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**Imperialism**

There were many similarities in the United States’ expansion during the late nineteenth to early twentieth century compared to the early United States expansion. Some of the similarities of expansion were the way they prepared for war, benefited from resources and markets, purchased land, and through God’s will.

One idea that was present in both tries at expansion was Manifest Destiny, the god given right to expand whether moving west of other places. In the earlier attempt at expansion was not as nearly as vast than the later attempt but was predicated on God giving them the merit to expand to justify any wrong doings caused by the government. The idea of Manifest Destiny was later brought up by Josiah Strong in the last nineteenth century to justify the U.S. government wanting to secure parts of Central and South America (Document B). Strong said that “It seems to me that God, with infinite wisdom and skill, is training the Anglo-Saxon race for an hour sure to come in the world’s future.”

Another similarity is they both were in competition with other countries. Thomas Nast depicted it best when he made the “The World’s Plunderers” cartoon. The cartoon showed Germany, Great Britain, and Russia picking developing countries (Document A). The way the earlier attempt stopped this was with the Monroe Doctrine which kept European countries from expanding on to be American soil. So it only made sense for the U.S. to join the endeavor to defend American soil later on. By Roosevelt strengthening the Monroe Doctrine with the Roosevelt Corollary, the U.S. was able to take advantage of countries in Central America by policing them (Document F). With the U.S. are the police of those countries like Guam and Cuba, who could stop them from taking resources and expanding their market? Also the United States bought land weather it was the Louisiana Purchase or the purchase of the Philippines for the same exact reasons.

To build on the idea of the U.S. preparing to defend themselves was to build up a formidable navy to rival those of world powers (Document C). This would give us the ability to defend our country as well as defend our markets for trade. The earlier attempt of expansion took an parallel approach by strengthening their armed forces. With the help of Alfred T. Mahan book, *The Interest of America in Sea Power*, Roosevelt built what became one of the greatest navies in the world. Now with this navy, the U.S. could now defend newly acquired land and the original states which gave them more incentive to expand.

There were some differences between the two expansions. During the time period of the latest attempt of expansion the U.S. market needed an upgrade due to the surplus of products. This need of new market led to the acquisition of the Philippines which allowed us to generate more revenue by making easier trade with China (Document E). Senator Beveridge connected back to Manifest Destiny with the quote that “We will not renounce our part in the mission of our race, trustee, under God, of the civilization of the world. And we will move forward to our work. . . with gratitude . . . and thanksgiving to Almighty God that He has marked us as His chosen people, henceforth to lead in the regeneration of the world. . . . “

Many could say that history repeated itself with the two expansions of the United States. Through the similarities of Manifest Destiny, competition, naval power, and so on and so forth the nineteenth/twentieth century expansion could be parallel to the other try of expansion. The compulsion of the U.S. to reiterate that the need of this expansion was overwhelming to preserve the livelihood of American citizens.