Enterprise*.

Stephen Decatur and his crew attack one of Tripoli's gunboats. Decatur became a national hero as a result of his actions in the Barbary Wars.

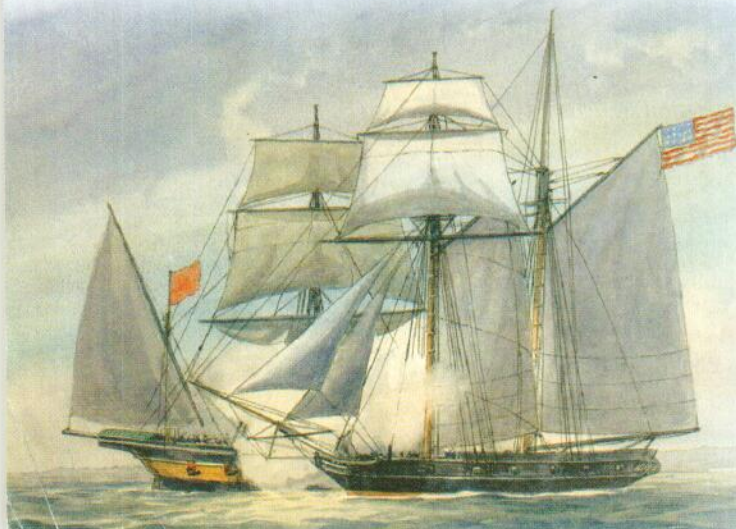


Commodore Edward Preble took command of the U.S. Mediterranean fleet in 1803. His leadership helped defeat Tripoli and end the war.



Critical Thinking

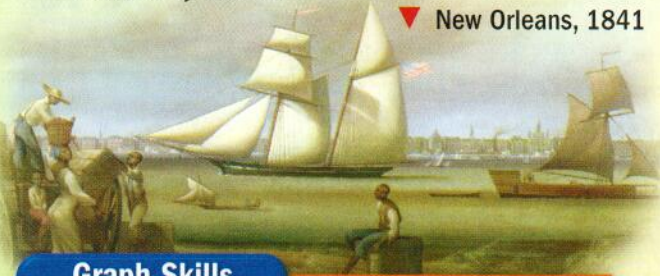
Predicting How do you think European countries viewed the U.S. actions after the wars?



Economics & History

A nation's balance of trade is the difference between the value of a nation's exports and its imports. A nation has a trade surplus when it exports more than it imports. For example, if the United States exported \$100 in cotton and imported \$50 in tea, it would be experiencing a trade surplus, or positive balance of trade.

▼ New Orleans, 1841

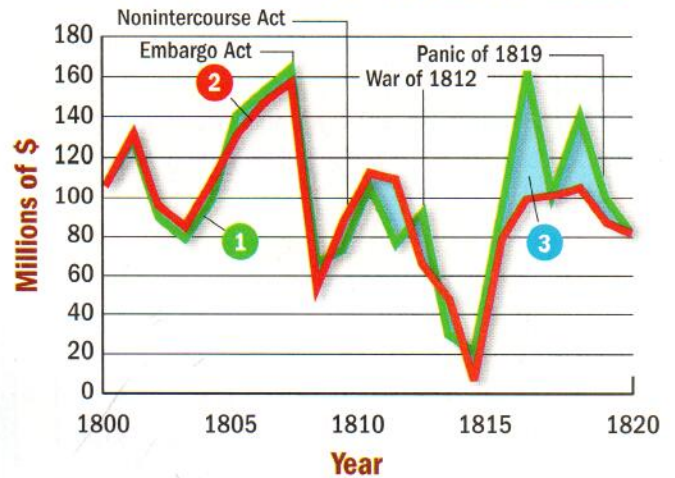


Graph Skills

Applying In 1810 did the United States have a positive or negative balance of trade? Explain.

Graphs in Motion See StudentWorks™ Plus or glencoe.com.

Imports and Exports, 1800–1820



1 Exports: goods sold
2 Imports: goods purchased
3 Balance of trade: difference between the value of a nation's exports and its imports

Source: Historical Statistics of the United States

Neutral Rights Violated

When Britain and France went to war in 1803, America had a prosperous trade with both countries. As long as the United States remained neutral, shippers could continue doing business. A nation not involved in a conflict had **neutral rights**. That is, it had the right to sail the seas and not take sides.

For two years, American shipping prospered. By 1805, however, Britain and France lost patience with American "neutrality." Britain blockaded the French coast and threatened to search all ships trading with France. France later announced that it would search and seize ships caught trading with Britain.

American Sailors Kidnapped

The British were in desperate need of sailors for their naval war. Many of their own sailors had deserted due to the terrible living conditions in the British Royal Navy. British naval ships began stopping American ships to search for suspected British deserters. The

British then forced these deserters to return to the British navy. This practice of forcing people to serve in the navy was **impressment**. While some of those taken were deserters from the British navy, the British also impressed thousands of native-born and naturalized American citizens.

Attack on the Chesapeake

Often the British waited for American ships outside an American harbor where they boarded and searched them. This occurred in June 1807 off the coast of Virginia. The *Leopard*, a British warship, stopped the American vessel *Chesapeake*. The *Leopard's* captain demanded to search the American ship for British deserters, but the *Chesapeake's* captain refused. The British opened fire, crippling the *Chesapeake* and killing three crew members.

News of the attack spread. Americans **reacted** with an anti-British fury not seen since the Revolutionary War. Secretary of State James Madison responded to the news.

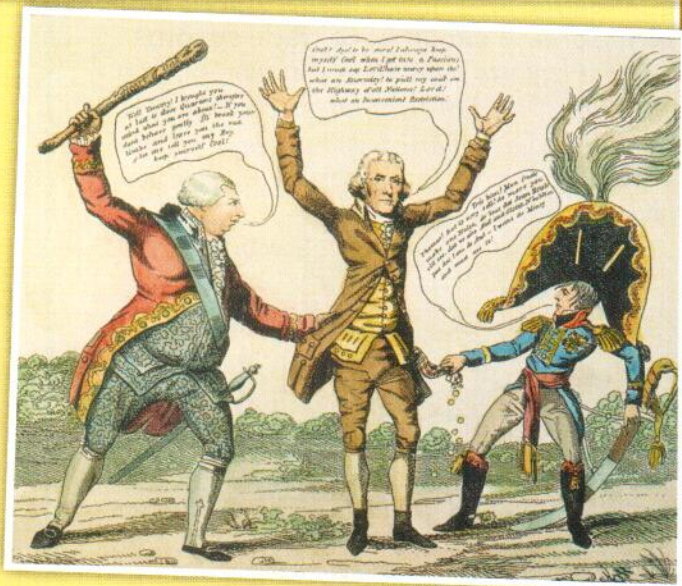
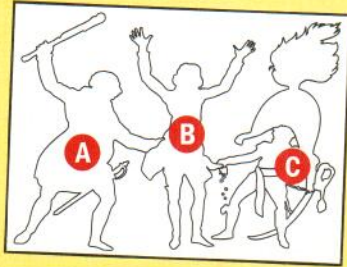
INTERPRETING POLITICAL CARTOONS

Jefferson's embargo policy had a disastrous effect on American trade, and it did not stop the British and French from seizing American ships.

1. Interpreting What are King George and Napoleon Bonaparte doing?

2. Drawing Conclusions Do you think this cartoon supports Jefferson's embargo policy? Why or why not?

- A. King George of England
- B. Thomas Jefferson
- C. Napoleon Bonaparte of France



He called the attack an outrage. Many Americans demanded war against Britain. President Jefferson, though, sought a course of action other than war.

A Disastrous Trade Ban

Because Britain violated America's neutral rights, Jefferson banned some trade with Britain. The attack on the *Chesapeake* triggered even stronger measures.

In December 1807, Congress passed the **Embargo Act**. An **embargo** prohibits trade with another country. In addition to Britain, the act banned imports from and exports to *all* foreign countries. Jefferson wanted to prevent Americans from using other countries to trade with France and Britain indirectly. Jefferson and Madison wanted to avoid war, but they also wanted to hurt Britain by banning the trade of agricultural products.

The embargo of 1807 was a disaster. It wiped out all American commerce with other nations and was ineffective against Britain. The British simply turned to Latin America for agricultural goods. Congress then enacted

the weaker **Nonintercourse Act**. This act prohibited trade only with Britain and France and their colonies, but it too was unpopular and unsuccessful.

Jefferson Leaves Office

Jefferson followed Washington's precedent by making it clear that he would not be a candidate for a third term. The Republicans chose James Madison as their candidate for president. The Federalists nominated Charles Pinckney and hoped that anger over the embargo would help them win. Pinckney carried most of New England, but the Federalist ticket gained little support from the other regions. Madison won the presidency with 122 electoral votes to Pinckney's 47 votes.

Reading Check **Summarizing** Why was the Embargo Act ineffective?

History ONLINE

Student Web Activity Visit glencoe.com and complete the Web Activity about American trade issues in the early 1800s.

War Fever

Main Idea Trade issues with Britain and France and tensions between Native Americans and settlers challenged James Madison.

History and You Why do you think tension between different groups occurs? Read about the conflicts among the various groups during the early 1800s.

James Madison took office as president under unfavorable conditions. At home and abroad, the nation was involved in the embargo crisis. Meanwhile, Britain continued to halt American ships. Cries for war with Britain grew louder.

Closer to War

In 1810 Congress passed a law permitting direct trade with either France or Britain, depending on which country first lifted its trade **restrictions**, or limits, against America. Napoleon seized the opportunity and promised to end France's trade restrictions.

The French, however, continued to seize American ships, selling them and pocketing the proceeds. Americans were deeply divided. The nation was on the verge of war, but it was hard to decide whether the enemy was Britain or France. Madison believed that Britain was the bigger threat to the United States.

Frontier Conflicts

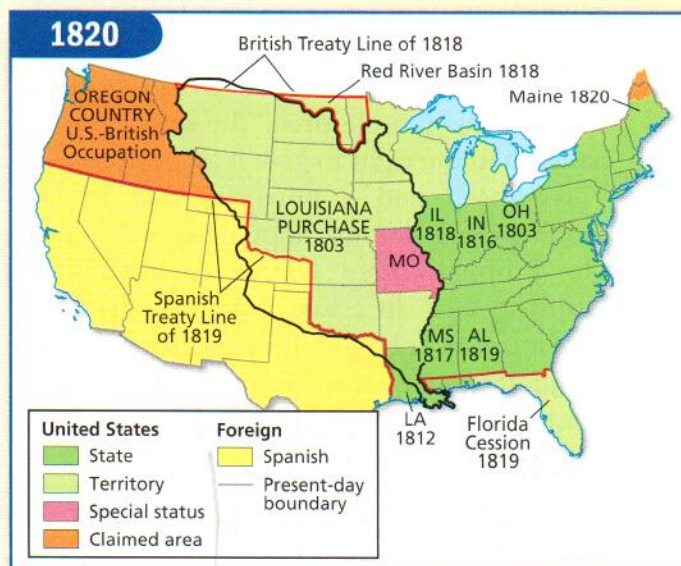
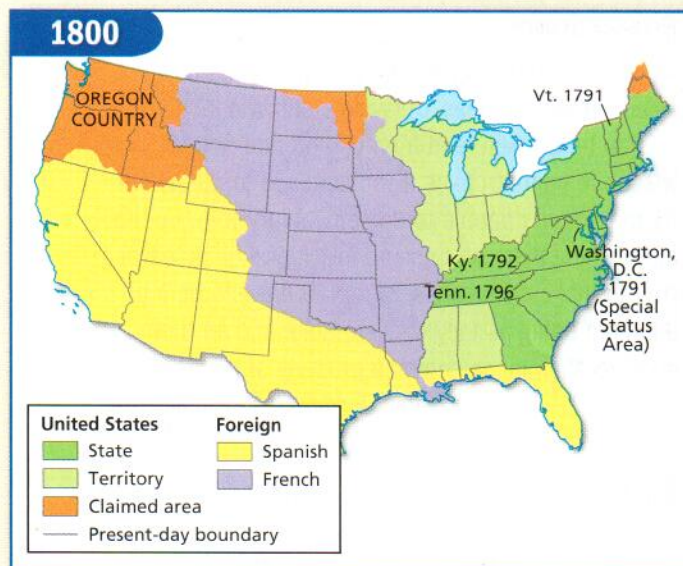
Madison also received news about problems in the West. Ohio became a state in 1803. White settlers wanted more land in the Ohio Valley. Native Americans already gave up many millions of acres. However, the settlers continued to move onto lands that were guaranteed to Native Americans by the treaty.

Tensions increased as some Native Americans renewed their contacts with British agents and fur traders in Canada.

Other Native Americans pursued a new strategy. **Tecumseh** (tuh•KUHM•suh), a powerful Shawnee chief, built a confederacy among Native American nations in the Northwest.

Territorial Expansion, 1800–1820

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



Map Skills

Place Describe the changes in French territory between 1800 and 1820.

Primary Source Tecumseh

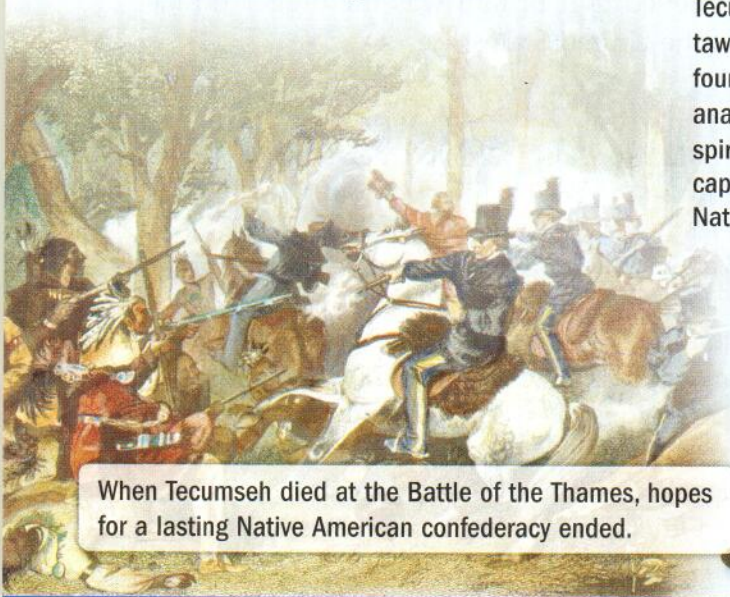
Tecumseh organized a confederation of 14 Native American nations to oppose white settlement on lands in the Northwest. He recognized that individual Native American groups had little power to negotiate with the United States government.

"The only way to stop this evil [white settlement of Indians' land], is for all the red men to unite in claiming a common and equal right in the land as it was at first, and should be now—for it never was divided, but belongs to all. . . . Sell a country! Why not sell the air, the clouds, and the great sea, as well as the earth?"

—Tecumseh in a letter to President Harrison, 1810

Tecumseh's brother Tenskwatawa, known as the Prophet, founded Prophetstown in Indiana. This village served as the spiritual, social, and political capital of the confederation of Native American nations.

▼ The Prophet



When Tecumseh died at the Battle of the Thames, hopes for a lasting Native American confederacy ended.

Tecumseh's pipe tomahawk ▶



Critical Thinking

Making Inferences Why do you think American leaders feared Tecumseh?

Tecumseh believed that a strong alliance—with the backing of the British in Canada—could halt white movement into Native American lands. A commanding speaker, Tecumseh had great political skills. He believed the U.S. government's treaties with separate Native American nations were worthless. "The Great Spirit gave this great island to his red children," he said. No one nation had the right to give it away.

Tecumseh had a powerful ally in his brother, Tenskwatawa, known as the Prophet. The Prophet urged Native Americans to return to their ancestors' customs. His message attracted a large following. The Prophet founded Prophetstown in northern Indiana, located near where the Tippecanoe and Wabash Rivers meet.

A Meeting With Harrison

William Henry Harrison, governor of the Indiana Territory, became alarmed by the growing power of the two Shawnee brothers.

He feared they would form an alliance with the British. Harrison warned Tecumseh in a letter that the United States had more warriors than all the Indian nations combined. Tecumseh replied to Harrison in person.

PRIMARY SOURCE

"Brother . . . Since the peace was made, you have killed some Shawnees, Delawares and Winnebagoes. . . . You have taken land from us and I do not see how we can remain at peace if you continue to do so. You try to force red people to do some injury. It is you that are pushing them on to some mischief. You endeavor [try] to make distinctions. You try to prevent the Indians from doing as they wish—to unite and let them consider their lands common property of the whole."

—from *Tecumseh, an Indian Moses*

The Battle of Tippecanoe

When Tecumseh went south to expand the confederacy, Harrison attacked Prophetstown on the Tippecanoe River. After more than two hours, the Prophet's forces fled in defeat.

The **Battle of Tippecanoe** was declared a glorious victory for the Americans. Harrison's victory, however, resulted in something the American people hoped to prevent. Tecumseh joined forces with the British, whom, settlers believed, had supplied his confederacy with guns.

War Hawks

In the meantime, President Madison faced demands for a more aggressive policy toward Britain. The most pressure came from a group of young Republicans known as the War Hawks. They wanted war with Britain. The leading War Hawks were Kentucky's **Henry Clay** and South Carolina's **John Calhoun**.

The War Hawks were mainly from the West and South. They supported increases in military spending and were driven by hunger for land. War Hawks from the West wanted the fertile forests of southern Canada, whereas Southerners desired Spanish Florida. The War Hawks also wanted to expand the nation's power. Their **nationalism**—or loyalty to their country—appealed to a renewed American patriotism.

Not everyone, however, wanted war. The Federalists in the Northeast remained strongly opposed to it.

Declaring War

By the spring of 1812, Madison knew that war with Britain was inevitable. In a message to Congress on June 1, he cited:

PRIMARY SOURCE

"Such is the spectacle of injuries and indignities which have been heaped on our country."

—from Madison's "War Message"

Madison asked for a declaration of war.

Meanwhile, the British had decided to end their policy of search and seizure of American ships. Unfortunately, it took much time for this news to travel across the Atlantic, and leaders in Washington, D.C., did not know about Britain's change in policy. Word of the policy change arrived too late. Once set in motion, the war machine could not be stopped.



Reading Check

Summarizing

What factors led to the war with Britain?

Section 3 Review

History ONLINE
Study Central™ To review this section, go to glencoe.com.

Vocabulary

1. Define each of the following terms in a sentence: **tribute**, **neutral rights**, **impressment**, **react**, **embargo**, **restriction**, **nationalism**.

Main Ideas

2. **Discussing** How widespread was American trade by 1800? Include information about the types of goods that were traded.
3. **Explaining** Explain why U.S. security was threatened as a result of the war between Britain and France.
4. **Summarizing** How did conflict on the American frontier increase tensions between the United States and Britain?
5. **Drawing Conclusions** Use a diagram like the one below to identify how people from each region felt about going to war with Britain.
6. **Expository Writing** Take the role of William Henry Harrison. Write a letter to the president explaining why you plan to attack Prophetstown.
7. **Answer the Essential Question** What were the challenges to the nation's stability during the late 1700s and early 1800s?

