

(Qno.) Factors - Economic prosperity USA -
leading to WWI?

Expansion of USA

Uphill World war I in 1914 and the subsequent US participation in 1918, the USA had expanded from 13 to the 39 states. This provided the citizens of USA with a vast land for economic gains. These states contained within them deposits of gold as well as many other raw materials that could be used for industrial manufacturing in the new industrial age. The new land under the USA provided an attraction of immigrants from the European region with people looking for new opportunities especially in the Irish community as well as from down trodden Eastern Europe. Several Chinese also joined the fray. These provided cheap labour for various industries in the northern states. For the southern states virtually free labour from the

South African slave population also provided with development of the industrial sector. The expansion allowed this labour to be used in newly reclaimed land of the native Indian tribes of north America.

Civil War and

Reconstruction

The civil war (1861-1865) in the USA caused a lot of economic damage to USA. However, the reconstruction allowed for the introduction of a new vigour into the US economy which allowed it to become a dominant power at the time of world war I.

The reconstruction era provided with various plans such as the Homestead Act by Lincoln which would boost economic progress within the USA. The war had resulted in loss of thousands of lives on both confederate

as well as the Union side. The Gettysburg address of Lincoln in 1863 went a long way in motivating the nation to work harder to secure the prosperous future for the nation.

Industrial Era or Gilded Age

The USA had become a hub of industrialization during the gilded age (1870-1916) before World War I. This era was referred to as the gilded age by Mark Twain because it provided for the rapid industrialization in the US which introduced a shining economic glamour. The USA gained access to modern technology such as the steamboat, telephones and train engines as well as new steel making Bessemer process. All of this allowed the USA to use its vast territory to produce industrial goods with high demands in Europe as well as Japan in Asia. USA had also built a transcontinental railway that connected the East with

the west of the country. This allowed
a vast amount of resources.
There were also deposits of
gold and oil in the country which
propelled the gold rush and rise
of big industrialists such as the
Rockefellers. The industrial age
brought with it reforms of
the progressive era 1890-1920.
This allowed for the subsequent
maintenance of standards of quality
of US products that allowed it
to gain edge in its export market
of industrial products before
the world war I.

US-Spanish War

The US also gained major
territories as well as soft power
that translated to economic gains
due to ~~the~~ its war with Spain
in the events leading up to
World War I. The USA had
found itself in a war against

The Spanish government in Cuba. The USA business had expanded in Cuba and the US in order to protect its interests in Cuba engaged in war with Spain through congressional approval. Spain proved to be outdated as a naval power and its hold on Cuba also proved to be weak. The USA won the Spanish war 1998 by overthrowing Spanish government in Cuba as well as destroying two Spanish fleets one in Manila. The treaty of Paris at that time gave USA ~~Florida~~ control over the Cuba as well as provided it with colonies of Guam and Philippines, this allowed the USA to exert imperial influence on these regions and translate it into economic gains.

USA Foreign Policy of Noninterference and Trade

USA was a major trading partner with many European nations. A reason for this was that the USA

was in a policy of non-interference with these nations. As per the Monroe doctrine the USA simply was, against European intervention in the western hemisphere. This, however, provided the USA with its own control over the politics of South American countries. USA was able to engage in trade with these countries as well as trade with Europe. Leading up to events of world war I the US was a major supplier of Industrial goods. The USA was able to even trade with all European nations despite their mutual conflicts due to its foreign policy of non interference. Even in world war I during the initial years the US kept trade up with both allies as well as Axis until its formal participation in 1918.

USA'S Emergence as an Industrial Manufacturing Hub

As a result of the guided era and the other factors mentioned in the above points, USA became the hub of global manufacturing. USA supplied the European region with $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of its industrial imports. The government of USA also incentivised production. It tried to divide the country into industrial sectors with beef and wheat production in western areas along with agriculture in the southern region. USA emerged as an economic powerhouse that dominated markets with its goods. This was also made possible by the introduction of new banks with higher loans being taken out for businesses. Government spending was also used to provide industrial as well as agricultural protection, kind of subsidies to the market of USA. All of this coupled with minimal interference from

European power interference allowed the USA to flourish completely unchecked. The USA was in the perfect geographic position to operate with a completely independent economic policy which turned it into a hub of industrial export.

World War I and the Economic Boom of USA

The events leading up to world war I had made the US into a dominant ~~militar~~ economic power house especially due to industrialization. The USA then used its dominant economic position to trade with both the triple entente as well as Germany. It also provided several loans to the UK and France due to its economic all round dominant

Position. The USA had originally supported a nonintervention policy in world war I. It, however, took full advantage to push its products in European markets by means of the war. The USA upon major attacks by German submarines on the trade and shipping lanes saw a danger to its economy. It used the pretext of the Zimmerman telegram pretext to join the WWI in 1918 against Germany. The USA through this also guaranteed payback of the UK and French loans given by the USA to these countries. Thus the gilded age set up the US economic boom but it came to its peak with the US entry into WWI.

Conclusion

By the time of WWI (1914-1918), the USA had become an economic power house in the world. This was possible due to the vast

region and territorial gains of westward expansion by USA. The new land provided new cultivation land as well as access to resources. The rivers provided power to the factories which was later replaced by the coal power. The new land provided new gold, minerals and oil reserves. New technologies and factories allowed great manufacturing production in the USA. The USA also attracted hawks of immigrants for cheap labour. The victory against Spain also provided USA with overseas colonies and a greater resource bank. The civil-war also forced a response for a greater burden of progress on the nation. This allowed the USA to move into 20th century with a dominant and visionary attitude towards development. The US government focused

an economic development. It also gave incentives as well as provided for requisite protectionist as well as foreign policy that would allow the USA to delve into economic prosperity till 1914 i.e. start of world war I. Even world war I was further used to gain economic prosperity by USA.

Qno.2) Foreign Policy of USA
Emergence as a world power 20th CE

Context of USA Power in
20th CE

Prior to the events of the 20th CE certain events shaped the USA to go on its way to becoming a global power. First was the westward expansion which provided the USA with a vast amount of territory that possessed a variety of benefits. The expansion provided USA with the requisite resources for becoming an economic power

house. The gilded age (1870-1916) also made the USA into 1/3rd of the imports going to Europe in terms of manufactured goods. The USA had also won the Spanish war which had provided it with control over territories such as Guam, Philippines and ~~the~~ Cuba.

Foreign policy wise, the US adopted a foreign policy of isolationism. The US did not involve itself in the quarrels and affairs of the countries of Europe in the 1800s. Even in the early 20th century, the USA only joined world war I at the very end in 1918. Even after the war despite Woodrow Wilson's efforts, the USA did not join the League of Nations. The isolationist policy allowed the USA to be able to develop an economic trade integration with Europe that was not based on Europe's regional politics.

US Emergence as World Power:

Foreign Policy Shift

WWII

USA experienced a major shift in foreign policy that led to its emergence as a world power after WWII. In the initial years of WWII, US maintained isolationism. However, after the 1943 Pearl Harbor attack, USA entered the war on the side of the allies. USA's policy in the war was to provide a minimum of aid to Europe such that it wins the war but does not rise again in a way that could challenge US hegemony. The UK and other allies also took out vast loans from USA and the last of the UK loans were just paid in 2023. This allowed US to profit off WWII. This foreign policy of war utilization allowed USA to have one third of the world's gold with in its possession. This led to the

two things in foreign policy that
further elevated USA in foreign p.

The USA used its foreign policy
to establish Bretton Woods institutions
as well as the United Nations. All
these were created in the context of
war prevention. However, as
the dominant economic sponsor of
these institutions, these heavily favoured
the USA. On the other hand the
US shifted the world from the gold
to the US dollar standard which increased
US hegemony for the foreseeable future.

US Rise to Super Power in 20th Ce

Cold War

After WWII the world became
bipolar and the US victory in
the cold war increased its status
to the sole super power in a
US led unipolar world. The
cold war began right after
the end of WWII in 1945.

Foreign policy of Truman doctrine began a battle for hegemony of Soviet versus the USA. It was a battle to propagate the capitalist US or communist Soviet philosophy. The US engaged in funding by means of CIA to create dominance on many nations for a pro capitalism and pro US governments. The US fought its ideological battles in Korea, Vietnam and even became the reasons for revolutions in many countries. The USA at this time had control of institutions such as world bank as well as the GATT (called GATT at that time). This allowed them to propell their ideology more successfully throughout the world. The US adopted a foreign policy of containment of USSR. For this purpose US funded the Taliban freedom fighters. The US provided this funding through Middle Eastern countries as well as Pakistan. The US was able to also send in advanced technology such as to the Taliban.

to counter the Soviet occupation.
The policy of containment led
to the economic downfall of
the Soviet Union. Gorbachev
accepted the Perestroika and Glasnost
reforms as well as cooperated
with USA to bring down the wall
in Germany. The Soviet disintegration
in 1989 allowed USA to become
leader of the unipolar world.

USA rise to super power:
Petro Dollar

Diplomacy

The USA faced economic
down turn in 1960s which caused
an economic down turn in the
world. However, the US was able
to use its dollar diplomacy to
curb these problems which allowed
it to become a global power.
The USA began printing US
dollar to counter economic
down turn. As the US

had replaced gold standard with US dollar standard, this printing effected prices across the globe of goods. The USA had the potential problem of the other nations of the globe of demanding back gold for the dollar they possessed. The US thus took two steps to retain its economic superiority. Firstly it decoupled the US dollar from the gold standard. This allowed the USA to print more dollars without worrying as the dollar was to be backed by US potential goods and services. The US also used diplomatic ties in the Middle East to establish the petrodollar in 1979. Saudi Arabia was courted by USA to sell oil in US dollar. The world all over began selling and purchasing oil along with other goods in dollar. This led to countries keeping their foreign reserves in US dollars. The stagflation of US dollar in 1971 got to an end. The US dollar became the strongest currency in the world.

USA Global Institutions and Rise to World Powers

The global institutions of Bretton Woods provided the USA with leverage over major nations of the world in terms of foreign policy influence. The IMF and World Bank created in 1944 by the US supported US interests. The US had not only created these institutions but also became the largest contributor of these countries institutions. The USA used these institutions to grant loans and economically uplift countries that it could use to further its foreign policy objectives. As in the case of NATO, SEATO and CENTO, ~~all~~ ^{most} member nations gained favour of these financial institutions. The USA also used

the GATT (or now WTO) to propel its economic objectives of trade.

The USA and EU were able to remove goods of potential domestic value such as textiles as well as certain agricultural products from the GATT/WTO tariff exemptions.

This allowed USA to keep up protectionist policies that benefited it in the world trade.

USA and Control of

Europe and Rise

to Superpower

Post world war II, USA became a leader of the western hemisphere of the world which allowed it to become a super power. The

USA firstly assisted Europe in defeating Germany. It then gave a gift of 13 billion dollar of money through the Marshall Plan which allowed Europe to become reconstructed after world war II. It is for this reason

that countries such as Germany, UK and France always support the US foreign policy. The US creation of NATO also provided it with hegemony. NATO originally countered the Soviet Warsaw pact. The Article 5 of NATO meant that attack on one member is attack against all. The US was able to keep NATO alive even after the down fall of the USSR. It led to strengthening of the west in global affairs with US as the leader. US maintained its leadership role in west by being the largest contributor in funds as well as military to NATO. Thus the US in this way has developed major sway in the military decisions of collective west through the domination of NATO. The NATO Afghan attack in 2001 was also a result of US unipolar hegemony.

US. Regional Hegemony and Rise to Global Power in 20th CE

USA maintained hegemony in major regions of the world through its foreign policy which allowed it to become a super power. The USA took over trade in Americas using NAFTA. It also took over control of the Panama canal through regional intervention gaining control of trade between pacific and atlantic, when the Egyptians threatened to close down the Suez canal, the US was able to use its military power as well as diplomacy to get Egypt to change its mind. The USA also maintained Middle Eastern presence by support of Israel in 1967 (6 days war) and 1973 (Yom Kippur war). The USA maintained hegemony in Middle East through this support. The US-Saudi collaboration also boosted US presence in Middle East. The US also sided with

Iraq in Iran-Iraq war of 1980s to maintain hegemony in the region. In ASIA the US gained the alliance of Pakistan against the Soviet Aggression in Afghanistan. The US also participated in Korean war and Guam to maintain its hegemony in South Asia. The US thus maintained contact with multiple regions to improve its hegemony which ultimately led to it becoming a super power.

Conclusions

The US became a super power due to the 20th CE events. The US containment of Soviet Union was the major reason for the US to become leader of a unipolar world. The US gained its super power status due to the aftermath of WWII. The US gained 2/3rd of

the world's gold reserves, the US was able to make the dollar the world standard, the US became a global policing force intervening in the Arab-Israeli wars as well as the Suez canal conflict in 1950s. The US used Truman doctrine to spread capitalist US ideology against USSR all over the world. The US petrodollar in 1979 forced all nations to keep foreign reserves in US dollars. The USA used all the Bretton Woods institutions to create a pro US world order. The US became the undisputed leader of western hemisphere due to the loans given to these nations in WWII along with the Marshall plan as well as NATO. The defeat of Soviet Union in 1989 was the final nail in the coffin of bipolar world. The US thus stood as a nation with the strongest currency, military, alliance of NATO; multiregional hegemony and control of world financial institutions.

Q no. 5 Civil War Causes
Consequences

Civil War Context of
Historical Progression

Since the early days of the Federalist era, the Abolitionists had encouraged equality for all inhabitants including slaves. The north of the USA was dominated by these sentiments. The Thomas Jefferson's line "All men are created free and equal" was taken literally by the people in the north. The north thus emerged as a heaven for black community as compared to the south. The north relied on industry as compared to southern slave labour. The south part of USA considered that all the black community was beneath them. These people had a lesser mind and it

was a mercy to keep them as slaves as without white man's supervision these people would fall into chaos. However, the people in the south had huge tobacco plantations that shifted to the cotton plantations after the invention of the cotton gin. Slaves provided for free labour to run the agricultural industry of the south and thus the south valued its slaves for economic reasons and would never give them up without a fight.

Abolitionists Versus the Southerners.

The abolitionists had been constantly fighting the southerners for political power. This caused a lot of blood to be shed as well as a lot of conflict which finally culminated in the 1961-1965 civil war. The entry of new states was a major point of contention for both the north and

the south. Both sides wanted to have their policy with regards to slavery in the new states - the Missouri compromise was done to appease the north and south. The Missouri state was entered as a slave state while Maine was entered as a slave free state in 1820. However, the term of the 36°30' line of divide new states into slave free north side and slave south side was later overruled. The Kansas-Nebraska act in 1850s advocated by Stephen Douglas voided the Missouri compromise. Witherers of both whig and Democrat parties became furious. The act led to incidents of physical violence in Kansas and 50 people died in the bloody Kansas incident. The country became highly divided on the issues of slavery and this became a major factor for the Civil war.

The Inhumane Nature of Slavery and Civil War

The socio-political reasons propelled the civil war but the inhumane nature of slavery also caused the 1961 - 1965 civil war. As evidenced by US novels such as *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the slaves in USA with in south of the country were heavily mistreated. Their marriages were considered as null and void. Families of slaves were separated by selling separately. The slaves were frequently beat up and many of them died due to this. Slaves were seen as property. A runaway slave, hence, had to be returned to its rightful owner.

in USA. Slaves were also used as sex objects in USA. Slave owners had illicit relations with their slaves. The slave did not have rights and was worked day

in and day out to make profits
for its southern masters. Blacks
had played role in war for independence
as well. The north recognized
the barbaric nature of their treatment
and wanted to end it. Abraham
Lincoln was a person that
stepped on the cream
Republican party platform to
fight the south politically for
the dismissal of slavery,

President Lincoln and Southern Confederate Succession

On the Republican platform
after his Illinois senatorial
defeat President Lincoln won the
presidency in 1860 and it
felt that Lincoln would work
towards abolition of abolishing
slavery. The southern states
had already began talks
of succession from the

union. As Lincoln took to office he tried to appease people of south in his presidential address. However, the south feared for their slave holdings and formed the secret confederate coalition of succession. It was when President Lincoln ordered the resupply of fort Sumter that the attack on the fort by the confederate forces that the Civil War began in 1860. Lincoln had vowed to bring the secessionists back to the folds of the union, thus President Lincoln's election to office became a major cause for the war. Lincoln had in his pre presidential speeches such as those against Stephen Douglas had shown a strong dislike for slavery. The confederate act of declaration of war was thus a natural move by the South in the event of Lincoln's election.

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Consequence of Slave freedom due to Civil War

After the victory of the Union forces in 1863 at second battle of Bull Run the emancipation proclamation by Lincoln led to the first step in abolition of slavery. The civil war led to the 13th Amendment that finally ended slavery in the USA. The people of the South who were former slaves became free citizens of the United States, they were able to participate in the electoral process. The 14th amendment recognized the citizenship rights of slaves (ex slaves) in the USA. The 15th amendment subsequently granted the ex slaves a right to vote. The civil war thus began a freedom for

slaves in the USA that would go on through various struggles become a state where all men are truly equal. However, the president made it harder for the uplift of the black community as he enacted legislation for the free development of south without federal intervention.

Reconstruction Era and Repression of Black Community as Consequence

Civil war had destroyed a large portion of US economy and in the reconstruction confederate sentiments also resumed hate against the blacks. The US gave a policy of southern state sovereign decision making in reconstruction. The 'guided eye' came as a result of the reconstruction era of the civil war. Lincoln had already in his 1863 speech talked about reconstruction. In the reconstruction banner were established

and industry doomed due to
introduction of new technology. The
civil war had caused new tech
innovation for the purpose of
military production that translated
to the US industrial revolution
1870-1914.

The south was able to
keep up its oppression of the
black community despite the civil
war due to reconstruction. The
southern states once again fought
the black community by legislation
they used the Jim Crow laws to
segregate black bus-spots, schools
and restaurants. The south was
able to carry out its hate
in light of the loss of the civil
war. The 15th amendment was
curtailed by the south by means
of voter literacy test. The civil
war may have freed the slaves
but it would take a long
time before true consequences
of rights of people would

come to fruition in USA.

Civil War Consequences and Civil Rights Movement

The civil war took a lot of time to actually improve the condition of the black community in USA. The Jim Crow laws and repression of blacks continued but the abolition of slavery during the civil war in 13th amendment in 1864 had laid the grounds for a more equal America. It was through the civil war that Rosa Parks gained the guts to stand up to the oppression of the white people in the south. The civil rights acts in 1960s went a long way for the abolition of the segregation laws and voter literacy tests. The rise of Martin Luther King Jr. was possible due to the civil war. People like Malcolm X were able to fight for the black community in 1960s and 1970s. The USA fought off extremist neo nazis as well as Ku Klux Klan

ideologies, which were confederate remnants of the civil war. The 1970s proved to be exceptional for black rights. The civil war was what finally led to the US adopting affirmative action legislation and the promulgation of a black president in Barack Obama in 2009.

no. 6) Expansion 13 → 50 states?

CAUSES

American Manifest

Destiny

The US had gained independence from British in 1776 and the British had accepted it in treaty of Paris of 1783. This led to the American belief that these people were destined to unify the free world under a single banner. The US people recognized the wilderness of the northern Americas had to be farmed. They had decided that it was the job of

USA and its people to spread civilization across the Continent. The US thus participated in purchase of territory of Louisiana by Thomas Jefferson worth 15 million dollars. The people in the lands had to be subjugated to the correct faith of Christianity and so westward's expansion became a major concern for the people of USA. The manifest destiny not only caused the US government to purchase territory but also made people migrate towards the western front. People explored territory for the purpose of achieving their destiny. The American people thus manifested a future of unification of American continent under one flag with the connection of the east with the west coast. A land full of civilization was envisioned on the American plateau under the USA flag. The 1998 annexation of Hawaii as the 50th USA state, finally completed that US manifest

destiny :

The White Man's

Burden Reason for Expansion

The westwards expansion was seen as the white man's burden by people of USA. The initial colonization of the new world, India and Africa by European colonial powers was carried out in an acceptance that these people were "inferior" and required subjugation to remove their "barbaric ways". This would make them civilized.

The USA people saw the unclaimed western part of USA on a similar terms. People of USA felt that the native tribes of the native Indians were a barbaric people. The people of USA sought to bring true civilization to these "lands". They would use their technology, laws, religion as well as

Social institutions in order to bring a civilized outlook to these regions. However, it must be noted that expansion actually resulted in extinguishing the local traditions and other major tribes. The lands of these people was often confiscated by using political power by US citizens. These people were driven off from their lands and resettled in the name of this white man's burden. Native American grievances are still found in US today from the era of expansion.

Economic Gains and Westwards Expansion

The economic gains highly motivated westwards expansion in the true sense. The new land that US got from the Ohio 49th parallel, Louisiana purchase, US-Mexico war and coup in Hawaii, was land that boosted the US economy. The new land was full of oil, precious metals as well as new farm land. The green of

Hawaii was annexed by lobbyist efforts of businessmen to secure the sugar business of the USA. Westward expansion and obtaining Texas in the US-Mexico war gave the US with huge oil wells. All of this provided the USA with the economic prowess to become a superpower in the world. The westward expansion from 13 to 50 states was thus heavily motivated by economic reasons. The US later on during the gilded age also built a transcontinental railway to connect all its expanded territory to capitalize on the economic gains.

Exploration and Excitement

The USA's westward expansion was also caused by fascination, excitement and

greed of the people. The cowboy frontier culture promised people a dream of freedom as well as gold in the new land. People migrated in droves in the western region in an era called the gold rush. Even the US government felt this fascination and sent expeditions such as the Lewis and Clark one. This mass mobilization of people in western territories such as Ohio and Texas made grounds for the US acquisition of these lands.

The US thus made deals with Canada for the 49th parallel to define Ohio border. The US also fought the US-Mexico war due to the sovereignty claims of the people of Texas that had migrated to Texas, Mexico (at that time) in search of a better life. Thus the US government got a pretext of obtaining western states due to the presence of its citizenry which was motivated by fascination as well as greed.

Security and Consolidation

The US in the initial years had to fight wars with the British in early 1800s; The USA did not want disputes over its borders, authority or over the continent; Thus the westward expansion also was carried out to increase US power in Americas. The inclusion of territory of major portion of North America would provide US of security in case of future attack. The US also gained control of Cuba in the 1898 US-Spain war for this purpose. The US wanted to be the sole proprietor of regional security of Americas as per the Truman doctrine of 1820. Thus the USA expanded as well as consolidated its land mass in the Americas by expanding from

a more 13 states to the 50 states of today. This also removed European influence from the region by the US through means of wars or by means of purchase. The westward expansion placed the USA in a very secure control of the American continent politics as later seen in the formation of NAFTA.

Immigration and

the USA Westward

Expansion

The USA was a land of opportunities. The initial colonial settlement back in the 16th and 15th century was exactly for this reason. The USA's westward

expansion also allowed for the accommodation of the choices of immigrant population.

The people who were religiously persecuted in Europe or economically down trodden, come to USA searching for a new life.

The USA expanded westwards to provide a territorial accommodation to these people. After the civil war

, however, the immigration in
creased many fold and cause
the US population to rise to
a 100 million. A large number
of Chinese, East European and
Irish came looking for opportunity
in the USA. These people were
attracted by the factories and
jobs offered by the gilded age.
The USA expanded westwards
to better utilize its new workforce
for the extraction of resources and
also for the purpose of accommodation.

USA Expansion and Geo Politics

USA westwards expansion
was a geo-political tactic to
increase geo-political power by
USA. USA as a country was
located in a perfect geographic
spot in the world. The only
problem was that it did
not have control of all

the territory of Americans to make use of its position. Although initial expansion was not for this purpose. However, events such as US-Mexico war show that USA wanted to use expansion as a means of geo-political hegemony against other European nations in Americas as well as states like Mexico as well as Canada. The expansion from 13 to 50 states provided this geo-political hegemony. It also secured for the US a geographically well defended country with only regional allies. This ultimately become a factor for its rise as a global superpower as well.

Conclusion

The USA expanded from the 13 ^{states} colonies in 1776 to the 50 ^{states} colonies in 1959. This expansion was motivated by a multitude of socio-political, geographic and economic factors. Originally the expansion was motivated by the American concept

of manifest destiny. The Americans considered it as their responsibility to civilize the wilderness of the American continent. They had to bring Christianity to the natives to improve their lives. The expansion, however, was also motivated by economic reasons as the new land was full of oil, gold, gemstones as well as precious minerals. The westward expansion became hard for the US Gilded Age (1870-1916). The westward expansion also provided US with hegemony over the American continent. It became the dominant power in the region and also used the Monroe doctrine to remove external influences of Europeans in the region.