

- Hawaii was annexed in 1898 when President McKinley took office and became the fiftieth state in 1959.

“Another Shotgun Wedding”

A woman (Hawaii) and Uncle Sam are getting married, kneeling before the minister (Pres. McKinley) who is reading from a book entitled "Annexation Policy". The bride seems ready to bolt.



American sugar growers arrived in Hawaii in the 1820's and immediately began to influence the government and economy of the islands. By the 1890's the sugar planter's power had grown so large that they were able to overthrow Queen Liliuokalani and set up a new government under their control. As a result, Hawaii was formally added as a territory in 1898 and officially became a state in 1959

1. What action is happening in the cartoon?
2. Why would the bride seem "ready to bolt"?
3. Who is responsible for America's presence in Hawaii?
4. What effect did American business have on the Hawaiian monarchy?
5. Why would the American government want to add Hawaii as a territory?