



# BECOMING A WORLD POWER



WHEN YOU SEE THE PENCIL APPEAR, FILL IN THE INFORMATION IN RED ON YOUR INFO-GRAPHIC GUIDED NOTES PAGE.



# Buying Alaska

Back in 1867, Secretary of State William Seward was given the opportunity to purchase Alaska from Russia for two cents an acre. Most people thought the region was a worthless arctic wasteland. Seward made the deal anyway. The deal was nicknamed “Seward’s Folly”.



Alaska & Hawaii  
U.S. purchased Alaska from  
Russia in 1867.



PREPARING FOR THE HEATED TERM.

King Andy and his man Billy lay in a great stock of Russian ice in order to cool down the Congress.



# *Buying Alaska*

That “arctic wasteland” turned out to be a treasure filled with forests, plentiful fish, and diverse wildlife. It was not the permanently frozen arctic that Seward’s critics assumed. Settlers found great mineral wealth including coal, copper, and even gold.

The success of this expansionist deal inspired Americans to look at other parts of the world and wonder what other territories could provide for our economy.

Seward’s deal also secured American rights to the Midway Islands in the Pacific Ocean.



# U.S. Imperialism

During the election of 1896, between William McKinley and William Jennings Bryan, many other nations were expanding their power and influence by establishing colonies in other parts of the world.

Many Americans, like Bryan, felt the United States should not participate in imperialism. Some felt it would go against the very values that made us a country- the idea of consent of the governed.

However, McKinley won this election and found himself under great pressure from American Businessmen to expand America's influence. Doing so would provide businesses with more economic opportunities- natural resources to tap into and new markets where they could sell their products.



# *Annexing Hawaii*

Americans began to establish economic interests in the Pacific Ocean. Expansionists developed interest in the Hawaiian Islands. Americans had first come to Hawaii as missionaries to convert native Hawaiians to Christianity.

In 1835 a merchant from Boston started a sugar plantation in Hawaii. Not long after, other American settlers arrived and established sugar and pineapple plantations all over the Islands. They brought workers from China and Japan to work their fields.

The Americans pressured Hawaiians to allow the U.S. to build a naval base in Pearl Harbor in 1887.



# Annexing Hawaii

The American planters in Hawaii convinced Congress to allow their sugar to be imported into the U.S. without extra taxes. This frustrated sugar growers in the U.S. because it created competition for domestic sugar. When Congress approved giving a bonus to domestic sugar growers, the Hawaiian planters wanted the bonus too. They began to petition for the U.S. to annex Hawaii.

American planters organized a revolt to remove Hawaii's native monarch, Queen Liliuokalani with help from the U.S. Marines. President Grover Cleveland felt Hawaii should be governed by Hawaiians, but in 1898, under President McKinley, the United States did annex Hawaii.

Alaska & Hawaii

U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867.

Hawaii was annexed in 1898



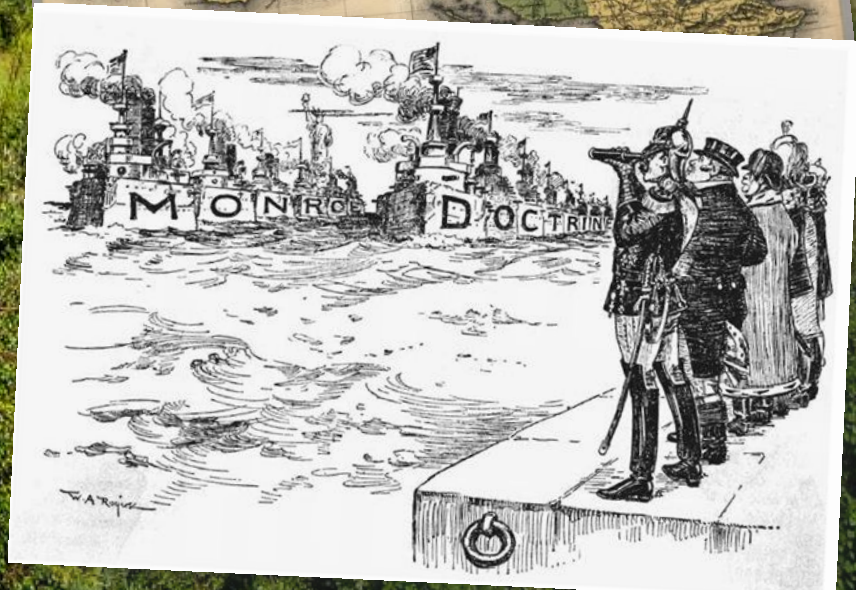
# Spanish-American War



American planters were also establishing sugar plantations in the Caribbean. Expansionists wanted to annex both Cuba and Puerto Rico but they were colonies of Spain.

Some Americans felt the U.S. needed to enforce the Monroe Doctrine that had told European empires to stay out of the Western Hemisphere.

Cubans had tried to revolt thirty years earlier to win their independence from Spain but they failed. Spain put down the revolution by putting Cuban men, women, and children in prison camps where they were forced to live without adequate food and care. Tens of thousands of Cubans died.



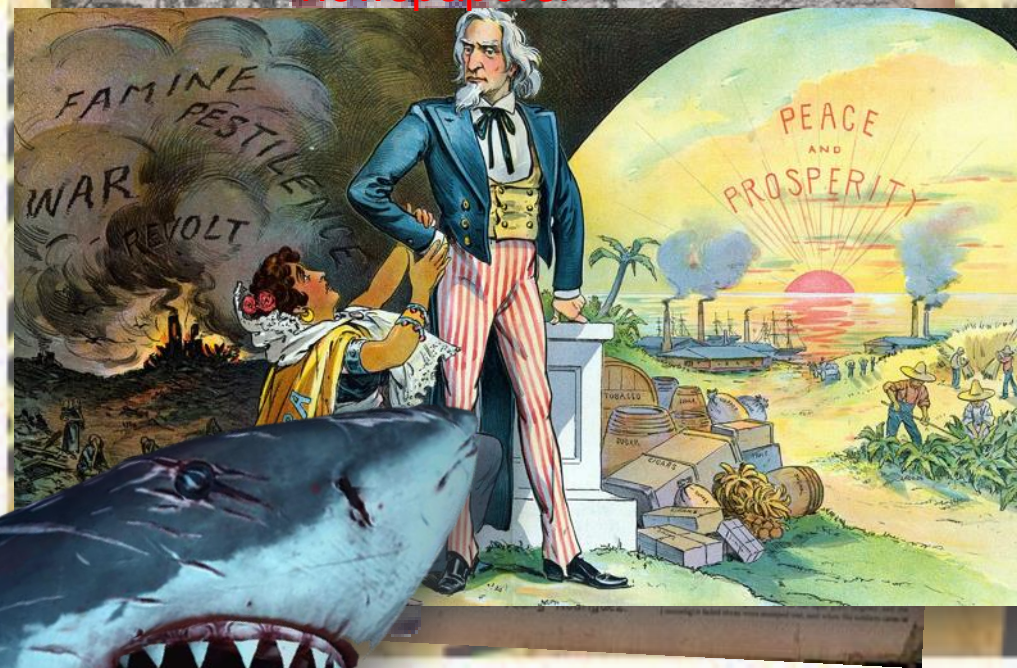
# Yellow Journalism



American newspapers were quick to profit from the plight of the Cubans. Competing newspaper companies often stretched the truth and sensationalized stories of Spain's treatment of the Cubans.

One American paper stated a Spanish general was feeding the Cubans to sharks. This kind of exaggerated and misleading publication is called Yellow Journalism.

The sensationalism helped sell newspapers and also stirred up sympathy for Cuba. Some even called for a war with Spain.





# Spanish-American War

To protect Americans living in Cuba, President McKinley sent a new battleship, the U.S.S. Maine, to Havana, the capital of Cuba.

Three weeks after the Maine arrived, the ship exploded and 260 U.S. sailors died. Though nobody knew what led to the explosion, most Americans were quick to blame Spain.

McKinley hoped to avoid a war and tried working out a solution between Cuba and Spain but Spain did not respond. Fueled by outcry from the press and Americans to “Remember the Maine”, Congress declared war on Spain in April, 1898.



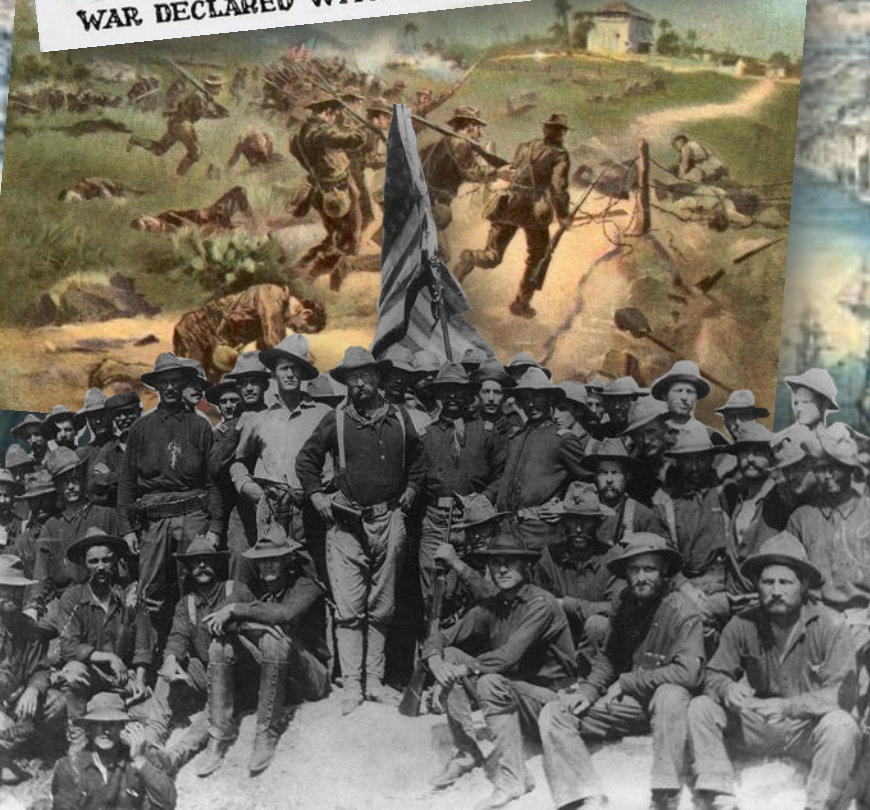
# Spanish-American War



Many Americans were eager to participate in a war to liberate Cuba from Spanish rule. The U.S. Army grew from 30,000 to over 274,000 men. Assistant secretary of the navy, Theodore Roosevelt, resigned to put together his own regiment called the Rough Riders.

Roosevelt's Rough Riders, along with 17,000 other troops arrived in Cuba in June of 1898. Roosevelt and his men captured the major city of Santiago after taking San Juan Hill.

Once Americans had taken Santiago, the Spanish tried to retreat by racing their ships out of the harbor. But the U.S. captured or sank every ship.



# Spanish-American War

## Spanish-American War

-Americans owned sugar plantations in Cuba and Puerto Rico.

-Spain controlled both islands, contrary to the Monroe Doctrine.

-The U.S. fought the Spanish-American War to give Cuba its independence.

What a splendid little war!

The Spanish-American war lasted only four months. Secretary of State, John Hay, called it “a splendid little war”.

The peace treaty with Spain established Cuba as an independent nation. The United States gained Puerto Rico as a territory along with Guam, an island in the Pacific Ocean.

Only 345 Americans died in combat fighting the Spanish-American War. However, over 5,000 soldiers died of diseases.

In 1903, a treaty with Cuba was signed so the U.S. could lease land to establish a naval base at Guantanamo Bay.



# The Philippines

On the other side of the globe, the Philippines were also under Spanish rule. Before Congress had declared war with Spain, Theodore Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the Navy, had sent a telegram to U.S. Admiral George Dewey in the Pacific ordering him to attack the Spanish in the Philippines if the U.S. declared war with Spain.

Filipinos had been trying to gain independence from Spanish rule. Led by General Emilio Aguinaldo, Filipinos attacked the Spanish army and government officials.

Five days after the U.S. declared war with Spain, Dewey's fleet arrived in Manila, the capital of the Philippines.



# The Philippines

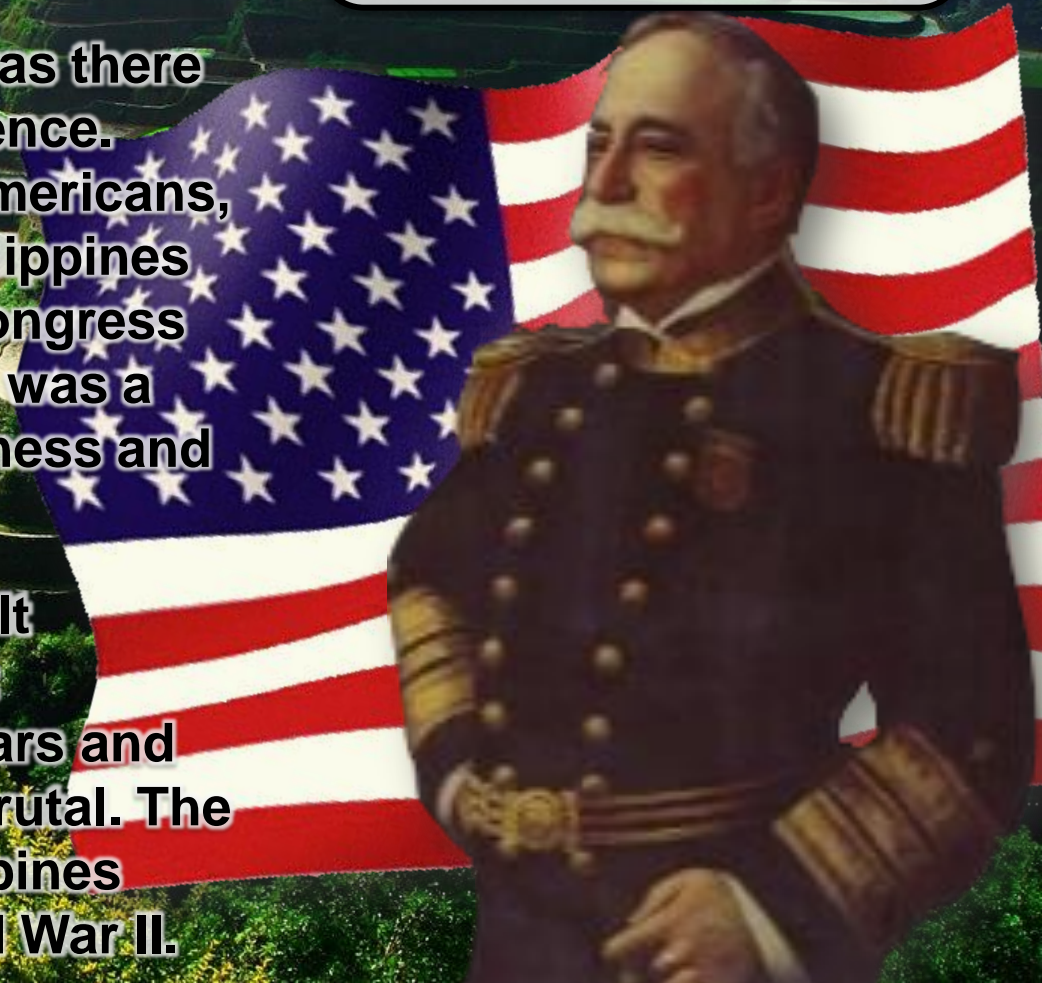
Spain's old wooden ships were no match for America's modern steel ships and well trained navy. Dewey was able to blockade the port at Manila.

Filipinos believed the U.S. Navy was there to help them gain their independence. When Spain surrendered to the Americans, the U.S. negotiated to buy the Philippines from Spain in the peace treaty. Congress voted to Annex the Philippines. It was a useful location for American business and military in the Pacific Ocean.

The Filipinos were angered and felt America lied to them. They fought American occupation for three years and both sides became increasingly brutal. The U.S. eventually granted the Philippines independence in 1946- after World War II.

## *The Philippines*

- The U.S. fought to end Spanish rule of the Philippines.
- U.S. annexed the Philippines for a naval base in the Pacific.



# Theodore Roosevelt

In 1900, President McKinley was reelected. This time, he chose Theodore Roosevelt to be his vice president. Americans considered Roosevelt to be a war hero for his success with the Rough Riders.

In September of 1901, President McKinley was shot and killed by a socialist immigrant who claimed the President was the leader of a corrupt government that was the enemy of hard working people.

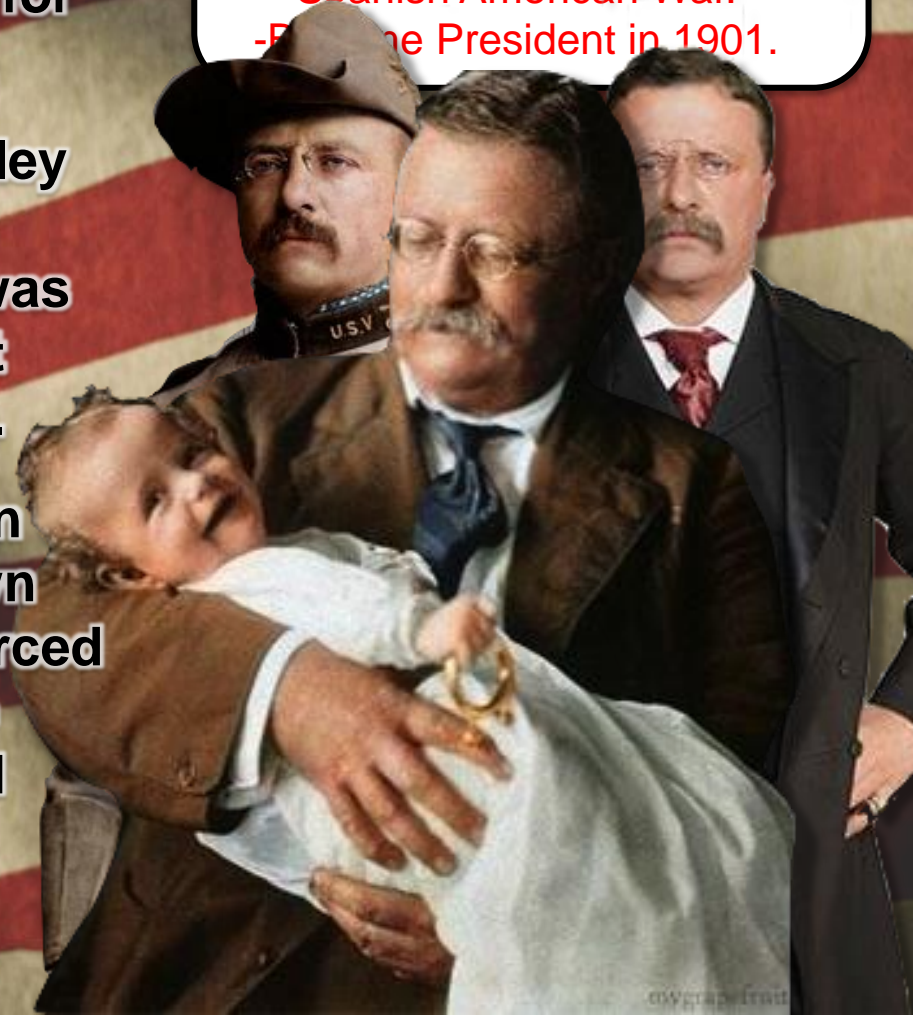
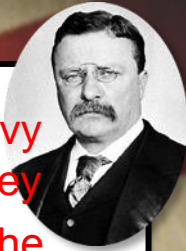
Roosevelt was sworn in as president on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 1901. He became known as the Progressive President who enforced the Sherman Anti-Trust Act to break up monopolies, passed the Pure Food and Drug Act to protect Consumers, and helped expand the number of National Parks to protect the environment.

Theodore Roosevelt

- Assist. Secretary of the Navy & Vice President for McKinley

- "Rough Rider" during the Spanish American War.

- Became President in 1901.

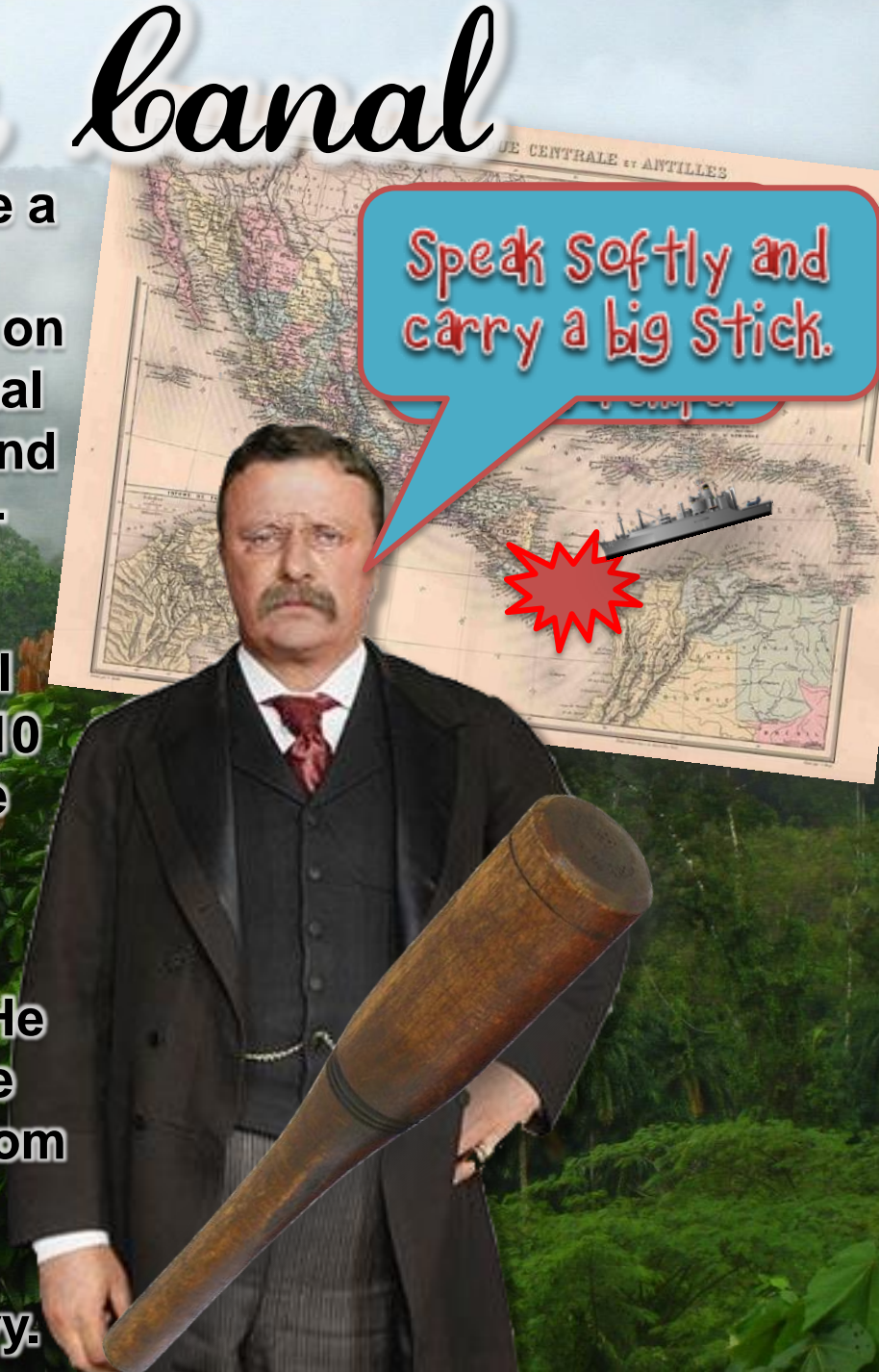


# Panama Canal

Roosevelt felt there was a need to have a canal that would link the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He called on Congress to approve funding for a canal so that the U.S. Navy could better defend our new territories won in the Spanish-American War.

Congress approved funding for a canal and offered the country of Colombia \$10 million to give the U.S. control over the isthmus connecting Central and South America. Colombia refused the offer.

Roosevelt didn't let that stop the U.S. He sent a war ship to Panama knowing the Panamanians wanted independence from Colombia. When the ship arrived, a revolution started in Panama and the rebels won with help from the U.S. Navy.



# Panama Canal

## Panama Canal

-The U.S. encouraged Panama to break away from Colombia. -Roosevelt called for a canal to create a shortcut between the Atlantic

The U.S. went to work sending workers and supplies to Panama to build the 51-mile canal. Construction was difficult and workers often caught illnesses like malaria. By the time the Panama Canal opened, Roosevelt had left office.

Roosevelt's controversial "Big Stick" diplomatic methods remained a sore spot and caused tension between the U.S. and Latin American countries. In 1921, Congress apologized to Colombia and gave them \$25 million for the trouble with Panama.

Ultimately, the people of Panama grew to resent the U.S. control of the Canal Zone. It wasn't until 2000 that the U.S. finally returned control of the Canal Zone to the nation of Panama.





# Optional Video Resources

- Spanish American War in 3 Minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmamZOAAJ0M>

- Spanish American War footage from Thomas Edison's movies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9fxS86QjuE>

- Experience Panama - Seven Wonders Of The World - Episode 5: The Panama Canal, by BBC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uPCQy32tGg>

- How the Panama Canal was Built by BBC News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2T7CL9wqyM>