

Yes, the U.S. should have entered World War I.

Yes, the Germans had to be stopped. Once the sinking of the *Lusitania* occurred the U.S. made an attempt to get Germany to pay back the victim's survivors. However, Germany didn't accept this idea. Instead Germany ignored the U.S. President Wilson demanded that the German government abandon its submarine warfare or the U.S. would be forced to declare war. There were multiple instances in which U-boats destroyed passenger ships holding Americans, and this left many U.S. citizens outraged. In May of 1915, a British passenger ship called *Lusitania* entered the war zone. A German submarine destroyed the ship with its torpedoes, killing about 1,200 people which included 128 Americans. Another instance was in March of 1916, when once again, German submarines fired upon a passenger ship. This time it was a French ship the *Sussex*, and several Americans were injured. Germans repeatedly attacked Americans and this cannot be left unanswered.

The Allies were losing the war. They were exhausted from all the years of fighting and trench warfare. Once Russia dropped out, all the German troops moved toward the Western Front. This was a big blow to the Allies. If it weren't for the U.S., the Allies probably would have lost the war.

The Germans continually poked and prodded at the U.S. trying to get them to enter the war. They agreed to the "Sussex Pledge" but then decided to resume unrestricted submarine warfare because they thought if they did they could beat the British very quickly, even if the United States joined the war. Finally, there was also the Zimmerman Telegram which was proof that Germany was waiting for the U.S. to enter the war.

Another reason the U.S. got involved was financial. The U.S. has strong economic ties with Great Britain and France. They could not just stop trading with the Allies because of the Germans. The U.S. was also exporting goods to the Germans during that time, but not as many goods. Although the U.S. was supposedly 'neutral,' they obviously benefited from their trade with France and Britain more. The U.S. had much more money invested with France and Britain. The U.S. wanted to guarantee that France and Britain would win the war, so that the U.S. could be paid back all of the money they had financed and loaned to them for the war.