Manufacturers are required to convert facilities for war production. By 1943, America achieves “full industrial mobilization for total war,” producing 19 million tons of new ships, 86,000 aircraft, and other military supplies.

By 1948, reconverted industries reach new production marks as consumers replenish depleted stocks of durable goods. In fiscal 1949, the U.S. government provides $6.3 billion, or one-sixth of its total outlays, for foreign aid.

Find more Survey history at www.bea.gov/scb/centennial/decades/1940s.htm