

## Lend-Lease Act

Read the article and insert the correct words:

abroad - declared - extended - gave - known - meant - pay - received - remedy

Even before the United States entered World War II in late 1941, it helped the Allied Powers through the lend-lease program. Proposed by U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, with this program the Allies ..... war materials—such as ammunition, tanks(=carri armati), airplanes, and trucks—and food and other raw materials(=materie prime).

In June 1940 Roosevelt decided that the United States wanted to help the Allies. He..... : "The United States will extend to the opponents of force the material resources of this nation." Under existing U.S. law, however, Great Britain had to ..... for its arms purchases(=acquisti) from the United States with cash(=contanti).

This arrangement was popularly ..... as *cash-and-carry*. By the summer of 1940, the new British prime minister, Winston Churchill, was warning that his country could not pay cash for war materials much longer.

To ..... this situation, Roosevelt proposed the concept of *lend(=prestare)-lease(=affittare)* in December 1940. The U.S. Congress passed his Lend-Lease Act in March 1941. This legislation ..... the president the authority to help any country whose defense he believed vital to the United States and to accept repayment "in kind or property, or any other direct or indirect benefit which the President thinks satisfactory."

Although lend-lease had been authorized primarily in an effort to help Great Britain, it was ..... to China in April and to the Soviet Union in September. The countries who received help were the British Commonwealth countries (about 63 percent) and the Soviet Union (about 22 percent), though by the end of the war more than 40 countries had received lend-lease help.

Much of the aid, about \$50 billion, became real gifts(=regali). Some of the cost of the lend-lease program was counterbalanced by so-called "reverse lend-lease". This ..... that the Allied countries gave U.S. troops stationed ..... about \$8 billion worth of aid.

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1 billion = 1 miliardo