

U.S. Involvement in Asia and the Pacific

The Philippines Fight For Independence From the U.S.

During the Spanish-American War, the United States captured the Philippines with the help of Filipino leader Emilio Aguinaldo. After the war, Aguinaldo called for independence. He claimed that the United States had promised freedom for the islands.

The United States decided not to grant independence, however. President McKinley believed that the Filipinos were not ready for self-government. He said that he wanted to "uplift and civilize and Christianize" the Filipino people. He also wanted to maintain American control over the islands to prevent another nation from seizing power.

Still, the Filipinos moved ahead with their plans for independence by writing a constitution and electing Aguinaldo president. But the United States refused to recognize the new government. In February 1899, fighting broke out between Filipino and American forces.

The United States sent hundreds of thousands of soldiers to the Philippines to put down the revolt. In battle after battle, the Filipino army was defeated. Aguinaldo then switched to guerrilla tactics, launching quick strikes on American troops.

The United States responded with brutal force, destroying villages and herding civilians into prison camps. Mark Twain, one of many Americans who opposed the U.S. policy toward the Philippines, wrote bitterly,

"We have pacified . . . the islanders and buried them; destroyed their fields; burned their villages; and turned their widows and orphans out-of-doors . . . And so . . . we are a World Power."

In 1901, the United States finally captured Aguinaldo. A year later, the fighting was over. The war had lasted more than three years, at great human cost. More than 200,000 Filipinos and about 5,000 Americans had died. After the

war, the United States set up a central government for the islands.

The United States built schools and made improvements to Philippine harbors. It also established local governments and encouraged Filipinos to participate in them. The United States controlled the Philippines for the next half-century, finally granting independence on July 4, 1946.

U.S. Businesses Prosper in Hawaii

The Hawaiian Islands had been a focus of American interest long before the Spanish-American War. Known as the "Crossroads of the Pacific," Hawaii was an important stop for ships crossing the Pacific Ocean.

In 1820, Protestant missionaries arrived in Hawaii. Within decades most Hawaiians had converted to Christianity. By the late 1800s, the United States regarded Hawaii as an economic asset. The economy of the islands centered on the export of tropical crops, especially sugarcane and pineapple.



Queen Liliuokalani

White American planters controlled the industry, shipping most of their crops to the United States and becoming wealthy and powerful in the process. At the time, Hawaii was still a kingdom ruled by a constitutional monarch. In 1891, Liliuokalani became queen of Hawaii. She was a strong leader who resented the dominance of the wealthy white minority on the islands. She established a new constitution that gave more power to native Hawaiians.

But a small group of white planters refused to accept the constitution and called on the American government for help. In 1893, U.S. military forces landed and helped the planters overthrow the queen. In 1894, Sanford Dole, who was beginning his pineapple business, declared himself president of the Republic of Hawaii without a popular vote. The new government found the queen guilty of treason and sentenced her to five years of hard labor and a \$5,000

Period: 1890-1920

fine. While the sentence of hard labor was not carried out, the queen was placed under house arrest.

The U.S. Annexes the Hawaiian Islands

After the revolt, the white planters controlled the government. They applied to Congress for annexation, hoping to make Hawaii part of the United States. President Benjamin Harrison agreed to the islands' annexation.

Then a new president, Grover Cleveland, assumed office. After discovering the circumstances of the revolt, Cleveland withdrew the annexation treaty and called



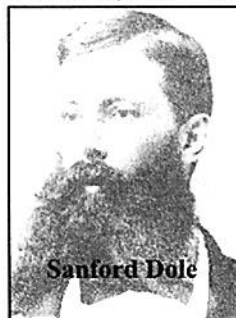
on the planters to return Queen Liliuokalani to her throne. The planters refused and instead proclaimed Hawaii an independent republic.

Throughout the 1890s, Americans continued to debate the question of annexing Hawaii. Those in favor stressed the importance of Hawaii's location and the value of controlling the islands. They also hoped to continue spreading Christianity and the American way of life in Hawaii.

Those opposed to annexation pointed out that colonization often caused problems. Some feared the introduction of new races and cultures into the United States. Others thought it was un-American to deprive a people of their sovereignty.

The American intervention in Hawaii produced deep resentment among native Hawaiians. Nevertheless, during the Spanish-American War in 1898, Hawaii was annexed as Congress recognized its importance as a port for the navy. Hawaii became a U.S. territory two years later. In 1959, it became a state, the only one that is not part of North America.

In 1993, a joined Congressional resolution, signed by President Bill Clinton, apologized for the U.S. role in the overthrow. The House approved the resolution by voice vote. The Senate passed it 65 to 34 votes.



Sanford Dole

U.S. Interest in China

U.S. Interest in China

In the late 1800s, the United States also focused its attention on China. This huge nation was rich in resources and offered a potentially large market for American goods. In the 1890s, the United States and other foreign powers watched with interest as China and Japan engaged in a war over Korea. This war revealed that China was neither strong nor stable. Russia, France, and Germany supported China at the war's end and demanded favors in return.

These powers, along with Britain and Japan, began to carve out spheres of influence from Chinese territory. These were areas in which a single nation controlled trading rights. In some cases, the foreign powers also demanded land for military bases. As a result, much of China was soon carved into pieces of foreign-dominated territory.

The United States wanted to prevent foreign colonization of China in order to maintain its own access to Chinese markets. With this goal in mind, Secretary of State John Hay issued several foreign policy statements, which became known collectively as the **Open Door Policy**.

The first statement, in 1899, called on foreign nations to allow free trade in China. Although some foreign powers gave vague replies, Hay boldly an-

nounced that the Open Door Policy was "final and definitive."

The U.S. Fights to Keep an Open Door to China

The Chinese were deeply ashamed of their nation's weakness. They were proud of their ancient heritage and furious with other countries for controlling China and undermining Chinese traditions.

Some Chinese tried to persuade their government to implement reforms so that China could compete in the modern world and resist western influence. One Chinese group eventually took up arms in an effort to restore national control. This group, called the Righteous and Harmonious Fists, was commonly known as the Boxers.

In 1900, the Boxers led an insurrection, rising up to try to expel the "foreign devils" from China. The Boxers killed hundreds of foreigners, including Christian missionaries, along with thousands of Chinese Christians.

Within a few months, however, the United States, Japan, and European powers had banded together to crush the uprising. Secretary of State Hay feared that foreign powers would attempt to use the Boxer Rebellion as an excuse to take stronger control over China. He therefore issued a firmer statement of the Open Door Policy, insisting that foreign nations not



This cartoon emphasizes the success of the Open Door Policy. It portrays the United States as having the power to keep China open to trade with all nations. Uncle Sam's key is labeled, "American Diplomacy."

Critical Thinking: What is the artist's intent with this political cartoon? Explain.

only allow free trade, but also respect Chinese independence. The other nations did not object, mainly because they did not want to fight each other over China. As a result, China remained open to American trade and influence.

The other nations did not object, mainly because they did not want to fight each other over China. As a result, China remained open to American trade and influence.

NEWSLETTER SUMMARY

Roosevelt Corollary

In 1904, he issued the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine. This policy called on the United States to use "international police power" to promote order and security in the Western Hemisphere. The use of force became a key element of foreign policy: *Alfred T. Mahan*.

Dollar Diplomacy

President Taft's Dollar Diplomacy focused on economic goals overseas. He emphasized the spread of American influence through economic activity. But he also sent troops to protect American interests: *Henry Cabot Lodge*.

Moral Diplomacy

President Wilson favored a moral approach to foreign policy. He wanted to spread democratic ideals overseas. Yet he also used force to uphold American interests: *Josiah Strong*.

Self-Determination

President Wilson felt that it should be the right of the peoples to determine their own government, free of outside influence: *Carl Schurz*.

Latin America

The United States became deeply involved in Latin America in the early 1900s. It helped Panama gain independence and built the Panama Canal. It intervened in Mexico. It made Puerto Rico a U.S. possession.

Asia and the Pacific

The Philippines became a U.S. possession, and the United States put down an independence movement there. It annexed Hawaii after white planters overthrew the native monarchy. In China, it applied its Open Door Policy to limit foreign control and maintain access to Chinese markets.

Name: _____

U.S. 8th Grade Social Studies - Pacific Imperialism

Use the reading to answer the following:

Hawaii

1. Who was the queen of Hawaii prior to the U.S. getting involved?
2. Who controlled Hawaii after the revolt of the queen?
3. Who was the President of the U.S. during the annexation of Hawaii?
4. What did Pres. Grover Cleveland do regarding Hawaii when he became President?
5. When did Hawaii actually become a U.S. territory?
6. When did Hawaii actually become a state?

China

1. Why did the U.S. focus it's attention toward China?
2. Describe what led to the Open Door Policy?
3. What did the Open Door Policy state?
4. Who were the Boxers?
5. What did the Boxers do?
6. How did the Secretary of State Hay use the Boxer Rebellion?