

Filipino Insurrections & Asia chapter 20 p. 567-572

- A. Debate over the Philippines
 1. The annexation of Puerto Rico caused little controversy, by the annexation of the Philippines is a totally different story, causing long and impassioned debate.
 2. McKinley said he was reluctant to support the annexation, but there was no other acceptable alternative.
 - a) He thought that returning them to Spain would be "cowardly and dishonorable" and turning them over to another imperialist power would be bad business.
 - b) And granting the islands independence would be irresponsible because the Filipinos were "unfit for self government."
 3. The only solution was to educate them and uplift and Christianize them.
 4. The **Treaty of Paris of 1898** brought an end to the Spanish American war, and confirmed the terms of the armistice concerning **Cuba**, **Puerto Rico** and **Guam**, but American negotiators demanded that the Spanish cede the Philippines to the US, something they had not originally included.
 - a) The Spanish objected briefly, but an offer of **\$20 million** for the islands softened the resistance, and they accepted all of the terms.
 - b) **Cuba is independent**
 - c) The US has entered the world community as a world power, and with that comes responsibility, and if we're going to be a power, we should work with other nations to
 - (1) Look like a nice guy
 - (2) and to help with trade
 - d) which is why we paid \$20 million to the Spanish instead of taking it from them.
 5. *It was a "Splendid little war" because:*
 - a) *Short duration, April-August*
 - b) *Few Casualties, 5200 due to disease, and <460*
 - c) *the great gains we make*
 - (1) *Cuba*
 - (2) *Philippines*
 - (3) *Puerto Rico*
 - d) *US Recognizes it's new role as a world power*
 6. In the US however, resistance was fierce in the annexation of the Philippines.
 - a) The anti-imperialists included mostly the nations wealthy and powerful figures.
 - b) Their motives were varied, some believing that imperialism is immoral, and against the American commitment to freedom. Some feared that "polluting" the American population by introducing an "inferior" race, and the flood of new cheap workers would put the other American workers out of the job. Conservatives feared the large army the US would now require that they thought that imperialist nations required to protect their land.
 - c) However there were exuberant imperialists such as Theodore Roosevelt, who saw the acquisition of an empire as a way to keep us alive and healthy. Businessmen saw opportunity in the Philippines.
 - d) The strongest argument for the annexation was the argument that the US already owned it, so it wouldn't be hard to keep it.
 - e) The imperialists said that if they annexed the land, they would treat the people who lived in the land as they did the natives, and that they wouldn't have to make them all citizens of the US. They would be dependent rather than US citizens
- II. The Republic as Empire
 - A. Governing the colonies
 1. Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico presented little problems.
 2. Cuba was a thornier dealing however

- a) American forces remained on the island until 1902 trying to prepare the island for independence by building roads, schools, and hospitals, organizing medical and sanitation reform, but America also dominated the economics of the island.
 - b) When America gave Cuba their independence, they basically forced Cuba to include in their constitution that America had the right to intervene if they felt they needed to, and that they were provided with land for naval bases.
- B. The Philippine War
- 1. Americans didn't like to think of themselves as imperialist rulers like those in Europe.
 - 2. Other European imperialist nations found that relations didn't just need ideals, but brute and strength.
 - 3. The same was the lesson that the US learned in the Philippines.
 - 4. This was the least remembered war in all of American history (the Philippines wars)
 - a) it was also the longest and most victorious
 - b) The Philippine Aguinaldo rebelled against the Americans in the same fashion that they did against the Spanish once they learned that the US was there to stay. In the guerrilla tactics
 - 5. The Americans built public structures like they had in Cuba in the Philippines after the war was over
 - 6. Their economy became closely linked with America