America’s Path to Empire

APUSH/AP-DC Unit 7 - Period 2
Major Events 1890-1892

McKinley Tariff – October 1, 1890

● Raised the average duty on imports to almost fifty percent
● Intended to protect domestic industries from foreign competition
● Revenue decreased by about four percent from $225 million to $215 million

Baltimore Crisis - October 16, 1891

● A diplomatic incident that took place between Chile and the United States
● A mob attacked a group of sailors on shore leave from the cruiser USS Baltimore outside a bar in the Chilean port of Valparaíso
● Two sailors were killed and seventeen to eighteen were injured
● Chile apologized and paid $75,000 in gold
Attempted Annexation of Hawaii (January 16 - April 1) Hawaii had Sugar and was a waystation between America and Asia. American businessman dominated the economy. The Americans overthrew Queen Liliuokalani on January 17, 1893 after the Overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii (That is the name of the Coup). Sanford B. Dole was named president of the Provisional Government of Hawaii. The Americans on the island wanted annexation, but current president Grover Cleveland rejected the treaty of annexation (1893) because he did not agree with the idea of annexing a foreign sovereign nation in 1893. When William McKinley became president he annexed Hawaii as a territory in 1898.

The revolution that occurred in 1893 was spurred by the United States removing the privileged position of Hawaiian sugar in international trade. The Hawaiian economy was dominated by sugar. The removal was devastating to the economy and many of the wealthy American Sugar Plantation owners believed that the only way for Hawaii to recover was to become part of the U.S. This would exempt them from the American tariffs.
February 26, 1894: Morgan Report submitted to Senate.

- Written by Senator John T. Morgan
- Senate Report 227 of the 53rd Congress, second session, was dated February 26, 1894. It was an investigation into the events surrounding the Hawaiian Revolution of 1893, and the alleged role of U.S. peacekeepers in the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani.
- The Morgan Report was printed as part of a large volume containing other government Reports of Committee on Foreign Relations
- In 1894 a republic of Hawaii was founded by Sanford B. Dole, a Hawaiian-born American.
  - In 1894 the Morgan report appeared, rejecting the findings of the Blount report.

Sino-Japanese War

- Treaty of Shimonoseki (She-mono-se-ki)
- The Treaty was the conclusion of the First Sino-Japanese War
- The war was fought between Qing Dynasty China and Meiji Japan, primarily to gain control of Joseon Korea.
- United States Involvement
  - Previously Treaties were commonly negotiated in paris by the french, but the Treaty of Shimonoseki was negotiated with the help of America which created a turning point as idolising the United States involvement in foreign affairs.
  - The Treaty was drafted with John W. Foster who was a former American Secretary of State.
1896-1898 US Foreign Policy

-Feb. 28: Congress passed Morgan-Cameron resolution recognizing Cuban belligerency and calling for Cuban independence. The US offered to assist Spain in reaching a peace settlement regarding Cuba; they rioted in response and, consequently, the Spanish gov’t refused.
-Mar. 24: US gov’t sends 50k to Cuba to aid victims of their civil war.
-Dec. 21: Senate foreign relations committee approved resolution recognizing Cuba as a sovereign nation.
On April 24, 1898, Spain declared war on the United States, followed by a U.S. Declaration of War on Spain the 25th. On May 1, Commodore George Dewey led an American Fleet into Manila Harbor forcing the Spanish fleet to quickly surrender with hardly any shots fired, making this the first battle of the Spanish-American War resulting in an American victory. On December 10, the Treaty of Paris was signed by the United States and Spain, which signified the end of the war. After the treaty was ratified, the United States became an imperial power. Spain renounced all claim to Cuba, ceded Guam and Puerto Rico to the United States, and transferred sovereignty over the Philippines to the United States for $20,000,000. Spain’s defeat turned the nation’s attention away from its overseas colonial adventures and focused more on its domestic needs. The United States, on the other hand, came from the war a world power with far-flung overseas possessions and a new stake in international politics that would soon lead it to play a determining role in the affairs of Europe. In March of 1898, Supreme Court ruled that a child born to Chinese immigrants in the United States is a U.S. citizen.
**Philippines (Feb 4th):**
- President McKinley supported the Philippines annexation
- Anti-Imperialist movement began in reaction
- Philippine-American War began in 1899 after Emilio Aguinaldo rebelled

**Isthmian Canal Commission:**
- Congress created this agency to determine the most feasible and practical place in Central America to build a canal connecting the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans

**“Open Door Notes” (Sept. 6, 1899):**
- John Hay wrote identical messages to countries
- 3 Principles
- Results: US able to trade freely without military and maintain illusion that China was sovereign = no conflict
- Boxer Rebellion = won support and maintained lucrative trade

**Foraker Act (April 12, 1900):**
- Ended military rule and established a formal colonial government in Puerto Rico.
- Government: American governor and a two-chamber legislature (upper chamber chosen by U.S. and lower chosen by Puerto Ricans).
1901-1903

**Platt Amendment:**

U.S. Troops occupied Cuba until 1901 when the Cuban government agreed to the Platt Amendment, which had the following terms and conditions:

- Cuba can never sign a treaty or agreement with another foreign country that jeopardized the independence of Cuba
- Cuba can never build up public debt
- The U.S. is permitted to intervene at any time to preserve Cuban independence
- The U.S. is allowed to keep naval bases in Guantanamo Bay

**Hay-Pauncefote Treaty** - November 18th, 1901

This treaty followed a previous treaty regarding the canal that was cancelled (Clayton-Bulwer Treaty)

This treaty gave sole rights to the U.S. to develop and build a canal through Panama. The treaty also guaranteed the neutrality of the canal, and opened it up to all nations.

At first, the United States ran into trouble and developed the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty (1903), which then allowed for the United States to begin building in 1904 and complete the canal in 1914.

Teddy Roosevelt was a huge figure in regards to the U.S. becoming aggressive with their foreign policies and hopes of becoming a global power with his “big stick” policy.
1903-1905

Settlement of the Venezuela Crisis

- Under military pressure from the United States, Britain, Germany, and Italy agreed to arbitration to settle the dispute. This resulted in the Washington Protocols on February 13, 1903; which established a payment plan to repay debts and 30% of its custom income from two major ports.
- However, after the blockading nations sought preferential treatment for their claims, the case was referred to The Hague for further arbitration.
- The Permanent Court of Arbitration ruled on February 22, 1904 that they were entitled to preferential treatment.
- This incident persuaded Roosevelt to adopt the Roosevelt Corollary.

Roosevelt Corollary

- Addition to the Monroe Doctrine by President Theodore Roosevelt in his 1904 State of the Union Address in which he stated that the United States could intervene in conflicts between Latin American countries and European nations.
- The U.S. reserved the right to intervene in domestic conflicts to restore order.
- One reason was that the U.S. could intervene to protect its economic interests.
1905-1907

Taft Katsura Agreement, 1905
The Taft-Katsura Agreement was a document of discussion exchanged between (soon-to-be President) William Howard Taft and Taro Katsura, Prime Minister of Japan. The agreement required Japan to liberate Korea, and to not interfere with the American presences in the Philippines. This agreement clearly exemplified that cooperation between the two nations was required in order for the rest of the World to live in peace.

Treaty of Portsmouth/Nobel Peace Prize 1906
In 1906, Roosevelt received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in ending the Russo-Japanese War. At a peace conference in Portsmouth, New Hampshire in 1905, Roosevelt was able to convince Russia to recognize Japan’s territorial gains, as well as convince the Japanese to agree to stop fighting and expanding. These agreements would be known as the Treaty of Portsmouth and would end the Russo-Japanese War. Also, this marks the point where relations between America and Japan would worsen due to future problems such as the Japanese violating the “Open Door” policy.
1907 - 1909

Great White Fleet:
- Japan emerged as Pacific naval power
- Japan excluded Americans from trade
- Roosevelt sent out sixteen battleships
  - On voyage across the world
  - Message to Japan
- Voyage from Dec. 16th, 1907 - Feb. 22nd, 1909

Gentlemen’s Agreement:
- Informal agreement between America and Japan to slow down immigration
- Increased Japanese population and facilitated ‘picture brides’
  - Spouse selection through single image