

## Jefferson's Response to International Problems



1. Use the chart above to answer the following questions:
  - a. Observations – What changes do you see in U.S. foreign trade between 1800 – 1812?
  - b. Predictions – What do you think accounts for these changes?
2. How did the Napoleonic Wars affect the United States?
3. What are neutral rights? How were neutral rights being violated by Great Britain?

### President Jefferson's Response to the Chesapeake Incident, July 2, 1807 . . .

A frigate of the United States, trusting to a state of peace, and leaving her harbor on a distant service, has been surprised and attacked by a British vessel of superior force--one of a squadron then lying in our waters and covering the transaction--and has been disabled from service, with the loss of a number of men killed and wounded. This enormity was not only without provocation or justifiable cause, but was committed with the avowed purpose of taking by force from a ship of war of the United States a part of her crew; and that no circumstance might be wanting to mark its character, it had been previously ascertained that the seamen demanded were native citizens of the United States. Having effected her purpose, she returned to anchor with her squadron within our jurisdiction. Hospitality under such circumstances ceases to be a duty, and a continuance of it with such uncontrolled abuses would tend only, by multiplying injuries and irritations, to bring on a rupture between the two nations.

Given at the city of Washington, the 2d day of July, A. D. 1807, and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States the thirty-first.

TH: JEFFERSON.

By the President: JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State.

4. Use the excerpt above to answer:
  - a. Context – What occurred in the *Chesapeake* incident Jefferson is responding to above?
  - b. What does this document suggest above the relationship between the United States and Britain? Explain.
5. Why did Jefferson impose the Embargo Act of 1807?

**Order in Council at the court at the Queen's Palace, the 11th of November, 1807: (Present, the King's Most Excellent Majesty in council) . . .**

His Majesty is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that all the ports and places of France and her allies, or of any country at war with His Majesty the British flag is excluded, and all ports or places in the colonies belonging to His Majesty's enemies, shall, from henceforth, be subject to the same restrictions in point of trade and navigation, with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, as if the same were actually blockaded by His Majesty's naval forces, in the most strict and rigorous manner: And it is hereby further ordered and declared, that all trade in the articles which are of the produce or manufacture of the said countries or colonies, shall be deemed and considered to be unlawful; and that every vessel trading from or to the said countries or colonies, together with all goods and merchandise on board, and all articles of the produce or manufacture of the said countries or colonies, shall be captured and condemned as prize to the captors. . . . .

And the commanders of His Majesty's ships of war and privateers, and other vessels acting under His Majesty's commission, shall be, and are hereby, instructed to warn every vessel which shall have commenced her voyage prior to any notice of this order, and shall be destined to any port of France, or of her allies, or of any other country at war with His Majesty, or to any port or place from which the British flag, as aforesaid, is excluded, or to any colony belonging to His Majesty's enemies, and which shall not have cleared out as is hereinbefore allowed, to discontinue her voyage, and to proceed to some port or place in this kingdom, or to Gibraltar or Malta; and any vessel which, after having been so warned, or after a reasonable time shall have been afforded for the arrival of information of this His Majesty's order, at any port or place from which she has sailed, or which, after having notice of this order, shall be found in the prosecution of any voyage contrary to the restrictions contained in this order, shall be captured, and altogether with her cargo, condemned as lawful prize to the captors. . . .

6. Use the excerpt above to answer:

- a. What trade restrictions did Great Britain put in place with this order? Why?
- b. What does the royal order above instruct British ship commanders to do?

7. What were the economic effects of the Embargo of 1807?

8. Use the "OGRABME" cartoon to answer the following:

- a. What does the snapping turtle represent? Who does the man with the barrel represent? What is he trying to do?
- b. What country does the ship in the background belong to? What is it waiting for?
- c. Who's the man behind the turtle?
- d. Is the cartoonist in favor of or against the Embargo Act? Explain your answer.



**OGRABME, or. The American Snapping-turtle.**

**Excerpt from the Non-Intercourse Act, March 1, 1809 SEC. 4.**

And be it further enacted, That from and after the twentieth day of May next, it shall not be lawful to import into the United States or the territories thereof, any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, from any port or place situated in Great Britain or Ireland, or in any of the colonies or dependencies of Great Britain, nor from any port or place situated in France, or in any of her colonies or dependencies, nor from any port or place in the actual possession of either Great Britain or France. Nor shall it be lawful to import into the United States, or the territories thereof, from any foreign port or place whatever, any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, being of the growth, produce or manufacture of France, or of any of her colonies or dependencies, or being of the growth, produce or manufacture of Great Britain or Ireland, or of any of the colonies or dependencies of Great Britain, or being of the growth, produce or manufacture of any place or country in the actual possession of either France or Great Britain . . .

**Macon's Bill, Number 2. May 1, 1810**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, no British or French armed vessels shall be permitted to enter the harbors or waters under the jurisdiction of the United States; but every British and French armed vessel is hereby interdicted. . . .

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all pacific intercourse with any interdicted foreign armed vessels, the officers or crew thereof, is hereby forbidden. . . .

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That in case either Great Britain or France shall, before the third day of March next, so revoke or modify her edicts as that they shall cease to violate the neutral commerce of the United States, which fact the President of the United States shall declare by proclamation, and if the other nation shall not within three months thereafter so revoke or modify her edicts in like manner, then the [Non-Intercourse Act] shall . . . be revived and have full force and effect, so far as relates to the dominions, colonies and dependencies, and to the articles the growth, produce or manufacture of the dominions, colonies, and dependencies of the nation thus refusing or neglecting to revoke or modify her edicts in the manner aforesaid. . . .

**9. Use the excerpts above to answer:**

- a. **What did the Non-Intercourse Act and Macon's Bill No. 2, passed by President Madison's administration, attempt to accomplish? How?**
- b. **Predictions – How would these bills continue to shape British-American relations?**

**10. Look at the map showing the results of the Election of 1808.**

- a. **Where were Democratic-Republican supporters most likely to be located? Federalist supporters?**
- b. **Considering the ongoing issues with international trade, why would Federalist candidate Pinckney gain supporters between the 1804 and 1808 elections?**