

# Panama Canal

- ❖ **Roosevelt's foreign policy**
- ❖ **Venezuelan Affair**
- ❖ **The need for a canal**
- ❖ **Panama revolution**
- ❖ **Building the canal**

## President Theodore Roosevelt's Foreign Policy

 "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far" is a West African proverb that Roosevelt used while vice president and came to represent his ideological approach to foreign policy.

 He viewed the U.S. as the regional superpower that would keep Europeans out and keep peace throughout the Americas.



## What international role did Roosevelt envision for the United States?

Major elements in the cartoon:

- ✦ Oyster Bay, New York is where Roosevelt lived
- ✦ Three figures circling the tree stump represent El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras



## Venezuelan Affair, 1902

 During a civil war in Venezuela from 1898-1902, the property of British, German, and Italian citizens living in the region was damaged.

 After the European nations demanded retribution and received none, they sent military ships to impose a blockade on the major ports along Venezuela's coastline.

 Roosevelt opposed European intrusion into the Western Hemisphere and acted as a mediator in the dispute.

 This strengthened the U.S.'s role in the region.

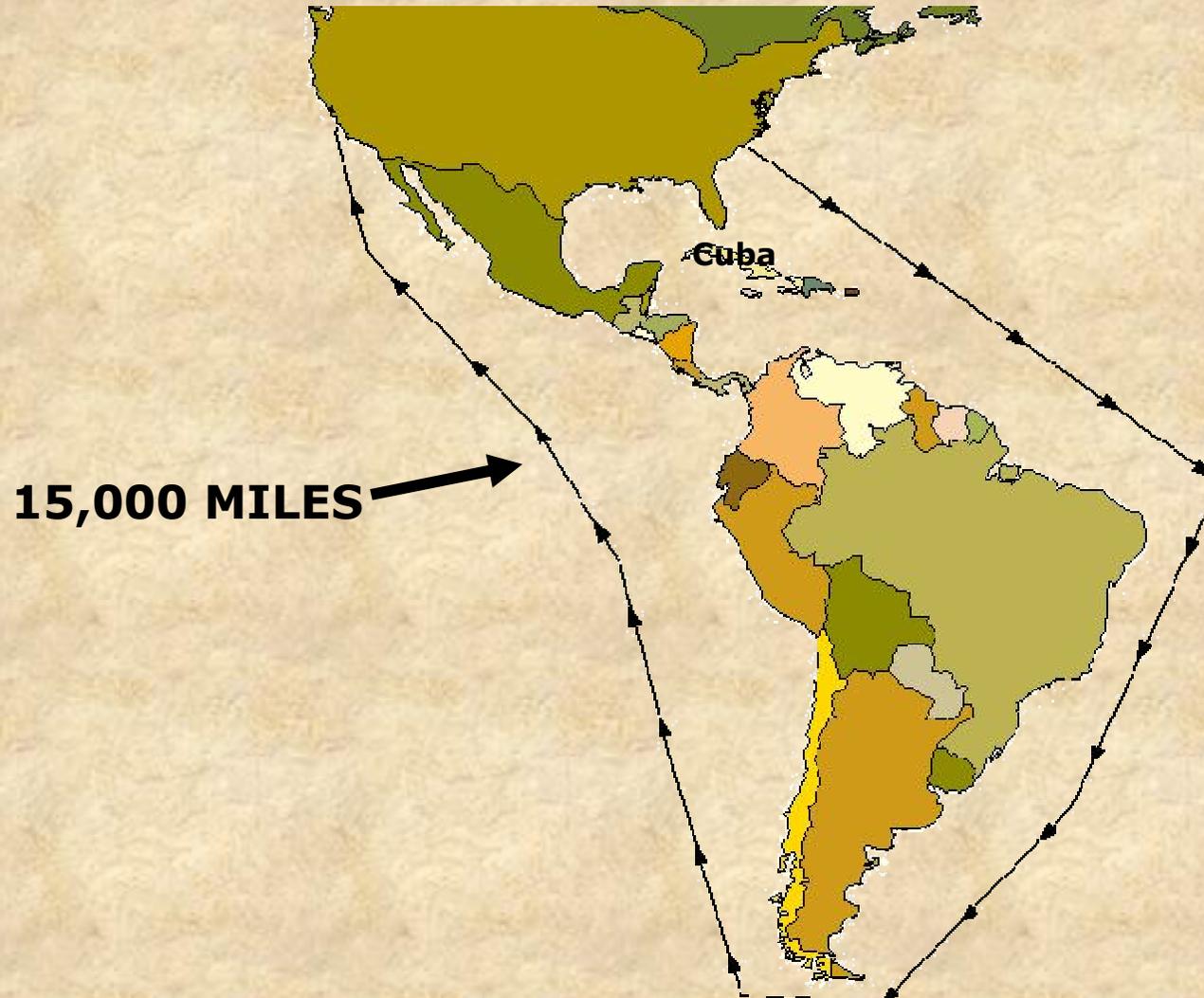


The Monroe Doctrine issued in 1823 forbade any new colonies in the Americas.

**As a result of the Venezuela Crisis, Roosevelt added the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine, stating that the U.S. could intervene when the stability of any Latin American nation was in question.**

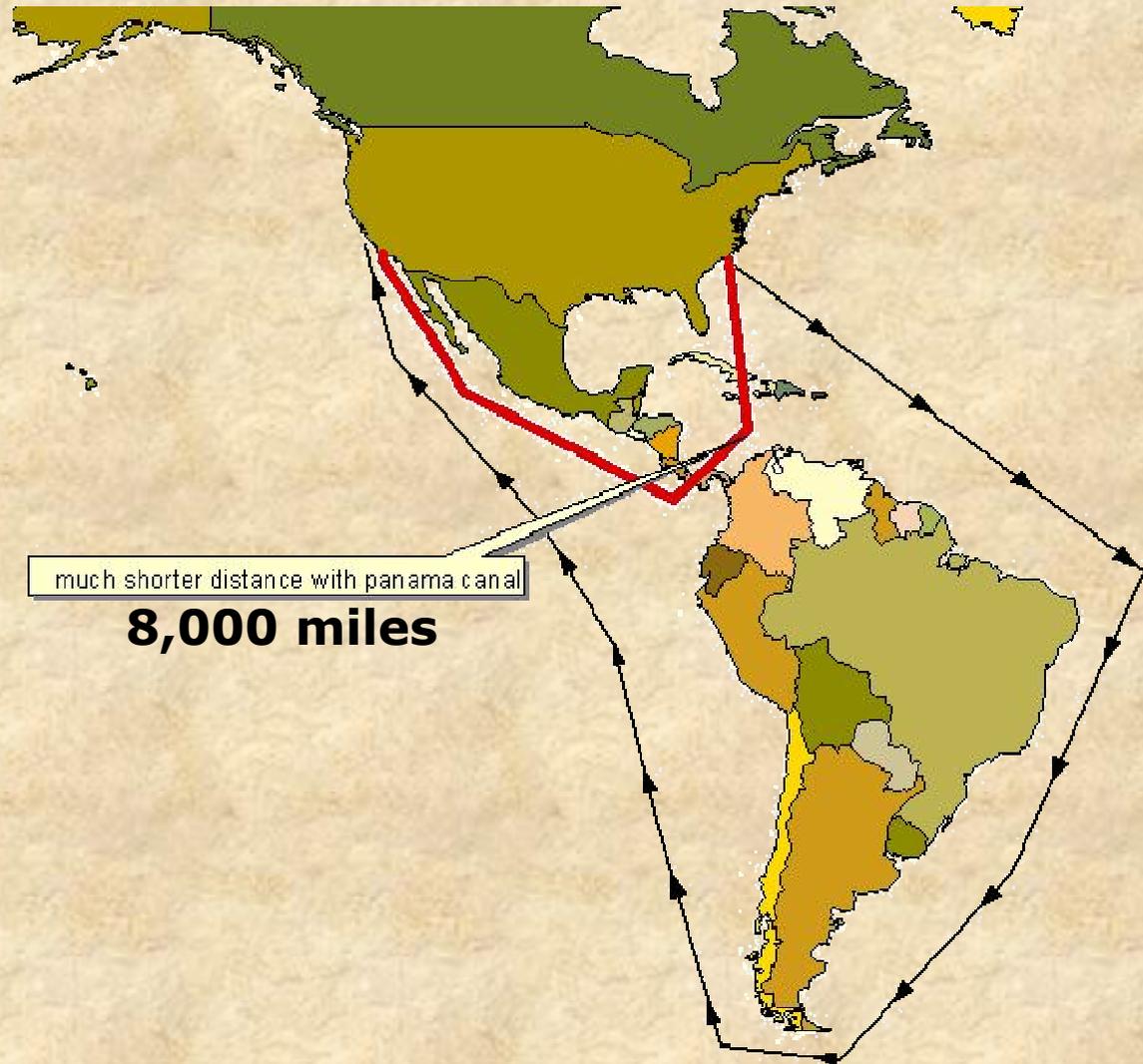


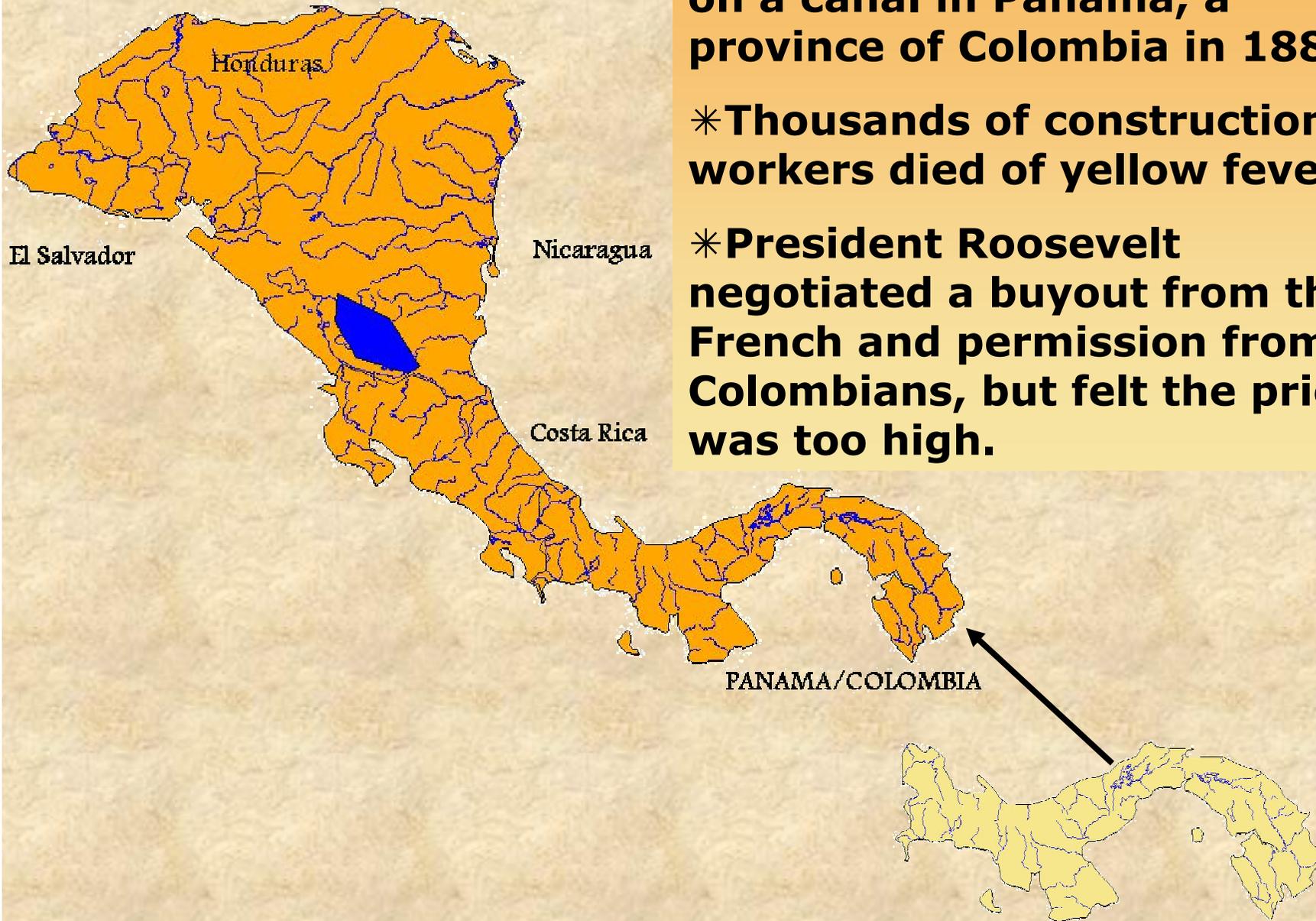
**During the Spanish American War in 1898, the U.S. desired a quicker way of moving ships between the east and west coast of North America. The voyage around South America could take months.**



 The search for a shortcut across the Central American isthmus dates back to early Spanish exploration in the 1500s.

 Surveys of the region in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Spanish and French suggested two viable routes, one through Colombia the other Nicaragua.



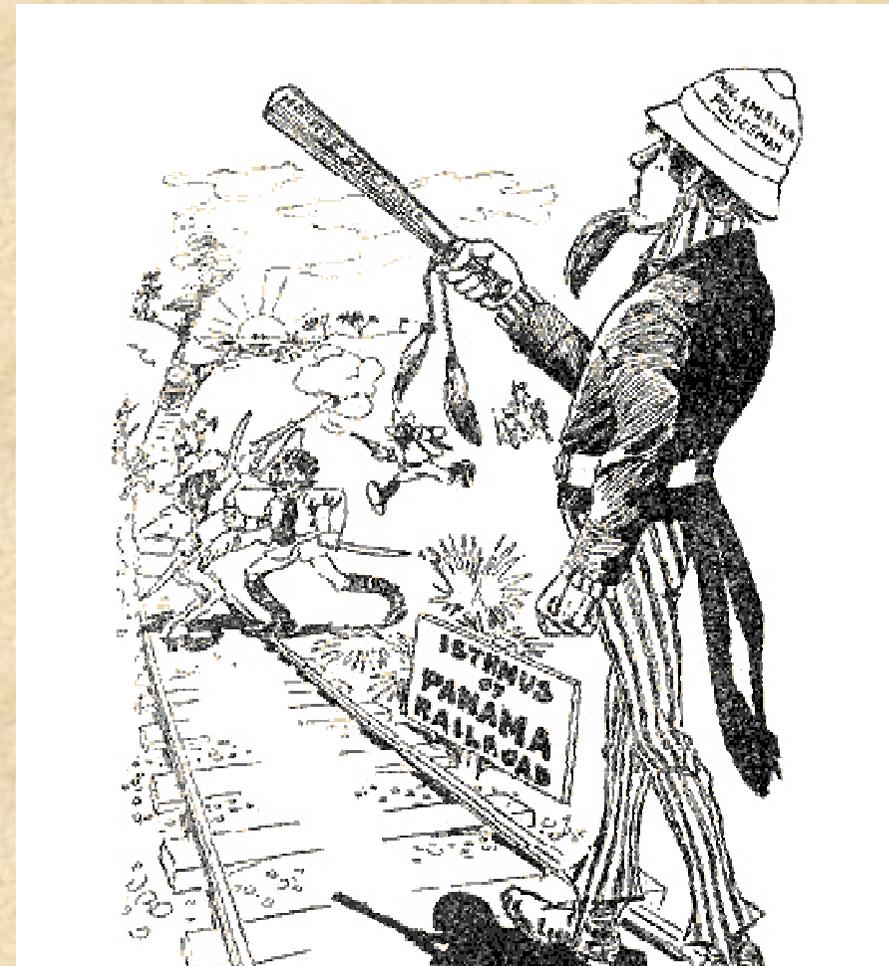


\*The French began construction on a canal in Panama, a province of Colombia in 1882.

\*Thousands of construction workers died of yellow fever.

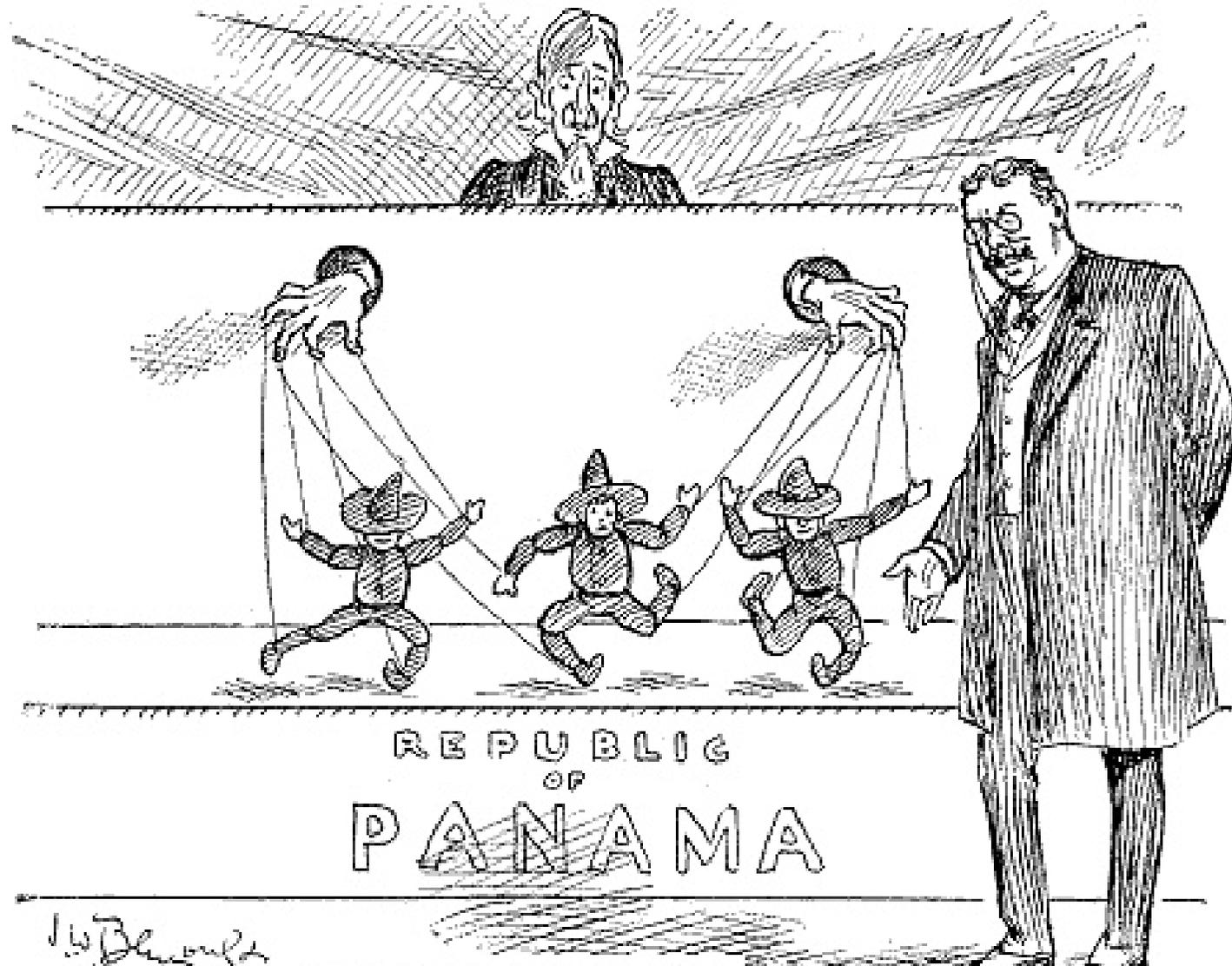
\*President Roosevelt negotiated a buyout from the French and permission from the Colombians, but felt the price was too high.

**Two political cartoons on Colombia's refusal to accept purchase offer price of \$40 million.**

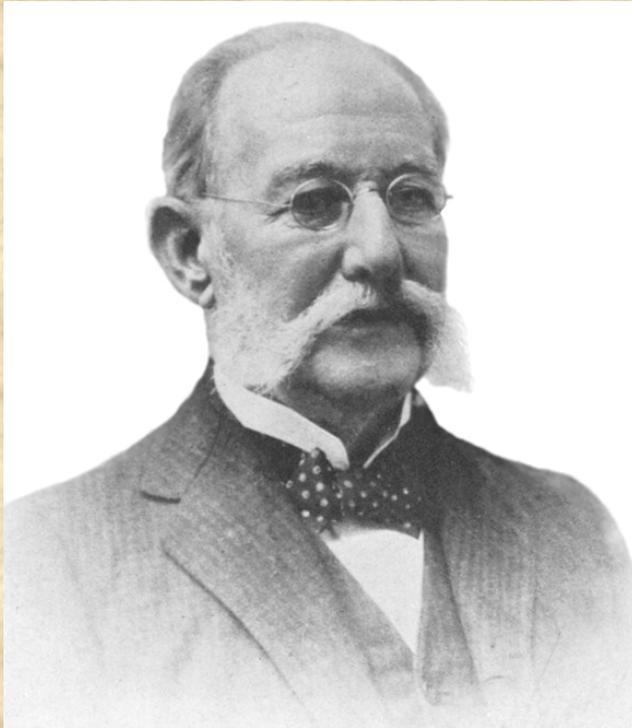


**In 2007, \$40 million would be \$995 million**

**Roosevelt's solution was to support a Panamanian revolution in 1903 so the U.S. could build the canal at a cheaper price.**



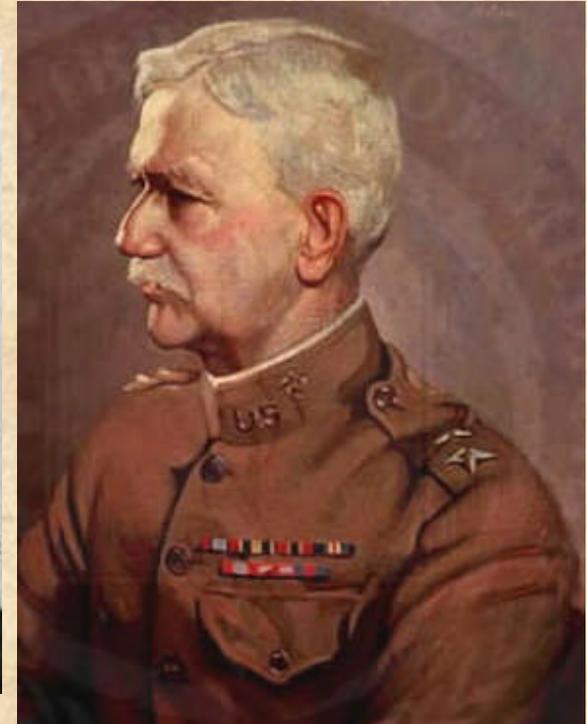
**Yellow fever was a devastating disease throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century.**



**Carlos Finlay, a Cuban doctor, identified the mosquito as the carrier of the disease to humans in the 1870s.**

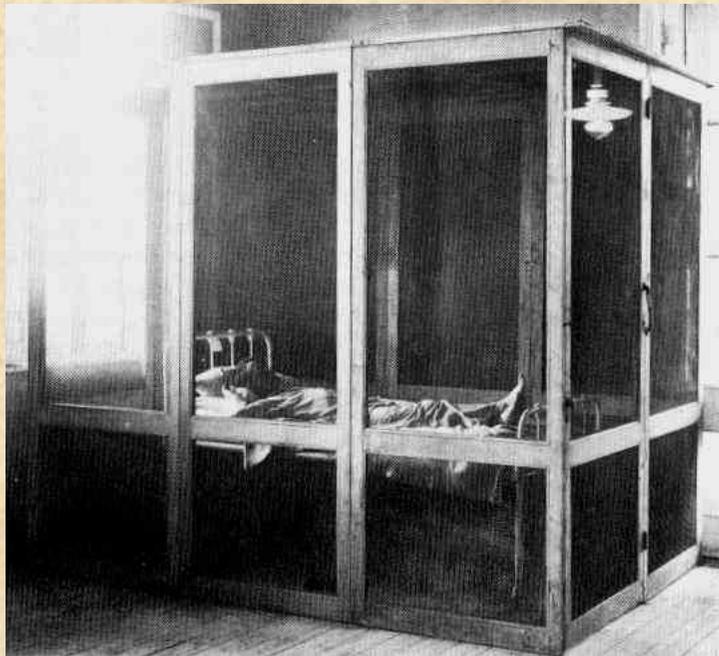


**Walter Reed, a U.S. army surgeon, proved Finlay's theory while in Cuba in 1900.**



**William Gorgas, an American doctor, was the chief sanitary officer at the Panama Canal, controlled the mosquito population, allowing completion.**

**1905  
fumigation car  
eradicating  
mosquitoes in  
Panama.**



**1905 Yellow  
Fever Quarantine  
Station**