

May 10, 2019

## Unit 7: The Beginning of Modern America 1867-1920

### Chapter 22: America as a World Power (1867-1928)

#### Section 1: The United States Gains Overseas Territories

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197. **Imperialism** is the building of an empire by founding colonies or conquering other nations. Between 1870 and 1914, Europeans controlled most of Africa and Southeast Asia.

198. **Isolationism** is the avoiding of involvement in the affairs of other countries. This policy was followed by the United States.

199. **Alfred Mahan** wrote “The Influence of a Sea Power Upon History” showing the need the US had for a strong navy.

200. **William Seward**, the Secretary of State of the United States arranged for the purchase of Alaska from Russia. People thought that Alaska was a frozen wasteland and called the purchase “Seward’s Folly”.

201. In 1899, Germany and the United States divided the island of **Samoa**, which was an excellent coaling station for the US Navy.

202. In 1875, a treaty allowed **sugar**, a leading export of Hawaii to be shipped to the US- duty free. The planters became the controllers of the Hawaiian legislatures and the Hawaiians feared that the foreigners would increase their power. The Queen, Queen Liliuokalani, took back the power from the planters and returned it to the monarchy. The planters revolted and formed a new government. **The US Congress**

**voted to annex the Hawaiians Islands to the US and Hawaii became a territory of the US in 1898.**

**203. Spheres of Influence** were areas where foreign nations controlled the resources of another nation. The European nations all took control of areas within China after it had been defeated by Japan. In the mid-1800s, the European nations did not form ties with Japan because Japan isolated itself from the world. President Fillmore of the US sent Commodore Perry to Japan to obtain friendship, commerce, and a supply of coal and provisions. Perry was not successful, and he returned to seven warships and gifts. Japan signed a trade agreement with the US in 1858.

**204. A duty** is a tax on imported items.

**205. The Secretary of the US John Hay announced an Open-Door Policy in China.** This policy stated that all nations should have equal access to trade in China.

**206. The Boxer Rebellion occurred in China** when a group of Chinese Nationalists angry at foreign involvement in China seized the area where foreigners lived and held it for two months. Foreign military forces including the US defeated the Boxers. China had to pay the foreign governments 333 million dollars.

## **Section 2: The Spanish American War**

**Pages 697-703**

**207. The United States, Japan, and several European countries were gaining colonies, but Spain's empire was declining. The only colonies that Spain had in the Americas were Cuba and Puerto Rico.** Because of Spain's harsh rule, Cuba revolted, and many Americans sided with

Cuba. Two newspaper editors, Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst used Yellow Journalism to attract readers.

208. **Yellow Journalism** is the reporting of exaggerated stories in newspapers to increase sales. Americans reading these stories about Spanish brutality to Cuba felt that the US military should support the Cuban rebels. President Grover Cleveland opposed this, but when William McKinley was elected President, he supported it.

209. The **US sent the battleship, Maine** to Havana Harbor (Cuba) to protect US citizens and economic interests in Cuba. The ship exploded and sank. Spain was blamed. The slogan “Remember the Maine” became the cry of many Americans.

210. Many Americans were insulted when Hearst’s newspaper published a letter written by the Spanish Minister to the US calling President McKinley “weak and a bidder for the admiration of the crowd.”

211. **The Teller Amendment**- The US Congress issued a resolution declaring Cuba independent (even though Cuba was not a US territory) and they attached the Teller Amendment to the resolution declaring that the US would not take control of Cuba. Spain declared war on the US and fighting began in Cuba.

212. **Commodore George Dewey** raced to the Philippines (a Spanish colony in the Pacific) with the US navy. The Spanish Fleet was destroyed in Manila Bay (Philippines). Filipino rebels led by **Emilio Aguinaldo** and the US troops took control of Manila, the Philippine capital.

213. **The US army was not prepared for war**. They did not have enough soldiers and had to use volunteers. Morale was a problem because

they did not have enough rifles, living conditions were harsh, there were deadly diseases and improper clothing.

214. Theodore Roosevelt led a group called the “Rough Riders” to fight in Cuba. US troops along with the Rough Riders captured the hills around Santiago (Cuba) and finally attacked and captured San Juan Hill in Puerto Rico. After the US won battles on land and sea, Spain surrendered, and peace negotiations began.

215. The peace treaty signed with Spain gave the United States control of Cuba, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. The Anti-Imperialist League in America opposed the treaty because they said it denied self-government to the newly acquired US territories.

216. The US set up a military government in Cuba because it wanted to create stability and increase economic activity. Leonard Wood was appointed governor by President McKinley. He built schools, a new sanitation system, and oversaw the writing of a Cuban constitution.

217. The Platt Amendment was added to Cuba’s constitution. It allowed the US to intervene in Cuban affairs and required Cuba to lease or sell land to the US. It also limited Cuba’s right to make treaties. The US stayed active in Cuban affairs until the late 1950s.

218. President McKinley took control of the Philippines because the US wanted to benefit from the islands’ naval and commercial value. Also, by annexing the islands, it would keep European nations from seizing them. Filipino rebels led by Emilio Aguinaldo fought the US for independence. The Philippine Islands were granted full independence in 1946.

### Section 3: The United States and Latin America

**219. A canal across Central America would cut 8,000 miles off a voyage by ship between the east and west US coasts. Theodore Roosevelt, US President, tried to lease land in Panama. The best place to lease was the Isthmus of Panama, which was part of the nation of Columbia. Columbia refused. When Panama revolted against Columbia, a US warship blocked Colombian forces from reaching Panama. Panama won and declared itself an independent country. The US recognized Panama's new government and Panama agreed to lease a strip of land across the Isthmus of Panama to the US so they could build a canal. The US paid 10 million dollars plus 250,000 dollars a year for a 99-year lease on a 10-mile-wide strip of land.**

**220. Construction of the canal began in 1904.** There were many obstacles to overcome such as tropical diseases like malaria and yellow fever. Dr. William Gorgas organized a successful effort to rid the canal route of disease-carrying mosquitos. The canal opened in 1914 linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It became known as the "highway between the oceans".

**221. President Theodore Roosevelt changed the US policy toward Latin America.** He believed that the US should take a more active role in the Western Hemisphere. His motto was "Speak softly and carry a big stick." He meant that the US would use military force to protect US interests in Latin American.

**222. Venezuela and the Dominican Republic were in debt to European investors.** They refused to pay, and the European nations were prepared to use force to collect the debt. The US insisted that Venezuela and the Dominican Republic had to repay what they owed, but he would not allow European powers to interfere in Latin America.

**223. Presidents Taft and Wilson promoted interests in Latin America. Taft used a policy called **dollar diplomacy**. This was influencing governments through economic, not military intervention. President Wilson rejected **dollar diplomacy**. He did not like the role of big business in foreign affairs. He felt like the US had a moral obligation to promote democracy in Latin America. He was willing to use force to protect US interests in Latin America.**

**224. In 1910, many Mexicans revolted against the harsh rule of the Mexican dictator Porfirio Diaz. Many Mexicans fled to the US. This affected the US since it had invested more than one billion dollars in land, money, oil, and railways in Mexico. Wilson requested and received permission to use force in Mexico. He ordered the navy to seize Vera Cruz and he sent General Pershing into Mexico to seize the rebel leader Francisco "Pancho" Villa. Pershing failed to capture Villa, and President Wilson recalled the troops. In 1917 a new constitution began to bring order to Mexico. More than 120,000 Mexicans had fled to the US during the violence between 1905 and 1915.**