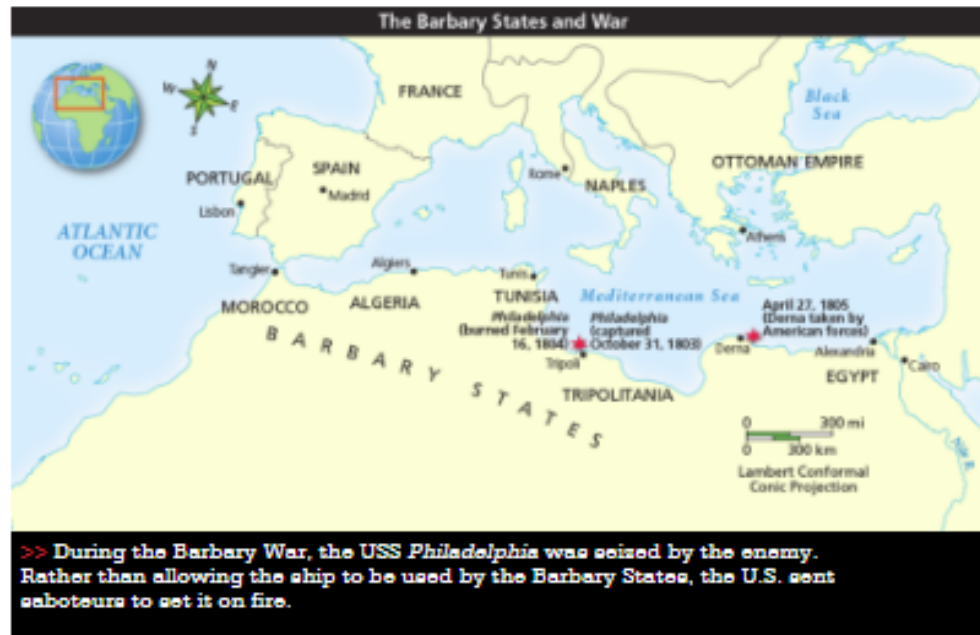


Heading #1

While Jefferson succeeded in his plans to expand to the west, he faced a number of significant challenges to solidifying the stability and economy of the United States.



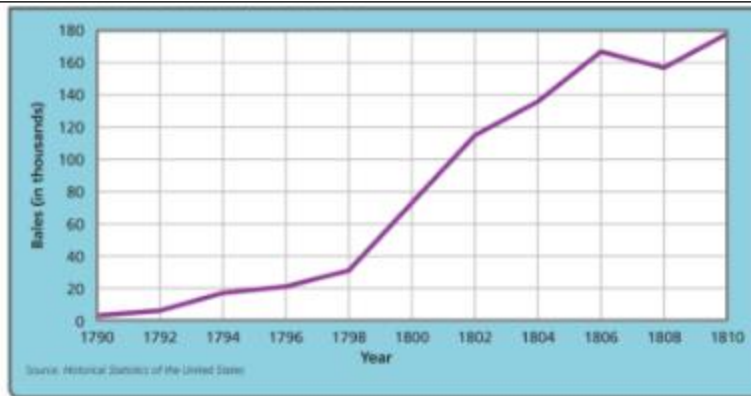
Heading #2

The Barbary States of North Africa—Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli—were profiting by seizing American ships and sailors in the Mediterranean Sea. To buy immunity from that piracy, the Washington and Adams administrations had paid protection money to the Barbary States. Jefferson was willing to do the same until the ruler of Tripoli increased his price. In 1801, Jefferson sent the small American navy to blockade the port of Tripoli, winning a favorable peace in 1805, concluding the **Barbary War**.

The Re-Export Trade Fuels Conflict with Britain As the population grew and spread westward, the United States needed to expand overseas markets for the surplus produce raised on its new farms. From 1793 to 1807, war in Europe aided this goal.

The dominant British navy quickly captured most of France's merchant ships. To supply food to the French colonies in the West Indies and to export their sugar, the French turned to American ships. Because the British had banned direct American voyages between the French West Indies and France, American merchants picked up cargoes in the French colonies and took them to ports in the United States, where they unloaded them. Then the merchants reshipped the cargoes to France as if they were American products.

Heading #3



>> **Analyze Data** Despite international conflicts, American cotton continued to be shipped to overseas markets. During which years did cotton production soar?

Interactive

The value of this "re-export" trade soared from about \$300,000 in 1790 to nearly \$59 million in 1807, creating a boom for the American economy. To meet the new demand, American shipyards produced hundreds of new ships, tripling the size of the nation's merchant marine by 1807. Prosperous American merchants built new wharves, warehouses, and mansions, boosting the construction trades in seaport cities.

Farmers also benefited by selling their produce to feed French soldiers in Europe and enslaved Africans and plantation owners in the West Indies.



>> **Impressment** was a kind of forced recruitment. Men were often seized and forced to join the British navy.

The British hated the re-export trade for two reasons. First, it helped the French economy, which sustained Napoleon's army. Second, the new trade helped the United States become Britain's greatest commercial competitor. In 1805, as British merchants lost markets and profits to American shippers, British warships began to stop and confiscate growing numbers of American merchant ships for trading with the French.

Heading #4

The British navy also angered the United States by relying on **impressment**, or taking American sailors from their ships and forcing them to serve in the British navy. Engaged in a tough war, the British desperately needed sailors for their huge fleet. Britain insisted that anyone born within its empire was a British subject for life. Yet British naval officers also took American-born sailors. By 1812, about 6,000 American citizens had been impressed for the harsh duty of serving on a British warship.

At first, Federalist merchants were willing to regard the British abuses as unfortunate costs of doing business on the high seas. They pointed out that the old trade with Great Britain remained even more valuable than the new re-export trade with France. But Democratic Republicans insisted that the British actions insulted the United States and threatened the country's economic growth. In 1807, when the British attacked an American warship, the *Chesapeake*, in order to take some of its sailors, many Americans—including many Federalists—were outraged.

Heading #5

The United States lacked a navy large enough to challenge the British fleet. Jefferson balked at the high cost of building a bigger navy, which would undermine his policies of reducing the national debt and keeping taxes low. He also worried that a large military would become a threat to the Republic.

As an alternative to war, in 1807 Jefferson persuaded Congress to declare an **embargo**, suspending trade with the British by ordering American ships to stay in port. He expected the embargo to starve the British and close their factories, creating riots in the streets.

Instead, the British found other markets in South America. Meanwhile, the embargo bankrupted American merchants, threw American sailors out of work, and hurt farmers, who could no longer export their crops. Exploiting voter anger, the Federalists gained support in the northern states, especially in New England.

Even Jefferson had to admit failure, lifting the embargo just before he retired from the presidency in 1809. Despite having been easily reelected in 1804, the embargo had caused his popularity to lag. He was succeeded by his friend James Madison, who defeated a Federalist rival in the election of 1808.

DESCRIBE Describe Jefferson's foreign policy response to British impressment of American sailors.

Heading #1: _____

Heading #2: _____

Heading #3: _____

Heading #4: _____

Heading #5: _____

Directions: Summarize the reading passage in the space below using 25 words.