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World Civilizations

25 April 2023

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Research and Writing Week 13

If the Pacific and Atlantic oceans were switched I believe that China would have found the Americans much faster and would have been able to settle better into the lands than the Europeans did. They have many more resources including massive trading ships in large numbers which would give them an advantage at getting more people and supplies across the ocean. I think they would have also unintentionally come across the continent accidentally in the way Columbus did. He was in search of another trade route to the other side of Asia by sea instead of by land. With China's main goal being controlling and maintaining the economic and trading power at the time they would have been on the same search. When discovering the Americas if they chose to act in a violent manner they would have also been better prepared. With their 400 foot long ships with numbers in the hundreds and being the leading manufacturer of quality goods at the time they would have been able to conquer any they crossed with and have the means to settle there. If they decided to settle with the people and become partners to trade amongst, they would have also dominated since their intention was already to trade and have ships full of valuable goods. If these were switched I think it would have been very possible for China to be the leading country of the world for many generations. The exploration of new lands would have most likely prompted them to expand even after Zheng He passed instead of choosing to discontinue expanding their advantage over the oceans and naval control when using these resources to build the Great Wall of China to defend off the nomads.