

WORLD: U.S. Wins War With Spain

U.S. Wins War: Becomes World Power

Washington, D.C., 1898

The 100-day Spanish-American War is over. The U.S. is the big winner. It is now a world power

with islands around the world.

In 1895, Cubans began a revolt against Spain. In 1898, the U.S. decided to help. The U.S.

went to war with Spain:

- To free Cuba from Spain. Americans did not want European military bases near the U.S.

- To protect American business. Americans owned tobacco and sugar plantations in Cuba.

- To stop Spain's cruelty. The "yellow press" made Americans hate Spain. [The yellow press is a nickname for newspapers printed on yellow paper. These newspapers try to stir up readers' feelings by telling only one side of a story.] The yellow press told how cruel the Spanish were to the Cubans. It did not tell about Cuban cruelty to the Spanish during the revolt. **Joseph Pulitzer** and **William Randolph Hearst** each own one of the leading yellow press papers.

- To protest the Maine's sinking. In 1898, the U.S. warship **Maine** sank in Cuban waters for an unknown reason. The yellow press blamed Spain. Headlines screamed, "War! Remember the Maine!"

In April 1898, President **William McKinley** gave in to American war fever. He asked Congress to declare war on Spain.

By July 1898:

- Spanish forts on **San Juan Hill** in Cuba surrendered. **Theodore Roosevelt** and the **Rough Riders**, a cavalry unit, came back heroes from that battle.

- The U.S. Navy destroyed the Spanish navy off Cuba.

- The U.S. took Puerto Rico. In August, Spain surrendered.

The U.S. and Spain signed the **Treaty of Paris** to end the war.

The U.S. started the Spanish-American War to free one island, Cuba, from Spanish rule. At the end of the war, the U.S. rules islands all over the world. The U.S. now has an **empire** [a group of countries or territories under the rule of one powerful country]. Here's what the U.S. got from the **Treaty of Paris**:

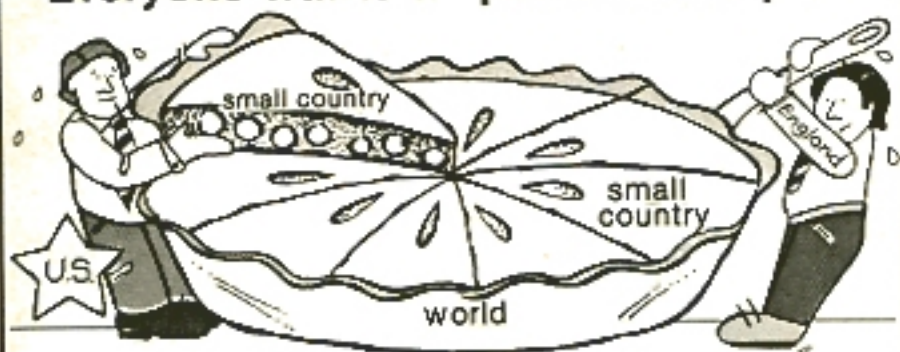
Spain leaves Cuba. U.S. Army stays in Cuba to protect it.

Spain gives the U.S. Puerto Rico and Guam.

Spain lets the U.S. keep the Philippine Islands for \$20 million.



Everyone wants a "piece of the pie"



Looking for an Empire: Should America Join the Race?

Some Americans feel the U.S. should be imperialistic. **Imperialism** [wanting an empire] is the idea that strong countries should take over weak countries and rule them.

Here's why some Americans want to rule other lands:

For Raw Materials:

Other lands have raw materials the U.S. needs for its growing factories.

For Adventure:

Other lands have land to be settled. Most land in the U.S. is already settled.

For Markets:

Other lands will buy American goods. The U.S. makes more goods than Americans can buy.

For World Power:

England and France have empires. The U.S. wants to have as much power as they have.

- More on the U.S. empire, p. 4 and 5

- U.S. and China, p. 6

- U.S. and Japan, p. 6

WORLD: U.S. Gets Islands All Over the World

For:

■ An empire will make the U.S. rich and powerful.

■ It is the duty of the U.S. to govern other lands to show the people how to govern

themselves.

Against:

■ The U.S. has enough problems to take care of in America. It cannot take care of problems in lands across

the ocean.

■ America is the land of the free. The U.S. has no right to take away other people's freedom and tell them what to do.

Alaska

Where: The northwest corner of North America, next to Canada.

When Added: 1867

How Added: Bought from Russia. Secretary of State William Seward paid \$7.2 million. But Americans called Alaska "Seward's folly." They could not see any use for land so far north and so close to Russia. Then gold was found in Alaska in 1897.

What the U.S. Got:

- oil.
- fish.
- gold.
- furs.

Island of Cuba

Where: Caribbean Sea

When Freed From Spain: 1898

How Freed: U.S. made Spain leave Cuba after winning the Spanish-American War.

How Governed: Self-government.

How It Happened:

Before the war, Congress passed the Teller Resolution saying the U.S. would not take over Cuba after Spain left.

After the war, the U.S. Army stayed in Cuba until 1902. It left after Cuba wrote a new constitution that contains the Platt Amendment. The Platt Amendment says:

- The U.S. can step into Cuba to keep Cuba independent.
- The U.S. can have a navy base in Cuba.
- This constitution makes Cuba a U.S. protectorate [a free country watched over by a stronger country].

What the U.S. Got:

- A navy base in the Caribbean.
- Protection against European bases in Cuba.

The Islands of Hawaii

Where: Pacific Ocean

When Added: 1898

How Added: Congress annexed [voted to add].

Why Added: Asked to be added after a revolt.

What the U.S. Got:

- A navy base and trading stop between the U.S. and Asia.
- A supply of sugar and pineapple.

The Island of Puerto Rico

Where: Caribbean Sea

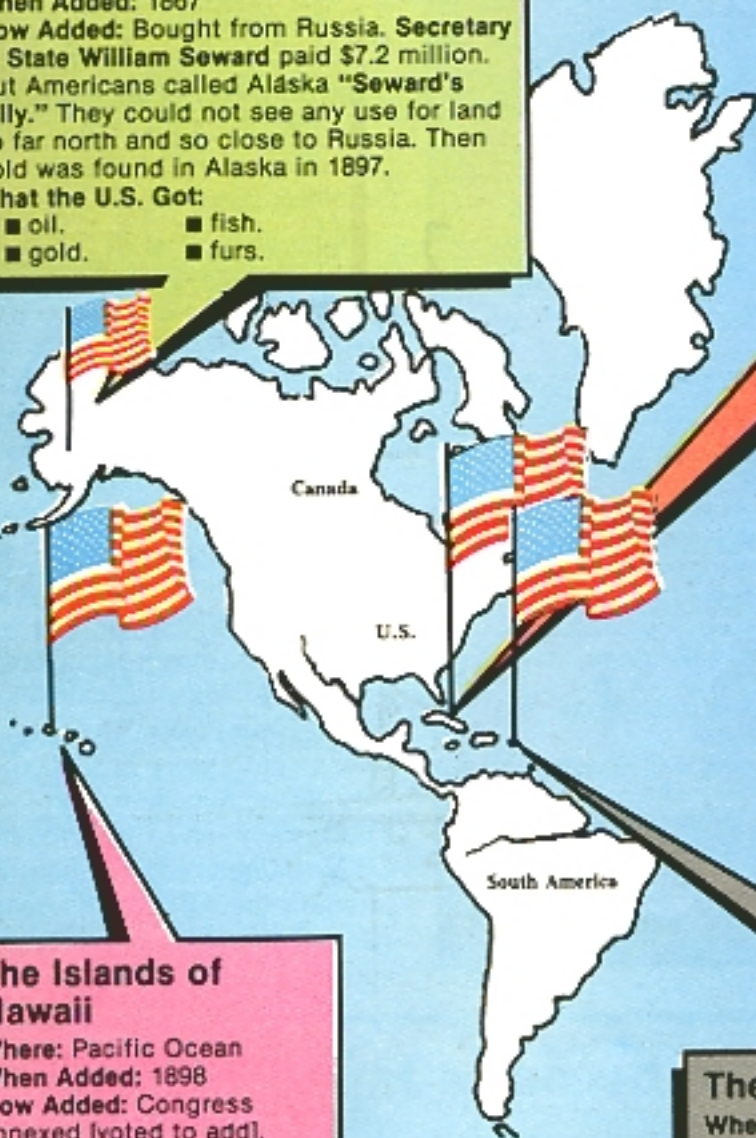
When Added: 1898

How Added: U.S. wins the Island from Spain in the Spanish-American War.

Why: To remove last Spanish base from Caribbean.

The U.S. Wants It For:

- A navy base.
- A market for U.S. goods.
- Raw materials.



WORLD: U.S. Gets Islands All Over the World

U.S. Builds Empire: Americans Argue Over Expanding

Washington, D.C., 1900

For 30 years, the U.S. has been building a world empire [taking over other lands and ruling them]. The U.S. now

rules enough lands to be a world power. Other countries look up to the U.S.

Some Americans want the U.S. to keep its empire. Other

Americans think the U.S. should mind its own business. Here's what Americans are saying about owning an empire:

Island Empire Gives Steppingstones to Asia

Manila, Philippines, 1900

The U.S. will use its new Pacific islands, the **Philippines**, for navy bases. The islands are needed for:

- **Refueling.** It is a long way from the U.S. to Asia. On the way, U.S. ships run out of coal to keep their engines going. The ships need places where they can stop for more coal.
- **World power.** If the U.S. does not keep ships in the Pacific Ocean, other countries might get control of the Pacific and of countries such as China and Japan.

Here's a look at the islands the U.S. now owns and has made into navy bases:

- **Midway Island**—added 1867.
 - **Guam**—added 1898.
 - **Wake Island**—1899.
 - **American Samoa**—added 1899.
- The U.S. Navy is governing all of these islands.

Philippine Islands

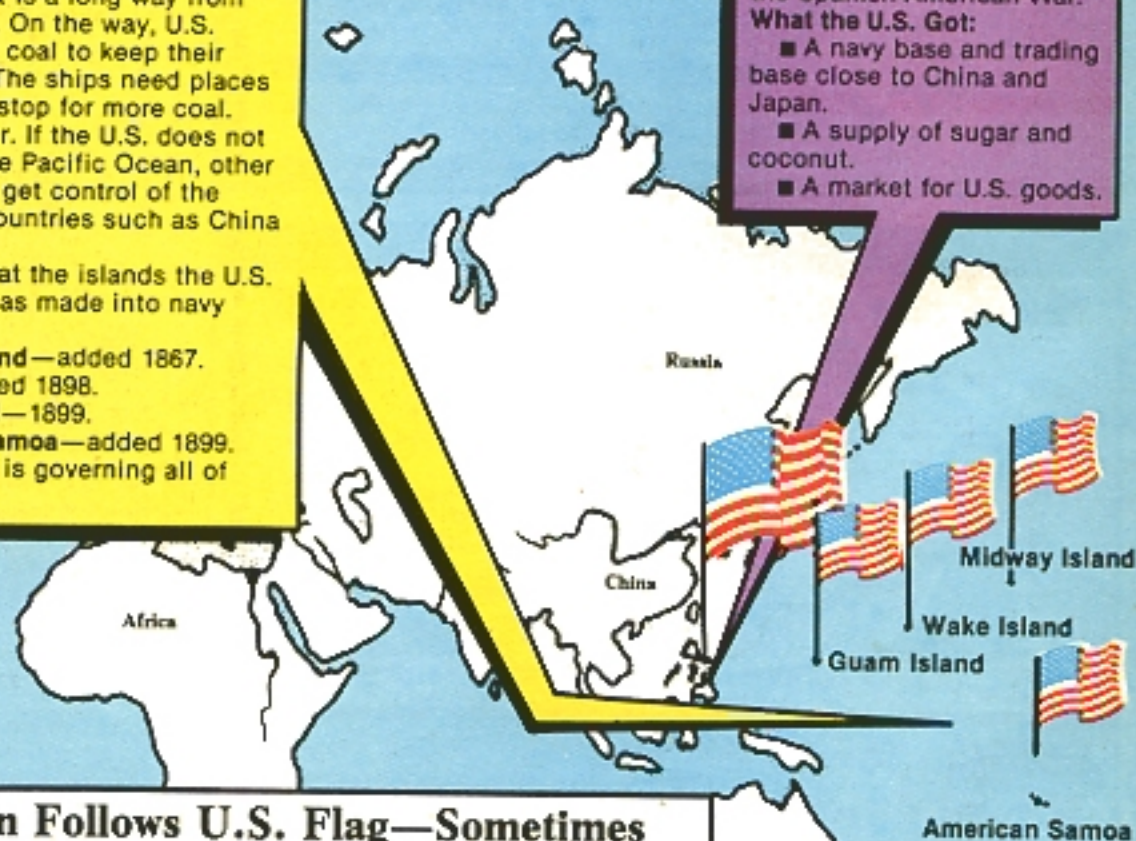
Where: Pacific Ocean

When Added: 1898

How Added: Bought from Spain for \$20 million after the U.S. captured it during the Spanish-American War.

What the U.S. Got:

- A navy base and trading base close to China and Japan.
- A supply of sugar and coconut.
- A market for U.S. goods.



Constitution Follows U.S. Flag—Sometimes

Supreme Court, 1901

The Supreme Court has settled a big question: Should the Constitution be the law for all new U.S. lands? The Supreme Court answers the question by saying the U.S. empire has two kinds of lands—**incorporated lands** and **unincorporated lands**. The chart below shows the difference in how the U.S. will handle each.

| | Incorporated Lands (Hawaii, Alaska) | Unincorporated Lands (Puerto Rico, Guam, Samoa, the Philippines) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Can become a state | Yes | No |
| Governed by laws in the U.S. Constitution | Yes | No |
| Lets people who live there have all the rights of a U.S. citizen | Yes | No |



WORLD: China and Japan

U.S. Puts Down Boxers: Becomes China's Friend

Peking, China, 1900

U.S. troops helped put down the **Boxer Rebellion in China**—and China is calling the U.S. its best friend. China likes and

trusts the U.S. because:

- The U.S. is giving back money to China. Many countries helped China put down the Boxer Rebellion. These countries

made China pay them money for their losses. But the U.S. is giving back half the money to bring Chinese to U.S. schools.

- The U.S. wants China to keep its land. Other countries want to divide up China. England, France, Germany, Russia, and Japan each want a piece of China to add to their empires.

U.S. Secretary of State John Hay has sent another note to the European countries and Japan. In this note, he again says China's doors should be open to trade with all countries. This idea is called the **Open Door Policy**.

Hay first brought up the Open Door Policy in 1898. The U.S. saw other countries taking parts of China. They feared these other countries would soon keep the U.S. from trading with China. So Hay sent notes to European countries. He asked them to keep China open for trade.

In 1898, European countries did not pay much attention to the Open Door Policy. They kept trying to grab more of China. But the Boxer Rebellion made many Europeans leave China.

Now China, with the help of its friend the U.S., will work to keep China open to everyone.

The Boxers: China for the Chinese



Who: The **Boxers**—a secret group of Chinese people.

Why: They formed to force the Chinese government to keep foreigners out of China.

- Started a war against their government and foreigners in 1900.
- Captured and held foreigners.
- Were defeated by troops from many countries.

The Open Door Policy: China for the World



What: The **Open Door Policy**—a statement of the way the U.S. thinks trade with China should be handled. The Open Door Policy says:

- All countries should be able to trade with China.
- No countries should take land from China.

How It Happened: U.S. Secretary of State John Hay sent these statements to other countries and asked them to follow this policy.

U.S. Hosts Treaty Talks: Becomes Japan's Enemy

Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1905

President Theodore Roosevelt has helped **Japan** and **Russia** work out the **Treaty of Portsmouth** to end their war. Japan, the winner, gets Manchuria and Korea from Russia. Japan also wanted money but did not get

any.

Japan blames the U.S. for this. Roosevelt talked Japan out of asking for money because he thinks Japan is powerful enough already.

Only 50 years ago, Japan was not a world power. It let no one into Japan. But in 1853, U.S.

Commodore Matthew Perry sailed to Japan and got Japan to trade with the U.S.

Japan soon wanted to be like other countries. It built factories and a navy. Now it wants to add on to its empire by taking part of China.