

America Claims an Empire

Global competition prompts the United States to expand its influence and territory, engage in conflicts around the globe, and build the Panama Canal.

America Claims an Empire

- SECTION 1** Imperialism and America
- SECTION 2** The Spanish-American War
- SECTION 3** Acquiring New Lands
- SECTION 4** America as a World Power

Section 1

Imperialism and America

Beginning in 1867 and continuing through the century, global competition causes the United States to expand.

SECTION

1 Imperialism and America

American Expansionism

Global Competition

- **Imperialism**—policy of extending control over weaker nations
- In 1800s, Europeans divide up most of Africa, compete for China
- Japan joins race for China; U.S. decides to expand overseas

Desire for Military Strength

- Admiral **Alfred T. Mahan** urges U.S. to build up navy to compete
- U.S. builds modern battleships, becomes third largest naval power

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

1

continued **American Expansionism****Thirst for New Markets**

- U.S. farms, factories produce more than Americans can consume
- U.S. needs raw materials, new markets for goods
- Foreign trade: solution to overproduction, unemployment, depression

Belief in Cultural Superiority

- Some combine Social Darwinism, belief in superiority of Anglo-Saxons
- Argue U.S. has duty to Christianize, civilize “inferior peoples”

SECTION

1

The United States Acquires Alaska

Early Expansion

- **William Seward**—Secretary of State under Lincoln, Johnson
- 1867, arranges purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
 - has trouble convincing House to fund purchase
 - Alaska called “Seward’s Icebox,” “Seward’s Folly”
- Alaska rich in timber, minerals, oil

SECTION

1

The United States Takes Hawaii

The Cry for Annexation

- Since 1790s, U.S. merchants stop in Hawaii on way to China, India
- 1820s, Yankee missionaries found schools, churches on islands
- Mid-1800s, American-owned sugar plantations 75% of islands' wealth
- 1887, U.S. pressures Hawaii to allow naval base at **Pearl Harbor**
 - becomes refueling station
- 1890 McKinley Tariff eliminates duty-free status of Hawaiian sugar
- Planters call for U.S. to annex islands so will not have to pay duty

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

1

continued **The United States Takes Hawaii****The End of a Monarchy**

- 1887, businessmen force King Kalakaua to limit vote to landowners
- **Queen Liliuokalani** tries to remove landowning requirement
- With help of marines, business groups overthrow queen
- Set up government headed by **Sanford B. Dole**
- President Cleveland cannot make Dole surrender power to queen
 - recognizes Republic of Hawaii
- Under President McKinley, Congress proclaims Hawaii U.S. territory



Section 2

The Spanish-American War

In 1898, the United States goes to war to help Cuba win its independence from Spain.



NEXT

SECTION

2 The Spanish-American War

Cubans Rebel Against Spain

American Interest in Cuba

- U.S. long interested in Cuba; wants to buy Cuba from Spain
- During 1868–1878 war for independence, American sympathies with Cuba
- 1886 abolition of slavery leads to U.S. investment in sugar cane

The Second War for Independence

- **José Martí**—poet, journalist—launches second revolution in 1895
- Guerrilla campaign destroys American-owned sugar mills, plantations
- U.S. public opinion split:
 - business wants to support Spain
 - others favor Cuban cause

SECTION

2

War Fever Escalates

Spain Takes Action

- 1896, General **Valeriano Weyler** sent to Cuba to restore order
- Puts about 300,000 Cubans in concentration camps

Headline Wars

- Newspapers exploit Weyler's actions in circulation war
- **Yellow journalism**—sensational writing used to lure, enrage readers

Continued . . .



SECTION

2

continued War Fever Escalates**The de Lôme Letter**

- Headlines increase American sympathy for independent Cuba
- McKinley wants to avoid war, tries diplomacy to resolve crisis
- Private letter by Spanish minister Enrique Dupuy de Lôme published
 - calls McKinley weak, swayed by public
- Spain apologizes, de Lôme resigns; American public angry

The *U.S.S. Maine* Explodes

- ***U.S.S. Maine*** sent to pick up U.S. citizens, protect U.S. property
- Ship blows up in Havana harbor; newspapers blame Spain

SECTION

2

War with Spain Erupts

The U.S. Declares War

- Spain agrees to most U.S. demands, public opinion still favors war
- U.S. declares war April 1898

The War in the Philippines

- First battle with Spain occurs in Spanish colony of the Philippines
- Commodore **George Dewey** destroys Spanish fleet in Manila harbor
- Filipinos, led by Emilio Aguinaldo, support Dewey
- August 1898, Spanish troops in Manila surrender to U.S.

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

2

continued War with Spain Erupts**The War in the Caribbean**

- U.S. blockades Cuba; Spanish fleet in Santiago de Cuba harbor
- Unlike navy, U.S. army has small professional force, many volunteers
 - volunteers ill-prepared, ill-supplied

Rough Riders

- **Rough Riders**—Leonard Wood, Theodore Roosevelt lead volunteer cavalry
- Roosevelt declared hero of attack on strategic **San Juan Hill**
- Spanish fleet tries to escape blockade, is destroyed in naval battle
- U.S. troops invade Puerto Rico soon after

Continued . . .

NEXT

SECTION

2

continued War with Spain Erupts**Treaty of Paris**

- Spain, U.S. sign armistice August 1898; meet in Paris to make treaty
- Spain frees Cuba; hands Guam, Puerto Rico to U.S.; sells Philippines

Debate over the Treaty

- **Treaty of Paris** touches off great debate over imperialism
- McKinley tries to justify annexation of Philippines on moral grounds
- Opponents give political, moral, economic arguments against



Section 3

Acquiring New Lands

In the early 1900s, the United States engages in conflicts in Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines.

SECTION

3 Acquiring New Lands

Ruling Puerto Rico

Military Rule

- During Spanish-American War, General Nelson A. Miles occupies island
- Puerto Rico under military control
- People split on independence, statehood, self-government under U.S.

Return to Civil Government

- PR strategic as post in Caribbean, for protection of future canal
- 1900, **Foraker Act** sets up civil government
 - president appoints governor, upper house
- 1917, Puerto Ricans made U.S. citizens; elect both houses



SECTION

3

Cuba and the United States

American Soldiers

- U.S. recognizes Cuban independence from Spain
- Teller Amendment says U.S. has no intention of taking over Cuba
- After war U.S. occupies Cuba; has same officials in office as Spain
 - Cuban protestors imprisoned or exiled
- American military government helps rebuild the country

Continued . . .



SECTION

3

continued Cuba and the United States**Platt Amendment**

- U.S. makes Cuba add **Platt Amendment** to its 1901 constitution
- Platt Amendment does not allow Cuba to go into debt; also stipulates
 - no treaties that let foreign power control land
 - U.S. has right to intervene
 - U.S. can buy, lease land for navy
- **Protectorate**—country whose affairs partly controlled by stronger one

Continued . . .

NEXT

SECTION

3

continued **Cuba and the United States****Protecting American Business Interests**

- U.S. wants strong political presence to protect American businesses
- Some object to colonial entanglements, do not think colonies needed
- U.S. state department continues to push for control of Latin America

SECTION

3

Filipinos Rebel

Philippine-American War

- Filipinos outraged at Treaty of Paris call for annexation
- 1899, **Emilio Aguinaldo** leads fight for independence against U.S.
- U.S. forces Filipinos to live in designated zones in poor conditions
 - white U.S. soldiers see Filipinos as inferior
 - black troops troubled at spreading prejudice
- 20,000 Filipinos die in fight for independence

Aftermath of the War

- U.S. president appoints governor who appoints upper house
 - people elect lower house
- July 4, 1946, Philippines become independent



SECTION

3

Foreign Influence in China

U.S. Interest in China

- U.S. sees China as vast potential market, investment opportunity
- France, Britain, Japan, Russia have settlements, spheres of influence

John Hay's Open Door Notes

- U.S. Secretary of State **John Hay** issues **Open Door notes**
- Notes ask imperialist nations to share trading rights with U.S.
- Other powers reluctantly agree

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

3

continued Foreign Influence in China**The Boxer Rebellion in China**

- Europeans dominate most large Chinese cities
- Chinese form secret societies, including Boxers, to expel foreigners
- Boxers kill hundreds of foreigners, Chinese converts to Christianity
- U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Japan put down **Boxer Rebellion**

Protecting American Rights

- Hay issues new Open Door notes saying U. S. will keep trade open
- Open Door policy reflects beliefs about U.S. economy:
 - growth depends on exports
 - U.S. has right to keep markets open
 - closing of area threatens U.S. survival

SECTION

3

The Impact of U.S. Territorial Gains

The Anti-Imperialist League

- McKinley's reelection confirms most Americans favor imperialism
- Anti-Imperialist League has prominent people from different fields
- For various reasons, agree wrong to rule others without their consent

Section 4

America as a World Power

The Russo-Japanese War, the Panama Canal, and the Mexican Revolution add to America's military and economic power.

SECTION

4 America as a World Power**Teddy Roosevelt and the World**

Roosevelt the Peacemaker

- Roosevelt does not want Europeans to control world economy, politics
- 1904, Japan, Russia dispute control of Korea
- Roosevelt negotiates Treaty of Portsmouth:
 - Japan gets Manchuria, Korea
 - Roosevelt wins Nobel Peace Prize
- U.S., Japan continue diplomatic talks
 - pledge to respect each other's possessions

Continued . . .

SECTION

4

continued **Teddy Roosevelt and the World****Panama Canal**

- U.S. wants canal to cut travel time of commercial, military ships
- U.S. buys French company's route through Panama
- Negotiates with Colombia to build **Panama Canal**; talks break down
- French company agent helps organize Panamanian rebellion
 - U.S. gives military aid
- U.S., Panama sign treaty; U.S. pays \$10 million for Canal Zone

Continued . . .

SECTION

4

continued **Teddy Roosevelt and the World****Constructing the Canal**

- Construction of canal is one of world's greatest engineering feats
 - fight diseases, geographic obstacles
 - at height, 43,400 workers employed

Continued . . .

SECTION

4

continued **Teddy Roosevelt and the World****The Roosevelt Corollary**

- Roosevelt fears European intervention if Latin America defaults
- Reminds Europeans of Monroe Doctrine, demands they stay out
- **Roosevelt Corollary**—U. S. to use force to protect economic interests

Dollar Diplomacy

- Early 1900s, U.S. exercises police power on several occasions
- **Dollar diplomacy**—U.S. guarantees foreign loans by U.S. business

SECTION

4

Woodrow Wilson's Missionary Diplomacy

The Mexican Revolution

- Missionary diplomacy—U.S. has moral responsibility:
 - will not recognize regimes that are oppressive, undemocratic
- Under dictator Porfirio Díaz, much U.S. investment in Mexico
- 1911, peasants, workers led by Francisco Madero overthrow Díaz
- General Victoriano Huerta takes over government; Madero is murdered
- Wilson refuses to recognize Huerta's government

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

4

continued **Woodrow Wilson's Missionary Diplomacy****Intervention in Mexico**

- Huerta's officers arrest U.S. sailors, quickly release them
- Wilson orders Marines to occupy Veracruz
- Argentina, Brazil, Chile mediate to avoid war
- Huerta regime falls; nationalist Venustiano Carranza new president

Rebellion in Mexico

- **Francisco "Pancho" Villa, Emiliano Zapata** oppose Carranza
 - Zapata wants land reform
 - Villa a fierce nationalist
- Wilson recognizes Carranza's government; Villa threatens reprisals
 - Villa's men kill Americans

Continued . . .

NEXT

SECTION

4

continued Woodrow Wilson's Missionary Diplomacy**Chasing Villa**

- Brig. Gen. **John J. Pershing** leads force to capture Villa
- Carranza demands withdrawal of U.S. troops; Wilson at first refuses
- U.S. faces war in Europe, wants peace on southern border
 - Wilson orders Pershing home
- Mexico adopts new constitution:
 - government controls oil, minerals
 - restricts foreign investors
- 1920, Alvaro Obregón new president; ends civil war, starts reforms





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