

Ch. 18 Sect. 3

Expansion Under T. Roosevelt & Taft

Objectives:

1. Explain why the U.S. built the Panama Canal and the impact it had.
2. Compare American foreign policy in the early 1900s in Latin America and in Asia.
3. Describe President Taft's use of "Dollar Diplomacy," including its legacy as an American foreign policy.

Main Idea:

President Theodore Roosevelt conducted a vigorous foreign policy that suited the new status of the U.S. as a world power. Although President William Taft continued Roosevelt's policies, he preferred a more subtle approach to influencing other nations.

Theodore Roosevelt & “The Big Stick”

- **Theodore Roosevelt** became president in 1901 after the assassination of **William McKinley** and U.S. foreign policy quickly changed.
- **T. Roosevelt** used the U.S. Navy to bully countries in Latin America, known as the Big Stick Policy.
- **T. Roosevelt** would use the U.S. military or the threat of U.S. military to influence countries to do what we wanted them to do.

Teddy Roosevelt's Foreign Policy "The Big Stick"



Building The Panama Canal

- **T. Roosevelt** wanted to build a canal through Panama and bought the rights from France, who purchased the rights to build from Columbia.
- Columbia refused to deal with the U.S., so **T. Roosevelt** influenced the French company to organize a Panama revolt against Columbia. When Panama was ready, the U.S. put its navy off the coast of Columbia to support the Panamanian rebels.
- After Panama's independence, the U.S. gave Panama \$10 million for a 10-mile-wide strip of land to build the Panama Canal.

Digging The Canal



Building A Lock



Roosevelt Corollary

- **T. Roosevelt** added to the Monroe Doctrine in 1904 with a speech called the **Roosevelt Corollary**.
- **T. Roosevelt** said that he wanted neighboring countries to be stable, orderly, and prosperous and that the U.S. would act as the “international police force” if our neighbors did not meet those standards.
- **T. Roosevelt** used the corollary to increase the power of the president when intervening in Latin America.

Theodore Roosevelt

1858 - 1919



Taft's Dollar Diplomacy

- President William Taft succeeded T. Roosevelt and took a different approach to foreign policy.
- Taft's approach was called Dollar Diplomacy, “substituting dollars for bullets.”
- Taft believed both the U.S. (banks) and the foreign country we were helping would benefit from our financial investment.
- This did not work as well as Taft had hoped

William Howard Taft

1857 - 1930



Dollar Diplomacy Continued

- Some countries resisted our financial involvement as much as our military involvement under **T. Roosevelt.**
- Some investments were lost when a government we supported was overthrown or business project failed
- **T. Roosevelt** and **Taft** will increase the role of U.S. as an international power, but most historians believe “The Big Stick” was more effective than **“Dollar Diplomacy.”**

Political Cartoon Roosevelt v. Taft



FOR AULD LANG SYNE.

These Saw (philosophically watching the Taft-Roosevelt struggle) - "WAL! I GUESS OLD FRIENDS ARE THE BEST!"