

Imperialism

- I. Definition
- II. Beginnings
 - A. Victorian England – “The sun never sets on the British Empire.”
 - B. Scramble for Africa – started by King Leopold of Belgium
- III. Why?
 - A. look tough – impress other nations
 1. U.S. Great White Fleet
 - B. economic resources & markets
 - C. racism/social Darwinism
- IV. Hawaii
 - A. sugar merchants moved in
 - B. Constitution changed to allow voting only by property owners (basically no native voters)
 - C. Queen changed constitution back – deposed by U.S. Marines
 - D. New President asked U.S. to annex Hawaii
- V. Spanish-American War
 - A. Cuba
 1. failed revolution from Spain 1868-78
 - a. did force abolition of slavery in 1886
 - b. U.S. imported sugar – huge sugar investments
 - c. U.S. made tariff – destroyed Cuba’s economy
 - B. 2nd Cuban war for independence – 1895
 1. Spain moved 300,000 rebelling Cubans to concentration camps
 2. leads to yellow journalism (exaggerated stories)
 - a. Hearst vs. Pulitzer
 3. U.S. citizens tend to side with rebels
 - a. McKinley wouldn’t attack – TR calls him a “white-livered cur” with “no more backbone than a chocolate éclair”
 4. U.S.S. Maine explodes – Feb 15, 1898
 - a. Hearst blames Spanish
 - b. Spain accepts all U.S. terms
 - c. U.S. declares war
 - C. Full out Spanish-American War
 1. first, U.S. takes Philippines from Spain (had also been fighting for indep.)
 2. U.S. prepares stupidly – has awesome Navy, terrible army
 - a. army mostly volunteer, not professional
 - b. army trainers spent more time telling Civil War stories than training
 3. Rough Riders
 - a. invaded Cuba with army of 17,000 (so did four Black regiments)

- b. famous for charging up San Juan Hill (near Havana), but not really that important in the battle – newspapers again give sensationalized coverage
 - D. Treaty of Paris – 1898
 - 1. One of U.S.'s most successful wars
 - 2. 300,000 fought
 - a. 5,400 died – only 379 from battle wounds (the rest were illnesses, etc.)
- VI. Enter new territories
- A. Cuba
 - 1. becomes a U.S. Protectorate – effectively controlled by the military
 - 2. Platt Amendment – changes Cuba's constitution
 - a. U.S. government retains right to “protect” Cuba's independence
 - b. U.S. government can est. a military base (Guantanamo Bay)
 - B. Puerto Rico
 - 1. invaded in 1898 – taken from Spain
 - 2. Foraker Act
 - a. says that U.S. can appoint governor and upper legislature for P.R.
 - b. upheld by Supreme Court
 - 3. P.R. now a commonwealth (since 1954)
 - a. means that the people are citizens, but they have no Congressional representatives
 - b. but they are tax-exempt, which means they attract businesses
 - C. Philippino revolt
 - 1. Angry by U.S. control – rebelled in January of 1899
 - 2. defeated by U.S. soldiers, most of whom were racist
 - a. some black soldiers, after being criticized at home, actually defected to the Philippine side
 - 3. U.S. took control of Philippines, educating them
 - a. eventually achieved independence on July 4, 1946
 - D. China
 - 1. Open-door policy – every nation could trade with China (equal access)
 - a. U.S. had begun trading with them
 - 2. Boxer Rebellion – 1900
 - a. secret society opposed to foreign influences began killing foreigners and those who were most effected by them
 - b. nations that traded with China band together to put down rebellion