

Warm-Up: Roosevelt Corollary



In December 1904, President Roosevelt took advantage of a financial crisis in Santo Domingo (island in the Caribbean) to increase America's influence in the Latin America. Santo Domingo had fallen into debt with European nations, and Roosevelt believed that if the United States did not intervene than Britain, Germany, or Italy would.

In a message to Congress, Roosevelt announced a new Latin American policy known as the **Roosevelt Corollary** to the Monroe Doctrine. – a

corollary is an addition. President Roosevelt declared the US had the right to exercise “international police power” in Latin America. The use of power by the United States had taken a new turn – whereas the Monroe Doctrine (1823) had been designated to prevent European intervention in the Americas, the Roosevelt Corollary (1904) justified intervention by the United States. Countries such as Venezuela, Brazil, and Chile, all strong enough to take care of their own affairs, did not face intervention by the US, but weaker nations did.

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1. Who is the main subject of the cartoon? What message is he sending in the cartoon?
2. Why did European nations threaten to intervene (interfere) in the island of Santo Domingo?
3. What is the difference between the Monroe Doctrine (1823) and the Roosevelt Corollary (1904)?
4. How will the Roosevelt Corollary affect its relationships with Latin American counties?