American Expansionism
(pages 548-550)

Why did Americans support imperialism?

In 1893, Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii gave up her throne. Hawaii was about to be taken over by the United States.

By the 1880s, many American leaders thought the United States should establish colonies overseas. This idea was called imperialism—the policy in which stronger nations extend economic, political, or military control over weaker territories. European countries had competed for territory all over the world. Most Americans gradually accepted the idea of overseas expansion.

Three factors fueled American imperialism: desire for military strength, thirst for new markets, and a belief in the superiority of American culture.

Admiral Alfred T. Mahan of the U.S. Navy supported growing American naval power so the U.S. could compete with other nations. The U.S. built such modern battleships as the Maine and the Oregon. The new ships made the U.S. the world's largest naval power.

By the late 1800s, technology had changed American farms and factories. They produced more than Americans could consume. So the U.S. needed foreign trade. American businesses needed markets for their products and raw materials for their factories.
The third root of American imperialism was a belief that the people of the United States were better than the people of other countries. This racist belief came from people's pride in their Anglo-Saxon (Northern European) heritage. People sometimes felt they had a duty to spread their culture and Christian religion among other people.

1. What were three reasons Americans supported imperialism?

The United States Acquires Alaska; The United States Takes Hawaii (pages 550–551)

How did the Hawaiian Islands become a U.S. territory?

William Seward was Secretary of State for presidents Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. In 1867 he purchased Alaska from Russia for $7.2 million. Some opponents in Congress made fun of the deal calling it "Seward's Icebox" or "Seward's Folly."

The Hawaiian Islands, in the Pacific Ocean, had been important to the United States since the 1790s. Merchants had stopped there on their way to China and India. In the 1820s, American missionaries founded Christian schools and churches on the islands.

A number of Americans had established sugar plantations in Hawaii. In the mid-1800s, these large farms accounted for about three-quarters of the wealth in the islands. Plantation owners brought thousands of laborers to Hawaii from Japan, Portugal, and China. This weakened the influence of the native Hawaiians. By 1900, the foreign laborers outnumbered the Hawaiians three to one.

In 1875, the United States agreed to import Hawaiian sugar duty-free. Over the next 15 years, Hawaiian sugar production increased nine times. Then the McKinley Tariff caused a crisis for Hawaiian sugar growers. With the duty on their sugar, Hawaiian growers faced stiff competition from other growers. The powerful Hawaiian sugar growers called for the U.S. to annex Hawaii. The U.S. military had already understood the value of Hawaii. In 1887, the U.S. forced Hawaii to let it build a naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii's best port.

When the Hawaiian king died in 1891, his sister became queen. Queen Liliuokalani wanted a new constitution that would give voting power back to ordinary Hawaiians. American business interests did not want this to happen.

American business groups organized a revolt against the queen. The U.S. ambassador John L. Stevens helped them. The planters took control of the island. They established a temporary government and made American businessman Sanford B. Dole the president.

Stevens urged the U.S. government to annex the Hawaiian Islands. President Grover Cleveland refused to take over the islands unless a majority of Hawaiians favored that. In 1897, however, William McKinley became president. He favored annexation. In 1898, Hawaii became a U.S. territory.

2. How did Hawaiians lose control of their islands?
CHAPTER 18 Section 2 (pages 552–557)

The Spanish–American War

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you learned how the United States became an imperialist power and took over the Hawaiian Islands.

In this section, you will learn how the United States became involved in Cuba and fought a war with Spain.

AS YOU READ

Use this timeline to take notes. In each box, write what happened on that date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February 15, 1898</th>
<th>May 1, 1898</th>
<th>February 6, 1899</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.S. Maine explodes in Cuban harbor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cubans Rebel Against Spain

(pages 552–553)

What happened when Cuba rebelled against Spain?

Between 1868 and 1878, Cubans fought their first war for independence from Spain. The rebels did not win, but they did force Spain to abolish slavery in 1886. After that, United States capitalists invested heavily in sugar cane plantations in Cuba.

Sugar was the most important product of Cuba. The United States was the main market for the sugar. As long as the United States did not charge a tariff on Cuban sugar, the Cuban economy thrived. But the Cuban economy collapsed in 1894 when a tariff on sugar was imposed.

In 1895, Cubans began a second war for independence. The rebellion was led by José Martí. He was a Cuban poet and journalist who had been living in exile in New York. The rebels wanted the United States to join their cause.

American opinion was mixed. Some wanted to support Spain in order to keep their investments safe. Others wanted to help the Cuban people win their freedom from Spain just as the United States had won its independence from England.

1. How did Cuba’s two wars for independence affect American business interests?
War Fever Escalates  
(pages 553–554)

Why did Americans become angry with Spain?

In 1896, Spain sent an army to Cuba to restore order. The army was led by General Valeriano Weyler. Weyler rounded up the entire rural population of central and western Cuba. He kept 300,000 people as prisoners in concentration camps. That way they could not help the rebels. Many of them died of hunger and disease.

This story was widely reported in the United States. Rival newspapers in New York made the terrible events sound even worse. They exaggerated the brutality of the story in order to attract readers. These sensational stories became known as yellow journalism—reporting that exaggerates the news in order to make it more exciting.

William McKinley became president in 1897. At that time, many Americans wanted the United States to help the rebels against Spain. McKinley tried to find a peaceful solution to the crisis. His efforts had several positive results. Spain sent General Weyler home, changed the concentration camp policy, and gave Cuba limited self-government.

Then two events made Americans very angry at Spain. The first was the publication of a letter that insulted the American president. The de Lôme letter was written by a Spanish diplomat. It criticized McKinley for being weak. Although some Americans agreed that the president was weak, they did not want to hear this criticism from a Spanish official.

Only a few days after the letter was published, something worse happened. The battleship U.S.S. Maine was stationed in Cuba to protect American lives and property. On February 15, 1898, the ship exploded. The ship sank, and 260 officers and crew on board died. The cause of the explosion was not known. However, newspapers blamed Spain. Americans cried for war.

2. What two events led Americans to call for war against Spain?

War with Spain Erupts  
(pages 554–557)

Where and when did the fighting take place?

On April 20, 1898, the United States went to war with Spain. The first battle took place in the Philippines. The Philippines had been a Spanish colony for 300 years. They had rebelled many times. In 1896, they began another rebellion.

On May 1, 1898, the American naval commander George Dewey sailed into Manila Bay in the Philippines. His ships destroyed the Spanish fleet there. In the next two months, U.S. soldiers fought on the side of the Filipino rebels. The Spanish surrendered to the United States in August.

In Cuba, the American navy blocked off the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. Spanish ships could not leave. Then American troops landed on the island in June 1898.

One unit of volunteer soldiers was called the Rough Riders. Theodore Roosevelt was one of their leaders. They helped win the important battle of San Juan Hill. American newspapers made Roosevelt a hero.

When the Spanish ships tried to leave the harbor, their fleet was destroyed. This led the Spanish to surrender on July 25.

Spain quickly agreed to a peace treaty: The Treaty of Paris granted Cuba its independence. Spain gave Puerto Rico and the Pacific island of Guam to the United States. The United States paid Spain $20 million for the annexation of the Philippine Islands. The Treaty of Paris touched off a great debate in the United States about imperialism. President McKinley was in favor of it. But some Americans said annexing territories violated the spirit of the Declaration of Independence by denying self-government to the new territories. Booker T. Washington and Samuel Gompers also opposed the treaty. The Senate approved the treaty on February 6, 1899.

3. What three territories did the United States get from the war with Spain?
Acquiring New Lands

BEFORE YOU READ
In the last section, you learned how the United States and Spain fought over Cuba and the Philippines.
In this section, you will read how the United States continued its imperialism.

AS YOU READ
Use this diagram to take notes. Fill in the boxes to describe the relationships between the United States and Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Philippines, and China.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>AMERICAN ACTIONS</th>
<th>RESPONSES TO ACTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>sent military forces to Puerto Rico in 1898</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Philippines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ruling Puerto Rico  (pages 558-559)

How did Puerto Ricans feel about U.S. control?

Puerto Rico had become an American territory as a result of the Spanish–American War. American forces landed in Puerto Rico in July 1898. The commanding officer declared that the Americans were there to protect the Puerto Ricans. But other U.S. military officials insulted the Puerto Ricans. They spoke of them as children and set limits on their personal freedom. Many Puerto Ricans began to resent the military government.

In 1900, Congress passed the Foraker Act which ended military rule and set up a civil government.

The United States kept strict control over the people and their government. In 1917, however, Congress made Puerto Ricans U.S. citizens.

1. Why did some Puerto Ricans resent U.S. control of their government?
Cuba and the United States
(pages 559–561)

How did the United States keep control over Cuba?

Cuba was officially independent after the war. The U.S. army, however, remained in Cuba for four years. It punished Cubans who did not like this American occupation.

In 1900, the new Cuban government wrote a constitution. The United States insisted they add the Platt Amendment. The amendment limited Cuba's rights in dealing with other countries. It gave the United States special privileges, including the right to intervene to preserve order.

Cuba became a U.S. protectorate—a country whose affairs are partially controlled by a stronger power. The United States insisted on these rights because of its economic interests in Cuba.

2. What did the United States do to protect business interests in Cuba?

Filipinos Rebel (page 561)

Why did the Filipinos rebel against the United States?

Filipinos had been fighting for independence for years. They were angry that the United States had annexed their islands. Rebel leader Emilio Aguinaldo believed that the United States had promised independence. He felt that the United States had betrayed the Filipinos after helping them win independence.

In 1899, Aguinaldo started a rebellion, which lasted three years. After winning that war, the United States set up a government similar to the one it had set up in Cuba.

3. Why did Aguinaldo feel betrayed by the United States?

Foreign Influence in China
(pages 562–563)

What were U.S. interests in China?

By 1899, many countries had economic interests in China. The United States wanted to be able to trade with China. The Secretary of State John Hay sent a statement of this policy to the other countries. His policy statements were called the Open Door notes. They called for China's ports to remain open and for China to remain independent. No country would have special trading rights. The other countries agreed.

In 1900, a secret society in China started a rebellion. They were protesting the influence of Western countries in China. Troops from many countries including the United States fought against the rebels, or Boxers. After the Boxer Rebellion was defeated, the United States issued more Open Door notes to make sure other countries did not make colonies out of China.

4. Why did Secretary of State John Hay issue the Open Door notes?

The Impact of U.S. Territorial Gains (page 564)

How did Americans feel about U.S. imperialism?

President William McKinley was reelected in 1900. His opponent had been an anti-imperialist, William Jennings Bryan. The outcome of the election suggests that most Americans disagreed with Bryan. Imperialism was popular.

An Anti-Imperialist League formed including some prominent Americans. Among its members were former president Grover Cleveland, Andrew Carnegie, Jane Addams, and Mark Twain. Each had their own reasons for being against imperialism. But all agreed it was wrong for the United States to rule other people without their consent.

5. What did McKinley's reelection show about American attitudes toward imperialism?
America as a World Power

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you learned about the growth of American imperialism.

In this section, you will learn how Roosevelt and Wilson used American military and economic power.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes. Fill in the boxes as you read about Roosevelt's and Wilson's use of American power.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USING AMERICAN POWER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roosevelt</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediated settlement in Russo-Japanese War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used his influence to help build the Panama Canal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teddy Roosevelt and the World
(pages 565–566)

How did Roosevelt use American power?

In 1901, President McKinley was assassinated, and Theodore Roosevelt became president. Roosevelt continued the policies of imperialism. He first used U.S. influence to help settle the Russo-Japanese War.

The war began in 1904. Both Russia and Japan wanted to control Korea. Japan captured Korea and also invaded Manchuria, which was controlled by Russia.

Then Japan wanted to stop the fighting. The Japanese asked President Roosevelt to mediate the conflict. In 1905, representatives of Russia and Japan met. Roosevelt used his personal charm to help them negotiate a compromise. They signed a treaty, and Roosevelt received the 1906 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts.

Roosevelt also used his influence to help build the Panama Canal. The idea of a canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans had been discussed for some time. Such a canal would cut travel time for military and commercial ships. Ships would no longer have to go all the way around South America in order to get from one ocean to the other.

The narrow Isthmus of Panama was a logical place to cut a canal. Political problems stood in the way, however. Panama was a province of Colombia. When Colombia did not agree to the canal, the United States helped Panama to rebel against Colombia. Panama became independent. Then the United States got Panama's permission to build the canal.
Construction of the Panama Canal was one of the world's greatest engineering accomplishments. Work began in 1904 and took 10 years. In 1913, there were 43,400 workers on the project. The work was hard and dangerous.

On August 15, 1914, the canal opened for business. It was a success from the start. More than 1,000 ships passed through during its first year. However, relations between the United States and Latin America had been damaged by the takeover of Panama.

President Roosevelt wanted the United States to be the major power in the Caribbean and Central America. He declared his policy in a message to Congress in 1904. His statement was called the Roosevelt Corollary. A corollary is a logical result of another statement, in this case the Monroe Doctrine of 1823. That doctrine had said the United States would not allow European influence in the Western Hemisphere. Roosevelt now said that the United States had the right to intervene in Latin American countries to protect U.S. business interests.

In 1911, President Taft used this policy in Nicaragua. A rebellion had left the country in debt. Taft arranged for U.S. bankers to loan Nicaragua money. In exchange, American business took control of the railroads and banks in the country. They also collected Nicaragua’s custom duties.

Nicaraguans did not like this arrangement. They rebelled. The United States then sent troops to Nicaragua to preserve the peace. Those who did not like this kind of intervention called it dollar diplomacy.

1. What are two ways Roosevelt used U.S. power in other countries?

Woodrow Wilson’s Missionary Diplomacy (pages 569–571)

Why did President Wilson send troops to Mexico?

President Woodrow Wilson took a step beyond Presidents Monroe and Roosevelt by adding a moral tone to Latin American policy. He said that the United States must act in certain circumstances.

This so-called “missionary diplomacy” meant that the United States could not officially recognize governments that were oppressive, undemocratic, or opposed to U.S. business interests. The new doctrine put pressure on countries to have democratic governments. A revolution in Mexico tested this policy.

In 1910, Mexican peasants and workers rebelled against their military dictator. Two new governments followed, the second headed by General Victoriano Huerta. Wilson refused to support the Huerta government because it came to power through violence.

Wilson sent in troops. When a new leader, Venustiano Carranza, took power in Mexico, Wilson withdrew the troops.

Mexico remained in turmoil. Under the leadership of Francisco “Pancho” Villa and Emiliano Zapata, rebels revolted against Carranza. Some of Villa’s followers killed Americans. The United States wanted to capture Villa.

Finally the Mexican government gave permission to send in troops. Wilson sent General John J. Pershing with 15,000 soldiers. A year later, Villa was still free. Wilson then stationed 150,000 National Guardsmen along the border.

Mexicans were angered by the U.S. invasion. In 1916, U.S. troops fought with Carranza’s army. In 1917, Wilson withdrew U.S. troops. At that time, he was facing possible war in Europe.

Finally, Mexico adopted a constitution. The Mexicans regained control of their own resources and put limits on foreign investment. American intervention in Mexico showed how far the United States was willing to go to protect its economic interests.

In the early 20th century, the U.S. pursued several foreign policy goals. It expanded its access to foreign markets. It built a modern navy to protect its interest abroad. It used its international police power to get its way in Latin America.

2. What were two reasons Wilson sent troops to Mexico?
Glossary

abolish  Put an end to
annex  Add to a country as a territory or protectorate
brutality  Cruelty
capitalist  A person who invests money in business
diplomat  A person sent to another country as a representative
duty-free  Free from government tax
engineering  Applying science and mathematics to practical problems
Filipino  A native or inhabitant of the Philippines

CHAPTER 18

in exile  Not allowed to live in one's own country
intervention  To interfere in the affairs of another country
isthmus  A narrow strip of land
mediate  To help two sides negotiate, as a peacemaker
moral  Based on a judgment of right and wrong
negotiate  To try to reach an agreement by talking
occupation  The act of taking over and holding a place

America Claims an Empire

oppressive  Cruel, harsh
racist  Based on the prejudice that one race is better than another
recognize  To accept officially that a government has the right to be in power
technology  Practical devices and machines invented by science
territory  Area under the control of a country as a colonial possession
turmoil  Confusion and upset

AFTER YOU READ

Terms and Names

A. Write the letter of the name that best matches each description.

a. Francisco “Pancho” Villa
b. Alfred T. Mahan
c. Theodore Roosevelt
d. Woodrow Wilson
e. John Hay
f. José Martí

1. U.S. naval officer who supported imperialism
2. Cuban poet and journalist who launched a revolution
3. Secretary of state who issued the Open Door notes
4. President who used missionary diplomacy
5. Mexican revolutionary leader American troops tried to capture

B. Fill in the blank with the letter of the name or term that best completes each sentence.

a. Rough Riders
b. the Philippines
c. Sanford B. Dole
d. Roosevelt Corollary
e. Platt Amendment
f. U.S.S. Maine
g. San Juan Hill
h. Boxer Rebellion
i. Panama
j. Emilio Aguinaldo

1. American business groups created a government in Hawaii with ________ as president.
2. The United States declared war on Spain, soon after the ________ exploded in a Cuban harbor.
3. After the Spanish–American War, the United States paid Spain $20 million to annex ________.
4. The ________ gave the United States broad rights in the affairs of Cuba.
5. The Filipino rebel leader ________, believed that the United States had betrayed his people.
6. The United States helped to start a revolution in ________ in order to get land for a canal.
7. The battle of ________ in Cuba helped the United States defeat Spain.
8. A Chinese secret society led the _______ to protest Western influence in their country.
9. The _______ stated that the United States could intervene in Latin American countries.
10. _______ was the nickname of Theodore Roosevelt's cavalry unit.

Main Ideas
1. What benefits did countries get from practicing imperialism?
   Military Strength, New markets for trade, Control over other nations - economy and politics

2. How were Americans divided about Cuban independence?

3. What sparked the Boxer Rebellion in 1900 and how was it crushed?

4. How did the Roosevelt Corollary lead to dollar diplomacy?

5. How did President Wilson justify his invasion of Mexico?

Thinking Critically
Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Which of Admiral Mahan's goals for becoming a world power do you consider most important? Why?

2. Do you think it was right for the United States to get involved in the affairs of Colombia, Nicaragua, and Mexico? Why or why not?