

*"The victory of the Union in the civil war was inevitable." How far do you agree with this view?*

The victory of the union in the Civil War was inevitable because of the supremacy of Lincoln's governing, the industrialization in the North, and military tactic: However, the union is initially losing and Lincoln had trouble finding a fit general.

The victory of the North was inevitable because of Lincoln's superiority in both foreign and legislative matters. Lincoln's labeling of the South as a "belligerent nation" is a brilliant idea because he does not have to follow the rules of war and his "naval blockade" can search what goes in and out of the South as well as restricting the exports of Southern agriculture to Britain. His foreign policy of ships searching a belligerent nation demonstrates his superior foreign policy because the South is far less industrialized so they can produce the resource but have no way to manufacture it into something truly useful. Lincoln's supremacy in foreign affairs are essential in winning the war. Additionally, Lincoln passes a lot of legislature that is both new and effective. He passes the first enrollment act to get more soldiers. This is important because a large portion of their army is being drawn on to keep the Border States in the Union and because in this type of warfare the biggest army typically wins. As well as that, he institutes the first income act to finance the war. Lincoln's supremacy in foreign policy and legislature are brilliant and almost impossible to create a defense for. Because of Lincoln's superiority, A Union Victory seems inevitable.

The industrialization and location of resources in the North in comparison with the South make the victory of the Union indubitable inevitable. The South only has 20,000 factories in comparison with the North's 100,000 factories due to the Southern prevalence of an agricultural society. Because the north retains the Border States in the Union, they have access to a portion of materials that cannot be found elsewhere. The North has almost all the iron and coal in the US and the factories to manufacture them. They can create more guns, more clothing, and more ammunition than the South can. Additionally, the North has a much larger population giving them a huge advantage because in the type of war they are fighting those with the larger numbers win because the war is fought primarily with infantry thus making victory inevitable. Around 80 percent of the wealth in the US is in the North, thus making it impossible to compete with in terms of funding because Lincoln's income tax. Innovation in the north was also seeking a climax because of Lincoln's Morrill Land Grant act that allowed land to build universities for agriculture and mechanics. The abundance of resources and vast industrialization in the North made a Union victory inevitable.

Union military tactics also made the Union Victory inevitable because the Anaconda plan cut off all the Southern means of transport and export and the Emancipation (issued as a war command by Lincoln) added soldiers to the Union army. The anaconda plan restricted almost any way of the South exporting its goods or transporting them to manufacturing sites within the Union. The restricting of Southern cotton export to Britain is important in demolishing the South because Britain is no longer being supplied so they go elsewhere and do not need to return to depend on the South for cotton. The cut off of exports greatly diminishes the Southern economy, thus making them completely unable to compete with the Northern economy. Therefore, union victory is inevitable. Additionally, The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect on the first of January 1863 and no slave wants to stay in

the South after that so they all flee North or West. A large portion now serves in the Union army just adding to their already dominant numbers and generates the loss of more economic value in the South. The war order of the Emancipation added to Union advantage, therefore, Union Victory was inevitable.

Although the Union has extensive advantages, in the first 2 years of the war they are losing. The Anaconda Plan takes a longer time to come into effect and the South only has to play a defensive war. The South doesn't even have to win the war, it just has to not lose. Because of the initial inefficacy of the Anaconda plan from 1860-1862, the Union has to change its approach from preserving the union to addition of the abolition of slavery. Although the North can be identified for its "moral superiority" there were many people that didn't like this so riots occurred. These riots gave way for Lincoln to suspend habeas corpus and the stripping of rights was never something that came without opposition. For the first two years, a Union Victory is not seen as inevitable because of initial inefficacy of the Anaconda Plan.

Furthermore, The Union had a hard time finding a fit general. Lincoln's first choice for a military commander was Robert E. Lee, a general who was top of his class in west point without a demerit, but he goes with the South after succession of his state. Additionally, Lincoln had never seen war compared to Jefferson Davis who had been a war hero in the Mexican- American war. Lincoln starts with Winfield Scott who devises the Anaconda Plan, and then has General McClellan. McClellan was a good organizer but not the relentless offensive general that the North needed to combat a Southern defensive war. After 2 prolonged years, General Ulysses S. Grant emerges as fit leader, although he leads the North to victory, he is a drunkard in the absence of his wife. An additional general that Lincoln finally finds the scorched earth policy advocate, William Sherman, who after the turning point of the war burns from Atlanta to the coast and then straight up to Colombia. Lincoln has instable and poor generals for a more than half of the war and his military commanders in comparisons with the South held no true advantage, thus making a Union victory seem possible, but not inevitable.

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