In the early 1800’s, British Navy forced Thousands of American sails to serve on their ships
This was one of many dangers that Americans faced as their sea trade began to thrive
Trading Around the World

- Trade overseas grew rapidly after the Revolution
- At times, voyages lasted 3 years
- Ice was traded for silk & spices in India
- Empress of China was 1\textsuperscript{st} American ship to trade w/ China
- Traders bought fur from Native Americans, then sold them for profits in China
- Barbary States: Nations along the coast of North Africa
- United States paid a \textit{tribute (bribery)} to rulers of the Barbary States
Continued

• President Jefferson had the Navy block the port of Tripoli after they increased demands

• The American ship Philadelphia ran aground in Tripoli and was boarded by Pirates

• Naval Officer Stephen Decatur sailed into Tripoli and set the ship on fire, so it could not be used by the pirates to attack other ships

• Tripoli ruler signed a treaty in 1805 promising not to interfere with American ships
American Neutrality is Violated

• American ships were faced with another problem when Britain & France went to war in 1803
• Neither Britain or France wanted them to trade with their enemies, so like in the 1790’s, they ignored the claims of Neutrality
• Napoleon seized ships in route to England
• British stopped Yankee traders on their way to France
• Between 1805 & 1807, hundreds of American ships were captured
• Impressment (Practice of forcing people into service) was stepped up by British navy to gain more people into service
• Many American born sailors were impressed after being captured by British ships
Jefferson Tries an Embargo

• Like Presidents Washington & Adams, Jefferson tried to avoid war b/c he knew the small American fleet was no match for the British Navy
• **Embargo**: *(ban on trade)*
• President Jefferson persuaded Congress to impose a total embargo on Foreign Trade in 1807
• The **Embargo Act** hurt Britain & France, but ended up hurting the Americans more
• Imports such as tea, sugar & molasses were cut off
• Exports dropped by more than $80 million in one year
Continued

• Merchants turned to smuggling (importing or exporting goods in violation of trade laws)
• Between United States & Canada, federal troops were engaged with skirmishes against smugglers
• Jefferson admitted that the Embargo Act failed in 1809
• Non-intercourse Act was milder b/c it allowed trade with all nations except Britain & France
• The Embargo was the most unpopular measure of his Presidency
• Secretary of State James Madison was elected as President in 1808 after Jefferson decided not to run for a 3\textsuperscript{rd} term