The Rise of American Power, 1890 - 1920

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March 2017

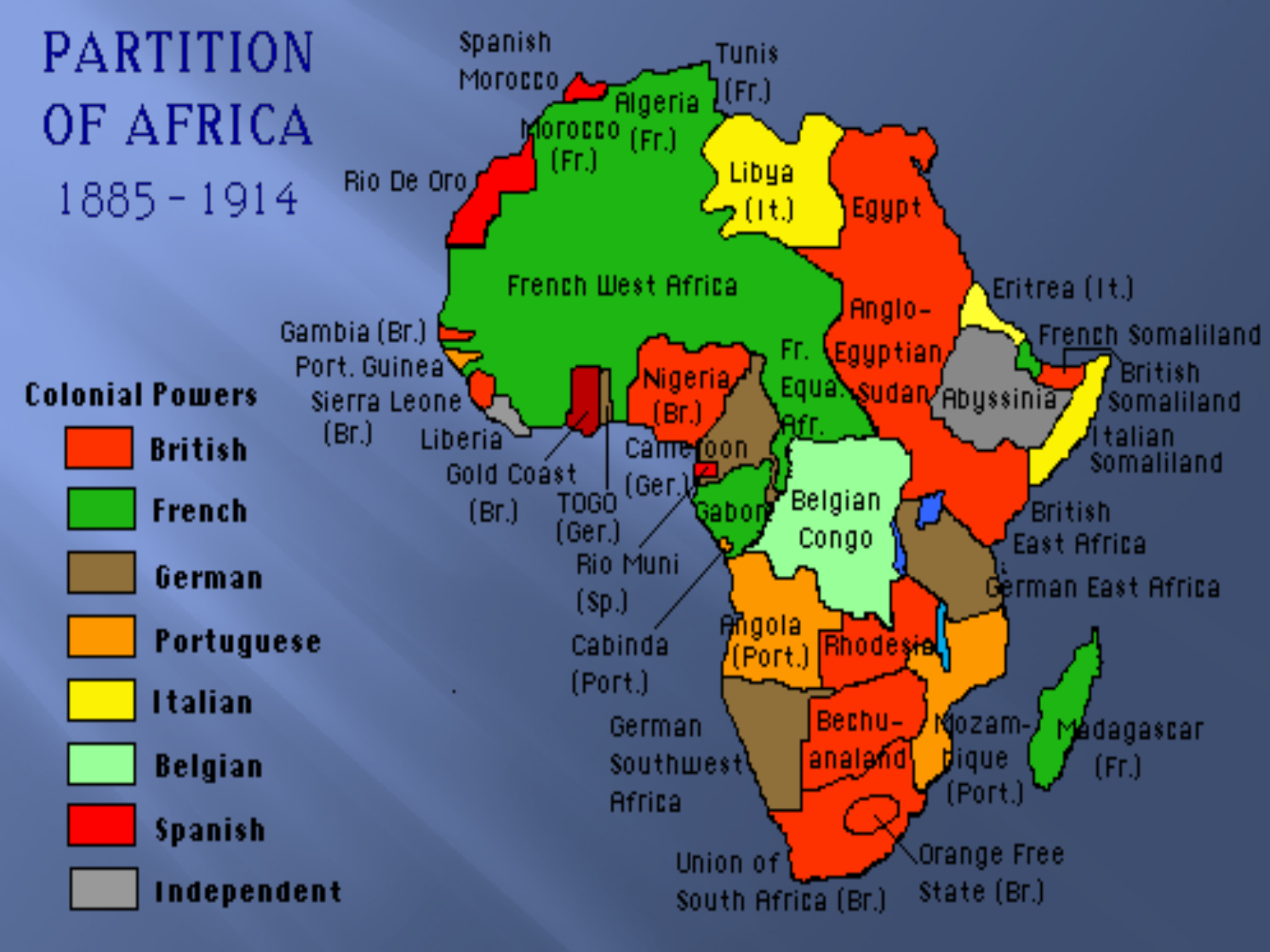
Imperialism

Imperialism is the economic and political domination of a strong nation over a weaker one

In the late 1800s, Europeans practiced imperialism in East Asia, Africa and the Pacific

PARTITION OF AFRICA

1885 - 1914

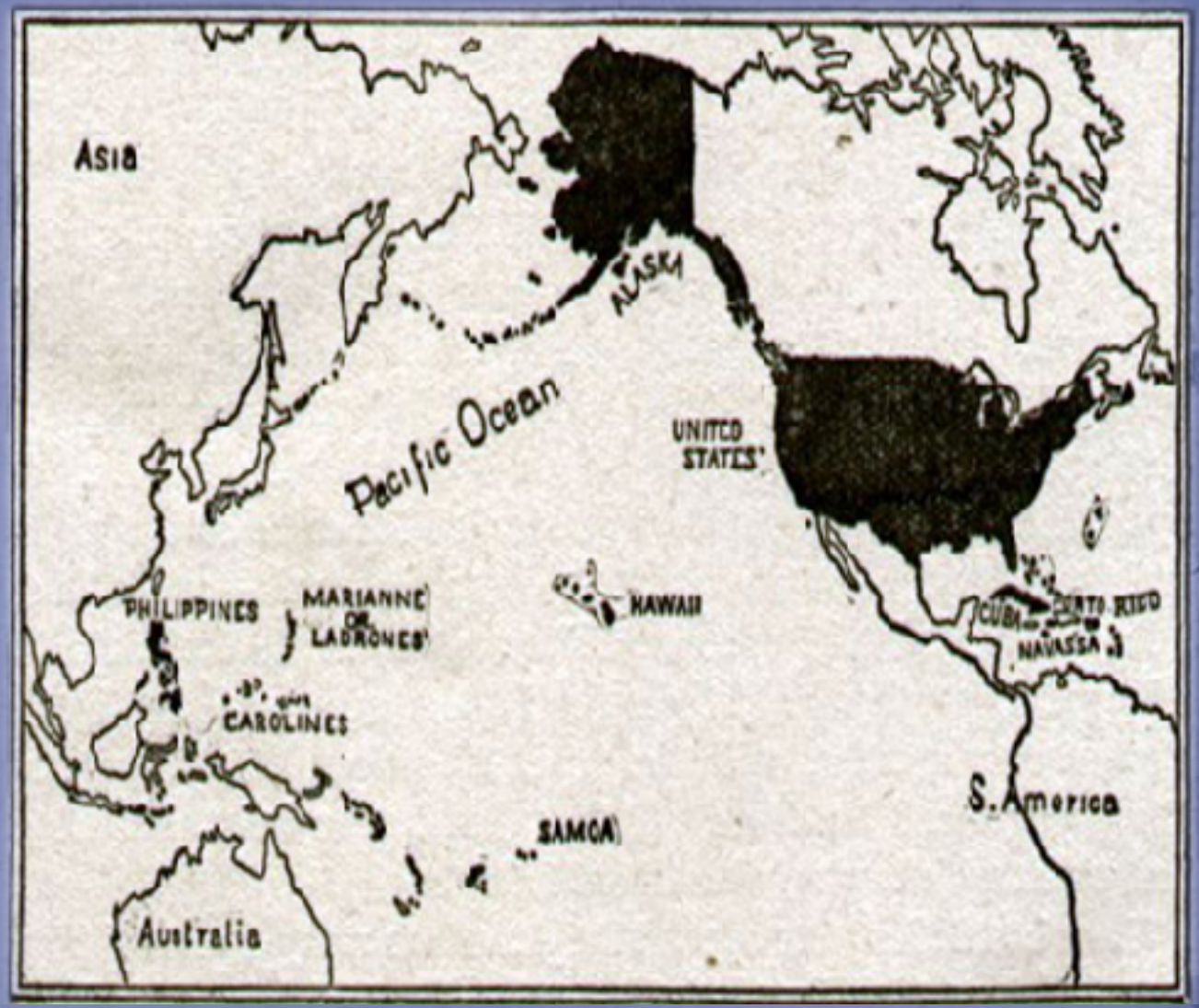


American Imperialism

American imperialism dates back to the early-1800s when Americans began moving to the West and claiming lands that had been occupied by Native Americans

Areas of American Expansion / Influence

- Pacific
  - *Alaska*
  - *Hawaii*
- Asia
  - *China*
  - *Japan*
- Cuba
- Philippines
- Latin America



Reasons for American Expansion

1. *Belief in Manifest Destiny*
   - **Frederick Jackson Turner** *Americans needed new frontiers beyond their borders*

2. *American sense of cultural superiority*
   - **America had a "superior way of life" that it had to share with others (White Man's Burden)**

Reasons for Expansion

3. *Desire to Spread Christianity*

- America had been chosen by God to spread the Christian religion to others

4. *Gain access to new markets and raw materials*

- Markets overseas would improve sales of American goods / "grow" the American economy

- Access to needed raw materials was necessary to America's continued industrial growth.

Opening Japan to Trade

President Fillmore sent Commodore Matthew C. Perry to Japan in 1853

Perry led four ships into Tokyo Bay

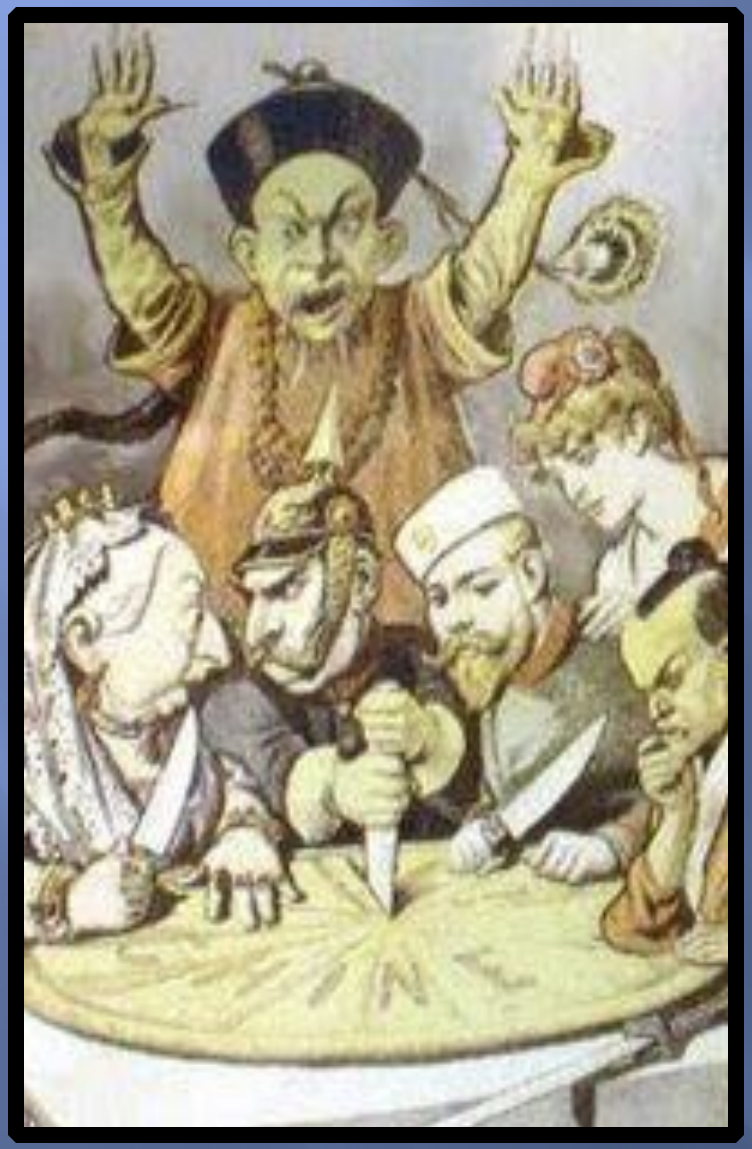
Perry's threat convinced Japan to engage in trade and diplomatic relations with the U.S.

Seward's Folly

In 1867, The U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia in what became known as Seward's folly.

While criticized by some at the time, the value of Alaska turned out to be many times greater than what the U.S. paid for it

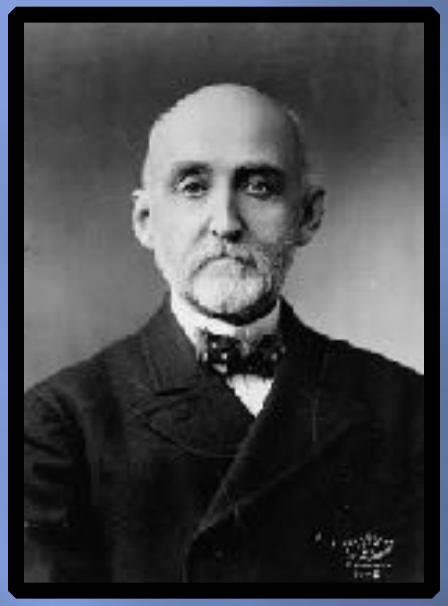
Open Door Policy w/ China



Throughout the 19th century, China's economy was controlled by numerous European powers.

The Open Door Policy was adopted by the U.S. as a means of opening trade with China in the late 1890s.

Building a Strong Navy



Alfred T. Mahan

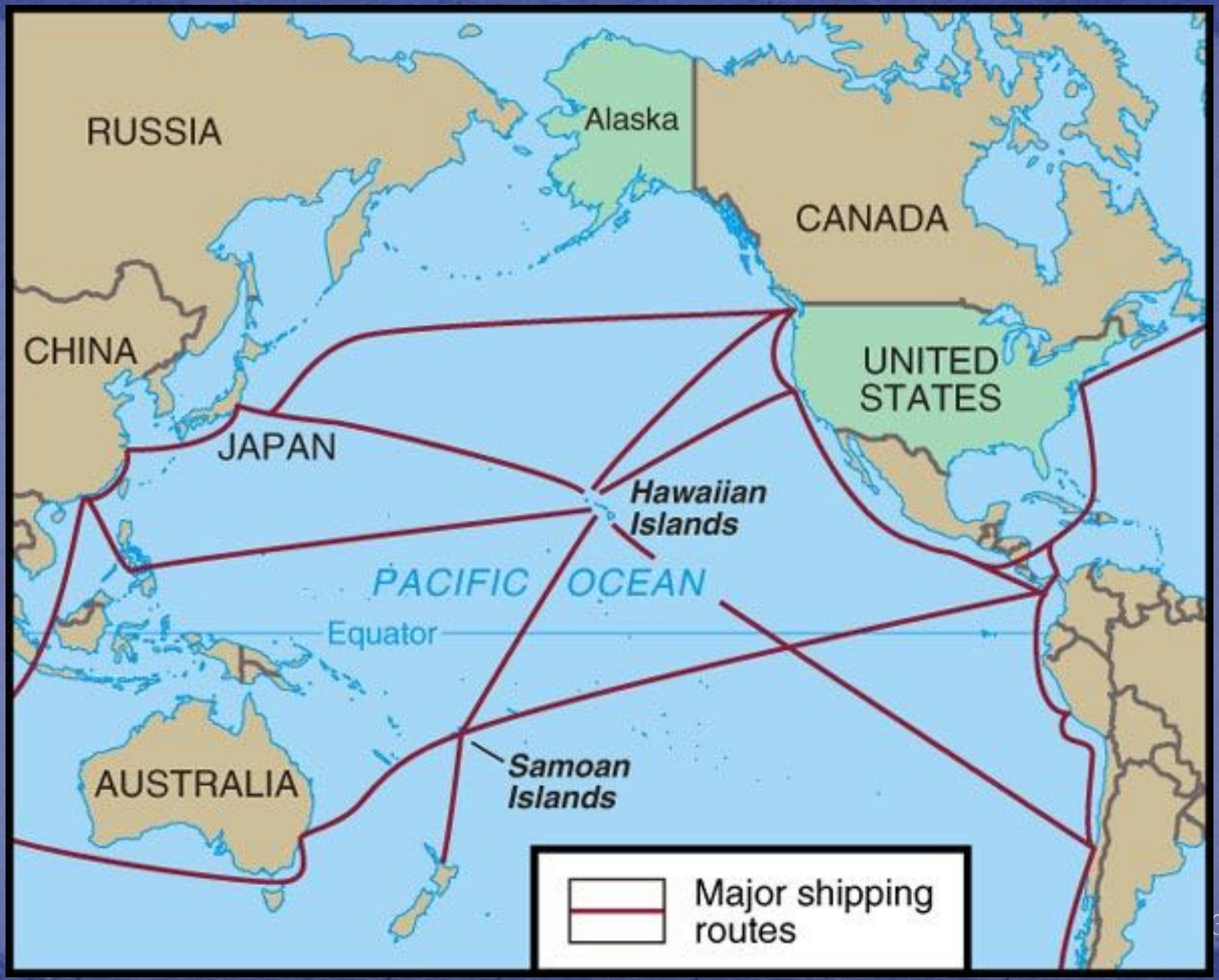
Naval officer who said a strong navy is vital to be a world power

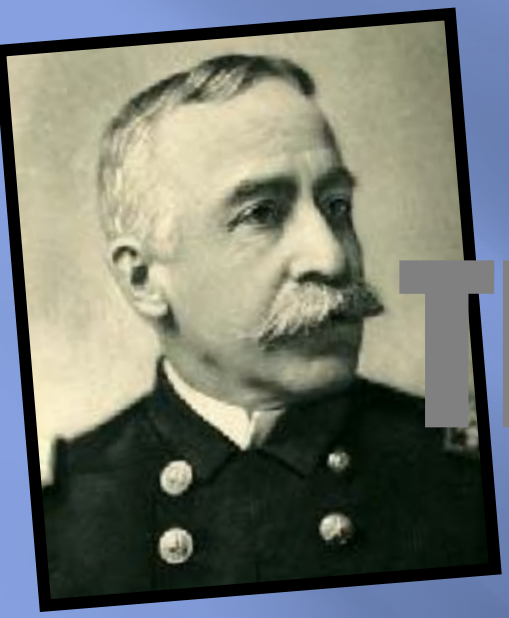
Hawaii Annexed

Trade with Japan and China in the 1800s led to the United States having interest in the Hawaiian Islands

In 1891, U.S. business owners led an overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani and asked to be annexed by the U.S.

After negotiations, in June 1897, President McKinley agreed to a treaty of annexation. Hawaii was annexed the following year


RUSSIA
Alaska
CANADA
CHINA
UNITED STATES
JAPAN
Hawaiian Islands
PACIFIC OCEAN
Equator
AUSTRALIA
Samoan Islands
Major shipping routes



The Spanish-American War

Cuba wants independence

After hundreds of years under Spanish rule, Cuba begins call for independence in the 1860s

Yellow Journalism

William Randolph Hurst
New York Journal

Competing New York City newspapers printed outrageous stories about Spanish atrocities in Cuba that were not true in an effort to sell more papers

Joseph Pulitzer
New York World

This style of reporting, in which writers often exaggerated or lied to attract readers, became known as yellow journalism

What it managed to do was anger many Americans to the point that they were ready to go to war.

Spanish atrocities?

Newspapers focused on Spanish atrocities upon the Cuban people to ignite passions against Spain

Spanish General Valeraino Weyler was portrayed as a butcher in the U.S. for his treatment of Cuban

In response to the violence going on in the Cuban capital of Havana, President McKinley sends in the USS Maine

Explosion aboard the Maine

February 15, 1898, the Maine sank in Havana Harbor after an explosion, resulting in the deaths of 266 men

$50,000 REWARD.—WHO DESTROYED THE MAINE?—$50,000 REWARD

NEW YORK JOURNAL
AND ADVERTISER

DESTRUCTION OF THE WAR SHIP MAINE WAS THE WORK OF AN ENEMY

$50,000!
$50,000 REWARD!
For the Detection of the Perpetrator of the Maine Outrage!

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt Convinced the Explosion of the War Ship Was Not an Accident.

The Journal Offers $50,000 Reward for the Conviction of the Criminals Who Sent 258 American Sailors to Their Death.
Naval Officers Unanimous That the Ship Was Destroyed on Purpose.

$50,000!
$50,000 REWARD
For the Detection of the Perpetrator of the Maine Outrage!

NAVAL OFFICERS THINK THE MAINE WAS DESTROYED BY A SPANISH MINE.

Hidden Mine or a Sunken Torpedo Believed to Have Been the Weapon Used Against the American Man-of-War—Officers and Men Tell Thrilling Stories of Being Blown Into the Air Amid a Mass of Shattered Wood and Exploding Shells—Survivors Brought to Key West Scout the Idea of Accident—Spanish Officials Protest Too Much—Our Cabinet Orders a Searching Inquiry—Journal Sends Divers to Havana to Report Upon the Condition of the Wreck.

Although no one is sure how the ship exploded, many Americans blamed it on Spain.

SCHOOL TUBE
Discovery
EDUCATION

Causes of the Spanish-American War

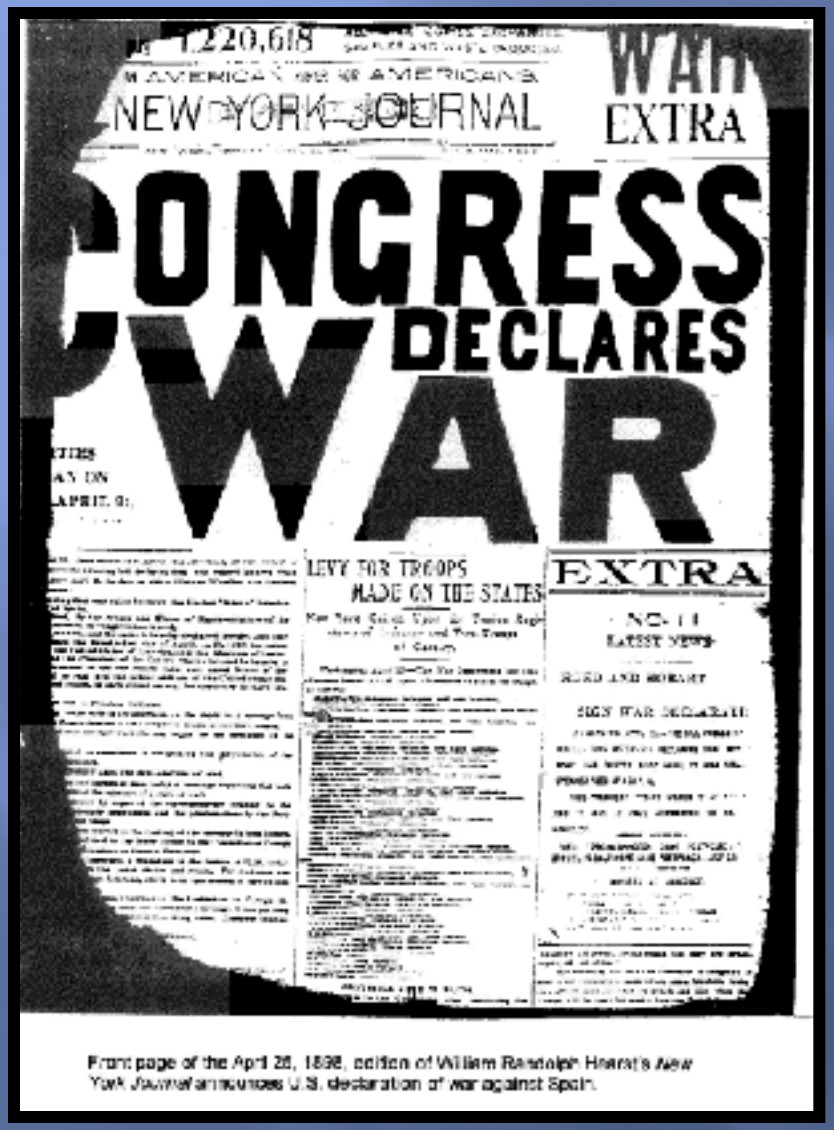
1) *The explosion of the Maine, which was blamed on Spain*

2) *The United States wanted to expand into Latin America and the Pacific*

3) *People in Cuba and Philippines rebelled against Spanish rule*

4) *Demands for involvement from American expansionists and newspapers*

Spanish-American War begins

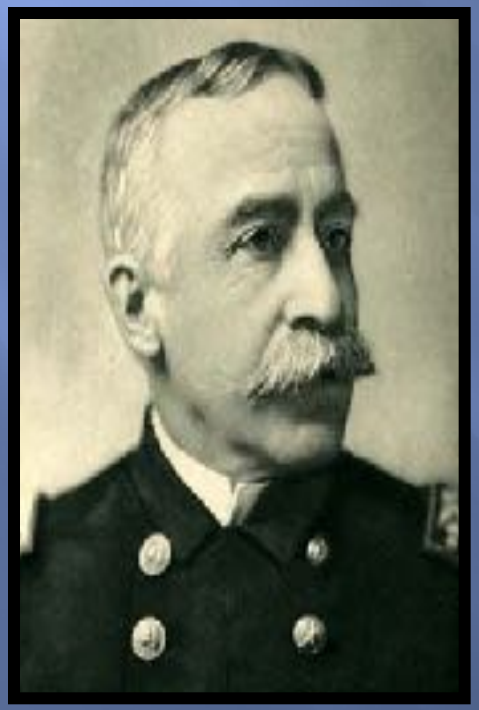

1,220,618
AMERICA'S GREATEST AMERICANS
NEW YORK JOURNAL
WAR EXTRA
CONGRESS DECLARES WAR
LEVY FOR TROOPS MADE ON THE STATES
EXTRA
Front page of the April 26, 1898, edition of William Randolph Hearst's New York Journal announces U.S. declaration of war against Spain.

In April of 1898, President McKinley asked Congress to authorize the use of force to end the conflict in Cuba

Spain was not prepared for war. The United States was, and moved quickly to take control in two regions – the Philippines and Cuba.

Dewey wins in Philippines

In the Pacific, Commodore George Dewey sailed to the Philippines and confronted the Spanish fleet at Manila Bay



In a matter of hours, Dewey and the American fleet had defeated the Spanish squadron

1,011,068 The World. 1,011,068

DEWEY SMASHES SPAIN'S FLEET

Great Naval Battle Between Asiatic Squadron and Spanish Warships Off Manila.

ADMIRAL MONTOJO ADMITS HIS UTTER ROUT

The War in Cuba

Just as the Philippines, victory over Spain came quickly in Cuba

The Rough Riders were heroes at the Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba

Victory!!

READ "THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE," BEGINNING TO-DAY.

EXTRA NEW YORK JOURNAL SPORTING SPECIAL

PEACE TREATY IS RATIFIED.

AWFUL SLAUGHTER

SPORT

Our Troops at Manila Killed the Filipinos by the Thousands--40 Americans Killed.

NEW ORLEANS RACING

NEW ATTACK ON MANILA TO-DAY.

Admiral Dewey Cable the News That the City Itself Has Been Attacked.

TREATY VOTE IS 57 TO 23.

FILIPINO LOSS IS 4,000 MEN.

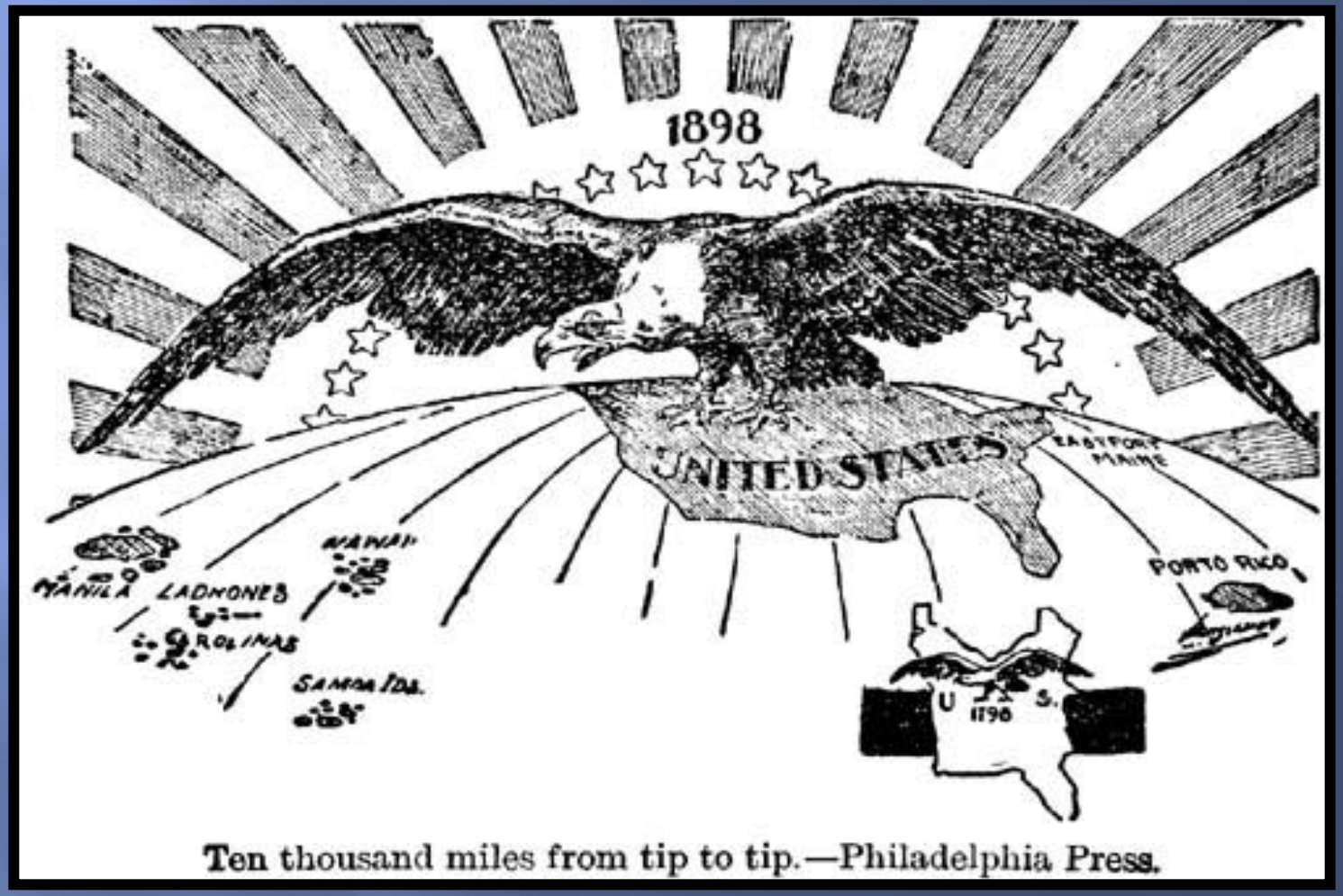
After just four months of fighting, Spain surrendered and the U.S. claimed victory

"A Splendid Little War"

-- John Hay, U.S. Secretary of State

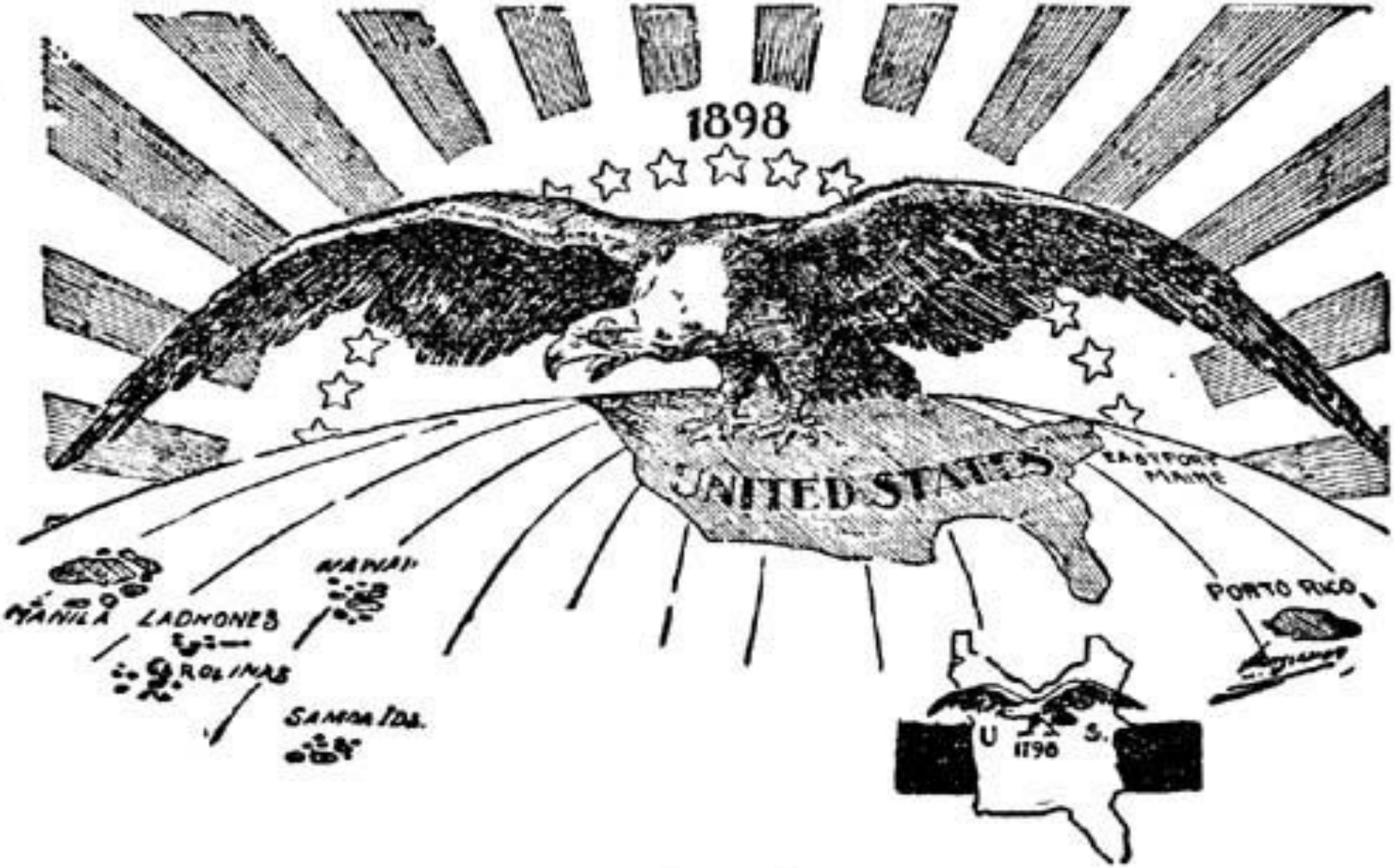
As a result of the victory in the war, the U.S. was recognized as a legitimate world power

Spoils of the War



Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.

The United States gained control of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines and gained influence over Cuba



Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.

ALASKA
(purchased 1867)
RUSSIA
Bering Sea
CANADA
CHINA
UNITED STATES
(territorial expansion
by 1853)
Boxer
Rebellion
1900
JAPAN
CUBA
(naval bases
1898)
SANTO
DOMINGO
Midway Island
1867
MEXICO
Philippine
Islands
1898
Wake Island
1899
Hawiian Islands
1898
Puerto Rico
1898
Guam
1898
Johnston
Island
1898
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
VENEZUELA
NETHERLAND INDIES
PACIFIC OCEAN
American Samoa
1899
AUSTRALIA
CHILE
United States involvement

The Platt Amendment (1901)

US removed its troops from Cuba when that nation promised . . .

To never sign a treaty with a foreign power that might impair Cuba's independence

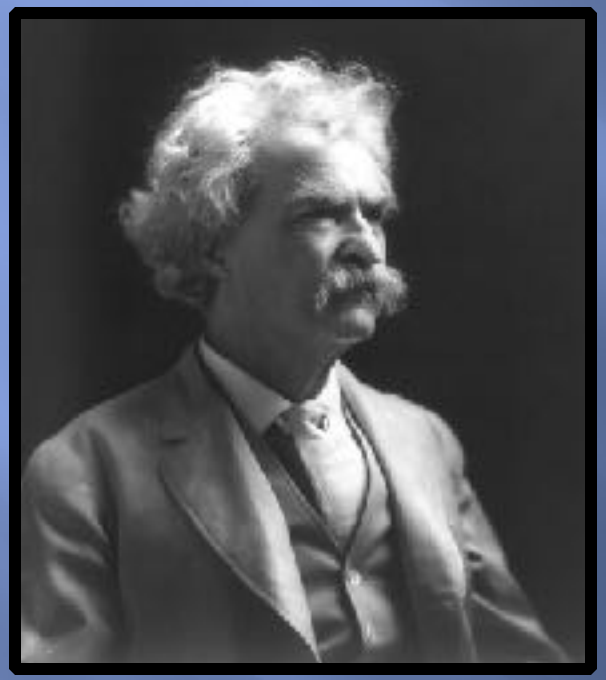
To never build an excessive public debt

To allow the U.S. to intervene in Cuba to preserve Cuba's independence and to maintain law and order

To allow the U.S. to maintain naval bases in Cuba, including Guantanamo Bay

Opposition to Imperialism

Not everyone was on the imperialism bandwagon



"... we do not intend to free, but to subjugate the people of the Philippines. We have gone there to conquer them, not to redeem them."

-- Mark Twain

"In the forcible annexation of the Philippines our Nation neither adds to its strength nor secures broader opportunities for the American people."

-- William Jennings Bryan

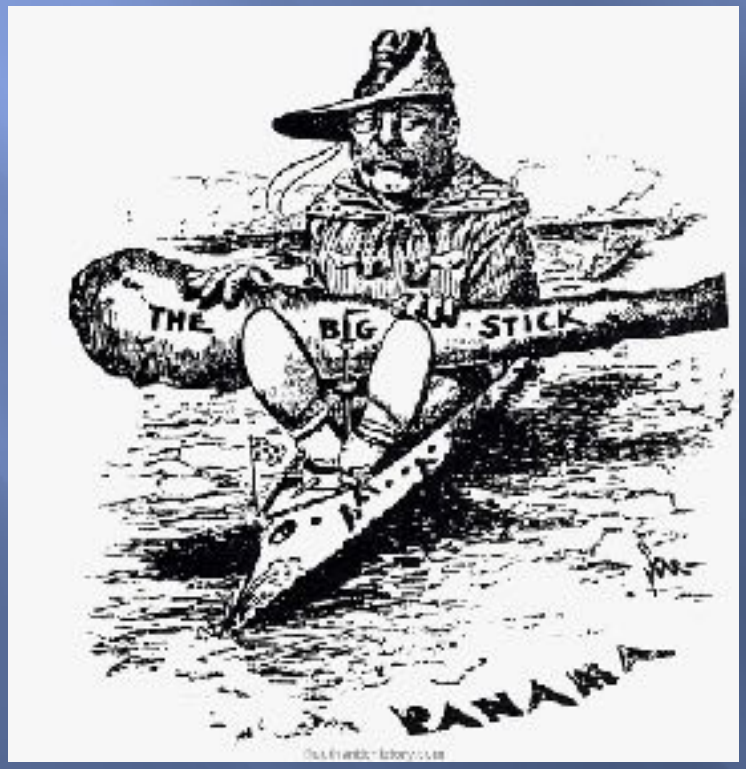
McKinley Assassinated

After being re-elected in 1900, McKinley is assassinated in 1901

It thrust Theodore Roosevelt into the role of U.S. President

He was the youngest person to become president (42)

Roosevelt's Big Stick Policy



THE NEW DIPLOMACY
ARBITRATION
EUROPE

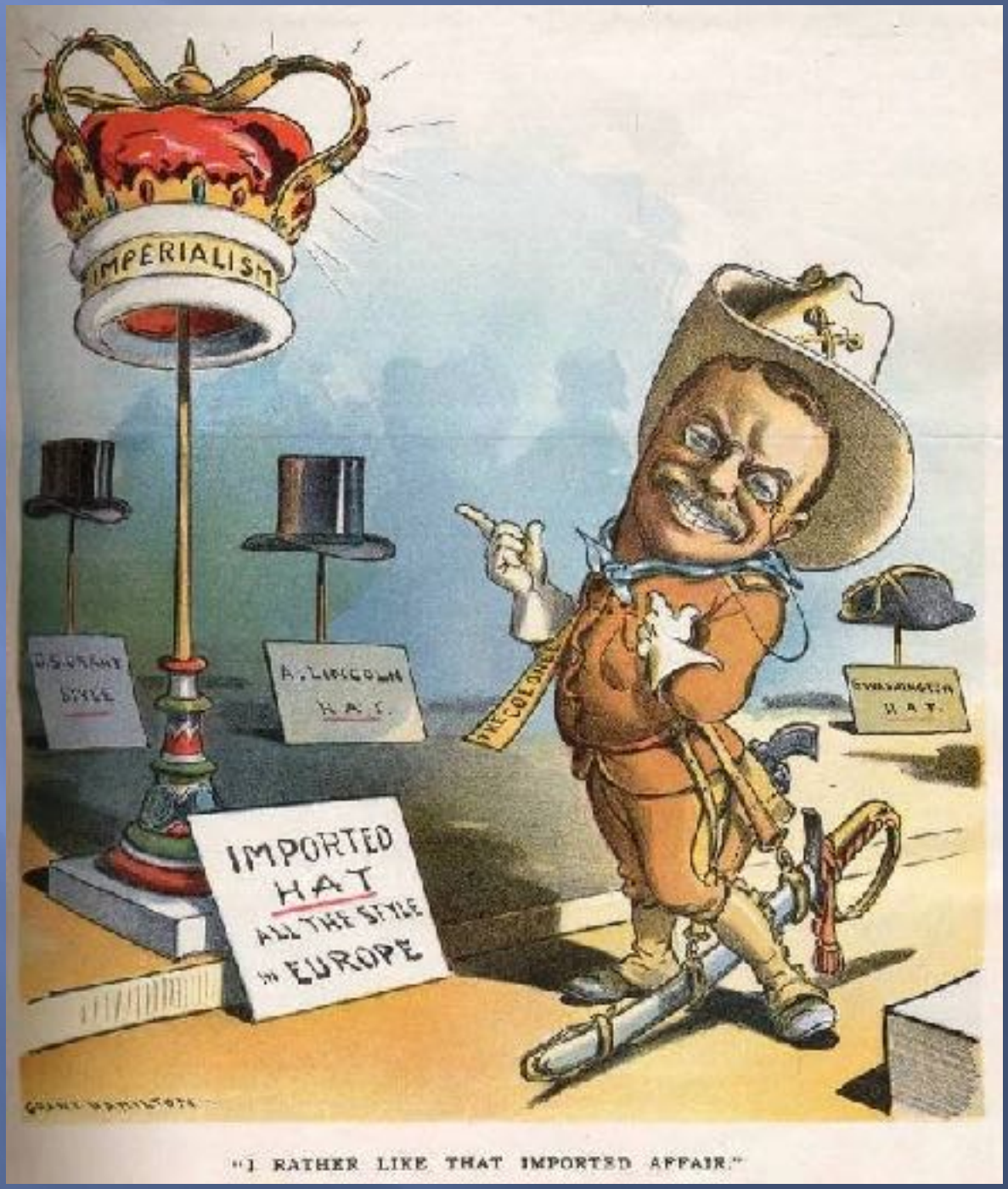
Roosevelt Corollary

In 1904, Roosevelt invoked his "big stick" policy to expand upon the Monroe Doctrine

The United States would use force to maintain economic and political stability in the Western Hemisphere

The Great White Fleet

The U.S. Naval fleet sailed around the world in 1908 by order of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt as a way to demonstrate growing American military power.

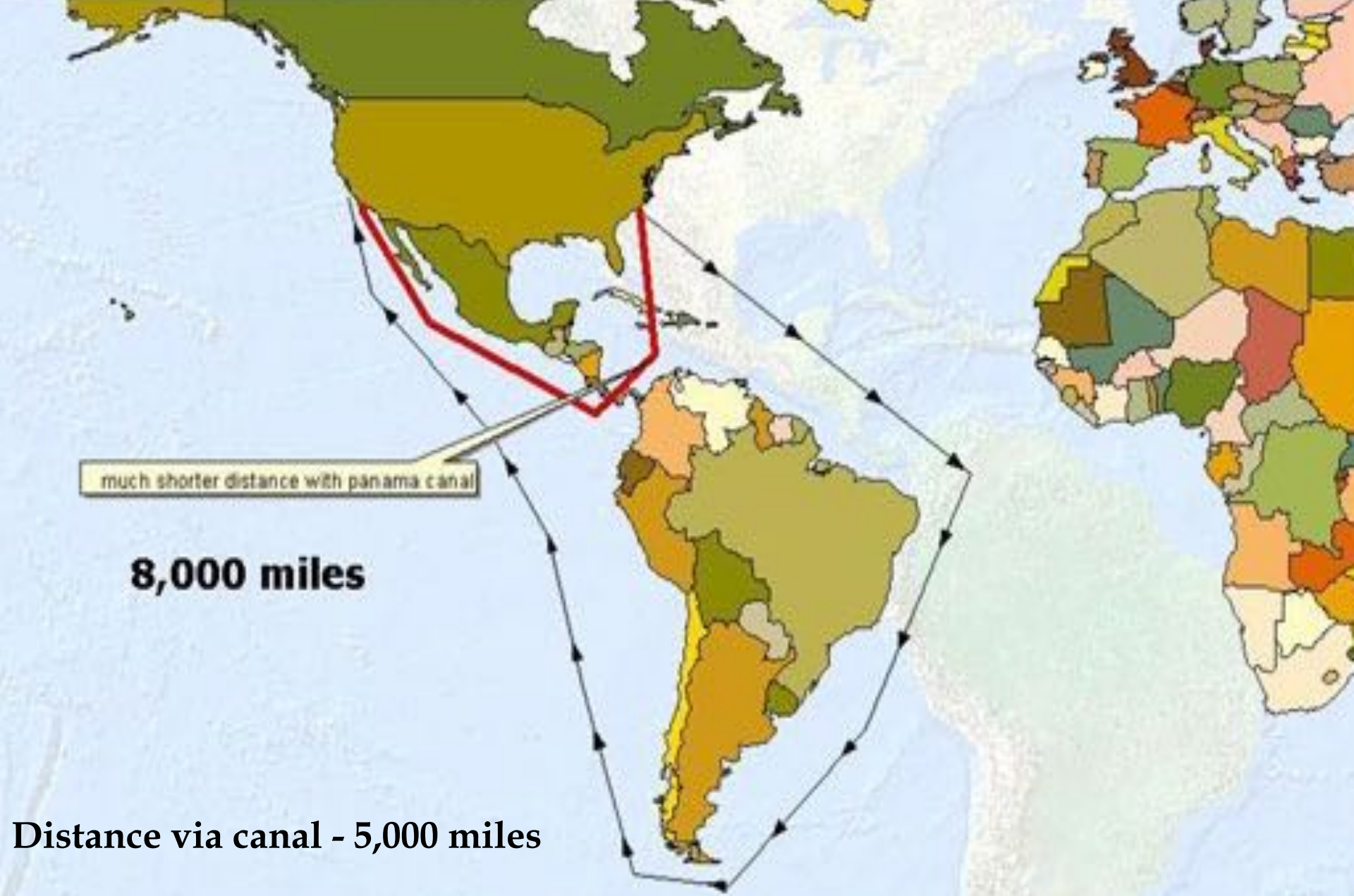


"I RATHER LIKE THAT IMPORTED AFFAIR."

The Panama Canal

TR believed that a canal through Central America was needed to expand America's power

The canal would cut the time and distance needed to move American ships between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans



Distance via canal - 5,000 miles

Distance w/out canal - 13,000 miles

Building of the Canal

The canal took 10 years to build. It is 50 miles long; over 5,600 men died during its construction.

One of the greatest challenges in building the canal was dealing with the spread of diseases.

THE MAN WHO CAN MAKE THE DIRT FLY.

Taft's Dollar Diplomacy

President William H. Taft's policy of influencing foreign nations through American economic force rather than military force

U.S. operations in Latin America went from "warlike and political" to "peaceful and economic"