

## Objectives

- Examine what happened to Puerto Rico and Cuba after the Spanish-American War.
- Analyze the effects of Roosevelt's "big stick" diplomacy.
- Compare Wilson's "moral diplomacy" with the foreign policies of his predecessors.



## Terms and People

- **Foraker Act** – established civil government in Puerto Rico with an appointed governor
- **Platt Amendment** – addendum to Cuba's constitution restricting Cuba's independence from the United States
- **"big stick" diplomacy** – Theodore Roosevelt's approach to international relations that depended on a strong military to achieve its aims
- **Panama Canal** – waterway dug across Panama to shorten the trip between the Atlantic and the Pacific

## Terms and People (continued)

- **Roosevelt Corollary** – Roosevelt’s addition to the Monroe Doctrine, which stated that the U.S. would intervene in Latin America in order to prevent European intervention
- **“dollar diplomacy”** – President Taft’s policy to encourage investment rather than use force in Latin America
- **“moral diplomacy”** – President Wilson’s policy to encourage human rights and opportunity rather than act in our own self-interest in Latin America

## Terms and People (continued)

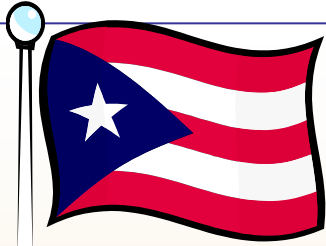
- **Francisco “Pancho” Villa** – Mexican guerrilla and outlaw who eluded capture by General Pershing for 11 months in 1916-1917



## **What actions did the United States take to achieve its goals in Latin America?**

American entrepreneurs and political leaders called for an aggressive and exclusive role for the U.S. in Latin America.

While beneficial to the United States, this approach engendered anti-American sentiment and instability in area.



## The status of Puerto Rico:

- In 1900, the **Foraker Act** authorized a **civil government** for Puerto Rico.
- A **governor would be appointed** by the U.S. President.
- In the Insular Cases the Supreme Court ruled that **Puerto Ricans did not have the same rights or tax status as other Americans.**

## Cuba became independent in 1902.

The **Platt Amendment** made it a protectorate of the United States which retained the rights to:

- approve or reject any treaty signed by Cuba.
- intervene to preserve order in Cuba.
- lease military bases in Cuba.

Cubans disliked the Platt Amendment but accepted their status since they were protected by the U.S.

**In 1904,  
President  
Roosevelt  
added his  
Roosevelt  
Corollary to  
the Monroe  
Doctrine.**

- Roosevelt saw it as **America's responsibility** to "civilize" or uplift weaker nations.
- The U.S. would act as an **"International Policeman"** in the Western Hemisphere to prevent European intervention.
- He saw **international leadership** as a moral challenge the U.S. had to accept.



Roosevelt's policy was called **"big stick" diplomacy** from his motto, "Speak softly but carry a big stick."

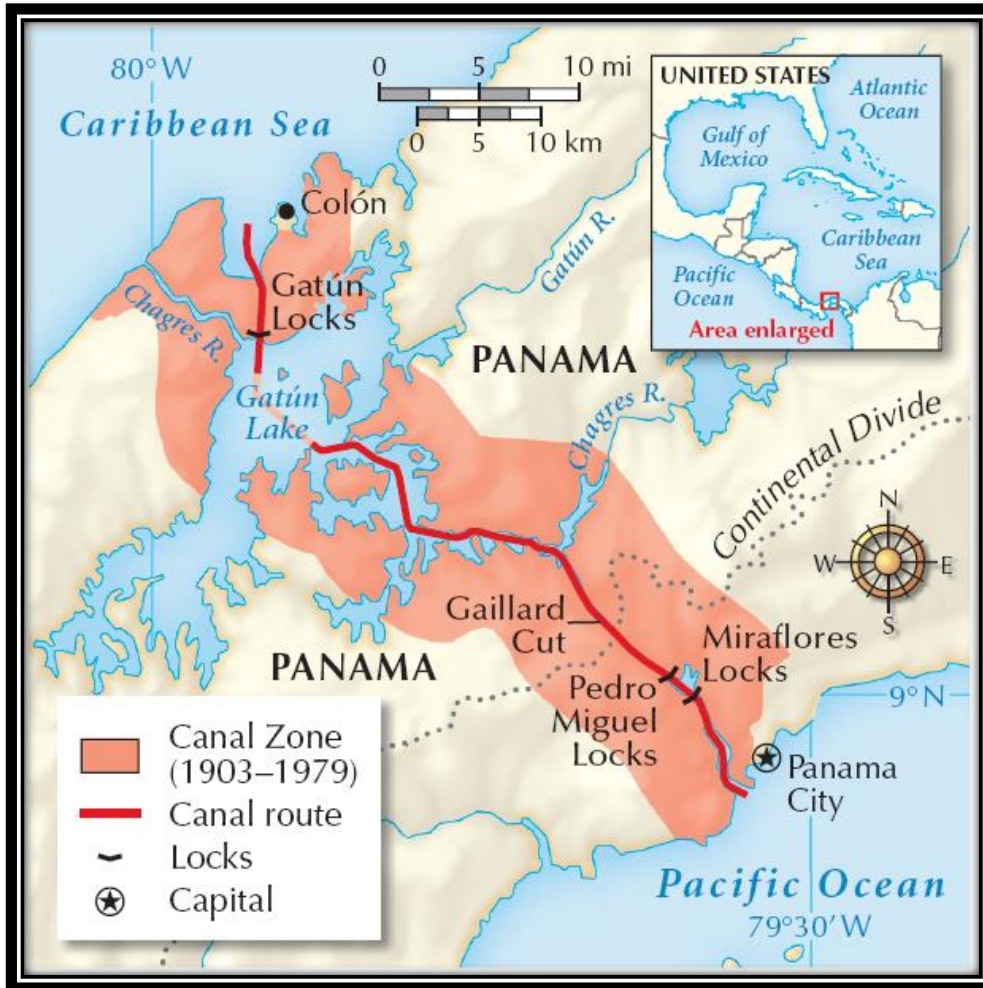
Cartoonists saw Roosevelt as a policeman in Latin America.



## The **Panama Canal** was constructed between 1904–1913



- The U.S. needed permission from Colombia which owned the Isthmus of Panama.
- Colombia wanted more money than the United States was willing to pay.
- Roosevelt encouraged Panamanian rebels to declare independence.
- The United States recognized the Panamanian government in 1904.
- Roosevelt negotiated to lease the “Canal Zone” from the new Panamanian government for \$10 million plus an annual rent.



Construction of the canal was a tremendous engineering feat that involved tens of thousands of workers.

In 1909 William Howard Taft became President. He replaced the “big stick,” which was unpopular among Latin Americans, with **“dollar diplomacy.”**



- Rather than emphasizing military force, Taft looked to increase American investments in plantations, mines, and railroads.
- Taft did not dismiss the use of force, because he sent troops into Nicaragua in 1909 and 1912.



**President,  
Woodrow  
Wilson  
proclaimed  
a new policy  
of “moral  
diplomacy”  
in 1913.**

- supported human rights and national integrity rather than U.S. self-interest
- stated that the U.S. needed to be a friend even when it was not in our best interests
- promised the U.S. would “never again seek one additional foot of territory by conquest”

**Despite his intentions, Wilson wound up intervening in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and especially in Mexico.**

Mexican dictator **Porfirio Díaz** promoted American investment in Mexico, benefiting a small wealthy upper class of landowners, clerics and military men.



Meanwhile, poor Mexican farmers were struggling in extreme poverty.

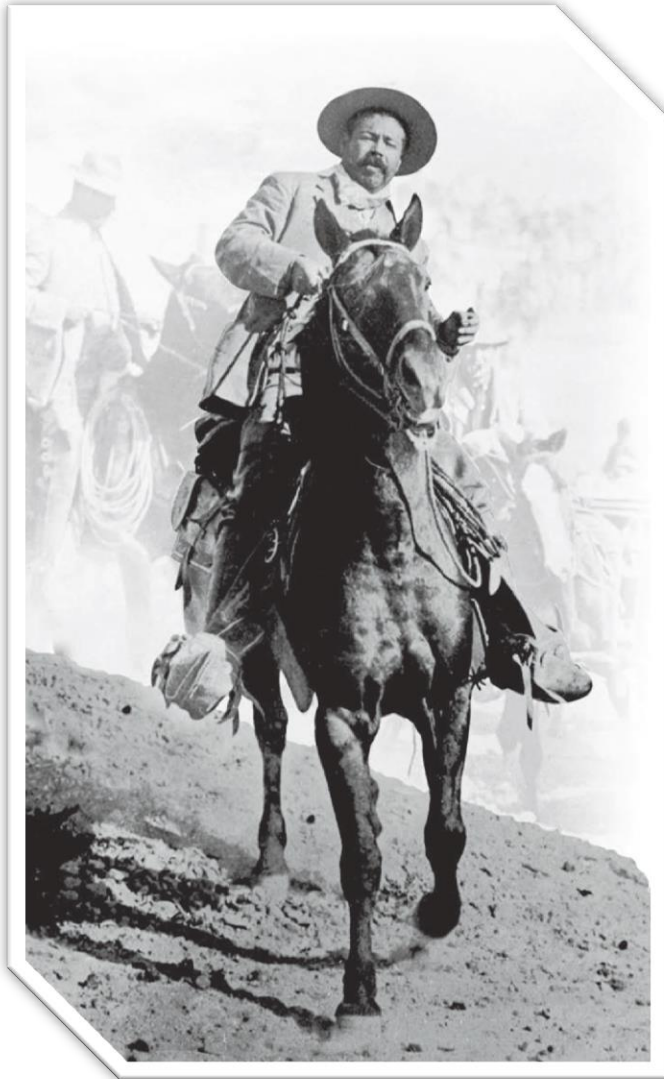
**In 1911, a revolt by Francisco Madero toppled Díaz. Two years later, General Victoriano Huerta seized control and executed Madero.**

Wilson refused to recognize a "government of butchers." When American sailors were arrested, he sent U.S. Marines into Mexico

Huerta's government collapsed and he was in turn replaced by **Venustiano Carrenza**.

The famous outlaw **Francisco "Pancho" Villa** threatened to start a new rebellion.





**In 1916, Villa participated in raids across the U.S. border, leaving 18 dead.**

Wilson sent General John J. Pershing and 10,000 troops into Mexico to catch Villa but failed.