

Objectives:

1. Define key policies which set the stage for the US in the Caribbean.
2. Assess photographs to explain these policies.

Do Now:

What do you know about the US in the Caribbean?

They brought their technology and influenced our way of living. Machinery was used.

Why would the US be interested in the Caribbean?

The US might be interested in the diverse climate as well as the change of vegetation and crops.

They can be interested in the agriculture (open to new vegetation and fruits)

They would be interested because it has natural resources on the islands like the pitch lake and they can benefit from this as pitch is useful. They would be interested in our natural resources such as oil.

They also wanted a place to dock and refuel their ships.

They can obtain cheap labour from the Caribbean.

Caribbean History for CSEC

What were the following policies?

Monroe Doctrine - pg. 166 - declared on December 2nd 1823, the Monroe Doctrine defined how the US conducts affairs with other countries in The Americas.

-named after the fifth President of the USA, President James Monroe, who occupied office from 1817 to 1825.

- consisted of four main terms:

1. The US would not interfere with the internal affairs or wars between the European powers.
2. The US would not interfere with any existing dependencies and colonies in the Western Hemisphere.
3. Under this policy, Western hemisphere would be closed to any future attempts of colonization.

4. Attempts to oppress or control any nation in the Western hemisphere by a European power would be viewed as a hostile act against the USA.

Roosevelt Corollary - pg. 166

- The policy states that any chronic wrongdoing of a Latin American or Caribbean nation is able to be intervened by the US in the internal affairs of that nation.
- This was added to the Monroe Doctrine in 1904

Dollar Diplomacy - pg. 168

- Gifting aid and soft loans to the Caribbean in hopes of fostering good relations and getting their leaders to give into US policies. In this way they were able to extend their influence in the Caribbean.
- The US put subsidies on shipping and mining, they would also give loans to help them pay off debts in exchange for accepting policies.

Good neighbour policy - pg. 168

- This policy was all about restricting outside countries and nations from having any say or control over the Caribbean and Cuba.
- It repealed the Platt Amendment which was the role of the U.S. in Cuba and the Caribbean and it limited Cuba's rights to make treaties with other nations and restricted Cuba in the conduct of foreign policy and commercial relations.
- It encouraged friendly relations and mutual defense among the nations of the Western Hemisphere.
- They hoped by giving the Latin American and Caribbean countries assistance they would cut out the interference from the European powers.

## US in the Caribbean Worksheet 1

### Monroe Doctrine

Describe the cartoon in Picture 1. What do you notice? How does this illustrate the Monroe Doctrine?

- The Monroe Doctrine acts as a line separating the US and the Europeans; highlighting the point of not allowing the Europeans to attempt any form of colonization in the Western Hemisphere.

Describe the cartoon in Picture 2. What do you notice? How does this illustrate the Monroe Doctrine?

- It shows that the U.S. are standing their ground against the Europeans trying to invade and colonise the Western Hemisphere.

### The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine (1904)

What stands out to you in the photograph? How does this cartoon demonstrate the Roosevelt Corollary?

### Dollar Diplomacy (1909-1913)

What do you notice about this cartoon? How does it illustrate dollar diplomacy?

### Good Neighbour Policy (1933)

What do you notice about these cartoons? How do they illustrate the Good Neighbour Policy?

American Imperialism: Crash Course US History #28 [Video file]. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfsfoFqsFk4>

1. What were the reasons for the interest of the US in the Caribbean?

2. Why did the US engage in war with Spain in 1898?

3. What did the Platt Amendment in the Cuban constitution allow?

4. What was the non-racist anti-imperialist stance?

## US involvement in the selected Caribbean territories 1898 - 1985

1. Explain the factors responsible for United States' involvement in the Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Grenada 1898 - 1985; (imperialism, trade routes, national security; political instability; foreign interferences; ideological conflict)
2. Assess the consequences of the United States' involvement in selected Caribbean territories 1898 - 1985;
3. Assess the economic, political and cultural consequences of United States' involvement in territories

Watch a video of "A brief history of America and Cuba". What do you learn about Cuba/American relations in this video? (0:00 – 4:00)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chYBIArm9Ao>

There was a tenuous relationship between Cuba and the United States. Pro-enslavement – wanted island for enslaved, Anti-enslavement views – against imperialism. There was a debate about if the US should be like a European coloniser. The US took a part of Cuba to open a base at Guantanamo Bay. There were many US interventions. There is then the election of Batista, whose harsh repression leads to the Communist uprising. The US places an embargo on Cuba and this drives Cuba to turn to the Soviet Union. This then results in the Cuban missile crisis which could have caused a war. The US tried to send in CIA-trained Cubans to overthrow Castro and his government and all assassinate.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PmWxgfd1MY>

What did the Platt Amendment allow the US to do? It allowed the US to intervene with the military if needed and they were allowed to build up their navy at Guantanamo Bay?

## **CUBA**

Factors responsible for US involvement

- National security – The believed attack on the USS Maine was seen as a direct attack on America and was one of the catalysts for the Spanish American War of 1898. The Cuban Missile Crisis showed how close Cuba was to the US and how it could be threatened.
- Imperialism
  - o In 1868, it was seen that the US dominated the Cuban economy. 83% of Cuba's exports actually went to the US with only 6% going to Spain.
  - o The US began to invest a lot in Cuba around 1870 and became very involved in Cuba's economy. It was American investment which continued

to assist in the mechanisation of Cuban sugar industry. American investments in Cuba were worth US \$50,000,000 and annual trade between the two countries reached \$100,00,000. This investment included 90% of Cuba's transport system and 40% of the sugar industry. The investors expected protection from the government and any disturbance threatened them and their property caused worry in the US. Cuba's war against Spain meant that a lot of American investors would be ruined.

- o The US also saw a lucrative industry in Cuban sugar.
  - o In the 1920s, Cuban tourism started developing. There was the prohibition era where there was a ban on the manufacture, transportation and sale of intoxicating liquors. As a result, many tourists went to Havana to escape this Prohibition. To accommodate this great number of tourists, the US investors built resorts and other tourist-related facilities and earned millions of dollars from tourism.
- Political instability – In 1902, a Cuban government was established. Due to political instability and civil unrest, the President of Cuba, Estrada Palma was worried that this would turn to open revolt. As a result, the US intervened at the request of Palma. This is seen as part of the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine. The US also intervened in 1917 where there were election irregularities surrounding the re-election of General Mario Garcia Menocal and in 1933 where there was a political crisis along with an army revolt. President Machado lost power to Carlos Manuel de Cespedes.

#### Post 1959

- Ideological conflict – When Castro had his successful Communist revolution, this worried the US greatly. During the Cold War, Cuba started trading with the USSR. This was a great concern for the US as Cuba was communist, which was in direct conflict with the democratic ideals of the US. As a result, the US started intervening in instances such as the Bay of Pigs where the CIA recruited, armed and trained Cubans in an attempt to overthrow Fidel Castro.
- Political Interference – When surface-to-air missiles were installed in Western Cuba by the Soviets, the US intervened and President Kennedy got Organization of American States (OAS) backing and took US ships and blockaded Cuba to stop and search all Soviet ships which were headed for the island. He demanded that Soviet Premier Khrushchev remove missiles which eventually happened.

#### Timeline in Cuba

1906-1908 US military intervention at request of Cuban President, Estrada Palma, following disputed election

1912: US military intervention to protect life and property after a black rising in Oriente.

1917 – US threatened intervention if law and order not restored

1921-1922 – US Consul, General Crowder influenced direction of Cuban government

1934 – US abrogated the *Platt Amendment*. People were concerned about the cost of supporting US interests in Cuba as a result of the economic depression. Cuba's internal affairs were no longer US business.

1934-1958: US refrained from interfering in the misgovernment of Grau St. Martin and dictatorship of Fulgenio Batista. US private enterprise flourished under Batista and the US obtained monopoly of Cuban sugar harvest.

1959- Jan: Batista overthrown by Fidel Castro June: Castro expropriated US sugar companies

1960: May: US stopped aid to Cuba. Oct: US placed embargo on shipments to Cuba.

1961: April: US backed abortive "Bay of Pigs" invasion of Cuba by disgruntled exiles in USA

1962: Jan – Cuban trade agreement with USSR / Oct: Cuban Missile Crisis: Russia dismantled missile sites in Cuba after the US threatened war.

## Consequences

- Economic – Roads, railways and docks were built. New cattle and breeding stocks were imported. US businesses dominated the economy. Cuba developed a monocrop economy which was dependent on the US. During WWI, there was a sugar boom in Cuba and the US took nearly all of the Cuban crop. As a result of the boom, in 1919-1920, the crop was put on the open market (the US had taken the previous season's crop) there was a rush to buy sugar. The result meant inflated offers to buy estates and mills, which resulted in estates passing to US owners in an effort by the Cubans to make a profit. By 1927, 42.7% of Cuba's sugar was US-controlled. Out of this, 2/3 of Cuba's total sugar output came from US-owned factories. When alcohol was banned in the US, tourism increased to Havana. To accommodate the influx of tourists, US investors built many resorts and tourist related facilities which earned millions of dollars from tourism.

- Political - Political prisoners of the Spanish were released and the Cuban Patriot Army was disbanded and given resettlement money. US influenced Cuba policies for many years as many of the Presidents of Cuba had close alliances with the US and they were seen as US puppets. As a result of US influence on Cuban politics, Cuban citizens had to endure very harsh repression under Batista. The US did not intervene as Batista supported US interests. This would eventually lead to the Castro Revolution.
- Cultural – The textbooks in the schools were Spanish translations of US publications.
- Social – A health-care programme eliminated malaria and yellow fever. Due to the increase in tourism due to the US Prohibition, there was an increase in prostitution and gambling.

Watch a video of “America’s backyard: Puerto Rico”. What do you learn about the US occupation of Puerto Rico? Why was the US interested in Puerto Rico? (0:00 – 4:00)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7StzrDCtyL8>

The US gave Puerto Ricans citizenship, but soon after there was conscription put in place as the US entered World War I. They also used a number of Puerto Ricans in WWII, Korean and Vietnam wars.

## **PUERTO RICO**

Factors responsible for US involvement

- National security
  - o The US wanted to have control of the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico as it was important for protection. It is believed that the US desired Puerto Rico for its strategic position.
- Imperialism
  - o There had been long-standing ties between US and Puerto Rico and trade had expanded during the Napoleonic wars of 1802-1815.
  - o This was a part of the American expansion. They wanted to expand their influence. This was in alignment with the Manifest Destiny.
  - o There was also interest in the land and resources. The US had its interests in developing a sugar market there, despite the successful coffee industry.

Timeline

December 1898 – Treaty of Paris signed which ceded Puerto Rico to US.

1898-1900 – Puerto Rico governed by military administration

1900 – Foraker (First Organic) Act established the House of Representatives but in practice Puerto Rico was ruled by a US governor. Puerto Rico was made an overseas territory of the US. The US constitution did not apply to Puerto Ricans and they lacked the same civil rights as the mainland citizens. The Act limited the size of sugar plantations to 200 hectares each. US sugar producing corporations were allowed to evade provisions of the Act and control large estates. Puerto Ricans resented US political and economic control.

1917 – Jones (Second Organic) Act created bi-cameral legislature, reduced the influence of US civil servants in government and conferred US citizenship on Puerto Ricans. The people could vote for their senate representatives, however, the island remained an “unincorporated territory of the United States”. The constitutional reform not matched by socio-economic advances – few public works; illiteracy and disease widespread.

### Consequences

- Political – For two years after 1898 they were ruled by a military governor. After the Foraker Act, the island had a government run by its people and a body of elected Puerto Ricans who made laws. Initially Puerto Rico was ruled by a US governor. The final say was still in the US. Judges in Puerto Rico were also appointed by the US. The Foraker Act stated that Puerto Ricans were not US citizens and could not travel to the USA. Though the Jones Act gave citizenship, it did not allow the Puerto Ricans to vote in US elections. As a result, in the 1930s there were calls for Puerto Rican independence by some and for Puerto Rico to be given statehood.
- Economic – The US controlled the majority of the sugar industry. The US dollar became the official currency of Puerto Rico. Even the Foraker Act limited the plantation size, the US sugar production companies ignored this and created large estates. The island was a monocrop economy and 75% of the population depended on the sugar industry for jobs by 1920. This meant that the majority of Puerto Ricans remained poor with the American companies dominating the industry. The main economic impact of the US occupation of Puerto Rico was the coffee industry which had been the island's major export. In 1896, coffee made up 76.9% of Puerto Rico's total export, but by 1930 it represented less than 1%. The island's inclusion in the US tariff system meant Puerto Rican coffee was too expensive to export to its European and Cuban markets. In the 1930s, the number of Puerto Rican independent farmers (jibaros) was declining as a result of the large sugar plantations. Very few food crops were grown because of the cash crops like tobacco, coffee and sugar. As a result, 80% of the food was imported from the USA. The jibaros earned about US\$100 – US\$200, where over half was spent on food. Most of the rural population were agricultural labourers (peones) and earned less than US \$100 a year. The urban workers were better paid, but their rents in the urban areas were high so it kept them in the lower class.



- Benefits – They did assist in improving the health care and infrastructure – They got malaria, yellow fever and other diseases under control. They also worked on the harbor repairs, built roads and created irrigation projects. They also provided health and education services, but mostly in the urban areas. The US set up a public education system, however, this was in an effort to “Americanise” Puerto Rico. The rural children lacked proper educational facilities, but there was no secondary school set up in the rural areas.
- Cultural – The education system had the majority of teaching in English language with more than half of the time devoted to the study of English.

Watch a video of “America’s backyard: Panama”. What do you learn about the US in Panama? Why was the US interested in Panama? (0:00 – 4:00)

The US was interested in Panama because they believed it would help with trade as it allowed connection between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans if a canal was built.

The French initially wanted to build a canal joining the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It was not successful and the US wanted to try instead. However, Colombia refused the US permission to build a canal there. The US gave military support to Panamanians who wanted independence from Panama and then formed an agreement with them that the US would get permanent rights to the Panama canal.

To protect their interests, the US set up bases through the Canal zone.

What was the problem with the US canal zones? If an American committed a crime outside of the canal zone and went back to the canal zone. They would not be charged. If a Panamanian was near the canal zone, they would be charged. The Panamanians suffered racist laws because of the US control.

## **PANAMA**

Factors responsible for US involvement

- Trade Routes
  - o By 1870, the US had expanded its trade and investment and created a strong navy. It had expanded westwards and southwards, the US needed to extend its trading links in order to get a market for its manufactured goods. Having easy access to the Pacific Ocean would assist this.
  - o In the twentieth century, two routes were considered: one through the Isthmus of Panama and the other through Nicaragua. This route was needed to be used by gold prospectors to reach the west coast quickly.
  - o US interest in commercial dominance in the Caribbean and Latin America helped jumpstart the later US interventions in the region.

- Imperialism
  - o Clayton–Bulwer Treaty was a compromise agreement designed to harmonize contending British and U.S. interests in Central America. The treaty provided that the two countries should jointly control and protect the canal that they expected soon to be built across the Isthmus of Panama. However, the US eventually pulled out of the agreement in favour of total control over any canal constructed.
  - o This led to the eventual signing of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty in 1901, this gave the US sole rights to build and control the canal, providing that it would open to the commercial and fighting ships of all nations.
  - o Initial site for the canal was Nicaragua, but it was decided that the best site for a Central American canal was the Isthmus of Panama.
  - o Once the US decided to build a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, it tried to secure permission from Colombia which had provincial control over Panama. The US offered to pay the Colombian government US \$10 million for the 16km strip of land from Colon to Panama City and an annual rental of \$250,000. The Colombian government did not approve the Hay-Herran Treaty (1903) for the transfer of this land. This upset the US government that President Roosevelt started a move in Panama to remove Colombian sovereignty which was done. After Panama's declaration of independence, the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty was signed between the US and Panama.
  - o This gave US sovereign status over the 16km zone and also tax exemption to all property and personnel.
  - o The US made the same offer to Panama as it had made to Colombia. The US therefore had control of the canal zone.
- National security
  - o The US was also interested to deploy naval vessels from the Atlantic to the Pacific and vice versa.
  - o The canal in Central America was a military necessity.
  - o In 1881, France began a project to build a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, the US felt this endangered their position in the Caribbean and Pacific. There was a fear that France would take over Cuba.
  - o The US built a number of bases in the Panama Canal zone.

## Timeline of Panama

1880s: French attempts at construction of canal across Panamanian isthmus defeated by yellow fever.

1898: US doctors discover cause of yellow fever in Cuba.

1901:

Sept: Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt became US President. Foreign policy based on “Walk softly and carry a big stick”. Determined to use “big stick” to obtain land across which canal was to be built.

Nov: Hay-Pauncefote Treaty provided for US construction of Panama Canal with “neutral” canal zone to be under US supervision.

1902:

June: US Congress authorised Roosevelt to buy rights of French Panama Company and to acquire from Colombia perpetual control of the canal zone.

1903:

Jan: Hay-Herran Pact formalised US acquisition of Panama Canal zone but Colombia delayed ratification.

Nov: US agents incited Panama to declare its independence of Colombia. Roosevelt sent *USS Nashville* and troops to Colon to ensure that Colombia did not retake Panama.

Dec: Panama granted US control of canal zone in perpetuity for an annual rent.

1904: Roosevelt Corollary Extension of Monroe Doctrine. Roosevelt declared that the USA had the right to interfere in the Americas whenever there was “chronic wrongdoing or an impotence which results in a general loosening of the ties of civilised society.”

1904-1914: USA, with much West Indian labour, constructed Panama Canal.

1914: Panama Canal opened. President Wilson, reflecting US shame at Roosevelt’s boast that he “took Panama”, paid Colombia compensation for the loss of Panama sustained by Roosevelt’s high-handed action.

## Consequences

- Political – Like in other countries where it intervened, the US controlled the government and set up puppet regimes. There was social unrest among the people as a result. A number of Panamanians criticised the fact that they could not enter the Panama Canal zone. It also led to continuous political instability with the US continuing to intervene.

- Economic – US was in control for many years. This led to economic unrest as the citizens were not in charge of their economy.
- Social – There were increased rioting after WWII.

Watch “How the US and France made Haiti poor”. What were the reasons why the US intervened in Haiti? Political instability and foreign interference. There was also ideological conflict. They supported the Duvaliers because they were anti-communist. They also intervened to protect their interests.

Do you believe that the US made Haiti poor? Yes. The US were only looking after their interests to the detriment of the Haitian people.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2kbliq8AUc>

## HAITI

### Factors responsible for US involvement

- Political instability – The Haitian President Guillame Sam was overthrown and killed by a mob in July 1915. US President Wilson believed that internal reforms were needed in the government because presidents rose and fell so quickly in Haiti and such political instability had to end. As a result, US sailors landed in Port-au-Prince on 28 July and were reinforced by troops dispatched from Guantanamo Bay to fight against Arias’ supporters.
- Foreign interference – The US did not want President Arias to take power as they believed he was an anti-American nationalist.
- Imperialism - The US had significant investments in Haiti in banking, railway and agriculture and had lent money to the country. Additionally, by 1910, US interests in Haitian finances had increased.

### Consequences

- Political – The whole island of Hispaniola was used as a base when the US entered the first World War in 1917. They reasoned that it was because of political and strategic intervention. The US set up a ruler they could control. The first candidate refused but the subsequent others agreed. The US occupation resulted in a decrease of Afro-Haitian political influence and the re-establishment of the mixed – race elite control in government and business. The US occupation led to the return of European and North American elitism in the form of US officials and marines. They reduced the size of the Haitian army. The US tried to remove the constant fear of armed revolution by the

marines training about 2000 men as a constabulary. Reversal of policy excluding whites from land ownership.

Benefits – They did assist in improving the health care and education systems. They built schools, health clinics and hospitals. They improved the water supply and sewage system, contributed to the eradication of diseases, built miles of paved road, undertook electrification and railroad construction, improved banking services and budgetary controls.

The Haitian dictator Papa Doc, bribed the US to give aid if they were to vote to support the sanction on Cuba through the OAS.

- Economic – The US restored the Haitian Treasury Service to the Banque Nationale. The businesses benefitted from the presence of the of 2,000 US marines with salaries to be spent in Haiti. US nationals filled top positions and promised to train the Haitians but never did. Some army men were put into agriculture. The Haitian peasants saw no improvements in their lives. The US controlled their budget until 1941.
- Cultural – Those who lived near the marine barracks had a desire for American goods. The cultural influences of language, music and clothes were seen.

Watch video of “America’s backyard: Dominican Republic”. What do you learn about the US in Dominican Republic? (0:00 – 4:00)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8HOcEq\\_jfE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8HOcEq_jfE)

- The US trained Trujillo and even though he was a brutal dictator because he was anti-communist, the US supported him.
- US had interests in the sugar and banking industries in the Dominican Republic.

## **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

### **Factors**

- Political Stability – US took the opportunity to intervene when Governor Ulises Heureaux was assassinated in 1899, the US feared political instability which would affect their business interests. (1905). In 1911, there was more political instability and a civil war ensued. The US installed Eladio Victoria in 1912. US President Taft sent marines to help end the civil war. There was constant political instability. The US supported Juan

Isidro Jimenes but later fell out of favour and with the failure of the Haitian presidents as well the US invaded the DR in 1916.

- Foreign interference – The US feared the European powers would try and collect debt from the DR, when the DR was heavily indebted to the US. Invaded under the guise they were administering the customs to collect to pay off the foreigners. (1905) They also feared the perceived German threat during WWI.
- Imperialism – They also said the DR government broke the 1907 treaty by incurring unauthorised debts.

### Consequences

- Political – There was continued political instability after the US withdrew from the DR. They also developed a modern military constabulary which helped Dominican dictators in the future.
- Economic and Social benefits - US built roads, schools, communications and sanitation facilities and other projects.

Watch videos of the US in Grenada. What do you learn about the US in Grenada?

- US did not want Grenada to be communist and to have relations with Cuba and the Soviet Union.
- The US claimed they intervened to protect US citizens.
- The intervention was condemned internationally by the United Nations and the UK.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLsvGN9ppkQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTJEl4yeVSY>

## **GRENADA**

### Factors

- Ideological conflict – In March 1979, the socialist Maurice Bishop, the popular charismatic leader of the New Jewel Movement (NJM) staged a revolutionary coup against the unpopular Eric Gairy. Bishop's close relationship with Cuba caused President Ronald Reagan to be suspicious. This was also the period of the Cold War so the US was concerned about communist influences in the region.
- National security – because of the Cold War, they saw Bishop's regime as a potential security threat. They also came to protect US citizens.

- Political instability – There was instability in the country as extremist Marxist Bernard Coard took control of the country and murdered Bishop and other members of the NJM.

#### Consequences

- Economic – The US wanted to weaken Cuban/communist influence so they promoted free market regimes and export –led development. Grenada received the highest per capita recipient aid in spite of the fact that Grenada was not an attractive place for US investment.
- Political – The US soldiers left Grenada in December. However, 800 soldiers remained on the island where after a year a democratic government was re-established after the invasion.

#### SOURCES:

Ashdown, Peter, and Francis Humphreys. *Caribbean Revision History for CXC*. Macmillan Caribbean. Macmillan Education, 1988.

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#### **Timeline for the US in the Caribbean**

### **Puerto Rico**

- 1933–40: '*Little New Deal*'. Puerto Rican Reconstruction Administration funded public works for unemployment relief.
- 1940–50: '*Operation Bootstrap*'. Popular Democratic Party led by *Luis Muñoz Marín* and assisted by US governor *Tugwell* embraced policy of socio-economic reform, i.e. land reform, improvements in social services and utilities, agricultural diversification and industrialisation. General economic development.
- 1947: Governor made an elected official.
- 1948: Muñoz elected governor.
- 1950: Muñoz persuaded Puerto Rican Congress to accept the relationship between Puerto Rico and the USA as one of '*Commonwealth*' – *Estado libre asociado* – Internal self-government but federal government responsible for defence and foreign affairs.
- 1954: Puerto Rican nationalists shot five US Congressmen in Washington.
- 1967: '*Commonwealth*' status confirmed by plebiscite but significant support for those desirous of statehood within the USA.

### **Haiti**

- 1934–56: Haiti ruled by a series of dictators.
- 1956: Dr François Duvalier succeeded President Magloire. Duvalier's infamous dictatorship supported by US aid.

### **Dominican Republic**

- 1930–61: Dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo. Trujillo's repressive regime buttressed by US aid and US private enterprise.
- 1961: Trujillo assassinated.
- 1963 *Feb.*: Election of Juan Bosch to Presidency.  
*Sept.*: Bosch overthrown by army.
- 1964–5: Internal chaos.
- 1965: President Johnson demanded OAS intervene militarily with multinational force which included 20 000 US troops.
- 1966 *June*: Joaquin Balaguer defeated Bosch in presidential election. US peacekeeping force withdrawn.

Political impact of US invasion of Grenada – The US soldiers left Grenada in December. However, 800 soldiers remained on the island where after a year a democratic government was re-established after the invasion.

Assess the impact of the United States' involvement in the English-speaking Caribbean between 1939 - 1985.

pgs. 126-127 US investment after 1945

### **Economic**

- A lot of the Caribbean exports go to the US. (E.g. Oil and gas)



- US market for illegal narcotics which are grown and processed in South America, there is a high demand for these products and the Caribbean became the transshipment port for these drugs.
- A downturn in the US economy has affected the Caribbean islands (e.g. tourism).
- During WWII, the US had put a lot of investment into the expansion of Trinidad's oilfields and refineries.
- US also began mining in Jamaica for bauxite ore (for aluminium)
- US began investing in Jamaica and Guyana (bauxite) and Trinidad (oil)
- There was a monopoly of trade by the US.
- Again like before there was a flow of money out of the country.
- There was also the Caribbean Basin Initiative in 1983. This allowed the US government the power to offer aid and reduced tax and customs levels on goods that entered the USA from the Caribbean or Central America. US investors could take advantage of lower wage levels in the Caribbean. Unfriendly governments did not receive aid. (Cuba, Nicaragua) This initiative helped make the Caribbean the 10<sup>th</sup> largest destination for US exports.
- The US became involved in the Caribbean through the IMF and World Bank. Jamaica and most of the Commonwealth countries imported supplies for the US.
- Multiple National Corporations (MNCs) set up and large sums of money were remitted to the US. The US also owns a lot of the hotels and casinos in many of the islands.
- US wanted to weaken Cuban/communist influence so they promoted free market regimes and export-led development.

## Political

pgs. 183-184

- The greatest impact of the US on the political scene in the English-speaking Caribbean was the invasion of Grenada in 1983 – the government was communist led and had alliances with Cuba.
- During WWII, the USA got 99-year leases for military bases in Trinidad, Guyana, Antigua, St. Lucia, Jamaica and Bahamas. They set up military bases in Trinidad, Guyana, Antigua, St. Lucia, Jamaica and the Bahamas. This was the time of WWII and it was a way for them

to exert influence in the country and also have a defensive position during the war in the Caribbean.

- The US was also instrumental in removing the leftist leader in Guyana in 1961 – 1964. (This is the dark time, my love)
- The US political impact was closely tied to the economic impact. The US would only provide aid and preferential treatment in terms of trade to those countries who shared their political views. The US wanted to ensure that communism did not take hold on the region, so they gave the countries good economic benefits to ensure they stayed aligned with the US political views (i.e. anti-communism).
- Communism – the political and economic doctrine that aims to replace private property and a profit-based economy with public ownership and communal control of at least the major means of production (e.g. mines, mills and factories) and the natural resources of a society.
- Socialism – more of a social and economic doctrine that calls for public rather than private ownership or control of property and natural resources. Everyone has a share in society.
- Political relationships have switched to the issue of national security.

## Cultural

pgs. 128 -129 Independence

- In 1946, The US set up the Caribbean Commission which had a radio programme, the West Indian Radio Newspaper. This programme would have disseminated information that was pro-US.
- In 1978, the US created the United States International Communications Agency (UCIA) – increase understanding of US policies and US understanding of foreign attitudes towards them. It gave Caribbean people the platform to learn the US ideals, culture and foreign policy and inform about business opportunities, cultural events, emigration opportunities, education and scholarship programmes.
- There was the establishment of the Peace Corps which started volunteer projects in the different Caribbean islands – focus on health and education.

pg. 185 in Caribbean History for CSEC

- The movies and music of the US has constantly penetrated the Caribbean. (e.g. – Sesame Street, Young and the Restless)
- US fast food has become very popular in the Caribbean (KFC) replacing the popularity of local dishes.

5th January 2021

Objectives:

- 1) Describe the policies of the Castro revolution;
- 2) Assess the United States' response to the Castro revolution, 1959 - 1962;
- 3) Explain the impact on the Caribbean of the Castro revolution between 1959 - 1985;

Example: Discuss the impact of Castro on Cuba. How did the Castro Revolution impact how Cuba was viewed by the US?

Discuss THREE ways in which the relationship between Cuba and the US changed after the Castro Revolution and TWO ways in which the relationship with Cuba and the USSR developed.

Consequences of US involvement in Cuba

Economic	Political	Cultural
The country would suffer somewhat economically because most of the profits would be remitted back to the US.	They faced civil war.	The US textbooks would have the US perspectives on Cuba. Additionally, there would be little about Cuban history and culture in US textbooks which meant the next generation of children would be influenced by US ideals and views.

<p>The production of local businessmen would decrease because the large US companies would either take them over or drive them out of business.</p>	<p>As a result of the US involvement in Cuba's politics the government was very unstable for many years. The US influenced a number of affairs in Cuba and they had a greater say sometimes because the US had money and weapons.</p>	
<p>Many locals were not hired in a lot of the jobs (construction, public works, clerks, bankers, engineers). This would have caused unemployment of the locals.</p>	<p>The US would make political decisions which would benefit their interests and businesses. (e.g. foreign treaties and loans)</p>	
<p>The US did help the economy by building hospitals (better health care programmes to eradicate diseases), schools, infrastructure (roads, railways, docks). They also imported new cattle and breeding stocks. Healthy population would lead to more productivity. Educated/skilled workers would lead to better productivity.</p>	<p>The US influenced policies for years as many of the Cuban Presidents after the end of US military rule in 1902 had close alliances with the US. Many of the Presidents were seen as US puppets.</p>	
<p>Change in US presidents could lead to change in economic policy which could affect Cuba.</p>	<p>When US presidents were changed this often also affected Cuban politics.</p>	

When alcohol was banned in the US because of Prohibition, tourism increased in Cuba. US investors built many resorts and tourist related facilities which earned millions of dollars from tourism.		
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#### Important Dates:

1934-1958: US refrained from interfering in the misgovernment of Grau St. Martin and dictatorship of Fulgenico Batista. US private enterprise flourished under Batista and the US obtained monopoly of Cuban sugar harvest.

What were the problems with Fulgencio Batista or what issues did Cubans face in the 1950s?

In groups, read the following articles and make note of the problems with Batista:

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/castro-fulgencio-batista-1901-1973/>

- Batista started off his political career as a hero but then later conspired with the U.S. ambassador, Sumner Welles, to force the resignation of provisional president Ramón Grau San Martín.
  - At this point a colonel himself, Batista became the strongman behind a succession of puppet presidents until he himself became president in 1940.
- A new constitution was developed under Batista's reign, and it was a progressive document by all accounts. It advocated for government intervention in the economy as well as a safety net for the poor.
  - Batista legalised the Cuban Communist Party (PSP) in the late 1930s.
  - He welcomed the P.S.P. into his cabinet in 1940, taking advantage of the party's abilities to keep labour under check.

For eight years, Cuba's Partido Autentico presided over corruption and irresponsibility in the government. As new elections approached in 1952, Batista saw an opportunity to return to government and run for president. He was a distant third until March 10th 1952, when he seized the government in a coup d'état.

- Batista's return to power did not bring the return of progress.

- He became obsessed with gaining acceptance from Cuba's upper class who denied him membership from their social clubs.
- He opened up Havana to gambling/casinos.
- After delaying plans to step down, he suspended constitutional guarantees and attempted to scare the population with police tactics and open displays of brutality.
- The US searched for replacements for Batista, however he was determined to stay but he was presented with the bad news stating that they could no longer support his plan and he was then exiled to Spain. He possessed \$300 million which supported him until he died in 1973.

#### Caribbean History for CSEC pgs. 170 – 171


Due to the flourishing economy of Cuba in the 1950's being a lopsided one where most of the wealth only going to some, there were many issues that arose including:

- only 4 out of 100 Cubans were able to afford food to consume
- 75% of huts in rural areas were made out of palm trees and only half had toilets and even less with running water and electricity,
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of the workforce was poor and depended on seasonal employment as well as sugar estates to earn a living,
- most businesses were owned by foreigners who owned arable land ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ), all essential services and some sugar production ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ).
- In March 1952, The former Cuban president, Fulgencio Batista, subverted the government of the current president and cancelled the elections that were scheduled for June of that year.
- He led a dictatorship rule, in which no legal efforts had ceased. Castro led an attack on the military barracks on July 26th 1953, to which resulted in most of the men being killed and Castro becoming imprisoned. After his release in 1955, he went to Mexico to continue their efforts in defeating Batista's regime. He formed a revolutionary group called the "26th of July Movement". They attempted and led an expedition once again on December 2nd 1956. All of them were killed except 12 of them, including Castro. After years of Castro's growing forces against Batista, a number of victories over Batista's armed forces, Castro's effectual propaganda efforts and internal political support steadily multiplying in favor of Castro, Batista fled the country on January 1st 1959.

#### Independence Book 2. Pgs. 113-114

- A survey in 1956 showed that Americans owned over 90 percent of telephone and electricity services, 50 percent of public transport and railways and 40 percent of raw sugar production.
- US banks held a quarter of all Cuban bank deposits.

- The only case where US ownership was falling was in sugar. However, US influence had grown rapidly in Havana, where most of the US owned banks and utility companies had their head offices and US staffs. Havana was also a centre for US tourism, which had led to the building of yet more hotels, casinos, nightclubs and race tracks. The contrast between the free-spending Americans and the grinding poverty of most Cubans led to open anti-US feeling, riots and opposition to the US-backed Cuban government.
- Military and police rounded up any possible opponents.
- There were court martials and pre-dawn firing squads.
- Cuba's national treasury was used to buy support for Batista's regime.
- He grew rich from the Mafia who controlled the gambling and prostitution in Cuba.
- Batista lost the support of businessmen and landowners who had initially supported him.
- Castro launched an attack on the Mancado army barracks in Santiago that failed and both Castro brothers were sentenced to 15 years in prison. However, they were pardoned 11 months later and fled to Mexico.
- Castro returned in 1956 with 82 to hopefully take control of Cuba, however they were met by Batista's troops.
- By 1958 a growing number of Cubans as well as Americans within Cuba were in favour of new leadership and supported Castro.
- The US gov stopped the sale of arms in hopes of hindering Batista's military power and could put a quicker end to the dictatorship.
- On the 1st of Jan 1959 Batista and his family fled the country.

Watch:  Drawn in 60 Seconds: Causes of the Cuban Revolution

What were some causes of the Cuban Revolution?

1. Batista led a U.S. backed military coup in 1954 openly supported by the U.S. government. He murdered thousands of people who went against him. He was a brutal dictator.
2. The US ruled over the island's local businesses such as the mines, sugar properties and the oil industry.  
The Americans owned most of the stuff in Cuba such as businesses and were very rich while the Cubans were poor and suffered which led to riots etc.
3. Socio-Economic Problems - Cubans were being deprived of basic staples of life such as education, jobs and basic amenities like running water.
4. Castro offered socialism as resolution to the dictatorship and also a way for resources to be shared more equitably.

Information about the Castro Revolution:

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/batista-forced-out-by-castro-led-revolution>

Home-work: Explain ONE cause of the Castro Revolution.

What were Castro's domestic policies?

(i) Political, economic and social reforms;

(ii) Consolidation of the revolution;

(iii) Nationalism and Communism;

(iv) Opposition to the United States.

Policies of Castro	Explanation
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<p>Political, economic and social reforms</p>	<p>Political</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Castro became militarised.</li> <li>- Castro undercut a lot of the power of the provisional government, it became clear that more and more Castro was becoming the government.</li> <li>- In the 1960s, Castro created a one-party government to exercise dictatorial control over all aspects of Cuba's political, economic, and cultural life. All political dissent and opposition were ruthlessly suppressed. Many members of the Cuban upper and middle classes felt betrayed by these measures and chose to immigrate to the United States.</li> <li>- The Communist party soon became the only legal party in Cuba (by the 1970s)</li> <li>- The PCC's first congress was held in Havana in 1975, when members approved a new constitution (ratified in a national referendum the following year) that established it as the sole legal political entity in the country.</li> </ul> <p>History of the Communist Party in Cuba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 1944, the party had been renamed the People's Socialist Party (Partido Socialista Popular; PSP); it retained this name until 1961, when, after Castro's overthrow of Batista and the victory of the revolution, the party was merged with Castro's 26th of July Movement (Movimiento 26 de Julio) and Revolutionary Directorate (Directorio Revolucionario) to form the Integrated Revolutionary Organizations (Organizaciones Revolucionarias Integradas; ORI).</li> <li>- The next year, after a widespread purge of members, the ORI was reorganized into the United Party of the Socialist Revolution (Partido Unificado de la Revolución Socialista).</li> <li>- This in turn was dissolved on October 5, 1965, and replaced by the Communist Party of Cuba, organized along more orthodox Soviet lines</li> </ul> <p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Under the Agrarian Reform Law of 1959 Castro confiscated and redistributed large land holdings and banned foreign land ownership.</li> <li>- Castro nationalised US-owned businesses which brought conflict with the US. It led to closer relations with the USSR.</li> <li>- They stopped receiving loans from the US and this led to an end to US domination of Cuban economic affairs.</li> <li>- By 1960, Cuba had a limited trade agreement with the USSR, trading its sugar for Soviet oil and manufactured goods.</li> <li>- They also tried to diversify the agriculture industry and industrialise, but this was not very successful.</li> </ul>
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## Social

The social reforms sought to end the features of the tourist industry which could be considered social ills which included gambling and prostitution.

- In June 1959, there was the Agrarian Reform Law set up by the National Institute of Agrarian Reform (INRA) – It took away land from the owners of the cattle, sugar and tobacco estates. The owners were allowed to keep a small percentage of the land. The rest was taken from them and given to landless families in lots of 27 hectares per family. The owners got a small income from the expropriated land, but no money for the machinery and cattle which were seized. By the 1960s, most of the land that belonged to US firms (100,000 hectares of United Fruit) was in Cuban hands. (also Economic reform)
- There was also an Urban Reform Act – which was supposed to bring an immediate reduction in rents and then subsequent abolition.
- Castro also ensured publicly-funded education, health care and sports facilities that had a marked effect on society.
- In 1960 Castro stated in a speech to the United Nations that he would eliminate illiteracy in Cuba in one year. Castro started a massive volunteer campaign – 100,000 young helpers aged between 10 and 19 signed up alongside thousands of teachers and factory workers to teach others how to read. Castro used the exercise to promote unity across the country – literacy was higher in the cities and many people travelled into rural areas to teach. He also made propaganda texts part of the learning materials. In one year 700,000 people were taught to read. The campaign reduced the illiteracy rate from 23% to 4%.
- Every citizen was granted employment.

<p>Consolidation of the revolution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new government rounded up the top-ranking Batista aides who had not fled. 483 were executed after having been found guilty of serious crimes against the Cuban people. This ensured that their main opposition were stamped out and that they wouldn't threaten the revolution.</li> <li>- Landowners, playwrights and intellectuals, business men, rich and middle class people were imprisoned or deported.</li> <li>- Castro tried to improve where Batista had not and having good housing and health care policies with a pro-Cuba education programme.</li> <li>- Castro took control of the media and conducted public trials of former members of Batista's regime. If they had control of the media they were able to ensure that what was broadcasted was the positive information about the revolution.</li> <li>- They also got rid of all the big landowners and redistributed their land to landless families. This ensured that the citizens were happy and less likely to go against the revolution.</li> <li>- Castro gave long public speeches attacking opponents. He encouraged discipline and comradeship.</li> </ul>
<p>Nationalism and Communism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cuba's private commerce and industry were nationalized; sweeping land reforms were instituted; and American businesses and agricultural estates were expropriated. Therefore, the resources of Cuba belonged to the people.</li> <li>- Many industries which were in the hands of the Americans were put into government hands. In November 1959, the US lost control of the Cuban Telephone Company and the Compania Cubana de Electricidad. This led to charges being cut and improvement of services.</li> <li>- Castro saw it as very important for the government to own mines, metal works, engineering factories and supplies of fuel and building materials. It was only if this occurred could Cuba keep the money in the country and spend it on social reforms, new housing and road works.</li> <li>- Castro believed by showing the population through the social policies how communism would benefit the citizens. It led to forging of closer ties with the USSR and the US was identified as the enemy.</li> </ul>


<p>Opposition to the US</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All industries were nationalised, which meant a lot of the US companies lost their industries for very little compensation.</li> <li>- Instead of taking foreign loans and technical assistance from the USA, Castro instead turned to the Communist states such as the USSR and her allies.</li> <li>- There was a Soviet ambassador in Havana and a trade agreement had been signed with the USSR.</li> <li>- The trade agreement said that the USSR would buy 5 million tonnes of sugar over five years and lend money to Cuba for goods and equipment made in the USSR.</li> <li>- Later in 1960 they also made agreements with Poland and China (also Communist).</li> <li>- This was open disagreement with the US and its policy.</li> <li>- In 1960, it also cancelled leases which were held by US companies to mine iron ore, sulphur, cobalt and nickel in the island.</li> <li>- Later, 3 US oil refineries in Cuba refused to refine petroleum which was imported from the USSR. All US owned sugar mills were expropriated with compensation that was not satisfactory to the US.</li> <li>- Cuba also began acquiring weapons from the Soviet Union, which soon became the country's chief supporter and trade partner. In 1962 the Soviet Union secretly stationed ballistic missiles in Cuba that could deliver nuclear warheads to American cities, and in the ensuing confrontation with the United States, the world came close to a nuclear war. The Cuban Missile Crisis ended when the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw its nuclear weapons from Cuba in exchange for a pledge that the United States would withdraw the nuclear-armed missiles it had stationed in Turkey and no longer seek to overthrow Castro's regime.</li> </ul>
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1959- Jan: Batista overthrown by Fidel Casto (January 1<sup>st</sup> 1959) June: Castro expropriated US sugar companies

1960: May : US stopped aid to Cuba. Oct: US placed embargo on shipments to Cuba.

1961: April: US backed abortive "Bay of Pigs" invasion of Cuba by disgruntled exiles in USA

1962: Jan – Cuban trade agreement with USSR / Oct: Cuban Missile Crisis: Russia dismantled missile sites in Cuba after the US threatened war.

Watch:  Fidel Castro, Cuba's leader of revolution, dies at 90 - BBC News

Note any important points

- Longest lasting dictator, his rule ran through 9 us presidents
- Castro turned to the Soviet Union after being “shunned” by the united states
- The United States found soviet missiles within Cuba which created tensions between the two.
- The US tried to assassinate him many times through the CIA to take him out of power
- When soviet communism collapsed so did Cuba’s to an extent.

United States’ response to Castro Revolution 1959 - 1962

Factor	Explanation
Political and economic embargo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- President Eisenhower in 1960 sought to reduce the amount of Cuban sugar imported from Cuba. Castro turned to the USSR.</li><li>- Eventually, the US would no longer buy Cuban raw materials and sugar. This was intended to undermine the Castro regime, or force a change in economic policies at least. The policy backfired. Castro struck deals with the Soviet Union and other Eastern European communist states for them to purchase Cuban goods. (8<sup>th</sup> February 1962)</li><li>- After the Cuban Missile Crisis even greater embargoes on trade were implemented.</li><li>- The US refused to sell Cuba weapons and cut off loans to the new republic.</li><li>- In early October 1960, President Eisenhower announced a ban on all exports to Cuba, except essential foodstuffs and medicine.</li><li>- The US trade embargo meant that no US companies or citizens were allowed to sell goods to Cuba or buy products from there. E.g. Cuban cigars became an item that was illegally brought into the US.</li></ul>

<p>Ideological warfare</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JFK announced that the American government did not object to the Cuban Revolution, but rather the fact that Castro had allowed the Communists to take over. It was believed that any pro-communist country was considered unfriendly by the US.</li> <li>- The US government after the Bay of Pigs invasion launched a programme known as the Alliance for Progress in Latin America, whereby assistance was given to Governments to implement programmes of social and economic reform. At the same time, the US government became wary of any Government which showed any degree of sympathy with the Cuban government. The Alliance wanted to eliminate illiteracy by 1970, a significant increase in low-cost housing, the purification of water supplies and eradication of communicable diseases, increased life expectancy in rural and urban areas by increasing and improving medical services in those areas, acceleration of industrial production and an increase in agricultural output and capacity, land reform programmes to be launched and measures to be adopted to protect cost of living from sudden increases or decreases.</li> <li>- During the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Organisation of American States (OAS) in Uruguay on 22-23 January 1962, the US rep. put forward a resolution that should be adopted by the OAS he said any member who adopted the communist ideology was against the "Inter-American system" as it would destroy unity and solidarity of the hemisphere. It was also noted that the Cuban government had identified itself with communism. As a result, it was said that because of Cuba's association with the communist bloc they should be excluded from the OAS.</li> <li>- Some of the OAS members might have been weary of the Communist influence of the USSR and agreed with the American policies to stem this.</li> </ul>
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<p>Military intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By late 1960, the US began preparing for a military invasion of the island so the USSR would not further solidify their ties with Cuba. The CIA was given the go ahead to make preparations for the invasion. It was decided that exiled Cubans would be used for the invasion and they were sent to Guatemala for training. Each recruit was paid \$400 per month, \$175 as wife allowance, \$50 for the first child and \$25 for additional children. The invasion started on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1961 with a short bombing. Many were killed or taken as prisoners. The invasion was defeated because of the support of the Cubans in Cuba for Castro, disunity among invaders and no support from the US army.</li> <li>- In 1962, missiles were placed in Cuba by the USSR. The US became aware because of aerial surveillance. As a result, the US introduced a naval blockade of Cuba in October of 1962. War nearly interrupted between the US and USSR, but through diplomacy, war was avoided.</li> </ul>
<p>International pressure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See OAS information on ideological warfare.</li> <li>- Meeting of OAS convened and the US called for the immediate removal of all Soviet missiles from the island. It also recommended that all OAS member states adopt measures (individually and collectively) which might be thought necessary to ensure that the Cuban Government could not continue to receive military supplies from the USSR. By agreeing to the resolution, the member states supported the American Government and strategies it might adopt to get rid of the Soviet missiles in Cuba.</li> <li>- The US sought support from Europe, Africa and Asia through the United Nations, World Bank and IMF in an attempt to isolate Cuba. Many of the Asian and African countries did not agree with this.</li> </ul>

## 5. Impact of Castro revolution:

(i) Spread of socialism;

(ii) Creation of United States economic and political spheres of influence;

(iii) Anti-communistic campaign;

(iv) The Cold War.

Factor	Explanation
Spread of socialism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cuba tried to spread the ideas of socialism throughout the Caribbean. They did this by assisting Caribbean governments. E.g. Grenada.</li> <li>- There was tremendous anti-US sentiment in the Caribbean as a result of all the years of US interference. Michael Manley, PM of Jamaica, decided to take a different path to development, which was not capitalist. The US tried to oust Manley and encouraged the anti-communism of Edward Seaga.</li> <li>- The New Jewel Movement (NJM) led by socialist Maurice Bishop had a mixed economy mode and Bishop had a close relationship with Cuba.</li> <li>- Castro also provided military assistance and technical expertise to former colonies in Latin America, Asia and Africa.</li> </ul>
Creation of US economic and political spheres of influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a way to prevent the influence of Cuba on the other Caribbean countries, the US put in place some economic programmes which gave aid to those countries which were not communist and did not have dealings with Cuba. Many benefitted from this aid.</li> <li>- The US influenced the OAS and encouraged them to adopt resolutions which declared the presence of Marxism-Lennism as an alien ideology which could be seen as a foreign attack.</li> <li>- The Alliance for Progress and the Caribbean Basin Initiative are examples of programmes that were created by the US to stem Communist influence.</li> </ul>



<p>Anti-communistic campaign</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a result of Cuba's close relationship with the USSR. There was an anti-communist campaign launched by the US, but accepted by the Caribbean countries as a way to maintain the aid they received.</li> <li>- The US supported the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) which tried to counter the influence of the World Federation of Trade Unions which was aligned with Moscow.</li> <li>- Major trade unions in Jamaica like the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union and the National Workers Union became members of the ICFTU. This showed their anti-communist stance.</li> <li>- Norman Manley's People's National Party expelled those who had communist leanings from the party (Richard Hart and Ken Hill)</li> <li>- Edward Seaga's Jamaican Labour Party was notably anti-communist.</li> <li>- To discredit Cuba, China and the USSR, the US publicised human rights abuses in the 1980s. They continued to impose sanctions on Cuba and support democratic governments.</li> </ul>
<p>The Cold War</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It was because of Cuba's association with the USSR that the Cold War was brought to the Caribbean.</li> <li>- It was during the 1960s and 1970s that the USSR and USA fought over the Caribbean.</li> <li>- The USSR gave support and economic aid to the Caribbean and Latin America through Cuba.</li> <li>- Che Guevara and others encouraged socialist revolutionary movements throughout Latin America. However, these tactics did not work because many of the English-speaking Caribbean territories maintained their democracies.</li> </ul>

## Cubans in the US

Under the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966, the status of any Cuban national may be adjusted to that of a lawful permanent resident (i.e., “green card” status) if he or she (1) was inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States, (2) has been physically present in the United States for at least one year, and (3) is otherwise admissible. The policy commonly known as “wet-foot/dry-foot” generally refers to an understanding under which Cuban migrants traveling to the United States who are intercepted at sea (“wet foot”) are returned to Cuba or resettled in a third country, while those who make it to U.S. soil (“dry foot”) are able to request parole and, if granted, lawful permanent resident status under the Cuban Adjustment Act.

Taken from: [DHS Fact Sheet FINAL.pdf](#)

Thousands of Cuban refugees came to Florida after 1958. In 1960, the US passed the Cuban Adjustment Act which allowed Cuban refugees financial and other forms of assistance to settle in the US.

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9th January 2022

Objective: Assess the impact of United States' involvement in the English-speaking Caribbean between 1939 – 1985

Lord Invader - Rum and Coca Cola – Lyrics

(1943)

[Verse 1]

And when the Yankees first went to Trinidad

Some of the young girls were more than glad

They said that the Yankees treat them nice

And they give them a better price

They buy:

[Chorus x2]

Rum and Coca-Cola

Went down Point Cumana

Both mothers and daughters

Working for their Yankee dollars

[Verse 2]

Ah, look, I had a little chick the other day

But her mother came and took her away

Herself, her mother and her sisters

Went in a cab with some soldiers

They bought:

[Chorus]

[Verse 3]

They have some aristos in Port of Spain

I know a lot, but I won't call name

And in the day they wouldn't give you a right

But you might see them with the foreigners late at night

Drinking:

[Chorus]

[Verse 4]

I know a couple who got married one afternoon

And was to go Miami on their honeymoon

But the bride run away with a soldier lad

And the stupid husband went staring mad

They bought:

[Chorus]

From the calypso, assess the effect of the US in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The calypso talks about the arrival of American men to the Caribbean. This attracted the Caribbean women to work for them as pay would be higher. It impacted relationships between Caribbean men and women. The Caribbean men were seen as inferior by the Caribbean women. There was an increase in prostitution.

Mighty Sparrow - Jean and Dinah

(1956)

Well the girls in town feeling bad

No more Yankees in Trinidad

They going to close down the base for good

Them girls have to make out how they could

Brother is now they park up in town

In for a penny, and in for a pound

Believe me it's competition for so

Trouble in the town when the price drop low

Chorus:

So when you bounce up Jean and Dinah

Rosita and Clementina, round the corner posing

Bet your life is something they selling

And if you catch them broken

You can get em all for nothing

Don't make no row, the yankees gone, Sparrow take over now

Things bad is to hear them cry

Not a sailor in town, the night clubs dry

Only West Indians like me or you  
Are able to get a drink or two  
And as we have things back in control  
Ah seeking revenge with me heart and soul  
Brother when I spread the news around  
Is to see how them cave men come into town

It's the glamour boys again  
We are going to rule Port of Spain  
No more Yankees to spoil the fete  
Dorothy have to take what she get  
All of them who used to make style  
While they taking two shilling with a smile  
No more hotel to rest your head  
By the sweat of thy brow thou shall eat bread

From the calypso, assess the effect of the US in the English-speaking Caribbean.

This looks at the impact after the leaving of the Americans. It had a negative effect on Caribbean women. They marketed themselves to American men. Caribbean men had resentment towards American men.

From "Lion & Tiger Calypsos of the World War II Era" identify the effect of the US in the English-speaking Caribbean.

As a result of the war, Caribbean people were affected by food rationing (limited amount of food is given per week) and blackouts (electricity was shut down in fear of German

bombing). Shoes, shirts were limited. In order to combat the food rationing, Caribbean people tried to plant their own food.

### **Assess the impact of United States' involvement in the English-speaking Caribbean between 1939 – 1985**

General causes of US intervention in the English Caribbean

- World War II
- Cold War and the Grenada Revolution of 1979

The United States pushed democracy, while the USSR pushed communism. Both were political causes of US imperialism.

WWII (1939-1945) led to the presence of the US in the Caribbean.

- Germany had threatened to overrun and take control of the Caribbean via submarine attacks.
- This was bad news for the United States.
- It was deemed necessary to build a defensive wall around the Caribbean and protect Eastern US borders.
- This led to the Destroyers for Bases Deal of September 2, 1940 between Great Britain and the United States.
  - o There was no consultation with local persons. It was the period of imperialism.
  - o The agreement meant that the US gave British WWI ships and the British gave them 99-year leases to construct bases in seven Caribbean territories (Trinidad, Antigua, Bahamas, British Guiana, St. Lucia, Jamaica and Bermuda).
  - o It meant exchange of Destroyers for Caribbean bases.
  - o There were four important key figures: US President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, US Secretary of State, Cordell Hull and British Ambassador to Washington D.C., Philip Henry Kerr, 11th Marquess of Lothian.
- Causes of US Imperialism in Trinidad
  - o Geographical importance – located just off Venezuela with sea lanes to oil refineries in Curacao, Aruba, Panama Canal and Mexican Gulf. The sea lanes were important for oil transportation, especially during the War.

- o Oil – Trinidad’s oil was used in the war both by the British and the Americans. If there were German submarines they could destroy ships carrying important oil.
- o Chaguaramas was known as “Torpedo junction”

#### Positive and Negative consequences of US imperialism in Trinidad

Positive consequences	Negative consequences
<p>Safeguarded Caribbean from German invasion</p> <p>By 1943, Americans and British were able to seize the upper hand. the US became the undisputed power of the Caribbean. The US was given access to 3300 acres of land.</p>	<p>Locals were dislocated for establishment of bases in Waller Field and Chaguaramas.</p>
<p>Maracas Bay Resort built by the US in WWII. They also built a hospital.</p>	<p>Encouraged elitism – e.g. Maqueripe Club. Before then, the bay was the picturesque backdrop to the Macqueripe Beach Club, comprising a hotel and several cottages owned by Sir George Fredrick Huggins in 1924. During the American occupation from 1941 – 1972 the Club was run as an entertainment centre for the families of the American officers.</p>
<p>Provided employment</p>	<p>Prostitution</p>
<p>Higher wages</p>	<p>Desire for foreign culture (gum, music)</p>
<p>Importation of more advanced machinery</p>	<p>Hindrance to Independence (Albert Gomes and Eric Williams)</p>
<p>Reduced infections of mosquito-borne diseases</p>	



Led to further development of calypso music	
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- Causes of US imperialism in Antigua
  - o Weather and terrain – dry climate, clear skies and flat terrain. It was easy to establish tracking devices to monitor wartime activities in the Eastern Caribbean.

- Positive and Negative consequences of US imperialism in Antigua

Positive consequences	Negative consequences
Injection of financial resources (US \$ 4 million) and this was needed as the sugar industry was declining.	Dislocation of Winthrope Village.
<p>Provided employment as there was work on the bases and as such turned around the economy.</p> <p>It also shifted the economy from sugar to tourism.</p>	It brought racial tension. Whites were unwilling to work with blacks.
Importation of heavy duty vehicles	Changed social dynamics – created competition for local men with US men
	Prostitution

- Causes of US imperialism in Bahamas
  - o Location – It was located less than 50 miles away from the United States

- Positive and Negative consequences of US imperialism in Bahamas

Positive consequences	Negative consequences
Brought economic relief	Nassau riots in 1943 over unequal wages

## Cold War (1945-1991) and Grenada Revolution (1979)

- The Revolution was from March 13, 1979 – 1983. It was a socialist, people's revolution led by Maurice Bishop with the Central Committee of the New Jewel Movement.
- Causes of the Grenada Revolution
  - o It was against the US brand of democracy. It was anti-colonial and anti-democratic.
  - o It wanted to reorganize the economic orientation of the country. It embraced agrarianism – agriculture through co-operation.
- There were no deaths. It was a "bloodless coup".
- It got rid of Sir Eric Gairy whose government was corrupt.
- Causes of US intervention
  - o Grenada aligned with the "wrong side of the Cold War". It had a leftists and socialist political orientation.
  - o It threatened US hegemony in the Caribbean region since WWII. The US believed Grenada was a dangerous example to other territories.
  - o The US did not like that the airport was being built with help from Communist Cuba.
  - o US did not like that Bishop's New Jewel Movement came into power.
- Consequences of US intervention
  - o Reversed many of the progressive reforms that the Revolution had brought on. The New Jewel Movement had been a "grassroots" organisation which met with people about health and education. They had consulted villagers, women, farmers. It was considered a government from the bottom up.
  - o It led to offshore banking and money laundering.
  - o It was excluded from loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and became dependent on the US.

HW: pg. 183 Activity 7.10

- (a) Foods were subsidised by the government to keep down prices. 15,000 people who were engaged in food production had to join forces or work with the Americans (reduced the number of people involved in food production). The island's entrances were closed to shipping and night sailing by coastal steamers were stopped. The sugar production dropped because no one wanted to work in the fields. There were

unemployment programmes for when work on the base ceased, steps taken to introduce rationing, civil unrest and unplanned pregnancies.

(b) Bread needed to be rationed because there was not enough for everyone due to lower food production.

(c) Work on the bases would eventually stop.

### Sample Essay plan

Examine the reasons for the United States' increasing interest in the Caribbean between 1776 and 1870.

You are required to argue at least FIVE points from any TWO of the following areas:

- Defence
- Expansionism
- Trade and investment
- Ideology

Total 25 marks

Introduction 1-2 sentences on the context and then your thesis- US was very much interested in the Caribbean for several reasons. The US's ideology and desire for expansion drove their increased interest in the Caribbean.

Body - 5 points - PEE - Point Explain Evidence

Ideology point 1 - US declared their Monroe Doctrine.

Ideology point 2

Expansion point 1

Expansionism point 2

Expansionism point 3

Conclusion - Sum up your points.