

Panama Canal

After the S.A.W., now President Roosevelt was determined to build a canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific through Central America.

Benefits:

- Shorten the distance between the coasts of the US by 8,000 miles by sea.**
- Improve our military and commercial capability.**
- Give us power over other nations that wanted to use the canal.**

Panama is the perfect location - very thin isthmus.

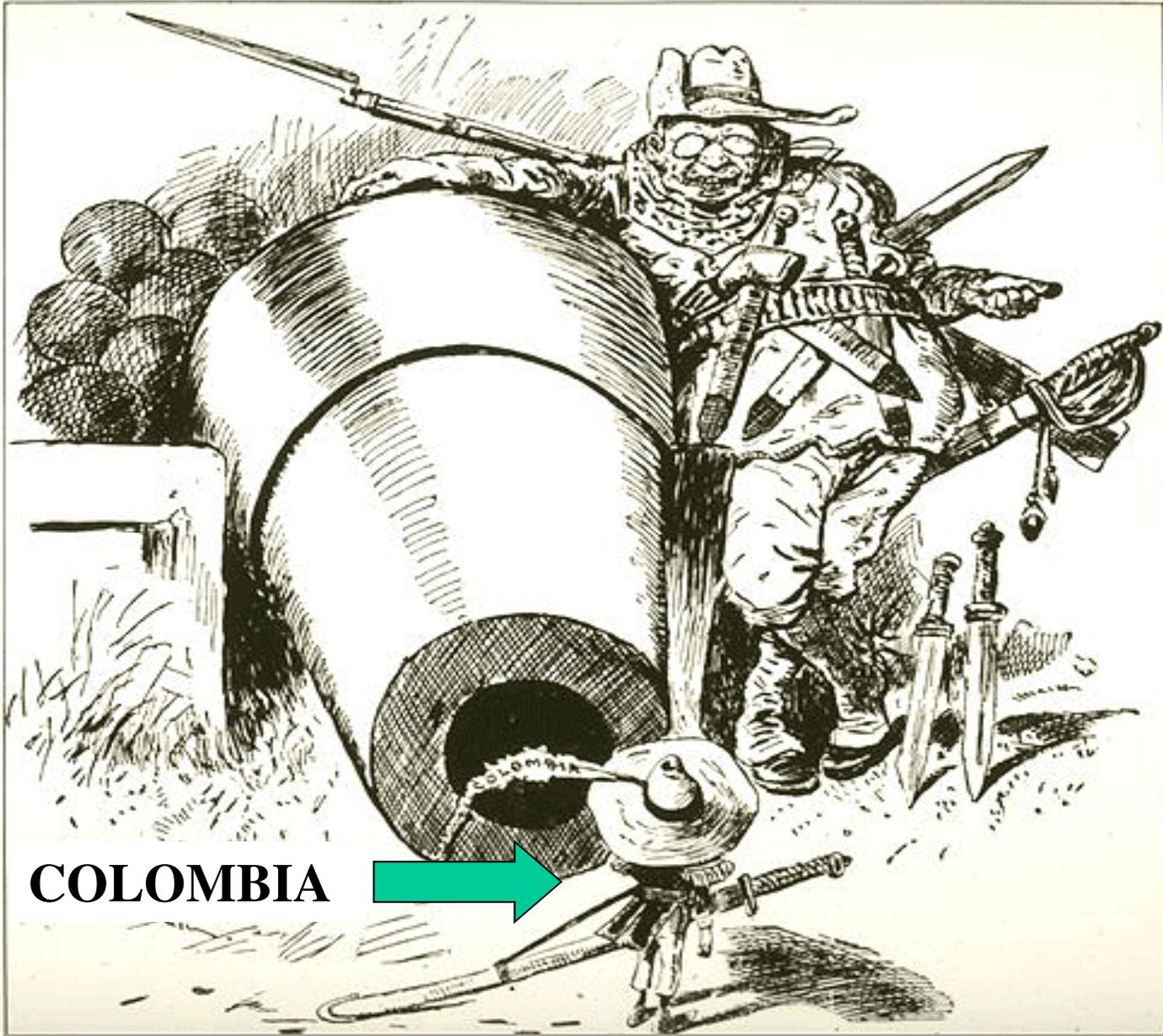
Problem = Panama is part of Columbia, Columbia thinks the US is a bully.

US offers \$10 million plus \$250,000 a year rent to Columbia; Columbia says no.

Panamanians wanted to rebel against Columbia; US sees an opportunity.

Panamanian rebels start a revolution - US immediately recognizes Panama as a separate country - US sends in troops to help the poor Panamanians

Panama accepts the US offer.



COLOMBIA



Building the Canal

Problems:

Engineering: Largest, most complex project in the history of the world.

- Had to dig a trench large enough for modern ships . 200 million cubic yards of dirt.

- Constant rain caused mudslides.

Elevation: Mountains in the middle of Panama caused a problem.

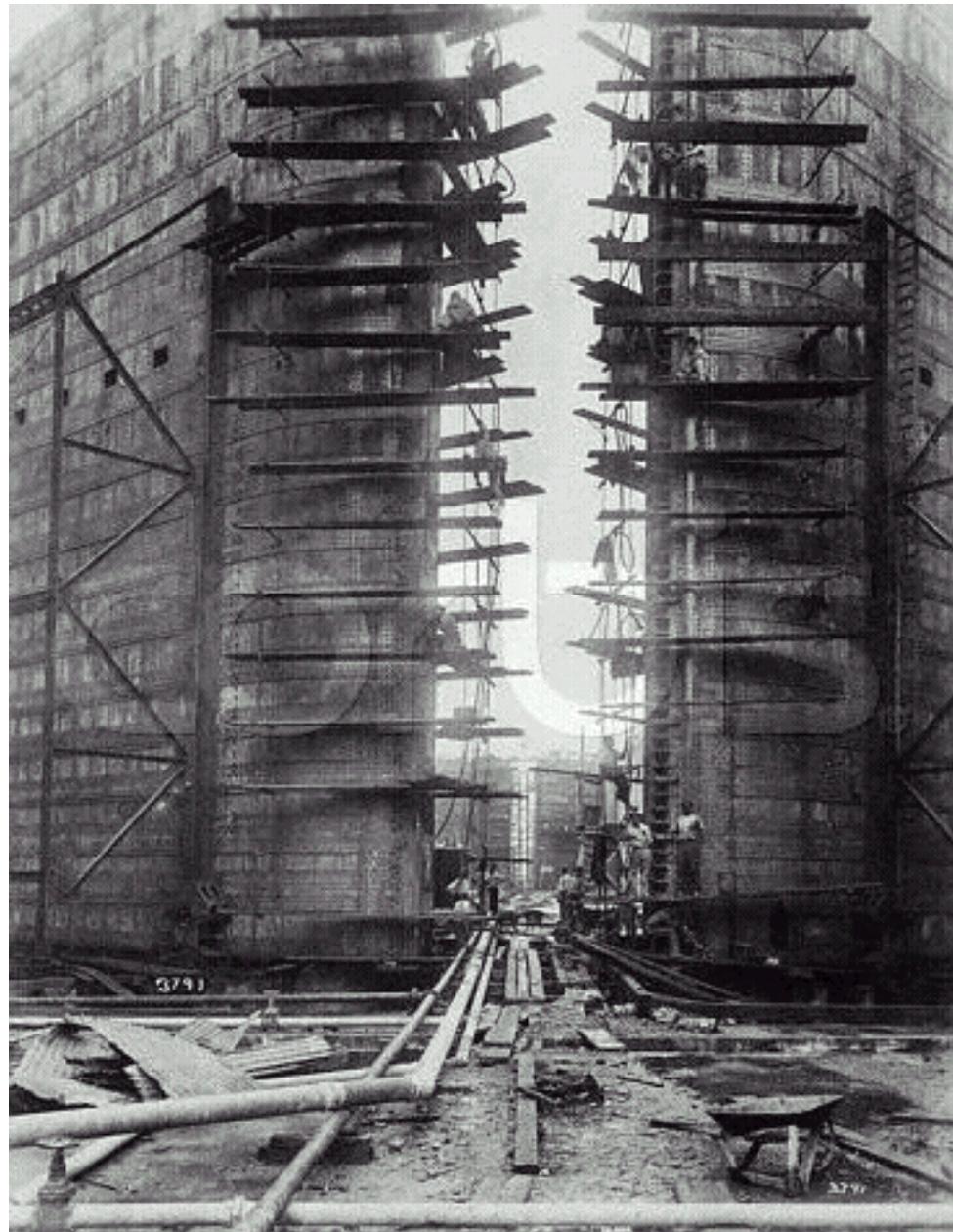
- Created a system of locks to lift the ships.

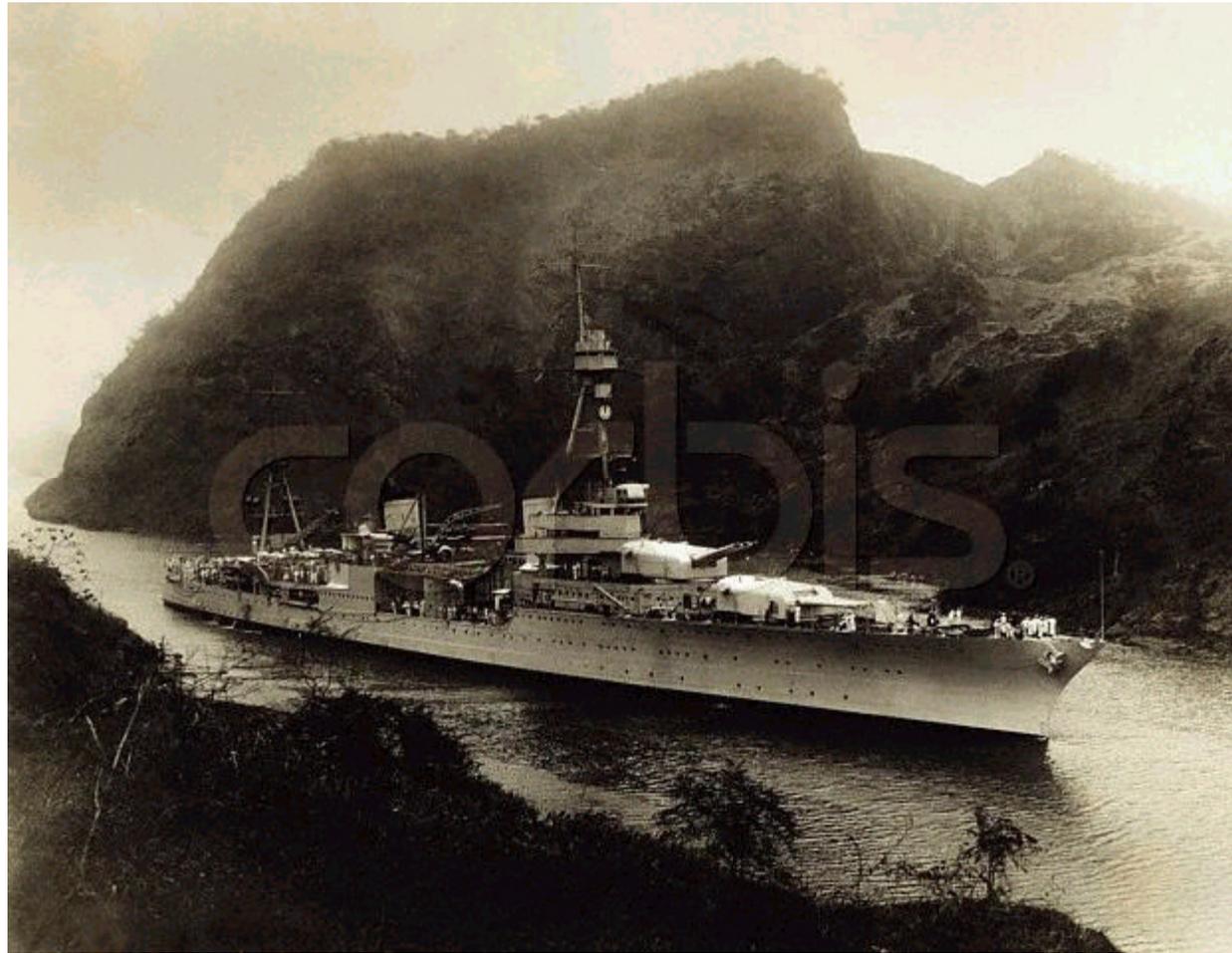
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Disease: Mosquitoes carrying yellow fever and malaria cause incredible amount of death to American workers.

- William Gorgas figures out the mosquitoes are the problem. Kills them all by draining swamps, using poison and oil.

1914 - Panama Canal opens.







Roosevelt Corollary

Addition to the Monroe Doctrine

Monroe Doctrine says stay out of the Western Hemisphere or deal with the US. US is the bodyguard.

Roosevelt says that if we are going to protect you, we should have a say in what you do.

Latin American countries are not happy. US is getting in their business, they didn't ask for protection or help.

MYOB

US becomes the policeman and “butinsky” of the Western Hemisphere.

Diplomacy

Gunboat Diplomacy - Roosevelt - use force and military presence to get others to do what you want. Bully.

Dollar Diplomacy - Taft - “Substitute dollars for bullets” Use America’s incredible wealth to bribe other nations into doing what we want.

Moral Diplomacy - Wilson - actually do what’s right, not just what’s good for us. Deal with other nations with a sense of respect and equality.