

# The Open Door Policy



THE GOVERNMENT SUCCESSFULLY BROKE THE AMERICAN RAILWAY UNION AND THE PULLMAN STRIKE, AND SENT DEBS TO PRISON. BUT CRUSHING THE RESISTANCE OF INDIANS, FARMERS, AND WORKERS DID NOT END THE DEPRESSION THAT STARTED IN 1893. THE *CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY* LOOKED ABROAD FOR SOLUTIONS - NEW MARKETS TO EXPLOIT AND NEW ENEMIES TO RALLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AGAINST.



EXPANSION WAS NOT A NEW IDEA. EVEN BEFORE THE WAR AGAINST MEXICO CARRIED THE UNITED STATES TO THE PACIFIC, THE *MONROE DOCTRINE* DECLARED EXCLUSIVE U.S. RIGHTS TO DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THE REST OF LATIN AMERICA. IT WAS ISSUED IN 1823, WHEN THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA WERE WINNING INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.

LATER IN THE CENTURY, THE SAME IMPULSE LAY BEHIND THE *OPEN DOOR POLICY*. AMERICANS BEGAN TO LOOK AT THE ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC AND THE GREAT MARKETS OF ASIA WITH THE SAME PROPRIETARY GAZE. FROM THE START, THE DOOR HUNG BY TWO HINGES - MILITARY AND ECONOMIC EXPANSIONISM.

IN 1962, TO JUSTIFY YET ANOTHER INVASION OF CUBA, THE STATE DEPARTMENT RELEASED A LIST OF *103 U.S. INTERVENTIONS* IN OTHER COUNTRIES BETWEEN 1798 AND 1895. MOST WERE IN LATIN AMERICA AND ASIA:

JAPAN, 1853-54:  
THE OPENING OF  
JAPAN AND THE  
PERRY EXPEDITION.

NICARAGUA, 1853-54  
AND 1894: TO PROTECT  
AMERICAN INTERESTS.

URUGUAY, 1855: TO  
PROTECT AMERICAN  
INTERESTS.

PORTUGUESE ANGOLA,  
1860: TO PROTECT  
AMERICAN INTERESTS.

ARGENTINA, 1853-54:  
MARINES LAND IN  
BUENOS AIRES TO  
PROTECT AMERICAN  
INTERESTS.

THE U.S. INVADED HAWAII IN 1893, OSTENSIBLY TO PROTECT AMERICAN LIVES AND PROPERTY FROM THE INDIGENOUS GOVERNMENT, BUT ACTUALLY TO PROMOTE A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT UNDER **SANFORD B. DOLE**.



HALF-HAWAIIAN ANTI-IMPERIALIST **ROBERT WILCOX** HELPED LEAD AN UNSUCCESSFUL INSURGENCY TO OVERTHROW U.S. DOMINATION OF THE ISLANDS.



BY THE MID-1890S, THE U.S. HAD AMPLE EXPERIENCE IN OVERSEAS PROBES AND INTERVENTIONS. THE IDEOLOGY OF EXPANSION WAS WIDESPREAD IN THE UPPER CIRCLES OF MILITARY MEN AND POLITICIANS.

"ALL THE GREAT MASTERFUL RACES HAVE BEEN FIGHTING RACES. NO TRIUMPH OF PEACE IS QUITE SO GREAT AS THE **SUPREME TRIUMPH OF WAR!**"

**TEDDY ROOSEVELT**  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
U.S. NAVY



"THE COUNTRIES WITH THE BIGGEST NAVIES WILL INHERIT THE WORLD!"

**A. T. MAHAN**  
CAPTAIN  
U.S. NAVY



"AMERICAN FACTORIES ARE MAKING MORE THAN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN USE; AMERICAN SOIL IS PRODUCING MORE THAN THEY CAN CONSUME. **THE TRADE OF THE WORLD MUST AND SHALL BE OURS.**"

**ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE**  
U.S. SENATOR  
INDIANA



"THE GREAT NATIONS ARE RAPIDLY ABSORBING ALL THE WASTE PLACES OF THE EARTH. IT IS A MOVEMENT WHICH MAKES FOR CIVILIZATION AND **THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE RACE.**"

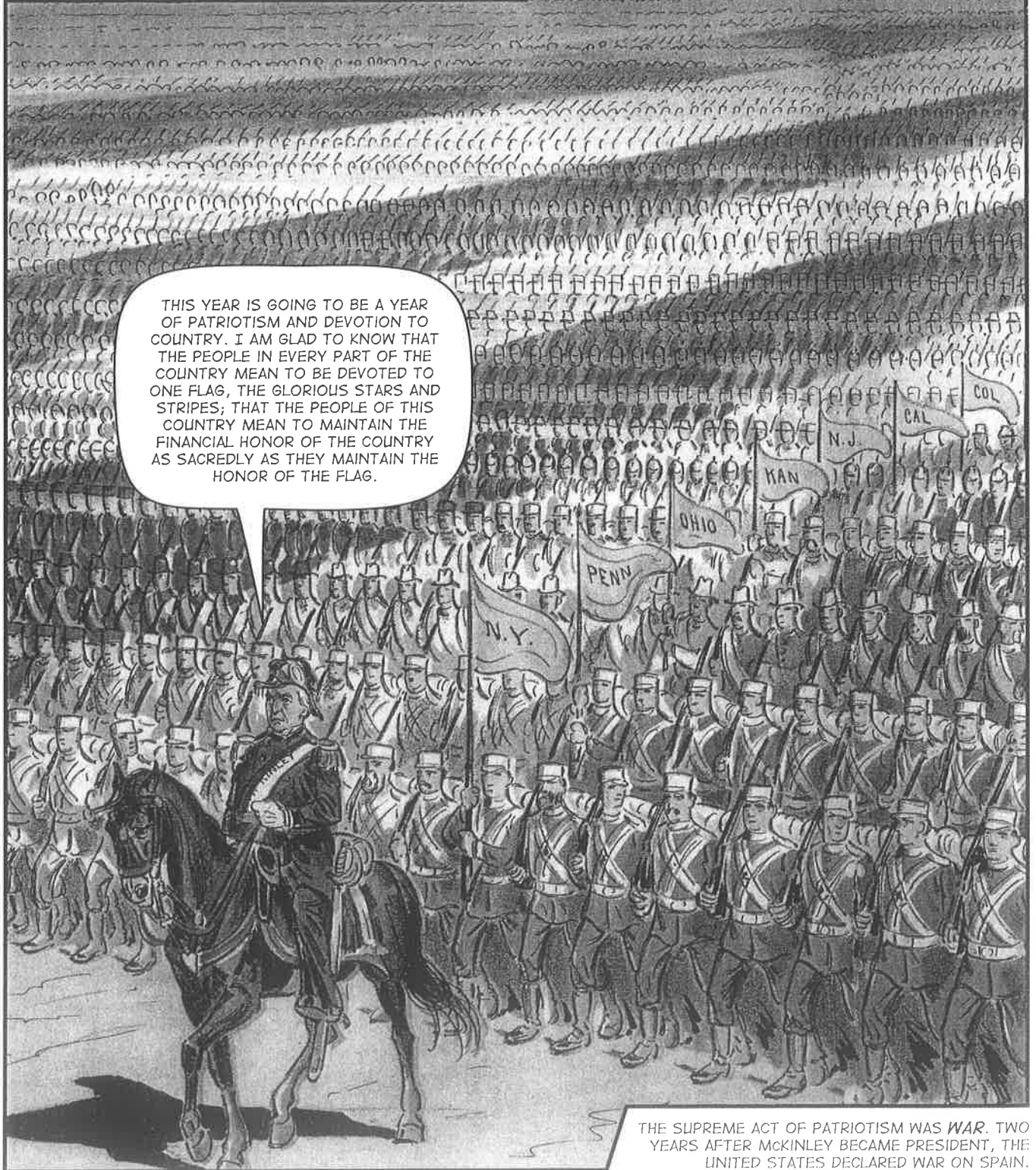
**HENRY CABOT LODGE**  
U.S. SENATOR  
MASSACHUSETTS



WOULD NOT A FOREIGN ADVENTURE DEFLECT SOME OF THE REBELLIOUS ENERGY FROM STRIKES AND PROTEST MOVEMENTS TOWARD AN EXTERNAL ENEMY? WOULD IT NOT UNITE THE PEOPLE WITH GOVERNMENT?

**PATRIOTISM** WAS A WAY OF DROWNING CLASS RESENTMENT. AFTER HIS ELECTION IN 1896, PRESIDENT **WILLIAM MCKINLEY** MADE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MONEY AND FLAG:

THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BE A YEAR OF PATRIOTISM AND DEVOTION TO COUNTRY. I AM GLAD TO KNOW THAT THE PEOPLE IN EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY MEAN TO BE DEVOTED TO ONE FLAG, THE GLORIOUS STARS AND STRIPES; THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY MEAN TO MAINTAIN THE FINANCIAL HONOR OF THE COUNTRY AS SACREDLY AS THEY MAINTAIN THE HONOR OF THE FLAG.



THE SUPREME ACT OF PATRIOTISM WAS **WAR**. TWO YEARS AFTER MCKINLEY BECAME PRESIDENT, THE UNITED STATES DECLARED WAR ON SPAIN.