

Becoming a World Power

Chapter 23

A Pacific Empire

- America maintains a policy of isolationism to stay out of Europe's wars, but also follows a policy of expansionism to increase its borders
- Active trading with Europe and Asia
- Commodore Perry's visit to Japan helps open trade with them (Treaty of Kanagawa)

- William Seward: Midway Island, Alaska
- The Age of Imperialism: strong countries control weaker ones for raw materials, trading advantages
- America gains strength in industry and agriculture
- Strengthens navy to make trading more safe
- America gains control of part of Samoa

- American interest in Hawaii: spreading Christianity, trading, sugar plantations
- Americans overpower the Hawaiian monarchy, set up a republic and annex it
- China: countries had “spheres of influence”
- Open Door Policy—opens trade
- Boxer Rebellion: Chinese group rebels against foreign control but is unsuccessful

War with Spain

- Tensions in Cuba:
- Cuban's rebelled against Spanish rule
- Spanish governor Weyler uses brutal tactics to crush the rebellion, throws thousands into concentration camps
- Americans have investments in sugar, rice, railroads, tobacco, iron