

# American Imperialism



# Perry Expedition (1853-1854)

- ▶ Commodore Matthew Perry
- ▶ Encourage trade and diplomatic relations with Japan
- ▶ Convention of Kanagawa (1854)



# Alaska Purchase (1867)

- ▶ “Seward’s Folly” or “Seward’s Icebox”
- ▶ \$7.2 million (2 cents per acre) to Russia for 586,412 sq. mi.
- ▶ Eventual discovery of gold and oil reserves



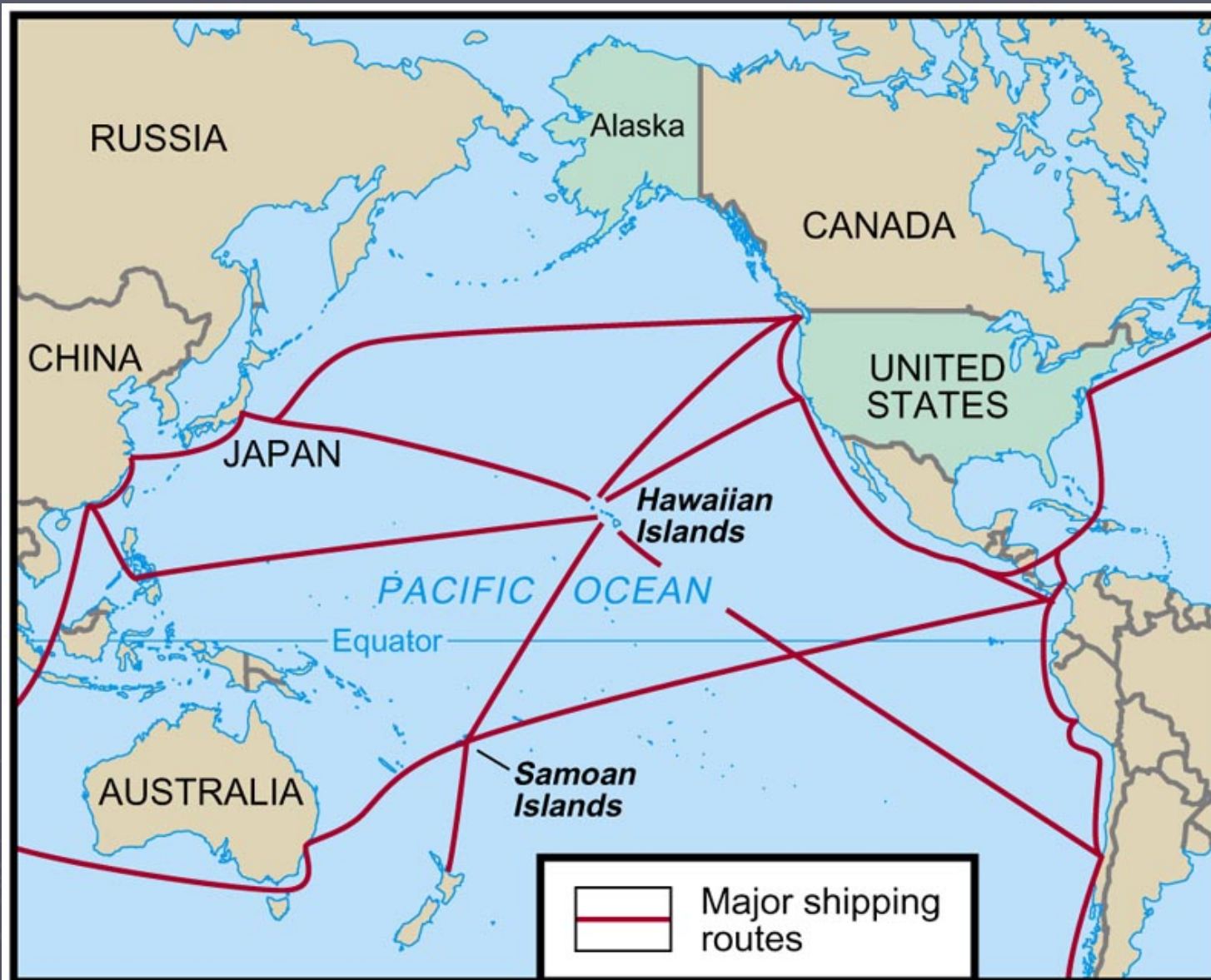
# Hawaii

- ▶ White Intrusion
  - Sugar Plantation Owners
- ▶ **Queen Liliuokalani**
  - Attempted to reassert native authority and drive out foreigners
- ▶ Overthrow of Hawaii (1893)
  - Sanford Dole
  - Republic of Hawaii (1894-1898)
- ▶ **Annexation by U.S. (1898)**
  - Strategic commercial and military location





# Why Hawaii?



**HAWAIIAN ISLANDS**

# Spanish-American War (1898)

## ► Origins and Causes

- Cuba
  - Jose Marti
- DeLome Letter
  - Spanish diplomat ridicules McKinley
- **U.S.S. Maine** (Feb. 15)
  - 266 deaths
  - “Remember the Maine! To hell with Spain!”

## ► Yellow Journalism

- Joseph Pulitzer
- William Randolph Hearst

## ► War

- Declaration of War (Apr. 21)
  - **Teller Amendment**
    - U.S. promise Cuban independence, not annexation
- Caribbean Theater
  - Rough Riders
- Pacific Theater
  - Battle of Manila Bay
  - Emilio Aguinaldo



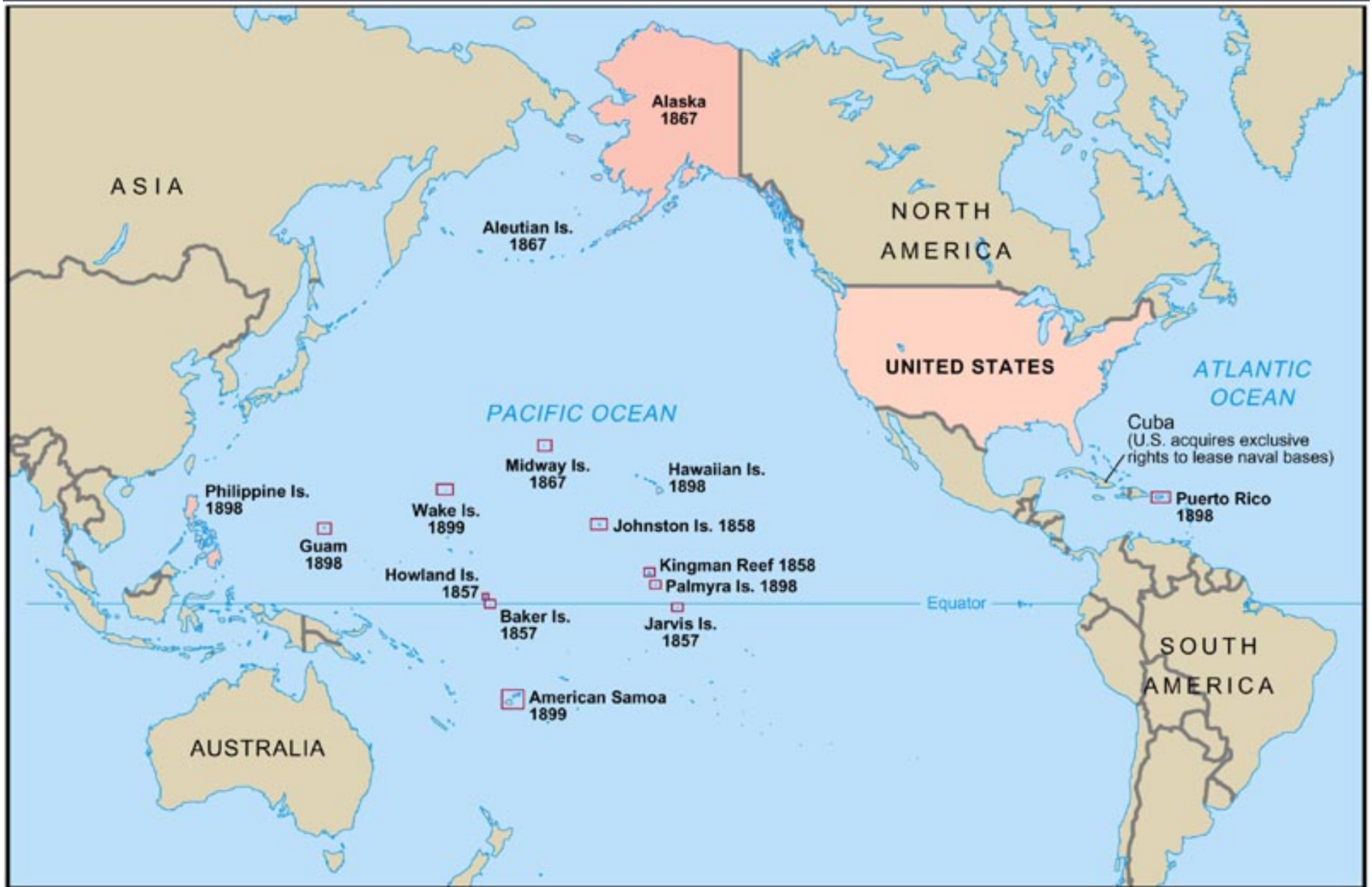
Photo # NH 91881-KN Battle of Manila Bay lithograph

# Spanish-American War (1898)

- ▶ “A splendid little war.”
- ▶ Treaty of Paris
  - **American Acquisitions**
    - ▶ Puerto Rico
    - ▶ Guam
    - ▶ Philippines
- ▶ Cuba
  - American military occupation (1898-1902)
  - **Platt Amendment (1901)**
    - ▶ Treaties required American approval
    - ▶ Guantanamo Bay







**AMERICAN EMPIRE, 1900**



# Imperialists And Anti-Imperialists

## ▶ Proponents

- Most from GOP
- Theodore Roosevelt (R)
- John Hay (R)
- James G. Blaine (R)

## ▶ Reasons

- Economic expansion
- Political security
- International prestige
- Humanitarian efforts

## ▶ **Capt. Alfred Thayer Mahan**

- *The Influence of Sea Power upon History (1890)*

## ▶ Social Darwinism

- **Jingoism**
- “White Man’s Burden”

## ▶ **Insular Cases (1901-1903)**

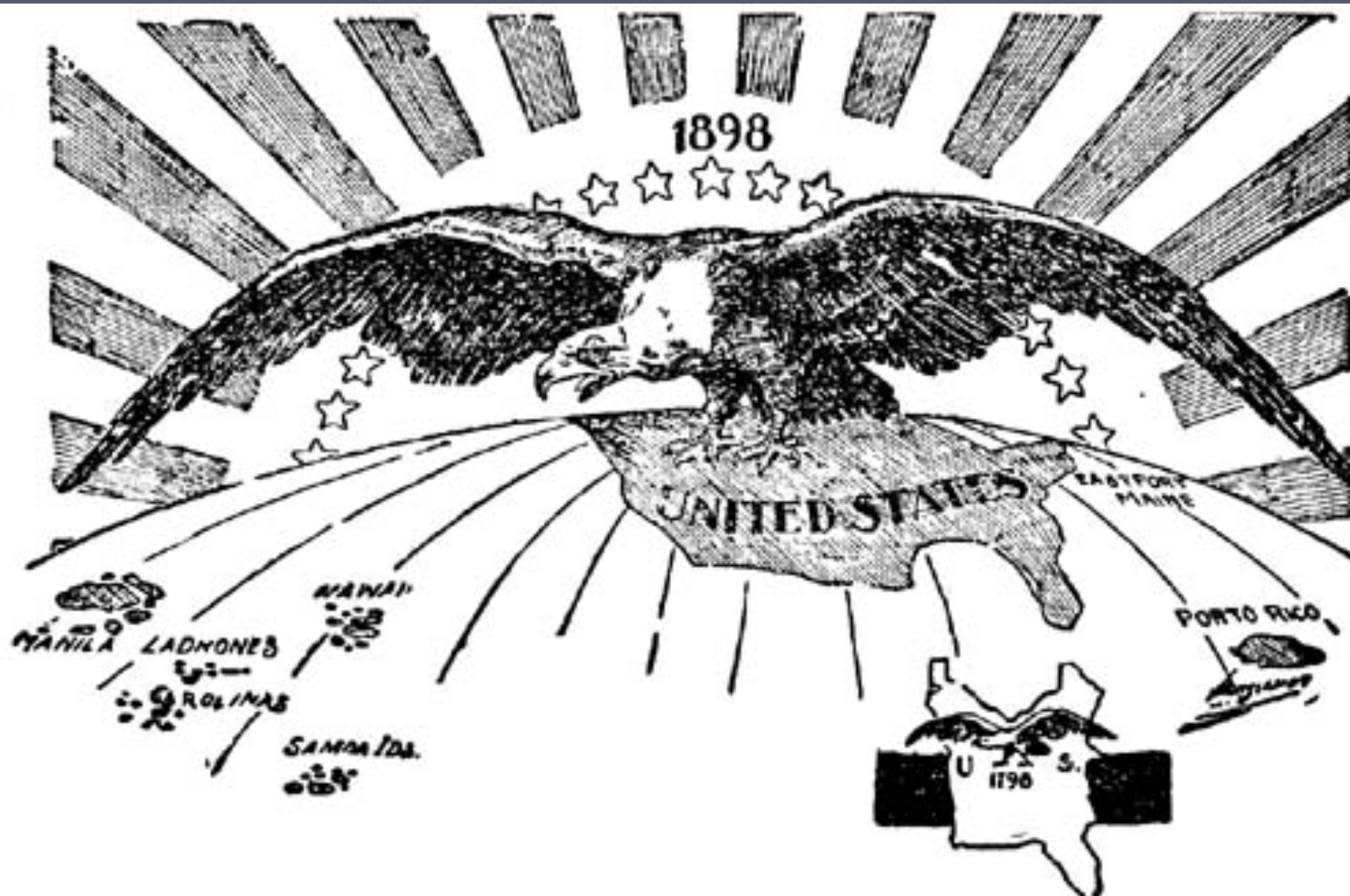
- Supreme Court ruled constitutional guarantees granted only by Congress to U.S. territories
- “Constitution does not necessarily follow the flag”

## ▶ Opponents

- Mostly from Democratic Party
- **Anti-Imperialist League**
- Grover Cleveland (D)
- William Jennings Bryan (D)
- Senator Ben Tillman (D-SC)
- Samuel Gompers (AFL)
- Mark Twain
- Andrew Carnegie
- Jane Addams

## ▶ Reasons

- Undemocratic
- Violated republicanism
  - ▶ “consent of the governed”
- Prevent influx of “inferior races”



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





HOLDING HIS END UP.

JOHN BULL—"It's really most extraordinary what training will do. Why, only the other day I thought that man unable to support himself."—Philadelphia Inquirer.



# The Philippines

- ▶ Philippine-American War (1899-1902)
- ▶ Atrocities
  - Torture by both sides
  - Concentration camps
- ▶ Casualties
  - 12,000-20,000 Filipinos
  - 4,165 Americans
  - 200,000-1,000,000 Filipino civilians
- ▶ Americanization
  - Freedom of religion
  - English as official language



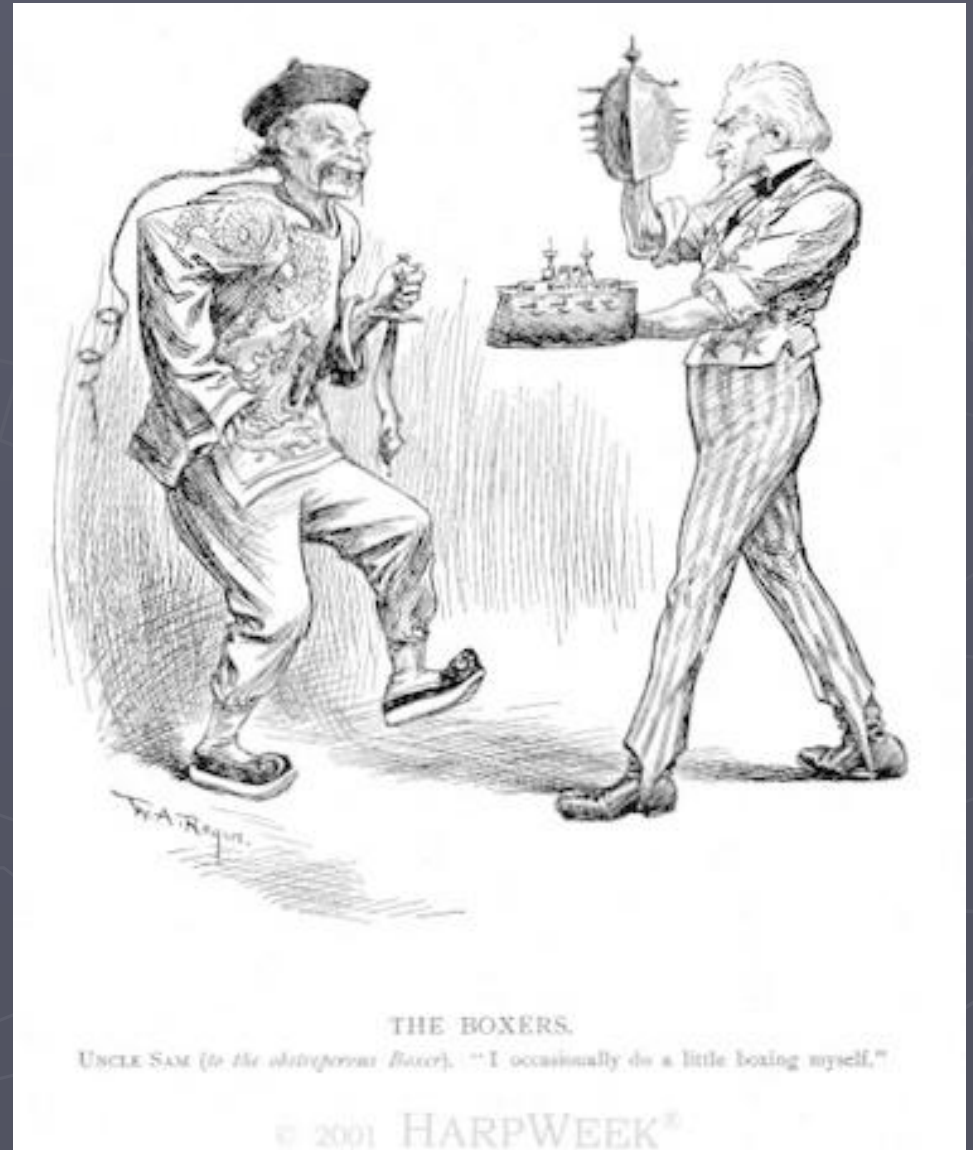
# China

## ► Open Door Policy

- Secretary of State John Hay
- Spheres of influence
- Mutual economic policies among foreign powers

## ► Boxer Rebellion (1899-1901)

- Eight-Nation Alliance against Chinese nationalists
- Severely weakened Qing Dynasty



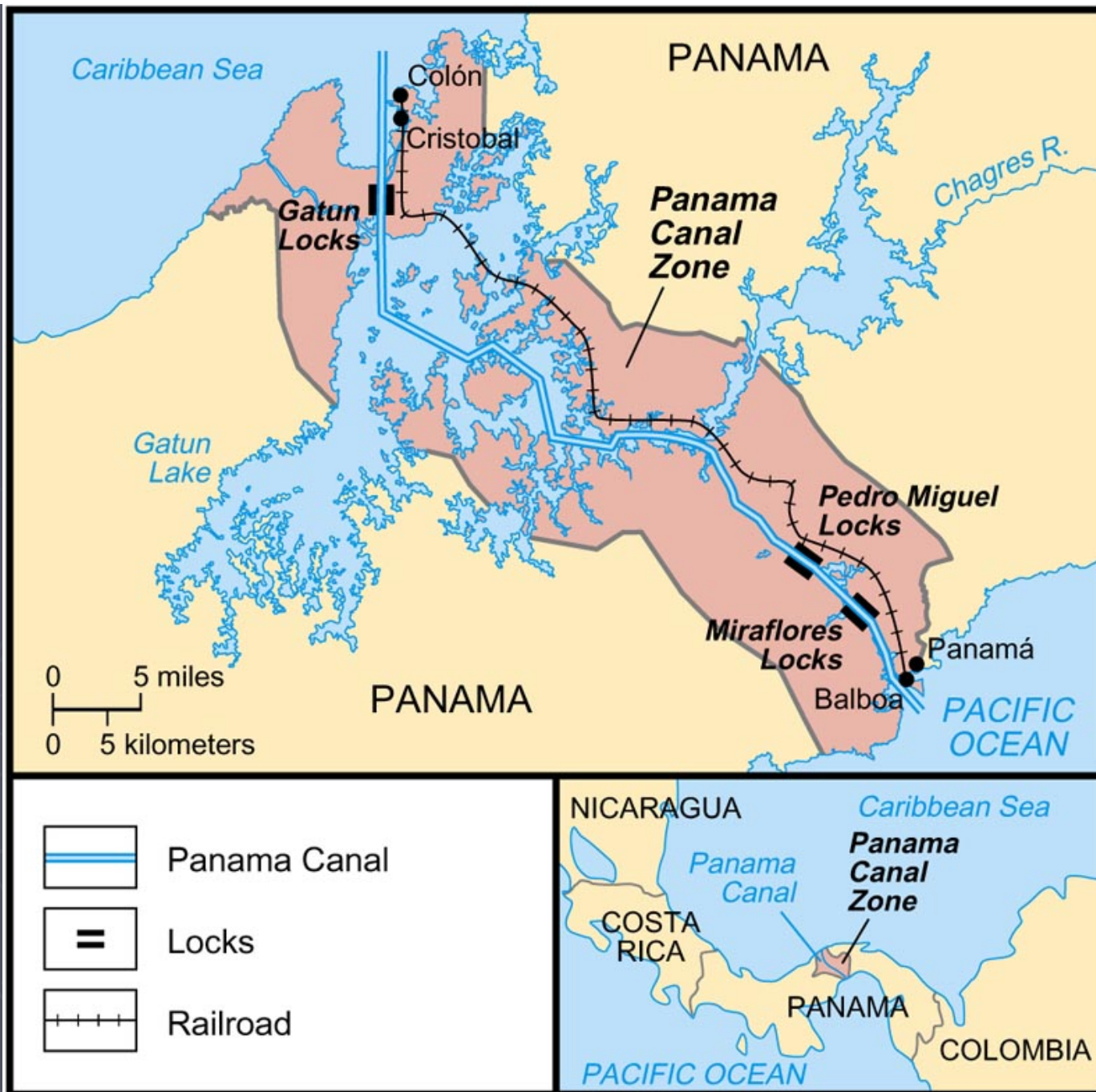
# Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909)

## Big Stick Policy



- ▶ The Americas
  - Roosevelt Corollary
    - ▶ Unstable economies in Venezuela and Dominican Republic enticed direct European influence
    - ▶ U.S. right to intervene if:
      - Incapable of protecting American interests
      - Stabilize economies to prevent European influence
  - Panama Canal
    - ▶ Panamanian Revolution (1903)
    - ▶ Panama Canal opened 1914
- ▶ Asian Policy
  - Treaty of Portsmouth (1904)
  - "Gentleman's Agreement" (1907)
- ▶ Great White Fleet (1907-1909)

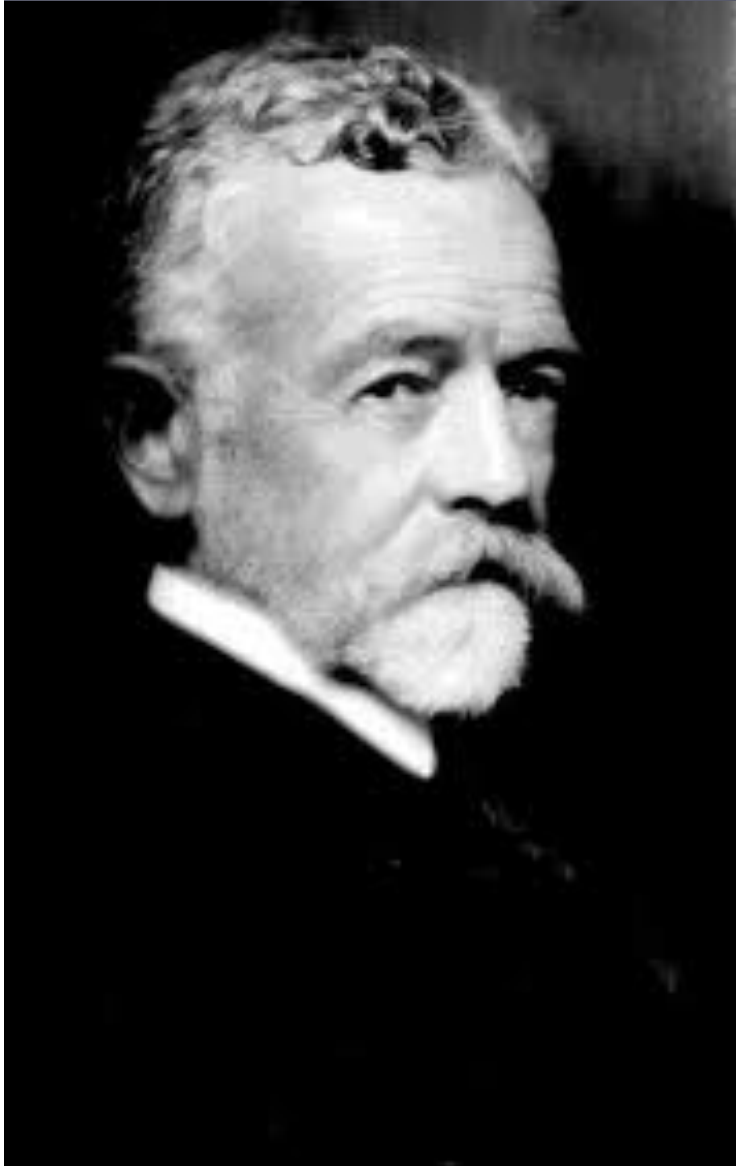




**THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE**

# William Howard Taft (1909-1913)

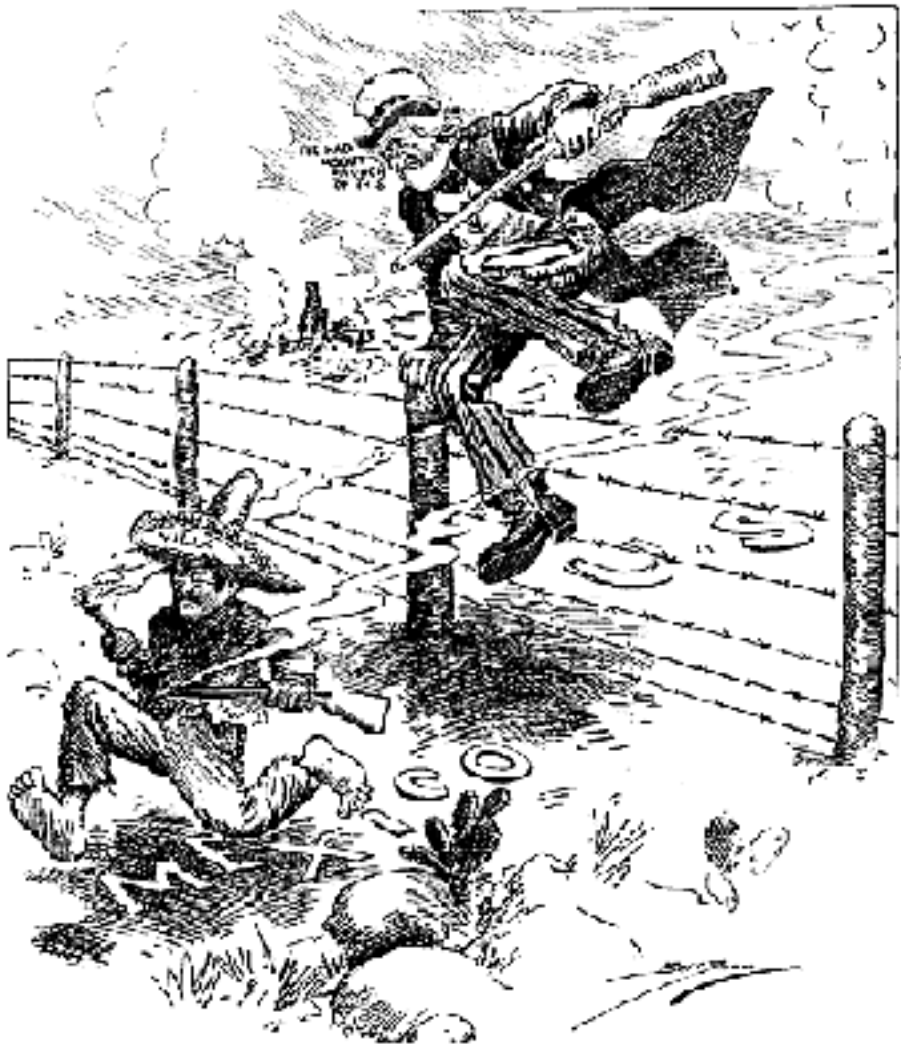
## Dollar Diplomacy



- ▶ Encourage economic development infrastructure in Latin America and abroad
  - Administration of loans and financing
  - Railroad investments in China
- ▶ **Lodge Corollary (1912)**
  - Henry Cabot Lodge
  - Forbade ANY foreign acquisition in Western Hemisphere

# Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921)

## Moral Diplomacy



- ▶ Pursuit of non-expansionist policies and promote democratic governments
  - Despite military intervention in Haiti, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, and Mexico
- ▶ Mexico Revolution
  - Tampico Affair (1914)
  - Pancho Villa Expedition (1916-1917)
    - ▶ General John J. Pershing
- ▶ World War I
  - Fourteen Points





## ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE CARIBBEAN, 1898 TO THE 1930s