American Occupation of the Dominican Republic

1916–1924

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CONTEXT OF THE TIME PERIOD!!

**World War I**!

Dominican Republic in state of political and financial turmoil!

German attacks on enemy ships without warning or reason?

German military base in the Dominican Republic?
**WILSON AND MORAL DIPLOMACY**

**Fourteen Points:** Declaration by President Wilson advocating for post-war peace; it listed fourteen “rules” for maintaining peace. 

“...A free, open-minded, and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the government whose title is to be determined.”

**Moral Diplomacy:** Aims to be less oppressive than previous Progressive policies. Emphasized consent of all countries involved.

Let’s “cultivate the friendship & deserve the confidence” of Latin America.
WHY WOULD THE UNITED STATES GET INVOLVED?

World War 1 was progressing quickly, and the Dominican Republic was in a great location for attacks!!

The Dominican Republic was in severe debt to both the U.S. and other foreign powers.

The U.S. wouldn’t stand for the Dominican Republic being taken by German forces!
HOW THE UNITED STATES GOT INVOLVED

Ramon Caceres, President of Dominican Republic ASSASSINATED!!

Adolfo Nouel, an educator was put in play as acting president!

The U.S. occupied all the government houses, ports, and collected their debts!!

U.S. assisted in resignation of Dominican President during 1914, Juan Isidro Jimenes Pereyra
WHY DID THE DIPLOMACY AND OCCUPATION FAIL?

“Él ignora lo que ocurre aquí en condición con sus declaraciones —decían. Conjetura ilógica, si se tiene en cuenta que los dominicanos siguen condenados al hambre. Pasó otro mes y en lugar del regreso del referido ministro se presentó en Santo Domingo un capitán de navío enviado por el poder ejecutivo de Washington con tan amplias facultades que a los pocos días proclamó la ocupación militar de la República; tan cargado de razones que amordazó prensa, telégrafos y cable, para que los dominicanos y su gobierno no expresaran las suyas... ¡Las de Washington bastaban!"

He ignored what has happened here in response to what his declarations said. It was an illogical opinion if you take into account that the Dominicans continued to starve (instead of being helped). Another month passed, and instead of a minister a navy captain was sent from the executive powers of Washington with such arms that in a few days they occupied the Dominican Republic militarily. He silenced all pressed so that the Dominicans and their government could not speak. Enough Washington!

- D.R. opinion

The Hughes-Peynado Agreement: A solution between Dominican negotiator, Francisco Peynado and U.S. Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes, on a compromise to rid The Dominican Republic of American soldiers.

Guardia Nacional: Spanish National Guard, whom which American Soldiers gave over occupation of Dominican Republic to.

After the agreement, the U.S. kept their services available to help with elections for a new president, which was put into play in 1924.
From time of independence, the DR had 50 different presidents and 19 constitutions!!

Ramon Caceres assassinated DR’s president, Ulises Heureaux who was the main person to let DR fall into American control.

The most conflict took place in El Seibo and Macoris.
AFTERMATH OF THE OCCUPATION

Rafael Trujillo, took over as Dictator after American troops left the island.

Debt was made worse by American occupation.

Danilo Medina is the current president of the Dominican Republic.


