

# American Imperialism

## Motivations for Imperialism

1. ECONOMIC INTERESTS (RESOURCES/MARKETS)
2. SOCIAL DARWINISM (WHITE MAN'S BURDEN): JOSIAH STONG "OUR COUNTRY"
3. RELIGIOUS MOTIVES/HUMANITARIANISM → ANGLICAN SUPERIORITY
4. MILITARY/STRATEGIC INTERESTS

MANUFACTURED GOODS & AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

## Additional Notes:

IMPERIALIST ACTIONS OF THE LATE 1890'S HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO HELPING BRING AN END TO THE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION OF THE MID 90'S

SPREAD PROTESTANTISM

Impact of Alfred T. Mahan: "THE INFLUENCE OF SEA POWER ON THE WORLD" (1890)

- ↳ STONG'S NAVY = WORLD POWER | SECURE MARKETS
- ↳ NEED COALING STATIONS & PORTS

The Great White Fleet: U.S. 3<sup>RD</sup> LARGEST NAVY IN WORLD BY 1900  
ROOSEVELT

- ↳ 1907-1909 DEMONSTRATION OF NAVAL POWER TO JAPAN & EUROPE BY CIRCUMNAVIGATION THE WORLD

## Early Examples of Imperialism

1. JAPAN (1853-54)
2. ALASKA (1867): "SEWARD'S ICEBOX"
3. HAWAII (1900)
  - ↳ DESIRE FOR PEARL HARBOR
  - ↳ OVERTHREW UN'T IN 1893

"You furnish the pictures and I'll furnish the war!"

-William Randolph Hearst

## The Spanish-American War: 1898

Causes:

1. CUBAN REVOLT / RECONCENTRATION POLICY
2. DE LOME LETTER (CRITICAL OF U.S. PRES.)
3. SINKING OF THE USS MAINE (260 KILLED) \* HAD BEEN SENT TO PROTECT U.S. INTERESTS IN CUBA
4. YELLOW JOURNALISM
  - ↳ SENSATIONAL REPORTING / EXAGGERATION OF SPANISH ATROCITIES IN CUBA

COMMODORE MATTHEW PERCY "OPENS" JAPAN (1853)
 

- ↳ TREATY OF KANAGAWA (1854) ALLOWED U.S. TO EST. TRADE W/ JAPAN

VALERIANO WELTOR SENT TO CUBA BY SPAIN TO CRUSH REVOLT → 170,000 DIE IN CAMPS
 

- ↳ U.S. PRESS CALLED "THE BUTCHER"

"REMEMBER THE MAINE! TO HELL WITH SPAIN!"
 

- ↳ LIKELY AN ACCIDENT (INTERNAL)
- ↳ TOOK ANOTHER 2 MONTHS TO DECLARE WAR
- ↳ PUBLIC OPINION!

The Treaty of Paris (1898) gave what three territories to the United States?

1. GUAM
2. PUERTO RICO

INSULAR CASES (1901)
 

- ↳ DID CONSTITUTION APPLY TO US TERRITORIES?
- ↳ NO! POWER TO GRANT COMES FROM CONGRESS

Foraker Act (1903): ALL FEDERAL LAWS IN EFFECT

AMER. GOV'T APPOINTS P.R. GOVERNOR & ALL IMPORTANT POSITIONS  
P.R.'S NOT CITIZENS

Jones Act (1917): GAVE P.R.'S CITIZENSHIP & CIVIL RIGHTS (CAN'T APPOINT GOVERNOR OR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT)  
CAN ELECT LOCAL LEGISLATORS; NON-VOTING REP.

3. PHILIPPINES (FOR \$20 MILLION)

Did Cuba become a colony or a protectorate?

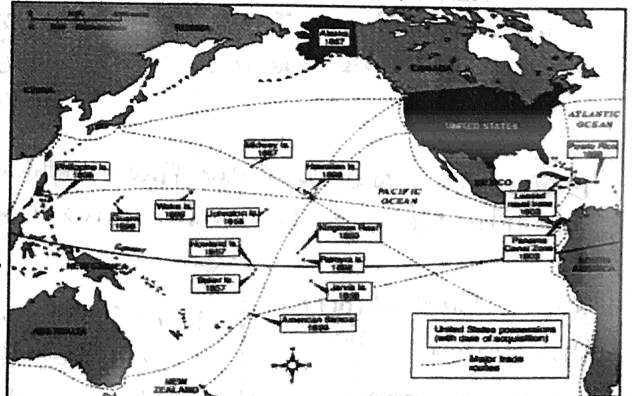
Teller Amendment (1898): U.S. HAD NO INTENTION OF ANNEXING CUBA

Platt Amendment (1903): U.S. HAD LEFT TROOPS IN CUBA FOLLOWING WAR

CUBANS HATED!

- 1) CAN'T SIGN TREATY THAT ENDANGERED INDEPENDENCE
- 2) U.S. MAY INTERVENE IN CUBAN AFFAIRS TO PRESERVE LAW/ORDER
- 3) U.S. NAVAL BASE IN CUBA (GUANTANAMO BAY)

United States Territory and Leases, 1857-1903



Source: Mapbox.com (adapted)

## China and its "Open Door"

What was the Open Door Policy?

ALL NATIONS WOULD HAVE EQUAL TRADING RIGHTS / PRIVILEGES IN CHINA  
 ↳ NO NATION REJECTED OUTWARDLY\*

## Roosevelt's "Big Stick" and the Monroe Doctrine

Venezuela Crisis (1902-1903): VENEZUELA HAD REFUSED TO PAY OFF ITS DEBT TO ENGLAND & FRANCE  
 ↳ THREATENED INTERVENTION

What problem was created by the Crisis?

VENEZUELA HAD HOPE THE U.S. WOULD PROTECT THEM FROM EUROPEAN INTERVENTION BY WAY OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE

What was the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine?

U.S. WOULD SEND GUNBOATS ("GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY") TO A LATIN COUNTRY DELINQUENT ON ITS DEBTS TO OCCUPY THAT NATION'S PORTS UNTIL DEBTS WERE PAID

What is meant by the saying, "Speak softly, and carry a big stick?"

"... INTELLIGENT FORE THOUGHT... DECISIVE ACTION..."

TO NEGOTIATE / COMPROMISE PEACEFULLY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THREATEN WITH MILITARY FORCE

How did Roosevelt invoke the Monroe Doctrine in Panama? 1903-1914

COLOMBIA REFUSED U.S. OFFER → ROOSEVELT BACKED PANAMANIAN REBELS → SENT SUPPLIES & GUNSHIPS → PANAMA INDEPENDENCE = U.S. CANAL RIGHTS

## Taft's "Dollar Diplomacy" (\$ > BATTLESHIPS / FORCE)

What is meant by "Dollar Diplomacy"?

PROMOTING U.S. TRADE BY SUPPORTING U.S. ENTERPRISES ABROAD (USE FINANCIAL POWER TO EXPAND INFLUENCE)

Examples:

NICARAGUA (1911-1912): U.S. FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS AT RISK DURING A REBELLION  
 ↳ TAFT SENT IN MARINES (STAYED UNTIL 1933)

## The Annexation of the Philippines Debate

Imperialist Arguments:

1. EDUCATE ("CIVILIZE")
2. INDUSTRIALIZE / ACCESS TO RESOURCES
3. ACCESS TO CHINESE MARKETS

Anti-Imperialist Arguments:

1. HYPOCRITICAL (VIOLATED D.O.I.)
2. DENIED FILIPPINO SELF-GOV'T
3. CREATED RACIAL TENSIONS
4. ENTANGLED U.S. IN ASIAN CONFLICTS

Who led the Filipino Rebellion?

EMILIO AGUINALDO (ORIGINALLY FIGHT ALONGSIDE U.S.)

↳ 1899-1902: 6,000 U.S. SOLDIERS KILLED & 400,000 FILIPPINOS KILLED

What was the outcome of the rebellion? Its cost in lives and dollars?

400,000 FILIPPINOS DEAD  
 \$400 MILLION

1916 JONES ACT (PRES. WILSON)  
 - GRANTED BILL OF RIGHTS & SUFFRAGE  
 - PROMISED FUTURE INDEPENDENCE (1947)



## Boxer Rebellion (1906)

### Additional Notes:

- US SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN HAY FEARED THAT CHINA (AND ITS MARKETS) WAS FALLING UNDER EUROPEAN & JAPANESE INFLUENCE / CONTROL
- JAPAN WILL TRY TO SHUT UP U.S. INVESTMENT IN MANCHURIA (NORTHERN CHINA) IN 1911...
- BROUGHT U.S. & ENGLAND CLOSE TOGETHER

- U.S. COMPETED W/ FRANCE FOR RIGHTS TO CONSTRUCT PANAMA CANAL (DROVE COSTS UP)  
 ↳ PANAMA HAD BEEN A PART OF COLOMBIA
- U.S. HAD RIGHTS TO CANAL IN "PERPETUITY" (GAVE BACK IN 2000)

### WILSON'S "MORAL DIPLOMACY":

- RESPECT OTHER NATION'S RIGHTS & HELP SUPPORT THE SPREAD OF DEMOCRACY
- EX: JONES ACT ENDED EXEMPTION FOR U.S. SHIP IN PANAMA CANAL
- INVADED MEXICO IN 1916 (PANCHO VILLA)