

What domestic and international factors finally led the United States to declare war on Japan and Germany and to become fully engaged in World War II

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What domestic and international factors finally led the United States to declare war on Japan and Germany and to become fully engaged in World War II?

Many thought that America was involved in the second World War as we seemed to me helping Britain and France in their fight. America said they were staying neutral in the war. However, they sent several old destroyers to Britain and allowed the Lend- Lease Act. Which meant America would gain land that Britain fought for in exchange for war goods from America. America should have stayed out of everything to do with the war. With these two acts in themselves America put themselves at risk. I think I would have felt the same. Giving Just a couple countries better access to war supplies was not a good deal. If they were going to do it for Britain and France, they should have done it for Japan and Germany. As many saw, this was the way America supported others and had them fight the physical battles in order to keep our lands safe. Japan and Italy were thought to have felt humiliated by the Versailles peace settlement and believed was would help their powers (Roark et al., 2020). The United States was trying to focus on getting out of the Great Depression. President Roosevelt kept trying for international cooperation. However, he watched from the sidelines while Japanese and Germans withdrew from the League of Nations. During this time Hilter rearmed Germany and Roosevelt felt

Germans and Japanese threatened world peace (Roark et al., 2020). Even with the Good Neighbor Policy enacted it seemed as if the United States did not retreat from Latin America.

I feel as if the United States involvement with Britain and supplying them materials for the war was the reason Japan attacked us on December 7, 1941. Japanese saw us as a threat to them because we were helping other countries involved in the war. They saw an easy attack on America as a lot of our ship and planes were stationed at Pearl Harbor and it was a quick easy attack for them.

## Reference

Roark, J. L., Johnson, M. P., Furstenberg, F., Stage, S., & Igo, S. E. (2020). Chapter 25. In *The American promise: a history of the United States* (eighth, Vol. 2, pp. 738-771). Bedford/St. Martin's.