Empire and Expansion

1890 – 1909
Isolationism

• US ignored outside world in post Civil War years
• In 1890s, policy changed
  – US became involved in foreign affairs and gained an overseas empire
America Turns Outward

• Farmers and factory owners needed new markets
  – Excess production sold off overseas
  – Markets might relieve pressures of labor violence and farmers’ unhappiness
America Turns Outward

• “yellow press”
  – Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst most famous publishers
  – Glorified overseas adventures
A “Yellow Kid” Cartoon
America Turns Outward

• Christian missionaries wanted new converts
  – Encouraged by *Our Country: Its Possible Future and Its Present Crisis* by Josiah Strong
  – Called on Americans to spread superior religion and civilization
The Light of the World
America Turns Outward

• Social Darwinism
  – Earth belongs to the strong and fit
  – US had to compete with strong nations in Europe and Japan to take territory from weaker peoples
World Colonial Empires, 1900

[Map showing world colonial empires in 1900 with various countries and empires labeled.]
“Grab-Bag”
America Turns Outward

• The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660 – 1783 by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan (1890)
  – Argued sea power was key to world dominance
  – Stimulated naval arms race around world, including in US
Alfred Thayer Mahan
America Turns Outward

• Secretary’s of State James G. Blaine’s “Big Sister” policy
  – Latin America should follow US and open their markets to US companies
  – 1889 – first Pan-American conference between US and other American nations
America Turns Outward

• US came to close blows with other countries in 1880s and 1890s, showing US had a more belligerent attitude toward rest of world
  – 1889 – with Germany over Samoan islands
  – 1891 – with Italy over lynching of 11 Italians in New Orleans
  – 1892 – US demands on Chile over death of 2 US soldiers
  – 1893 – between US and Canada over seal hunting rights
America Turns Outward

• 1895 – 1896 – dispute between Britain and Venezuela over Guiana border
  – Dispute worsened when gold discovered in area
  – US used Monroe Doctrine (and threatened war) to impose arbitration on Britain
  – Britain accepted arbitration because of concerns in other parts of world (Germany and South Africa)
The Venezuela-British Guiana Boundary Dispute
Monroe Doctrine, A Live Wire

Monroe Doctrine, A Live Wire
(New York Herald, by permission of the New York Sun, Inc.)
America Turns Outward

- Great Rapprochement (reconciliation)
  - British began to work for better relations with US; ended 100 years of hostile relations between US and Britain
Spurning the Hawaiian Pear

• Early contact with Hawaii
  – Early 1800s – islands used by sailors to re-supply
  – 1820s – Christian missionaries arrived
    • Whites began planting and harvesting sugar
  – 1840s – US warned other nations away from Hawaii
  – 1887 – US made treaty for use of Pearl Harbor as naval base
The Pacific
Missionaries Preaching to Hawaiian Natives
Spurning the Hawaiian Pear

• The issues of annexation
  – Hawaiian natives killed by white diseases to 1/6 of original size
    • Asians (Japanese and Chinese) imported to work on white plantations; came to outnumber both whites and natives
  – 1890 – McKinley Tariff raised tariffs on sugar and hurt white planters in Hawaii
    • Whites push for annexation (making Hawaii exempt from tariffs)
  – Annexation opposed by Queen Liliuokalani and huge majority of Hawaiian people
Queen Liliuokalani
Spurning the Hawaiian Pear

- 1893 – whites organize revolt against queen
  - US troops land under (unauthorized) orders of the US minister to Honolulu
- Grover Cleveland refused to annex Hawaii
  - Believed US had wronged Hawaii and should only annex it if people approved (which they did not)
  - Not until 1898 (under McKinley) was Hawaii annexed
Sanford Dole, Key Architect of the Hawaiian Revolution
Cubans Rise in Revolt

• 1895 – Cuban people rebel against Spanish misrule
  – Economy crippled by 1894 US tariff against sugar
  – *Insurrectos* burn sugar fields and mills and blow up trains to fight Spanish
Cuban Revolutionary
Jose Marti
Cubans Rise in Revolt

- US and the Cuban rebellion
  - US had $50 million invested and $100 million in annual trade with Cuba
  - US sympathized with Cuban rebels
  - Cuba seen as critical for controlling Gulf of Mexico (and therefore area of future Panama Canal)
Out of the Frying Pan of “Spanish Misrule,” into the Fire of “Anarchy,” Unless the US Steps In
Cubans Rise in Revolt

- 1896 – Spanish sent General “Butcher” Weyler to end rebellion
  - Used reconcentration camps to stop population from helping insurrectos
  - Camps turned into dirty deathtraps, where many people died
General Valeriano Weyler
Victims of Spanish Concentration Camps in Cuba
Victims of Spain’s Reconcentration Camps
Cubans Rise in Revolt

- “yellow journalism” (Hearst and Pulitzer) use Cuban rebellion to sell newspapers with “scoops”
  - Artist Frederic Remington sent to Cuba to draw pictures
    - “You furnish the pictures and I’ll furnish the war.” (Hearst)
    - Remington showed male Spanish officials strip-searching an American woman (even though they were actually done by women)
“Spanish Dons Search American Women”
Frederick Remington
For Hearst’s Newspaper 1898
Cubans Rise in Revolt

• De Lôme letter
  – Sent from Spanish minister in Washington, DC to Spain and intercepted
  – De Lôme attacked McKinley, angering US public
  – Letter published in Hearst’s newspaper
The De Lôme Letter
Cubans Rise in Revolt

• Maine incident
  – Early 1898 – USS Maine sent to Havana Harbor to evacuate Americans in case of hostilities
  – February 15, 1898 – Maine blew up, killing 260 sailors
  – US public (believing Spain attacked Maine) demanded war
USS Maine in Havana Harbor
Explosion of the Maine
Wreckage of the Maine
The USS Maine Headlines

MAINE EXPLOSION CAUSED BY BOMB OR TORPEDO?
Capt. Sigsbee and Consul-General Lee Are in Doubt—The World Has Sent a Special Tug, With Submarine Divers, to Havana to Find Out—Lee Asks for an Immediate Court of Inquiry—Capt. Sigsbee’s Suspicions.

CA. 1. SIGSBEE, IN A SUPpressed DESpatch TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, SAYS THE ACCIDENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY AN ENEMY.

Dr. C. Pendleton, Just Arrived from Havana, Says He Overheard Talk There of a Plot to Blow Up the Ship—Capt. Zalinski, the Dynamite Expert, and Other Experts Report to The World that the Wreck Was Not Accidental—Washington Officials Ready for Vigorous Action if Spanish Responsibility Can Be Shown—Divers to Be Sent Down to Make Careful Examinations.

The New York World a day after

who had been Populists and those who became Progressives—clamored for the United States to rescue the Cuban people from the Spanish malefactors.

President William McKinley and the conservative Republican leaders in Congress reluctantly gave way before this pressure. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge warned McKinley, “If the war in Cuba drags on through the summer with nothing done we [the Republican party] shall go down in the greatest defeat ever known.”

Already, in November 1897, Spain, at the urging of President McKinley, had granted
The Spanish Brute
Cubans Rise in Revolt

- Investigations of the Maine incident
  - Spanish investigation found that explosion was internal and accidental
  - US Navy at the time found that the blast had been caused by an underwater mine
  - 1976 US Navy investigation confirmed Spanish findings
- Spontaneous explosion in a coal bunker near a storage area for gunpowder
Cubans Rise in Revolt

- McKinley’s dilemma
  - US negotiators had gotten Spain to agree to shut down reconcentration camps and hold cease-fire with *insurrectos*
  - McKinley wanted Spain out of Cuba, without war
  - Americans were demanding war, with many attacking McKinley for indecisiveness
Pressure Was Placed on McKinley to Go to War
Cubans Rise in Revolt

• April 11, 1898 – McKinley sent war message to Congress
  – Much support from public and Congress
  – Claimed US would free Cuba from Spain
• Teller Amendment – adopted by Congress with declaration of war
  – US promised to free Cuba after Spain was removed
Cuba for the Cubans

UNCLE SAM (to SEÑOR SPAIN) — “Look here, old fellow, you can’t have freedom in the Old World and tyranny in the New. I don’t want Cuba, but it is time you were out of it. Get!”
Dewey’s May Day Victory at Manila

- February 25, 1898 – assistant secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt ordered Commodore Dewey to attack Philippines
  - After the Maine incident, but before an official declaration of war
  - McKinley backed up Roosevelt’s order after the fact
Dewey’s May Day Victory at Manila

- May 1, 1898 – Dewey attacks at Manila
  - Old Spanish fleet easily destroyed, with no loss of American life
  - Dewey could not advance on Manila with only naval forces
- August 13, 1898 – US reinforcements captured Manila, with help of Filipino nationalists under Emilio Aguinaldo
Dewey's Route in the Philippines, 1898
Dewey Smashes Spain’s Fleet
Dewey’s May Day Victory at Manila

- July 7, 1898 – resolution passed and signed annexing Hawaii
  - US wanted to prevent Japan taking islands while distracted in Philippines
  - Hawaii necessary for re-supply and fueling station for US Pacific fleet
The Importance of Hawaii
The Confused Invasion of Cuba

- Old Spanish fleet sent to Cuba
  - Powerful US fleet easily blockaded the Spanish ships
- June 17 – US troops leave for Cuba unprepared
  - Heavy uniforms not designed for war tropical climate
The Confused Invasion of Cuba

- July 1 – fighting breaks out in Cuba at El Caney and Kettle Hill, near Santiago
  - Rough Riders (organized by Roosevelt) charged up Kettle Hill, taking heavy casualties
- July 3 – naval battle in which Spanish navy in Cuba destroyed by US fleet
  - Fall of fleet led to surrender of Santiago
- July – August – US also took Puerto Rico from Spain
- August 12 – Spain signed cease fire with US
Roosevelt and the Rough Riders
The Cuban Campaign, 1898
The Confused Invasion of Cuba

• US casualties
  – 400 soldiers killed by Spanish
  – 5,000 killed from disease (Malaria, typhoid fever, dysentery, yellow fever) and spoiled canned meat supplied to US army
American Graves in Cuba
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

- Late 1898 – negotiations with Spain in Paris (Treaty of Paris)
  - Cuba freed
  - US got Guam (captured during war)
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

- The problem of the Philippines
  - McKinley did not want to give islands back to Spain
  - McKinley did not believe US could leave Philippines to themselves
    - Anarchy or conquest by a foreign power
  - McKinley thought best course might be to take the islands and give them their freedom later
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

• The solution to the Philippines problem
  – Many Americans (because of nationalism), Protestant missionaries (eager for converts), Mrs. McKinley (concerned for Filipinos) and Wall Street (looking for trade) supported annexation
  – McKinley claimed in a prayer that God told him to annex the Philippines
  – US paid $20 million to Spain and annexed the Philippines
Well, I Hardly Know Which to Take First!
McKinley Weighs What to Do with the Philippines
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

- The debate over the Treaty of Paris centered on the Philippines
  - The few areas not connected to mainland US (Hawaii, Alaska) had few people and it would be easy to make them states
  - Philippines had 7 million people, different language, customs, government
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

- Anti-imperialists’ arguments
  - Anti-imperialists argue that US was giving up tradition of anti-imperialism
  - Filipino thirst for freedom
  - Annexation would violate “consent of the governed” in Declaration of Independence
  - Despotism outside of US might bring despotism to US
  - Expensive military adventures overseas
  - US would become involved in problems in Asia
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

• Imperialists’ arguments
  – Patriotism and nationalism
  – US should “civilize” backwards nations
  – Trade profits with Philippines
  – “White Man’s Burden” (Rudyard Kipling)
    • US should help improve other nations
Declined, with Thanks
The Filipino’s First Bath
America’s Course (Curse?) of Empire

- February 6, 1899 – Senate approved Treaty of Paris with Spain by only 1 vote
Perplexities in Puerto Rico and Cuba

• Puerto Rico’s limbo status
  – Neither a state nor a territory; not much chance of eventual independence
  – Foraker Act (1900) – gave Puerto Rico limited popular government
  – 1917 – Puerto Ricans given citizenship, but not self-rule
  – Many Puerto Ricans wanted independence, in spite of improvements US made
Perplexities in Puerto Rico and Cuba

• Insular Cases (1901)
  – Did the Constitution follow the flag? (Did American rights and laws apply with full force in conquered territories (Puerto Rico, Philippines)?
  – Divided Supreme Court ruled that Constitution was not necessarily in force in conquered territories
Perplexities in Puerto Rico and Cuba

• 1898 – 1902 – American rule in Cuba
  – Improvements in government, finance, education, agriculture, public health
  – Yellow fever (spread by mosquitoes) attacked by destroying mosquito breeding grounds
Perplexities in Puerto Rico and Cuba

- 1902 – US withdrew from Cuba, honoring Teller Amendment
- Before US withdrew, Cuba forced to add Platt Amendment to their Constitution
  - Cuba could not make treaties that would compromise their independence
  - Not to take on debt that couldn’t be repaid
  - US could intervene with troops when it saw fit
  - US could lease naval stations (Guantanamo)
- Platt Amendment provisions ended in 1934, except for Guantanamo leasing
What were the true intentions of the US toward Cuba?
New Horizons in Two Hemispheres

• US became world power as result of Spanish-American War
  – Gained prestige and recognition, especially from Europe
Ten Thousand Miles from Tip to Tip

Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.
A Lesson for Anti-Expansionists

"A LESSON FOR ANTI-EXPANSIONISTS."
"Showing how Uncle Sam has been an expansionist first, last, and all the time."

New Horizons in Two Hemispheres

• Increased nationalism and support for imperialism among Americans
  – Patriotic songs (John Philip Sousa)
  – Support for larger American navy (Alfred T. Mahan)
New Horizons in Two Hemispheres

• Closing of divisions between North and South
  – Southerners united with US to fight common enemy
New Horizons in Two Hemispheres

- US assumed burdensome commitments it was unwilling to govern with adequate military or other spending
United States Possessions to 1917
United States Possessions to 1900
“Little Brown Brothers” in the Philippines

• Filipinos believed they had been promised independence after Spanish-American War
• US decided it would stay in Philippines indefinitely
“Little Brown Brothers” in the Philippines

- February 4, 1899 – Filipinos (led by Emilio Aguinaldo) rebel
- US sends 126,000 troops to put down rebellion
  - Used brutal tactics like “water cure” and reconcentration camps
- 1901 – Aguinaldo captured, although some fighting continued for months afterward
  - 4,234 Americans, 600,000 Filipinos killed
Emilio Aguinaldo
Filipino Rebels Against American Control
US Soldiers Posing with Dead Filipinos
US Soldiers Administer the “Water Cure” in the Philippines
The Balangiga Massacre in the Philippines
Civilization Begins at Home
The US Smashes Aguinaldo’s Dictatorship
Is He to Be a Despot?
“Little Brown Brothers” in the Philippines

- 1901 – William H. Taft made governor of Philippines
  - US poured millions of dollars into country, building schools, roads, sanitation, trade (mainly sugar)
  - Filipinos hated forced Americanization and resented US actions
- July 4, 1946 – Philippines gained independence
An American School in the Philippines

An Ifugao School.
A Filipina woman is teaching Ifugao boys to read English.
Hinging the Open Door in China

- 1894 - China defeated by Japan
- Late 1890s - early 1900s - Europe (especially Russia and Germany) moved in to take advantage of China’s weakened condition (through trade agreements and spheres of influence)
Imperialism in China
China
“Carved Up”
By European Powers
Hinging the Open Door in China

• US opposed to European intervention in China
  – Churches wanted access to Chinese converts
  – Merchants wanted trade with China
  – US public inflamed (partly by British who pushed for free trade with China)
Hinging the Open Door in China

• Summer 1899 - Open Door note
  – Issued by Secretary of State John Hay
  – Europe must respect Chinese rights and fair competition in their spheres of influence
  – All great powers except Russia agreed (hesitatingly) to Open Door note
How “Open” Was the Open Door to China?
Hinging the Open Door in China

• 1900 - the Boxer Rebellion
  – Chinese nationalists rebel against foreigners
  – Called “Boxers” because of martial arts training
  – Call to “kill foreign devils”
  – 200 foreigners, thousands of Chinese Christians killed
  – Laid siege to Beijing (Peking)
Chinese Christians Killed by Boxers During the Rebellion
Hinging the Open Door in China

• 1900 - 18,000 soldiers in multinational force (including US) put down the rebellion
  – Allies forced China to pay $333 million
  – US paid $24.5 million (but used $18 million to pay for Chinese students’ education in US)
“I occasionally do a little boxing myself.”
Is This Imperialism?
American Troops in China During the Boxer Rebellion
Hinging the Open Door in China

• 1900 - second Open Door note issued by Hay
  – Chinese territorial integrity to be upheld
  – Incorporated in Nine-Power Treaty (1922)
  – Violated by Japan (when Japan invaded Manchuria in 1930s)
Imperialism or Bryanism in 1900?

- Election of 1900: the Republicans renominate McKinley
  - Won the Spanish-American War
  - Kept US on gold standard
  - Brought US prosperity (full dinner pail)
McKinley for President
Imperialism or Bryanism in 1900?

- McKinley selects Roosevelt as vice president
  - Hero of Spanish-American War
  - Governor of New York after war
    - Political bosses in New York wanted him out because they couldn’t control him
  - Very popular and easily won nomination
Imperialism or Bryanism in 1900?

- Election of 1900: the Democrats nominate William Jennings Bryan
Imperialism or Bryanism in 1900?

• Election of 1900: the campaign
  – Democrats attack Republican overseas imperialism
    • McKinley had enslaved Filipinos (unlike Republican Lincoln who had freed slaves)
    • Bryan traveled across US
  – McKinley campaigned from his front porch (too dignified to openly campaign)
    • Roosevelt toured US, attacking patriotism of Democrats for wanting to remove US flag (and accompanying “freedom”) from other parts of the world
McKinley’s Front Porch Campaign
Imperialism or Bryanism in 1900?

- Election of 1900: the results
  - McKinley won by wider margin than in 1896
    - 7.2 million to 6.3 million popular votes
    - 292 to 155 electoral votes
  - People voted for McKinley because of prosperity and protectionism, not for (or against) imperialism
The Election of 1900

1900

ELECTORAL VOTE
TOTAL: 447

POPULAR VOTE
TOTAL: 13,964,094

Republican (McKinley)

Democratic (Bryan)

Territories
TR: Brandisher of the Big Stick

- September 1901 - McKinley killed by an anarchist in Buffalo, New York
  - Roosevelt became youngest president (to that time) to become president (at age 42)
The Assassination of William McKinley
TR: Brandisher of the Big Stick

- Roosevelt’s background
  - Born to wealthy family in New York
  - Was weak and asthmatic as boy, but exercised fiercely to overcome physical weaknesses
  - Graduated from Harvard
  - Published over 30 books
  - Worked as ranch owner and cowboy in Dakotas before political life
  - 5’10”, bespectacled, large teeth, droopy mustache
Theodore Roosevelt on Horseback
TR: Brandisher of the Big Stick

- Roosevelt as politician
  - Loved outdoors and people
  - Traveled country meeting people
  - Attacked weakness (physically and militarily)
    - Called pacifists “flubdubs” or “mollycoddles”
  - Motto for preparedness was “Speak softly and carry a big stick”
  - Always wanted to be the center of attention
  - Adored by most Americans
Roosevelt at a Campaign Speech
TR: Brandisher of the Big Stick

- Roosevelt as president
  - Little respect for checks and balances of US system
  - President must take action in general interest of the people of the US, as long as it is not forbidden by the Constitution
Building the Panama Canal

• Need for a canal across isthmus of Panama
  – Isthmus - a narrow strip of land, bordered on both sides by water, connecting two larger bodies of land
  – Had long been talked about
  – During Spanish-American War, battleship Oregon had traveled for weeks around South America to get to Caribbean
  – Would increase the strengthen the US Navy and help US defend recently-acquired territory (Hawaii, Philippines, Puerto Rico)
Building the Panama Canal

• Negotiating the rights to the canal
  – 1850 - Clayton-Bulwer Treaty between US and Britain
    • US could not get exclusive rights to build canal
  – 1901 - Hay-Pauncefote Treaty between US and Britain
    • Britain had problems in Europe and South Africa (Boer War)
    • Gave US right to build and fortify canal area
Building the Panama Canal

- Where to build the canal?
  - American experts favored Nicaragua
  - French had tried before (1880s) across Panama
    - French (under Philippe Bunau-Varilla) offered to sell equipment to US for $40 million (previously had wanted $109 million)
  - June 1902 - Congress decided on Panama route (partly to get the French equipment)
Building the Panama Canal

• Negotiating with Columbia
  – Columbia controlled Panama
  – US offered $10 million and yearly payment of $250,000 to Columbia for 6-mile wide strip of land
• Columbian senate rejected offer because they believed they could get a better deal if they waited
Panama and Columbia
Building the Panama Canal

• The Panamanians rebel
  – Panamanians fear they won’t get the canal (and resulting trade and prosperity)
    • Also had a history of rebellion against Columbian rule
  – French (especially Bunua-Varilla) fear losing $40 million payment from US
  – November 3, 1903 - Panamanians rebel
    • French and Panamanians worked together to plan the revolution
    • US navy ships prevented Columbian troops from crossing isthmus to put down rebellion
Roosevelt and Columbia
Building the Panama Canal

- Roosevelt quickly makes Panama almost US outpost
  - Panama recognized by US only 3 days after revolution
  - 15 days later - Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty signed in Washington
    - Bunau-Varilla was Panamanian ambassador (even though he was French)
    - US paid $10 million (with annual payment of $250,000), but US now got 10-mile wide strip of land (instead of only 6)
  - US paid French company $40 million for its equipment
Building the Panama Canal

• Roosevelt and the revolution
  – Did not actively plot with revolutionaries
  – They did know that he would support them if they rebelled
  – Strong impression in Latin America that Roosevelt had been part of the revolution
• Worsened relations between US and Latin America
The Man Who Can Make the Dirt Fly
Building the Panama Canal

• Building the canal
  – Began in 1904
  – Many troubles - labor problems, landslides, tropical diseases
  – Colonel William C. Gorgas used modern pesticides to eliminate dangerous tropical diseases
  – Colonel George Washington Goethals finally completed canal in 1914
  – Cost $400 million to build
Building the Panama Canal
TR’s Perversion of Monroe’s Doctrine

• Debt problems in Latin America
  – Some countries (Venezuela, Dominican Republic) constantly behind in payments to Europe
    • Led to some attacks by European countries on Latin American countries
  – Roosevelt feared Germans or British might use debt repayment as excuse to stay in Latin America (violating the Monroe Doctrine)
TR’s Perversion of Monroe’s Doctrine

- The Roosevelt Corollary
  - Corollary - a natural consequence or result
  - If there were future problems in Latin America with paying off debts, the US would intervene
    - US would take over parts of governments and pay off the debts, keeping Europe out
  - US became “policeman” of Latin America
  - 1905 - first instance of putting Corollary into practice
    - US took over management of tariff collection in Dominican Republic to pay down its debts
The Roosevelt Corollary
TR’s Perversion of Monroe’s Doctrine

• Effects of the Roosevelt Corollary
  – US believed they were protecting Latin America
  – But Latin America saw this as excuse for US to bully them
  – Used to justify interventions and landings of marines many times in Caribbean in future years
The Big Stick in the Caribbean
Roosevelt on the World Stage

• 1904 - Russo-Japanese War broke out
  – Russia wanted access to ports in Manchuria (China), especially Port Arthur
  – Japan launched surprise attack on Russian fleet at Port Arthur (1904)
  – Japan then beat Russians in series of battles
    • Important because Europeans did not believe they could be beaten by non-Europeans
Roosevelt on the World Stage

- As war dragged on, Japan grew short on men and money, so they approached Roosevelt to mediate a settlement.
- Roosevelt wanted to prevent Russian collapse so Russia could block Japan from expanding too much in Asia.
Roosevelt on the World Stage

• 1905 - Roosevelt meets with Russia and Japan at Portsmouth, New Hampshire
  – Settlement reached that satisfied neither side
  – Japan especially angry because they felt they had won the war
  – Japan forced to give up demands for cash payment from Russia and Russian evacuation of Sakhalin Island
  – Japan did gain control over Korea (annexed in 1910)
Roosevelt Mediating the End of the Russo-Japanese War
Roosevelt Using His “Good Offices”
Roosevelt on the World Stage

• Effects of Roosevelt’s involvement in the Russo-Japanese War
  – 1906 - Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize
    • For ending Russo-Japanese War, along with a conference in Algiers, Spain to end disputes in North Africa
  – US relations with Russia and Japan grew worse
    • Russia accused US of robbing it of military victory and because of massacres of Jews in Russia
    • Japan felt cheated by settlement US had worked out; US and Japan (who before had been friendly) came to be rivals in Asia
Japanese Laborers in California

• Early 1900s - new wave of Japanese immigrants came to Japan
  – Came to escape war (with Russia) and high taxes
  – Californians feared “yellow peril” (even though Japanese were never over 3% of population)
Japanese Laborers in California

• 1906 - San Francisco school board ordered segregation of all Asian (Japanese, Chinese, Korean) in special schools
  – Done to free more space for whites after an earthquake and fire in the city (1906)
Japanese Laborers in California

• Reaction to San Francisco’s actions
  – Japanese saw incident as national insult
  – War talk (because of irresponsible newspaper coverage) on both sides of Pacific
Japanese Laborers in California

- Roosevelt fixed the problem with Japan
  - Invited the San Francisco school board and gets them to end the segregation
  - Japan agreed to “Gentlemen’s Agreement”
    - Secret agreement worked out in 1907 - 1908
    - Japan would stop flow of Japanese laborers to California by withholding passports
Japanese Laborers in California

• 1907 - the Great White Fleet sent out by Roosevelt
  – Didn’t want Japan to believe he had negotiated with them (over San Francisco incident) out of fear
  – Sent 16 white battleships around the world (from Virginia, around South America, around Australia, to Asia, through Middle East, and back to US across Atlantic)
  – Greeted warmly in Japan with thousands of schoolchildren waving US flags and singing Star Spangled Banner
Route of the Great White Fleet
The Great White Fleet
Japanese Laborers in California

- 1908 - Root-Takahira agreement
  - Between US and Japan
  - Both powers promised to respect each other’s territorial possessions in Pacific and uphold Open Door policy in China