

Study Guide
Nash, chapter 20
Becoming a World Power

1. Wounded Knee Massacre
2. Control of Southern labor force (Jim Crow, Lynch Law)
3. Depressions of late 19th century
4. Control over domestic wage labor force (yellow dog contracts, guards, militias, injunctions, troops etc)
6. Twin drives of capitalism and nationalism
7. Imperialism abroad (ease class tensions at home, find markets for surplus production, cheap raw materials, secure geo-strategic interests)
8. Continental imperialist expansion
9. Monroe Doctrine, 1823
10. Asian trade: “opening” of Japan (1853-54), China (1859), Hawaii (1870s-1890s) --- etc.; Latin America and Caribbean
11. A.T. Mahan

12. Roosevelt, Mahan, Lodge, Beveridge
13. Open door trade policies backed by force
14. Spanish American War, 1898
15. Jose Marti
16. *The Appeal to Reason* (Eugene Debs, editor) --- “[War is] a favorite method of rulers for keeping the people from redressing domestic wrongs”
17. Samuel Gompers (AFL) and the Spanish War -- “glorious and righteous”
18. Cuba --- United Fruit, American Tobacco Co., Bethlehem Steel
19. Platt Amendment --- Cuban colonial vassalage
20. Puerto Rico, Wake Island, Guam, Philippines
21. Rudyard Kipling and *The White Man’s Burden*
22. President McKinley on Philippines annexation (228)
23. Emilio Aguinaldo & Filipino *insurrectos*

24. Senator Albert Beveridge on Philippines annexation (229)

25. Anti-Imperialist League

26. Mark Twain --- “We have pacified some thousands of the islanders and buried them; destroyed their fields; burned their villages, and turned their widows and orphans out of doors . . . And so, by these Providences of God --- and the phrase is the government’s, not mine --- we are a World Power.”

27. Henry McNeil Turner --- “An unholy war of conquest”

28. Open Door Policy in China

29. Boxer Rebellion (1900)

30. Roosevelt and the Panama Canal

31. Roosevelt Corollary

32. Roosevelt as “big cop”

33. Banana Wars

34. Smedley Butler on Interventionism (*Excerpt from a speech delivered in 1933, by Major General Smedley Butler, USMC.*)

War is just a racket. A racket is best described, I believe, as something that is not what it seems to the majority of people. Only a small inside group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few at the expense of the masses.

I believe in adequate defense at the coastline and nothing else. If a nation comes over here to fight, then we'll fight. The trouble with America is that when the dollar only earns 6 percent over here, then it gets restless and goes overseas to get 100 percent. Then the flag follows the dollar and the soldiers follow the flag. I wouldn't go to war again as I have done to protect some lousy investment of the bankers. There are only two things we should fight for. One is the defense of our homes and the other is the Bill of Rights. War for any other reason is simply a racket.

There isn't a trick in the racketeering bag that the military gang is blind to. It has its "finger men" to point out enemies, its "muscle men" to destroy enemies, its "brain men" to plan war preparations, and a "Big Boss" Super-Nationalistic-Capitalism.

It may seem odd for me, a military man to adopt such a comparison. Truthfulness compels me to. I spent thirty- three years and four months in active military service as a member of this country's most agile military force, the Marine Corps. I served in all commissioned ranks from Second Lieutenant to Major-General. And during that period, I spent most of my time being a high class muscle- man for Big Business, for Wall Street and for the Bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism.

I suspected I was just part of a racket at the time. Now I am sure of it. Like all the members of the military profession, I never had a thought of my own until I left the service. My mental faculties remained in suspended animation while I obeyed the orders of higher-ups. This is typical with everyone in the military service.

I helped make Mexico, especially Tampico, safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefits of Wall Street. The record of racketeering is long. I helped purify Nicaragua for the international banking house of Brown Brothers in 1909-1912 (where have I heard that name before?). I brought light to the Dominican Republic for American sugar interests in 1916. In China I helped to see to it that Standard Oil went its way unmolested.

During those years, I had, as the boys in the back room would say, a swell racket. Looking back on it, I feel that I could have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents.

27. American intervention in the Soviet Union

