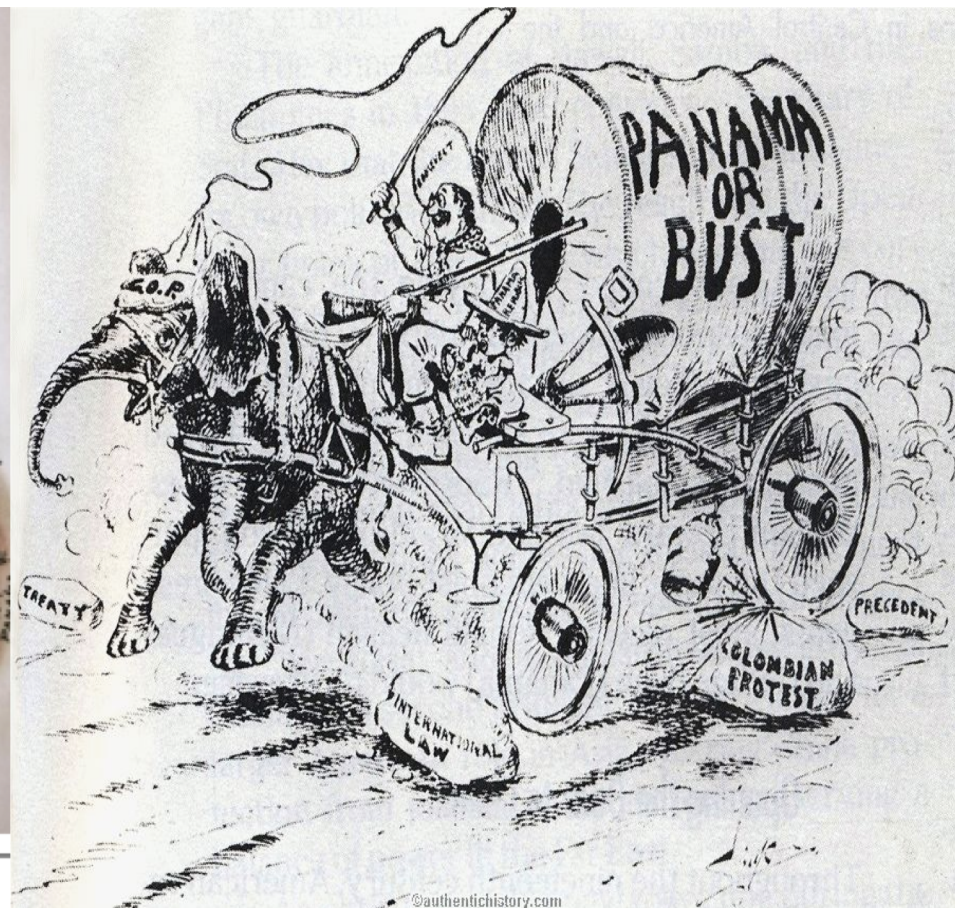


SSUSH14: EXPLAIN AMERICA'S EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD AT THE TURN OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.



"The Big Stick in the Caribbean Sea" - 1904



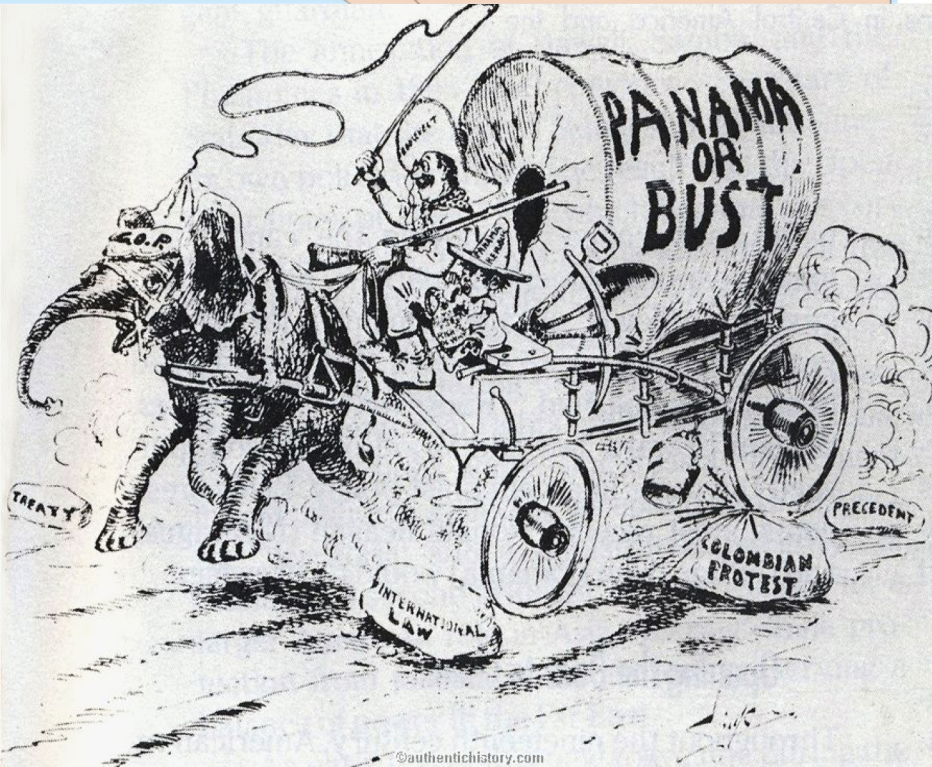
Element B: Examine U.S. involvement in Latin America, as reflected by the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine and the creation of the Panama Canal.

Panama Canal

□ Following the end of the Spanish-American War, the United States was in an excellent position to take advantage of markets throughout Latin America.

■ The centerpiece of this development was the construction of a trans-oceanic canal between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, known as the Panama Canal. There were three basic reasons for a canal.

1. First, the United States needed to shorten the sailing time between the east and west coast.
2. Second, national defense officials needed to facilitate faster movement of U.S. naval assets from one ocean to another.
3. The final reason was that the United States needed to protect its new holdings in the Pacific.



Panama Canal & Roosevelt Corollary



10-A? Opening of the Panama Canal, S.S. Ancon passing Cucaracha slide, Looking north, Aug. 15, 1914



- ❑ Earlier attempts to build a canal in Central America by both French and U.S. companies had been failures.
- ❑ In 1903, following diplomatic maneuvering by the United States, the construction of the Panama Canal was attempted again.
 - The United States had to overcome difficult terrain and tropical illnesses to build the canal.
 - The effort was a success and the Panama Canal opened to Naval ships in 1914.
- ❑ To protect the canal and U.S. regional interests, Theodore Roosevelt issued what became known as the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine (usually shortened to the Roosevelt Corollary).
 - In 1902 Venezuela was threatened with invasion by Great Britain and Germany over the nation's inability to pay back loans to the banks of each respective nation.
 - Roosevelt, fearing European encroachment in Latin America, reminded the Europeans that the U.S. held to the Monroe Doctrine of 1823.
 - In 1904, Roosevelt stated that the Europeans were not welcome in the region and the U.S. would oversee the collection of any national debts owed by Latin American nations to Europeans.
 - In essence, the U.S. would intervene in Latin American countries to prevent their takeover by any other nation.



Roosevelt's "Big Stick" Diplomacy



"The Big Stick in the Caribbean Sea" - 1904

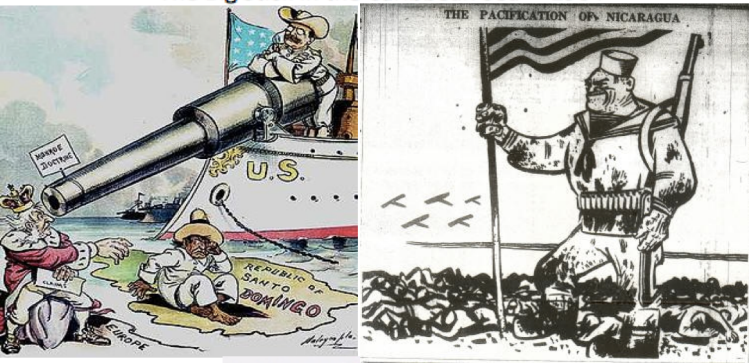


Figure 1. "The Missionary," a cartoon by Private Paul Weyburn, published in the Marine Magazine, April 1915. Courtesy of History and Assessment Division, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.

- The Roosevelt Corollary became a key component of Roosevelt's "Big Stick" policy.
 - President Roosevelt based his foreign policy on the idea of "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far."
 - Roosevelt believed that negotiations (speak softly) were key to any relationships. But, if negotiations were not fruitful, then the United States would use its military to enforce order (big stick).
- Invoking the Corollary, the United States intervened in the Dominican Republic in 1904, Nicaragua in 1912, and Haiti in 1915.
 - The policy pleased businessmen in the United States and Great Britain.
 - However, the Roosevelt Corollary angered Latin Americans who felt that the United States did not have the right to intervene in their affairs.