**THE MONROE DOCTRINE**

The timeline which summarizes events that led to the writing of the Monroe Doctrine. If also gives a brief description of what the Doctrine said, and explains how it has influenced American foreign policy. Begin by reading the first event in the lists. Then find box 1 next to the map. Copy event 1 inside of box 1. Print in small letters so that all of the information fits. Do the same for events 2-8, the first half of the timeline, and complete the Quick Review section. When finished, go on to events 9-15.

Background Events

1. 1808-1813: French armies occupied Spain during the Napoleonic Wars.
2. 1810-1824: During and after the Napoleonic Wars, events in Europe prevented Spain from putting down revolutions in its Latin American colonies. Nearly all Spanish colonies declared their independence and set up governments similar to that of the United States.
3. 1823: A rumor spread through Europe which said that France planned to help Spain win back its lost colonies.

The Monroe Doctrine is Announced

1. 1823: In a message delivered to Congress, President James Monroe set forth the Monroe Doctrine, which said that: (1) European countries were not to establish new colonies in North America or South America (2) European countries should not interfere with the governments of independence countries in North and South America (3) the United States will not interfere in European affairs or with existing European colonies in the Western Hemisphere.

Results of the Monroe Doctrine

1. Great Britain, backed by a powerful navy, strongly supported the Monroe Doctrine. As long as the former Spanish colonies remained independent, the British could carry on a profitable trade with them. Fear of the British Navy, more than anything else, made other nations respect the Monroe Doctrine.
2. The Monroe Doctrine helped the Latin American countries keep their freedom. During the 180s, trade increased between the United States and its neighbors to the south.
3. 1824: France dropped its plan for a French-Spanish expedition to recapture Spain’s colonies.
4. 1824: Russia began backing away from its claims to the Oregon Country.

Quick Review for Events 1-8:

1. Lost its Latin American colonies in the early 1800s \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2. By 1824, most of Spain’s colonies gained this. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
3. This country’s government became a model for Latin American governments. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
4. Said there were to be no new colonies in the Americas. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. The U.S. pledged not to interfere in this continent’s political affairs. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2. Said Europeans should not interfere with new Latin American governments.

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1. Supported the Monroe Doctrine so it could trade with Spain’s former colonies.

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1. It backed away from helping Spain regain its colonies. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2. New nations were able to keep this because of the Monroe Doctrine.

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1. It increased between the United States and Latin America. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

The Monroe Doctrine in Action

1. 1840s: President James K. Polk warned Great Britain and Spain to stay out of California.
2. 1860s: During the Civil War, France tried to establish an empire in Mexico by putting Maximillian on the throne. After the Civil War ended, the United States forced French troops to leave Mexico.
3. 1880s: The United States enlarged its new navy of steel ships, and now had the military power needed to enforce the Monroe Doctrine without British help.
4. 1890s: A boundary dispute arose between Venezuela and the British colony of Guiana. President Grover Cleveland threatened to use force against the British if they did not agree to settle the dispute peacefully.
5. 1904: Some of the small Latin American countries suffered from poorly run governments that fell into debt. Great Britain and Germany prepared to invade these countries to force the repayment of loans they had made. President Theodore Roosevelt then adopted the Roosevelt Corollary, or “Big Stick Policy,” saying the United States would take over troubled countries and pay their debts. The U.S. sent armed forces to the Dominican Republic in 1905, Nicaragua in 1912, and Haiti in 1915.
6. 1933: In the early 1900s, many Latin American countries came to distrust the Big Stick Policy of the United States. They believed it led more to American intervention in their affairs than protection from the Europeans. To improve relations, President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his Good Neighbor Policy. He said the Americans would share in upholding the Monroe Doctrine. United States forces were gradually withdrawn from occupied countries.
7. Today: The Monroe Doctrine is still a part policy of the United States in the Western Hemisphere.

Quick Review:

1. Warned the British to settle a boundary dispute peacefully. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. It helped improve U.S.-Latin American relations. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. Acted to prevent an invasion by the British and Germans. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. Enabled the United States to enforce the Monroe Doctrine. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. Led to the U.S. takeover of several debt-ridden nations. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. French ruler in Mexico. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2. Country that withdrew soldiers from North America after the Civil War.

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1. Many Latin Americans came to distrust this country. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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1. The British and Spanish were warned to stay out of it. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2. Where the Monroe Doctrine still influences basic U.S. policy. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

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