# Seizing an American Empire (Key Events That Continue Today)

|  |
| --- |
| **Lesson 4-------------------------------------------------------------** Use the **2 map quizzes.**   1. The shift to colonies off the continent  * Manifest destiny, racism, imperialism * Alfred Thayer Mahon, *Influence of Sea Power* * Yellow journalism, Pulitzer and Hearst  1. Hawaii, coup by Sanford Dole, annexation 2. Spanish colony of Cuba  * Events: *The Maine,* Rough Riders * and the Teller Amendment * and the Platt Amendment (and Guantanamo)  1. Territories gained from Spanish American War  * Philippines (Anti-Imperialist League), Guam * Puerto Rico  1. China- Open Door Policy and John Hayes |

What’s covered on this webpage:

[Background in the United States and World Imperialism 2](#_Toc62425015)

[Background: 1860s - Alaska – Seward’s “Folly” (but later gold and oil) 2](#_Toc62425016)

[Late 1880s and 1890s Events and People Who Have Ripple Effects 2](#_Toc62425017)

[1890 US Demographics – Census Bureau declares the end of the frontier 2](#_Toc62425018)

[1890s Alfred Thayer Mahon (1840-1914) – Letting Him Speak for Himself 2](#_Toc62425019)

[1890s Rivalry -Yellow Journalism, Pulitzer, and Hearst – the New Journalism and New Goal 2](#_Toc62425020)

[1882 1894 Reminders of the Chinese and the *Beginning* of What Happens to Hawaii 3](#_Toc62425021)

[1895-1899 Cuba (The Teller Amendment), Puerto Rico, Guam (and 2 more Pacific Island), the *Ending* of Hawaii, and the Surprise That Is the Philippines 4](#_Toc62425022)

[1899-1901 Cuba (The Platt Amendment), China, and the *Ending* the Philippine Insurrection 4](#_Toc62425023)

Color coding in Chronologies to help you spot these areas that we will be talking about in each section of time:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pink | China |
| Light Red | Hawaii/Pacific (including Alaska, Philippines, Guam, Samoa, Wake Island) |
| Light Grey | Latin America/Caribbean |
| Teal | Germany (the closest color to the one on the World Map) |

## Background in the United States and World Imperialism

1. Before the Civil War and after it, the US had racism toward African Americans and had anti-immigrant (nativism) responses to the Irish and others.
2. Since the late 1400s, European nation-states created colonies in the Americas, the Caribbean, and the Far East—but **not** Africa.
3. In the late part of the 1800s, European nation (and Japan) made one last race for empire. (See the map of imperialism in 1900 in the course.) This imperialistic push included 2 late comers:
   * Germany
   * United States

## Background: 1860s - Alaska – Seward’s “Folly” (but later gold and oil)

| **19** | **Date** | **Presidential Election** | **Beyond America** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1865-04 | A. Johnson, President |  |
|  | 1867-02 |  | Russia, Alaska as willing sale; bribes |

## Late 1880s and 1890s Events and People Who Have Ripple Effects

### 1890 US Demographics – Census Bureau declares the end of the frontier

Think what that means at least these 2 groups:

* For those not doing well and looking for a fresh start
* For manufactures and sellers of good

### 1890s Alfred Thayer Mahon (1840-1914) – Letting Him Speak for Himself

* Background– naval officer; lecturer on naval history and what is called “tactics”
* Author of *Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783* in 1890-among other books, including one that goes to 1812  
  Who is the big sea power 1660-1812?
* Influential in the United States, on the US Secretaries of the Navy and particularly on Theodore Roosevelt, and on Germany
* Major arguments:
  + Big navy is quantity and in size of ships (battleships) (Why?0
  + Naval bases (Why?)
  + Colonies (Why?)
* Representative quotations:
  + “Whether they will or not, Americans must now begin to look outward. The growing production of the country demands it.”   
    *The Interest of America in Sea Power* (1897) Why?
  + “War now not only occurs more rarely . . . [but is] an occasional excess, from which recovery is easy."   
    Not from my book collection but I had been looking for it and this—thus far—is the closest I can find. Click [here for the source.](http://c250.columbia.edu/c250_celebrates/remarkable_columbians/alfred_thayer_mahan.html) (URL: Click <http://c250.columbia.edu/c250_celebrates/remarkable_columbians/alfred_thayer_mahan.html>)  
    Notice the date of his death. How did the years beginning in 1914 modify that view by Europe and the US?

### 1890s Rivalry -Yellow Journalism, Pulitzer, and Hearst – the New Journalism and New Goal

* Yellow Journalism – why the name?
* William Randolph Hearst – *New York Journal*
* Joseph Pulitzer – *New York World* - What else is Pulitzer known for?

**Video**: The Question of Empire **Search Word:** yellow - but it will come up with Cuba

**Video**: The Question of Empire **Search Word:** Dole

## 1882 1894 Reminders of the Chinese and the *Beginning* of What Happens to Hawaii

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Date** | **Presidential Election** | **Beyond America** | **Gov. Institutions** | **US Land** | **US Economy** | **Issue/Organization** | **Political Party** |
| **>** | 1882 |  |  | **Chinese** Exclusion Act – 10 year |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1887-02 |  | Hawaii-US treaty renewed **& sugar** |  | … |  |  |  |
|  | **1888-**11 | **Benjamin Harrison** v. Grover Cleveland |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1889-04 |  |  |  | Oklahoma Land Rush |  | Hull House– Jane Addams |  |
|  | 1890 |  |  | Sherman Anti-Trust | Wounded Knee, South Dakota | McKinley Tariff **& sugar in** Hawaii |  |  |
| **>** | 1890 |  | A.T. Mahan - *The Influence of Sea Power upon History* |  | Census Bureau: **end of frontier** |  |  |  |
|  | Sherman Silver Purchase Act |
| **>** | 189*2* |  |  | **Chinese** – new 10 year extension |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Date** | **Presidential Election** | **Beyond America** | **Gov. Institutions** | **US Land** | **US Economy** | **Issue/Organization** | **Political Party** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **>** | 1892-01 |  | Coup, Hawaii – Sanford B. Dole,[[1]](#endnote-1)  elected President; US minister to Hawaii declaration of US protectorate**–** | Ellis Island opens | | |  | |  | Homer A. Plessy, case begins |  |
| **>** | 1892-02 |  | Hawaii annexation treaty proposed |  | | |  | |  |  |  |
|  | **1892**-11 | Benjamin Harrison v. **Grover Cleveland** v. James B. Weaver |  | |  |  | | [Panic of 1893](#_Causes_of_the) | |  |  |
| **>** | 1893-03 | Cleveland’s decision | Hawaii investigation | |  |  | |  | |  |  |
|  | 1893-08 | Cleveland, special session -[Why?](#panicof1893) |  | |  |  | |  | |  |  |
|  | 1893-11 |  |  | |  |  | | Sherman Silver Purchase Act -repeal | |  |  |
| **>** | 1893-12 | Cleveland’s decision | Hawaii annexation treaty not submitted | |  |  | |  | |  |  |
| **>** | 1894 |  | Republic of Hawaii recognized | |  |  | | Pullman Strike – American Railway Union Strike – E.V. Debs | | “Legal Tender” Jacob Coxey’s Army – petition for road building (jobs) |  |
|  | 1895 |  |  | | *Pollock v. Farmers’ Loan and Trust Co*.[[2]](#endnote-2) |  | | US Bond sale - handled by J.P. Morgan | | Atlanta Exposition[[3]](#endnote-3) speech – Booker T. Washington |  |

## 1895-1899 Cuba (The Teller Amendment), Puerto Rico, Guam (and 2 more Pacific Island), the *Ending* of Hawaii, and the Surprise That Is the Philippines

***Caution about this Period:*** What’s guerrilla warfare? This is a different kind of world:

* Spain and the **reconcentration** camps (bad and deadly, but not the Nazi version in the 1940s) against groups wanting Cuba to be a nation (and the British version of this)
* Later United States and its methods in the Philippines

**Video**: The Question of Empire **Search Word:** Maine

**Video**: The Question of Empire **Search Word:** win - as in the Cuban revolutionaries were going to win and they would control Cuba

|  | **Date** | **Presidential Election** | **Beyond America** | **Gov. Institutions** | **US Land** | **Issue/Organization** | **Political Party** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1895 |  | Cuban rebellion | Knight case –Supreme Court |  |  |  |
|  | 1896 |  | Cubans establish a PR branch in the US | *Plessy V. Ferguson -* ***decided*** |  |  |  |
|  | **1896**-11 | **William McKinley** *vs*. William Jennings Bryan |  |  |  |  | Populist support for Bryan *- What are the Populists’ issues.* |
| **>** | 1898-01 |  | Cuban riot |  |  |  |  |
| **>** | 1898-028-01 |  | Battleship *Maine –*US sends  de Lôme letter |  |  | [Reminder:](#_Keyword_List_on_1) Hearst and Pulitzer – |  |
|  | 1898-02 |  | *Maine* explosion |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1908 |  | War authorized - Teller Amendment |  |  |  |  |
| **>** | 1898-05 |  | Dewey in Manilla – Planned since 1895 |  |  |  |  |
| **>** | 1898-07 |  |  |  | Hawaii annexation – by joint resolution (not treaty) ***- Why? When before?*** |  |  |
| **>** | 1898-11 |  |  |  |  | US -Anti-Imperialist League formed- key issue will be the Philippines |  |
| **>** | 1899 |  | Treaty ending war - Senate approval | **Notice Cuba is not in this list >** | Guam  Philippines  Puerto Rico |  |  |
| **>** |  |  | Filipino resistance - Emilio Aguinaldo |  |  | **<Caution This unrest continues** |  |

**Video**: The Question of Empire **Search Word:** Philippines

Note: The Video after 19:00 is Unit 2 in this course.

## 1899-1901 Cuba (The Platt Amendment), China, and the *Ending* the Philippine Insurrection

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Date** | **Presidential Election** | **Beyond America** | **Gov. Institutions** | **US Land** | **Issue/Organization** | **Political Party** |
| **>**  **>** | 1899 |  | Open Door – China – trade –Secretary of State John Hay[[4]](#endnote-4) |  | Annexation  - Wake Island  - Eastern Samoa Islands- US splits Samoa with Germany |  |  |
|  | 1900-08 |  | Boxer Rebellion and US troops |  |  |  |  |
| **>** | 1901 |  | Aquinaldo capture (resistance through 1902, 1906) – end military rule; Taft, governor. |  |  | **<Caution This unrest continues** |  |
| **>** | 1901-03 |  | Platt Amendment –Cuba - Guantanamo and our right to intervene | **< Notice US indirectly took Cuba** |  |  |  |

#### Background: Terms on Spanish American War:

|  |
| --- |
| * “Smoked Yankees” – name for African Americans (not in the test, but a clue to the world) * “splendid little war” – phrase by John Hay * Rough Riders |

|  |
| --- |
| Copyright C. J. Bibus, Ed.D. 2003-2020 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WCJC Department:** | History – Dr. Bibus |
| **Contact Information:** | 281.239.1577 or [bibusc@wcjc.edu](mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu) |
| **Last Updated:** | 2020 |
| **WCJC Home:** | <http://www.wcjc.edu/> |

1. Where have you seen the name *Dole* in a grocery store? [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. It is the 1894 income tax that goes to the Supreme Court and the court declares this tax unconstitutional—thus the later amendment to the Constitution. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. W.E.B. Du Bois calls it the Atlanta *Compromise –* given American history and what events we have labeled as a *Compromise,* not a compliment.. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. John Hay also coined the phrase a “splendid little war.” [↑](#endnote-ref-4)