

American Involvement in the Pacific

The Philippines

The Philippine islands were **Spanish colonies** when the Spanish-American War began. The Filipinos had expected their independence at the end of the war. When the **US annexed**(took over) their islands, they revolted. After several years of **fighting for their independence, the Filipinos were defeated** were defeated. From **1902 until 1946**, the Philippines were controlled by the United States. Finally, **following WW2**, the Philippines were granted their **independence**.

Hawaii, Guam, Samoa and Midway

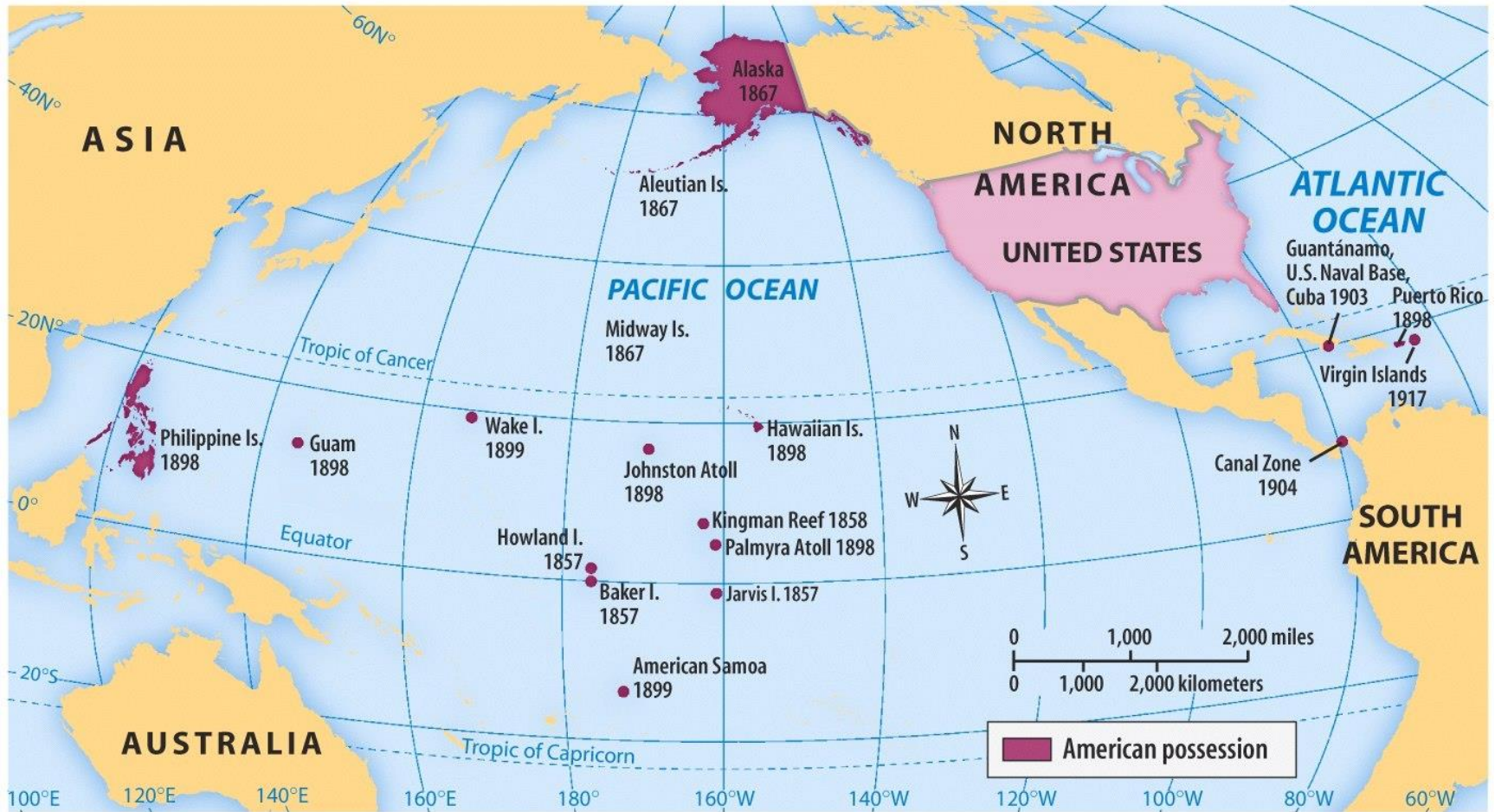
The US gained control of **Hawaii**. **American landowners successfully rebelled** against the native Hawaiian Queen and **persuaded Congress to annex** the islands.

Smaller Pacific islands like **Guam, Samoa** and **Midway** also were annexed by the United States.

These islands became **valuable naval bases** and **refueling stations** for American ships traveling back and forth between Asia and the United States.

Almost 60 years later, Hawaii became the **50th state**.

American Possessions in the Pacific



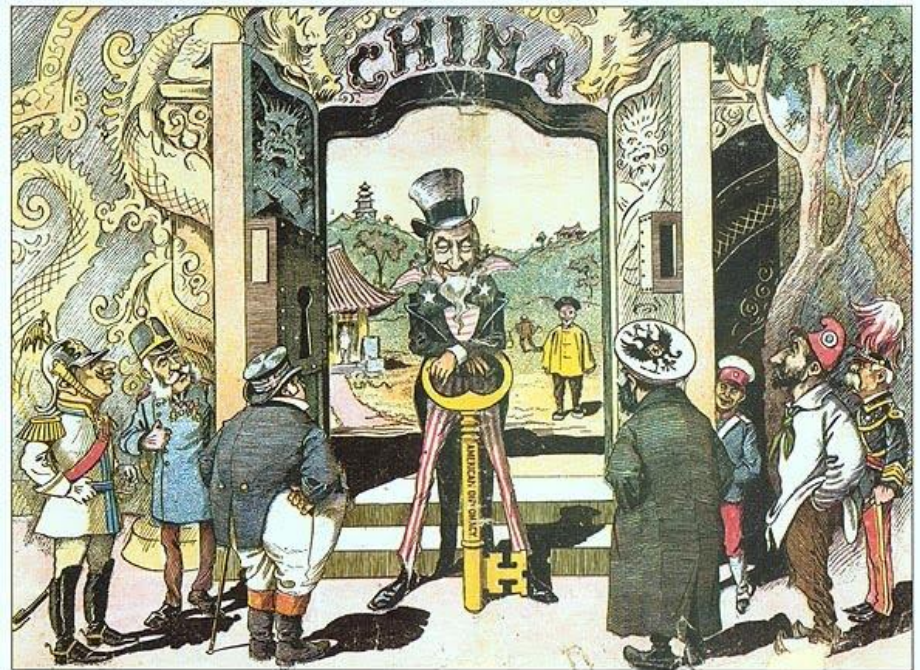
American Involvement in Asia

US trade with China and Japan increased after the US gained the Philippines and Guam in the Spanish-American War.

The United States and China

In 1899, the US was concerned that the **European powers were taking over parts of China and cutting off these areas from American trade.** In reaction, the US announced the **Open Door Policy**, which stated that **all nations should have equal trading rights in China.** Many Chinese opposed this increasing European and American involvement. A Chinese group called **the “Boxers”** **attacked foreigners living in China.** An **international army** was organized to put down the Boxer Rebellion. After the **rebellion was crushed**, the US stepped in to **prevent China from being carved up by the European powers.**

Open Door Policy



THE OPEN DOOR

The United States and Japan

Japan's leaders feared the influence of foreign nations and had not allowed its people to have contact with other countries for nearly 200 years.

In 1853, US **Commodore Mathew Perry** was sent to Japan with a **fleet of gunships** to demand that **Japan open its ports to trade with the US.**

Fearing American military power, Japanese leaders gave in.

After opening its doors to the world, **Japan quickly adopted Western ideas and technology**, and became a **strong military and industrial power.** In **1905**, to the surprise of much of the world, **Japan defeated Russia** in the Russo-Japanese War.

President **Theodore Roosevelt** helped bring both sides to a peace settlement.

