

## The U.S. is a World Player

- Holding an empire required a new way of thinking of U.S. role in world
  - Needed to look out for our interests
    - In China, Euro powers were competing for control
      - Each had **spheres of influence** – control over an area
      - U.S. proposed “**Open Door Policy**” (1900) – free access for all
        - Adopted the policy even though Euros did not like it
        - Chinese wanted foreigners out – led to **Boxer Rebellion**
          - Attacked Chinese Christians and foreigners
          - Rebellion put down by Euro & U.S. troops in 2 mos.
    - U.S. also got involved in **Russo-Japanese War** (1904)
      - Russia & Japan fighting over Korea & Manchuria
        - **Russians embarrassed by Japanese**
          - T. Roosevelt mediates a settlement to the war
            - **Treaty of Portsmouth (1905)**
            - **TR wins 1906 Nobel Peace Prize**
    - **Panama Canal** – last of Mahan’s 4 things to become world power
      - Old idea but needed modern tech to do it
        - French started it – U.S. finished it
          - U.S. originally wanted to go through Nicaragua
            - Decided on Panama (then part of Columbia)
              - Columbians 1<sup>st</sup> agreed then changed minds
              - U.S. supported a revolt by Panamanians, allowing them to become independent of Columbia
                - U.S. made a deal with new country of Panama
                  - \$10 million + \$250K yearly to Panama
                  - U.S. controls 10-mile-wide canal zone
        - U.S. gains a canal but earns a bad reputation in Latin Am.
          - **Stole Panama from Columbia to get the canal deal**
        - **Canal completed 8/15/1914**
          - Panama takes control of canal on 12/31/1999
  - **Wanting to maintain the U.S. sphere of influence in Latin Am., TR adds the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine**
    - If any foreign nation (other than U.S.) interfered in Latin Am., U.S. would stop them
      - TR said U.S. would “**Speak softly and carry a big stick**”
  - U.S. also prevented Latin Ams. from defaulting on Euro loans so Euros could not claim territory as payment
    - Called “**dollar diplomacy**”