

# The United States Continues to Expand

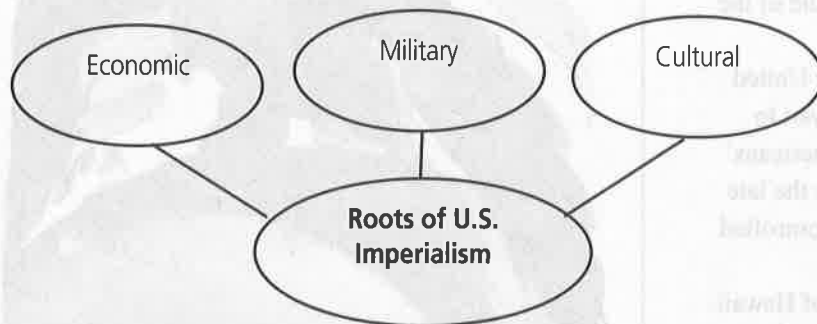
## Before You Read

In the last chapter, you read about the Progressive Era. During that era, Americans tried to solve many of society's problems.

In this section, you will learn about how the United States became a world power and acquired new territories.

## As You Read

Use this diagram to take notes on the factors that contributed to U.S. imperialism.



## Reasons for U.S. Expansion (pages 659–660)

### What is imperialism?

By the late 1800s, many European nations had engaged in imperialism for hundreds of years.

**Imperialism** is the policy by which stronger nations take control over weaker ones. For example, European powers took over many areas of Africa in the 1800s. By the early 1900s, only two countries in Africa—Ethiopia and Liberia—were still independent.

By the 1880s, many Americans thought that the United States should also have colonies overseas. Three main factors led to American imperialism. The first factor was the economic benefit. The nation's economic leaders argued that new colonies would increase U.S. *prosperity*. They thought that the new colonies would be a cheap source of raw materials. Also, farmers pointed out that they could make more money by selling their products in the new colonies.

The second factor was the military benefit. Military leaders wanted new colonies because it would allow America to send troops and other military resources around the world. This would help

the nation to become a stronger world power.

The third factor was a belief in cultural superiority. Many Americans felt that their government, religion—and even race—were better than those of other nations. As a result, some Americans felt it was right to take control of other nations.

### 1. What factors led to the growing support for imperialism in the United States?

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## Seward and Alaska (page 660)

### Who was William Seward?

A strong backer of expansion was **William Seward**. Seward was Secretary of State under Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. In 1867, Seward increased the nation's size by arranging the purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million.

Some Americans criticized Seward's move. They believed the nation had paid too much for the land. Newspapers called Alaska a "Polar Bear Garden" and "Seward's Icebox." However, Alaska turned out

## TERMS & NAMES

**imperialism** Policy by which stronger nations take control of weaker territories

**William Seward** Secretary of State who arranged the purchase of Alaska

**Queen Liliuokalani** First queen of the Hawaiian Islands

to be a resource-rich territory. As a result, people realized that buying Alaska was a great bargain for the United States.

**2. Why did the purchase of Alaska turn out to be a bargain for the United States?**

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**The Annexation of Hawaii** (page 661)

**Who was Liliuokalani?**

By the end of the 1800s, the United States had taken an interest in a new territory—the Hawaiian Islands. These were a group of islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

In the early 1800s, Christians from the United States had moved to the Kingdom of Hawaii to *convert* the local people. Some of the Americans’ *descendants* started sugar plantations. By the late 1800s, these wealthy plantation owners controlled Hawaii’s economy.

In 1891, **Liliuokalani** became queen of Hawaii. She believed that the American planters had too much influence. She wanted to take back power for her people. The planters became upset over the threats to their power. In 1893, they staged a revolt. With the help of the U.S. Marines, they overthrew the queen. They then set up their own government and asked the United States to take over Hawaii.

U.S. leaders recognized the value of the Hawaiian Islands. In 1887, they had pressured Hawaii to allow a U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor. This base became an important refueling station for American ships bound for Asia.

President Benjamin Harrison approved of the planters’ actions. He asked the Senate to approve the takeover of Hawaii. But before the Senate could act, Grover Cleveland became president. He did not approve of the planters’ actions and withdrew the request. As a result, the United States would not take over Hawaii until 1898.

**3. Why was the United States interested in Hawaii?**

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**Skillbuilder**

Use the cartoon below to answer the questions.



**1. On what country is the eagle in the cartoon standing?**

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**2. What message do you think the cartoonist was trying to send?**

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# The Spanish-American War

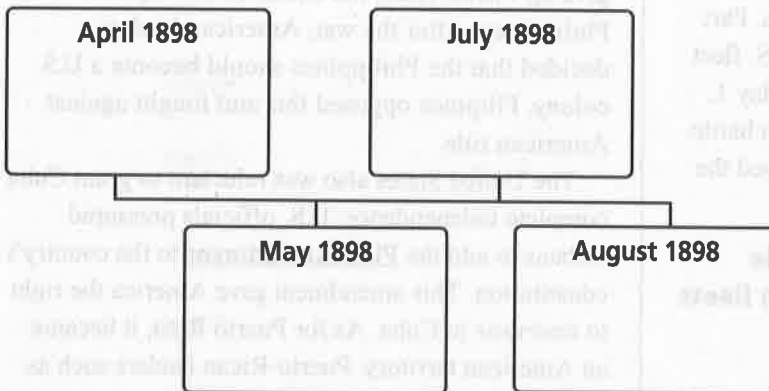
## Before You Read

In the last section, you read about the growth of U.S. imperialism during the late 1800s.

In this section, you will learn about how the United States and Spain went to war over events in Cuba.

## As You Read

Use this diagram to take notes on the significant events of the Spanish-American War.



## Rebellion Against Spain (pages 662–663)

**What was yellow journalism?**

At the end of the 1800s, Spain's empire was crumbling. Spain had once controlled many colonies. By the 1890s, the nation owned only a few. Among them were the Philippine Islands in the Pacific and the Caribbean islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico. Many people on these islands had begun to demand independence.

In 1895, Cubans rebelled against Spanish rule. The Spanish used harsh methods to crush the rebellion. The revolt in Cuba caused alarm in the United States. Business leaders were concerned because the fighting disrupted U.S. trade with Cuba. But most Americans were outraged by Spain's *brutal* tactics. Newspapers, in an effort to attract readers, often exaggerated news about Spanish cruelty. This sensational style of writing was known as **yellow journalism**.

## TERMS & NAMES

**yellow journalism** Style of reporting that exaggerated events

**U.S.S. *Maine*** U.S. warship that exploded and sank in Havana's harbor

**Spanish-American War** War between United States and Spain over the issue of Cuban independence

**Rough Riders** Fighting force in Cuba led by Theodore Roosevelt

**Platt Amendment** Doctrine that gave the United States the right to intervene in Cuba

**Anti-Imperialist League** Group of Americans who opposed U.S. imperialism

**Luis Muñoz Rivera** Puerto-Rican leader who fought for independence for Puerto Rico.

## 1. How did Americans react to the revolt in Cuba?

## The United States Goes to War

(pages 663–664)

**What happened to the U.S.S. *Maine*?**

In January 1898, riots broke out in Cuba's capital, Havana. In order to protect U.S. citizens in Havana, President William McKinley sent the **U.S.S. *Maine*** to Cuba. While anchored in Havana's harbor, the *Maine* mysteriously exploded and sank. Hundreds of crew members were killed.

No one knows what caused the explosion, but Americans blamed Spain. In April 1898, President McKinley called for Cuban independence and the withdrawal of Spanish forces. Spain refused. As a result, the **Spanish-American War** began.

**2. How did the Spanish-American War begin?**


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**The War in the Philippines** (pages 664–665)

**Who** led the American attack in the Philippines?

The United States went to war to fight for Cuban freedom. But the first major battle of the war took place in the Philippine Islands. The inhabitants of these islands were known as Filipinos. Like the Cubans, they also had revolted against Spanish rule in the 1890s.

When the Spanish-American War began, U.S. leaders sent American ships to the Philippines. Part of the Spanish fleet was located there. The U.S. fleet was led by Commodore George Dewey. On May 1, 1898, American and Spanish ships engaged in battle. By that afternoon, Dewey's forces had destroyed the Spanish fleet.

**3. What was the outcome of the battle between the American and Spanish fleets in the Philippines?**


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**The War in the Caribbean** (pages 665–666)

**Who** were the *Rough Riders*?

In June 1898, more than 16,000 U.S. soldiers invaded Cuba. They fought their way toward Santiago, a Spanish stronghold in southern Cuba. One of the more famous U.S. regiments was nicknamed the **Rough Riders**. Theodore Roosevelt led the group. His recruits included cowboys, miners, college students, athletes, and Native Americans.

In order to capture Santiago, U.S. troops had to take control of San Juan Hill, just outside the town. In July, Americans captured the hill. Days later, American ships destroyed Spain's fleet as it tried to escape Santiago harbor. The city soon surrendered. Shortly

afterward, U.S. forces took Puerto Rico. On August 12, 1898, Spain signed a truce and the war ended.

**4. Why was capturing San Juan Hill significant?**


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**Results of the War; The Anti-Imperialist League** (pages 666–667)

**What** was the *Platt Amendment*?

As a result of the peace treaty, Spain had to give up more than just Cuba. The nation was also forced to give up Puerto Rico, the island of Guam, and the Philippines. After the war, American leaders decided that the Philippines should become a U.S. colony. Filipinos opposed this and fought against American rule.

The United States also was reluctant to grant Cuba complete independence. U.S. officials pressured Cubans to add the **Platt Amendment** to the country's constitution. This amendment gave America the right to *intervene* in Cuba. As for Puerto Rico, it became an American territory. Puerto-Rican leaders such as **Luis Muñoz Rivera** pushed for greater independence. In 1917, Puerto Rico became a self-governing territory.

Many Americans opposed their country's treatment of Spain's former colonies. Such feelings prompted the formation of the **Anti-Imperialist League**. This group believed that Americans should not deny other people the right to govern themselves. Most Americans, however, supported the nation's actions as a way to achieve greater glory.

**5. How did the United States treat Spain's former colonies after the war?**


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Chapter **23** Section 3 (pages 668–673)

# U.S. Involvement Overseas

## Before You Read

In the last section, you read about how the United States won a war against Spain and then took over several Spanish colonies.

In this section, you will learn about how the United States extended its influence around the world.

## As You Read

Use this chart to take notes on U.S. involvement in Asia and Latin America.

U.S. Involvement	
Asia	Latin America

## TERMS & NAMES

**sphere of influence** Areas where foreign nations claimed special rights and economic privileges

**Open Door Policy** U.S. policy designed to prevent other countries from controlling trade with China

**Boxer Rebellion** Uprising by Chinese group against foreigners

**Panama Canal** U.S.-built route through Panama connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans

**Roosevelt Corollary** U.S. policy that permitted U.S. intervention in Latin America when it was necessary to maintain stability in the region

## A Power in the Pacific; The United States in China (pages 668-669)

### What was the Open Door Policy?

By the late 1800s, the United States had strengthened its presence in Asia. The nation had acquired a chain of islands—including Hawaii and Guam—that stretched across the Pacific Ocean to Asia. America also had gained control of the Philippines. By the 1890s, America also was actively trading with Japan.

The United States, however, lacked relations with China. Such was not the case for Japan and the major European powers. These countries had created **spheres of influence** in China. These were areas where foreign nations claimed special rights and economic privileges. By the late 1890s, Japan and the countries of Europe had formed prosperous settlements along the coast of China.

America soon attempted to gain access to China's markets and resources. In 1899, Secretary of State John Hay asked nations involved in the region to follow an **Open Door Policy**. This policy declared that no single nation should have control of trade

with China. Most nations accepted Hay's proposal.

Many Chinese people were angry over the presence of foreigners. One group that opposed European presence in China was known as the "Boxers." In 1900, they led a violent uprising known as the **Boxer Rebellion**. The rebellion failed, but it made the Chinese people's feelings of *resentment* toward outsiders known.

### 1. Why did the United States establish the Open Door Policy?

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## The Panama Canal; Building the Canal (page 670)

### What was the Panama Canal?

As American interests in the Pacific grew, the nation desired easier access to the region. For that reason, U.S. leaders proposed a shortcut to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The answer was a canal through Latin America.

The South American nation of Colombia controlled the best spot for the canal—Panama. But Colombia was unwilling to give up the land. As a result, the United States supported a revolution by the people who lived in the region. Out of this revolution, the new nation of Panama was created in 1903. The new Panamanian leaders allowed the United States to build the **Panama Canal** on their land.

Building the canal was extremely difficult. More than 45,000 laborers worked on the canal. Many of them were black West Indians. They did not complete the canal until 1914. More than 5,000 workers died from disease and accidents during the project.

**2. How did the United States acquire the land to build the Panama Canal?**

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**U.S. Involvement in Latin America**

(page 672)

**Why was the United States interested in Latin America?**

The Panama Canal was only one example of U.S. involvement in Latin America. As the U.S. economy grew, so did Americans' interest in the resources of Latin American countries. Businesses in the United States found that they could cheaply buy food and raw materials from Latin America. They then sold these goods in the United States for higher prices.

In order to protect their economic interests, U.S. leaders wanted to make sure that political stability existed in Latin America. This meant that they did not want any revolutions or rebellions to take place.

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**3. Why was the United States interested in maintaining political stability in Latin America?**

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**Policing the Hemisphere** (pages 672–673)

**What was the Roosevelt Corollary?**

The United States worried that European nations might try to intervene in Latin America. As a result, President Roosevelt reminded Europeans of the Monroe Doctrine. This doctrine *prohibited* other nations from getting involved in Latin America. In 1904, the president strengthened the Monroe Doctrine by adding the **Roosevelt Corollary**. This policy stated that the United States would intervene in Latin American affairs when the nation believed it was necessary to maintain stability.

The United States did not hesitate to act on the Roosevelt Corollary. In 1906, American leaders took control of the Dominican Republic's finances after the country failed to pay its foreign debts. A year later, America sent troops to Cuba to put down a revolt. Later presidents also used the Roosevelt Corollary. For example, President Taft sent Marines to Nicaragua in 1912 to restore order there.

**4. What were two examples of America's use of the Roosevelt Corollary?**

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**Glossary/After You Read****prosperity** The condition of having financial success**convert** To persuade someone to adopt a particular faith or religion**descendant** An immediate or distant offspring**brutal** Cruel or harsh**resentment** Anger or ill will felt toward toward others**intervene** To get involved in**prohibit** To forbid**Terms & Names****A.** Write the letter of the name or term next to the description that fits it best.

- a. Panama Canal      b. Boxer Rebellion      c. Rough Riders  
d. Anti-Imperialist League      e. Queen Liliuokalani

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Leader of Hawaii who sought to give greater power to the Hawaiian people
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Fighting force in Cuba led by Theodore Roosevelt
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Group that opposed U.S. imperialism
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Revolt led by anti-foreigner group in China
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Man-made waterway that connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans

**B.** Circle the name or term that best completes each sentence.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the policy by which stronger nations control weaker territories.

yellow journalism      imperialism      Open Door Policy

2. The explosion \_\_\_\_\_ helped to start the Spanish-American War.

of the U.S.S. *Maine*      of the Panama Canal      at Pearl Harbor

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ allowed the United States to intervene in Cuban affairs.

Platt Amendment      Monroe Doctrine      sphere of influence

4. \_\_\_\_\_ fought for Puerto Rican independence.

William Seward      Theodore Roosevelt      Luis Muñoz Rivera

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ declared the United States would intervene in Latin American affairs to secure stability in the region.

Open Door Policy      Roosevelt Corollary      Anti-Imperialist League



## Main Ideas

1. Why did the American planters' request that the United States take over Hawaii in the early 1890s fail?

2. What was the first major event of the Spanish-American War?

3. What happened in the Philippines after the war?

4. Why was the nation of Panama created?

5. How did the Roosevelt Corollary change U.S. foreign policy?

## Thinking Critically

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Why might the idea of the United States becoming a colonial power have offended the nation's founding fathers?
2. Do you agree with the Roosevelt Corollary? Why or why not?