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Research and Writing Assignment

The abundance of wealth and resources attracted the Spanish to the vast Incas Empire. Inca Empire was enormous during their arrival around 1526, extending to about 690,000 square miles ("The Spanish Conquest | World Civilization"). By 1532, the Spanish invaded the kingdom and defeated the Incas. Historians have pondered whether a delay of the Spanish invasion by another century, for instance, would have made the Incas invincible against their rivals (Jarus, par. 1-2). However, an additional expansion would not have significantly impacted Inca's ability to protect itself from the Spanish invasion. The Inca Empire had already achieved its peak by 1527 after the efforts of Huayan Capac, who ruled between 1493 and 1527 (Jarus, par. 34). It had already occupied all the available territories within its reach. Also, shortly before the Spanish attack, the kingdom struggled with internal strife, uprisings, and civil wars. Therefore, since Inca had reached its natural limits, expanding further and wading off resistance against the Spanish forces was difficult.

Several factors of society would have needed to strengthen to secure the empire from the Spanish invasion. The first aspect is the road system. The Inca road system should have expanded further to facilitate the movement of people, armies, and weapons across the vast land.

More importantly, an adequate road system would have enabled the movement of vital resources across challenging terrains, particularly mountains, hills, and deserts. The Incas would also have developed successful communication networks to aid them in coordinating effectively during the war. Such a system would have relied on messengers and techniques like smoke signals. Besides developing the networks, the Incas should have bolstered their social hierarchies as they prepared for the invasion. Since the Spanish mainly targeted the leaders, the Emperor needed to provide the commoners with a sense of direction and strategy. Also, the Emperor and the nobility were responsible for preventing internal strife and ensuring the empire was united and ready for war.

Works Cited

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