America’s Path to Empire

APUSH/AP-DC Unit 7 - Period 5
1890-1892

Alfred Mahan and the McKinley Tariff

- 1890 Captain Alfred Mahan President of the US Naval College wrote a book *The influence of Sea upon History, 1660-1783.*
- In this book he explained Great Britain's control of the seas.
- He said that this allowed Great Britain do emerge as the dominant Military, political and economic force.
- He also urged for a network of battleships and naval bases to help the enlarged naval force of the US and to help with the oversea markets.

- McKinley introduced this tariff in 1890.
- His fellow Republicans supported Tariffs.
- American opposition to this Tariff was extremely high.
- Impacted Harrison’s failed reelection.
America’s Path to Empire

1892-1894

Feb 29, 1892: Britain and US sign treaty on seal hunting in the Bering sea.

- rapid shrinking of the seal herd,
- British and US vessels police the area
- Resulted in international tribunal year later (Paris 1893) - condemned US seizures
  - Bering sea was part of high seas: no single nation had jurisdiction.
- Restrictions were placed on sealing during summer breeding months & waters surrounding Pribilof islands.

1893

- Queen of the Kingdom of Hawaii proposed new constitution that would restore power of the monarchy and extend voting rights for natives.
- This angered white businessmen and sugar planters
- Committee of Safety- 13 member group who sought to overthrow monarchy and annexation by US
- US Marines sent to Hawaii to protect American lives. Lead by John L Stevens
- Treaty between Hawaii and President Harrison for the annexation
- Treaty withdrawn by president Cleveland
1894-1896  Pablo Noyola and Nathan Botros (Period 5)

Cuban Revolt

➢ War for Independence in Cuba
➢ Yellow Journalism in US
➢ US popular sentiment sided with Cuban Revolutionaries
➢ Cleveland opposed intervention
➢ Led to eventual war with Spain under McKinley

The Venezuelan Crisis

➢ Dispute over boundary between Venezuela and British Guiana
➢ United States intervened and forced arbitration of all the disputed territory
➢ Britain accepted America’s right to intervene because of the Monroe Doctrine and the dispute was settled by a tribunal in Paris
➢ Improved relationships with Latin America without damaging relations with Britain
➢ Britain accepted the Monroe Doctrine
1896-1898 Period 5

Valeriano Weyler

- Spanish leader in Cuba during the Cuban War of Independence.
- Insurgents lived off the land and practiced guerilla warfare, which allowed them to blend in with civilians.
- Weyler used “reconcentration” camps in order to separate the civilian population.
- Due to inadequate management these camps became cesspools and famine and disease.
- An estimated 100,000 civilians died.
- While the USA declared neutrality to the Cuban rebellion in 1895, these events caused Americans to sympathize with the Cubans and gain support for American involvement.
- The reconcentration camp system disappeared in 1897 with the resignation of General Valeriano due to public outrage.
- The war was over by 1898 with the aid of the United States military.

Olney-Pauncefote Treaty

- Boundary dispute between Venezuela and Guyana
- US interference caused British to lose interest
- Lord Salisbury sent Julian Pauncefote to negotiate treaty with Richard Olney
- Signed February 2, 1897, subjected the border to US arbitration
- Venezuela awarded territory in October of 1899

![Olney-Pauncefote Treaty Diagram]

![Valeriano Weyler Image]
1898 P5

- **Teller Amendment (April 20, 1898)**
  - Enacted US military presence in Cuba
  - Guaranteed Cuban popular government
  - Helps with Cuban independence from Spain
  - Not for annexation
  - Was to seem more righteous rather than imperialist

- **Treaty of Paris (December 10, 1898)**
  - Marked the end of the Spanish American War
  - Spain relinquished much of the Spanish Empire
  - U. S becomes a world power
1899-1901:

**Boxer Rebellion: Nov 2, 1899 – Sep 7, 1901:**
- The Boxer Rebellion was a proto-nationalist movement opposing foreign imperialism and the introduction of Christianity to China.
- Anger rose over the "unequal treaties forced on the Qing state by foreign powers. This sentiment resulted in violent revolts against foreign interests.
- From 1900 the navies of Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the UK, and the United States started to make their presence along the Chinese coast known.
- These countries sent several forces to the Capital which ultimately lead to the end of the rebellion.
- "Boxers" were traditionally skilled fighters that attacked Westerners, beginning with Christian missionaries.

**Open Door Notes: Sept 6, 1899**
- Secretary of State John Hay sent out “Open Door Notes” policy, addressed -China.
- Aimed towards England, Germany, Russia, France, Japan, and Italy
- Three principles each nation needed to follow: 1. respect rights/privileges of other nations 2. Chinese officials would continue to collect tariff duties (tariff favored U.S.) 3. No discrimination against other nations in port dues/railroad rates
- Would allow U.S. to trade freely w/ China w/out fear of interference or military involvement
- Russia rejected proposals, other powers accepted but claimed they were unable to act unless all other powers agreed
- Hay boldly announced that all the powers had accepted the principles of the Open Door and that U.S. expected them to follow principles
Period 5

1901-1903

The Capture of Emilio Aguinaldo:

Led the Filipinos in the rebellion against American control.

Captured in March of 1901, and signed a document in April that urged his people to stop fighting. Aguinaldo pledged loyalty to the US.

Key to victory in the Philippine War, secured American control over the Philippines.

Filipino economy became almost entirely based on American markets.

- The Platt Amendment

Passed in March of 1901 as an amendment to the army appropriations bill, and it described the conditions for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Cuba.

Named after Orville Platt who put forth the amendment.

The conditions were that Cuba couldn’t transfer land to anyone other than the U.S., Cuba right to treaties was limited, the U.S. kept its naval base in Guantanamo Bay, and the U.S. could intervene in order to preserve Cuban independence.

By Connor Pivateau and Natalie Jennings
1903-1905

- 1903- - Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty
  - Panama gains independence from Columbia and Philippe Bunau-Varilla, and secretary of state, John M. Hay meet
  - Granted the U.S land to build the Panama Canal in exchange for $10 million and annual payments to Panama
  - The canal is 10 miles wide across the isthmus

- 1904- “Policeman of the Western Hemisphere”
  - Theodore Roosevelt claims the US can intervene in the affairs of any nation in the hemisphere if it affects the US.
  - Roosevelt Corollary (addition) to the Monroe Doctrine
1905-1906 Period. 5

Taft Katsura Agreement

- On July 29, 1905 Japan’s Count Katsura met with Secretary of War (later president) William Howard Taft. Japan agreed to accept the U.S. presence in Hawaii and the Philippines and in exchange America agreed to give Japan a free hand in Korea.
- President Roosevelt concurred with Taft’s understanding in a telegram on July 31st 1905.
- United States and Japan acknowledge the United States’ control of the Philippines and Japan’s control of Korea.
- Taft’s foreign policy relied on dollar diplomacy — spreading American influence through the economic penetration of overseas markets by U.S. corporations.

Teddy Roosevelt’s Inaugural Address

- "Toward all other nations, large and small, our attitude must be one of cordial and sincere friendship... While ever careful to refrain from wrongdoing others, we must be no less insistent that we are not wronged ourselves... No weak nation that acts manfully and justly should ever have cause to fear us, and no strong power should ever be able to single us out as a subject for insolent aggression." - Teddy Roosevelt, Inaugural Address, March 1905.
- Teddy Roosevelt believed that America should walk gently, but carry a big stick.
Dollar Diplomacy - 1909 to 1913
President William Howard Taft and Secretary of State Philander C. Knox

**Definition and significance:**

*The use of the United States’ financial power to further extend its international influence.*

- This Diplomacy made Latin American countries and East Asia gradually depend on the United States (economically).

**Goals:**

* To create stability and order abroad that would best promote American commercial interests.
* To use private capital to further U.S. interests overseas

**Results:** In spite of successes, “dollar diplomacy” failed to counteract economic instability and caused revolution in places like Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and China.

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Great White Fleet - 1907 to 1909
By order of President Theodore Roosevelt

**Definition and significance:**

*The Great White Fleet was a sixteen battleship fleet that sailed on a world voyage. Its primary purpose was to showcase American naval power. Hopes were to enforce treaties and protect overseas holdings.*

- Experience gained, and peace kept between France, Russia, UK, and Germany.

**Goals:**

* To teach Japanese “a lesson on behavior”, and distract public from depression
* To showcase American naval power
* To celebrate and promote nationalism

**Results:**

* Demonstrated that US had “arrived” as naval power
* Smoothed over ruffled feathers in Japan and led to Root-Takahira agreement which went into effect and laid ground for peaceful coexistence of two Pacific powers
* Peace was only temporary. Fleet outclassed by Dreadnought (British Warship)