



Creating An Empire

Day 3 – The Spanish American War

or, “the last time our navy was relevant”

OBJECTIVES

- Understand how “isms” led to an expanded America (*and two new states*)
- Compare / Contrast the two “theaters” in the S.A.W.
- Discuss the results of the S.A.W.
- *Terms:*
 - Seward’s Folly
 - Dollar Diplomacy
 - Open Door Policy
 - Yellow Journalism
 - U.S.S. Maine
 - Rough Riders
 - Roosevelt Corollary

REMIND ME...

- ***What were some inventions that came during the Gilded Age?***
- ***How did Henry Ford's practices change the world?***
- ***How does this relate to Immigration and America becoming a Super Power?***
- ***Also, remind me, what were the Four "isms"?***

NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU DREAM

- *By the late 1800s America had gained a reputation as a “melting pot” and “land of opportunity”.*
- **WHY?**
- *James Tuslow Adams coined the term "American Dream" in his book The Epic of America...*

GIVE SAID THE LITTLE DREAM

***“That dream of a land
in which life should be
better and richer and
fuller for everyone,
with opportunity for
each according to
ability or
achievement.”***

Maybe even the mice believed it...





THE AMERICAN'T DREAM

- *However, for everyone to achieve their “American Dream” what do we need?*
- *Money! Land! Opportunities!*
- *Thus, America needs to model themselves after Europe and look to Expansionism and Imperialism...*

SEWARD'S FOLLY

- In 1867 Secretary of State William H. Seward purchased Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
 - *That's 2 cents per acre!*
- Many mocked it as unwise and wasteful, calling Alaska a barren wasteland
- However, after the discovery of gold, Seward was redeemed.
 - *Though he sadly died in 1872*

SEWARD'S FOLLY



"THE BIG THING."

OLD MOTHER SEWARD. "I'll rub some of this on his sore spot: it may soothe him a little."

DOLLARS TO D'OH-NUTS

- Luckily Seward's deal paid off, but other businessmen in America wanted to increase American interests economically.
 - *Remember, that's part of Imperialism too!*
- These wealthy men, like Ford, were able to influence policy.
 - Because, well, money talks... then and now...

CHIPS AND DIP-LOMACY

- President William Taft proposed what he called “Dollar Diplomacy”
- Combining a country’s business interests with its diplomatic interests
- *i.e. Using military to protect foreign interests, be they sugar, pineapples, or oil...*
- Do we still see this today?

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

- Americans had been present and trading in Hawaii since the 1790s
- However, while they initially paid no tariff (tax) to export goods, when that changed, resentment started between Native Hawaiians and the white planters
- In 1893 the Planters Revolt overthrew the Queen (Liliuokalani) and annexed Hawaii as part of the U.S. in 1898.

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION



DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

- *Meanwhile in China America practiced an Open Door Policy*
 - Any foreign nation in China could freely trade in each others' areas
 - *Called "Spheres of Influence"*
- As a result, secret Chinese Martial Artists led a revolt against the "foreign devils"
 - Called The Boxer Rebellion

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION



DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

- *Meanwhile in Cuba, Spain was ruling with an iron-fist*
 - *Herding Cubans into camp after a failed revolt, slaughtering people, etc.*
- In America these stories were covered in-depth, and **Yellow Journalism** spread
 - Sensational, Biased, and even false reporting to inspire emotion
- *Sound like anything today?*

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

“You furnish
the pictures
and I’ll
furnish
the war.”

-- William Randolph Hearst



DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

- In 1898 an American battleship, the U.S.S. Maine was sent to Cuba to “protect American citizens and property”
- On Feb. 15, 1898 an enormous explosion on board killed 260 officers and crew members
- American newspapers immediately blamed Spain
- Congress then recognized Cuba’s independence and on Apr. 25 declared war on Spain

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION



DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

- Although events in Cuba triggered the Spanish-American War, the first military actions happened in the Philippines
 - *The base of operations for the Spanish Fleet*
- Commodore George Dewey, authorized by the Secretary of the Navy, launched an attack on May 1 at 5:40 am
- Within two hours the Spanish fleet was decimated, and surrender came in two hours more
- The Battle of Manila Bay was an overwhelming American victory

BETTER OFF TED

- However, America still had to settle Cuba
- The Spanish fleet was blockaded, and thus a land invasion was necessary
- That Secretary of the Navy previously mentioned actually resigned to go fight.
- His name was Theodore Roosevelt.

BETTER OFF TED



GOING THRU A ROUGH PATCH

- Roosevelt led **the First Regiment of U.S. Cavalry volunteers**, the Rough Riders
- **Rough Riders**
 - Nickname for Roosevelt's regiment, as they were made up of cowboys, cowhands, college students, and hunters
- **After several intense days of fighting, the Rough Riders, with others, captured San Juan Hill**
- **When the remaining Spanish fleet tried to flee they were destroyed and Spain surrendered.**

GOING THRU A ROUGH PATCH



THE RESULTS OF S.A.W.

- **1)** America gained control of the Philippines
- **2)** America took possession of Puerto Rico
- **3)** Teddy Roosevelt rises to fame
- **Roosevelt Corollary**
 - Added to the Monroe Doctrine, states “the U.S. will intervene between European countries and Latin America”
 - *i.e. this is OUR domain*

AND SO...

- From the end of the Civil War to the turn of the Century, America changed the way they viewed themselves, the world, and their place in it
- They created an “Empire” with technology and population increases at home, and business and military increases abroad
- All that remains is reforming things at home, and making “friends” abroad...
- But that’s what WWI will be all about...

And now a music video parody...
(I apologize in advance)



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