CHAPTER 19: The United States Expands Its Reach 1892–1912

Visual Review

The New Imperialism

A Global Grab for Colonies
The major powers look to untapped markets in African, Asia, and the Pacific.

Race, Empire, Bibles, and Businessmen
Racial theories provide justification for colonization and businessmen and missionaries lead the way.

Precedent for American Empire
Imperial policies build on previous policies of Western expansion.

The Crises of the 1890s
Economic depression, the “closing” of the frontier, and a crisis in masculinity prompts the United States to expand abroad.

The United States Flexes its Muscles

Latin America
The U.S. embarks on a more expansive foreign policy in Latin America, to protect markets and American investments there.

Hawaii
The United States asserts its interests in the Pacific, particularly in Hawaii.

The Cuban Crisis
United States declares war on Spain in the name of Cuban independence.

“A Splendid Little War”
The United States defeats Spain in a 90-day war, garnering new territories.
President McKinley announces plans to colonize the Philippines.

The United States crushes Filipino demands for independence in a bloody war of attrition.

The United States seeks open access to China’s markets and intervenes in the Boxer Rebellion.

Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt becomes president and works aggressively to ensure U.S. interests abroad.

William H. Taft aims to use America’s wealth to create order and stability.

The Philippines

The Debate Over Empire

Americans debate the benefits and liabilities of empire.

China

Cuba and Puerto Rico

The United States imposes control on Cuba and Puerto Rico.

The American-Philippine War

The United States imposes control on Cuba and Puerto Rico.

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