## U.S. Imperialism-The Historical Record

Last year during a Senate debate on a resolution to limit U.S. intervention abroad, the late Everett McKinley Dirksen (R-III.) opposed Congressional restraints on presidential action abroad. Dirksen stated: "One need only look at the history of the use of force by the President of the United States in his capacity as Commander in Chief to see how many instances there have been where, for one reason or another, it had to be used." In effect, Dirksen was arguing that history has sanctified past interarches of U.S. intervention abroad and the previous interventions justified present U.S. policies. To strengthen his "argument," Dirksen inserted a list of interventions beyond U.S. borders. It should be noted that the list does not record U.S. military actions carried out under Congressional mandate. Also, there are other important omissions—the most important being U.S. wars against the American



## Congressional Record PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE QI'S CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 115

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1969

No. 103

## Senate

Use of U.S. Armed Forces in Foreign Countries In instances of use of U.S. Armed Forces

1798-1800 - Undeclared naval war with France, - This contest included

with France. – This contest included land actions, such as that in the Dominican Republic, city of Puerto Dominican Republic, city of Puerto Plata, where marines captured a French privateer under the guns of the forts. 1801-05 – Tripoil — The First Barbary War, including the George Washington and Philadelphia affairs which a few marines landed with United States Agent William Eaton to raise a force against Tripoil in an effort to free the crew of the Philadelphia. Tripoil declared war but not the

Tripoli decalred war but not the United States,

1800 - Mexico (Spanish territory)

- Capt. Z.M. Pike, with a platoon of troops, invaded Spanish territory at the headwaters of the Rio Grande deliberately and on orders from Gen James Wilkinson. He was made prisoner without resistance at a fort he constructed in present day Colorado, taken to Mexico, later released after political purpose, still a mystery.

1806-10 — Gulf of Mexico —

1806-10 - Gulf of Mexico - American gunboats operated from New Orleans against Spanish and French privateers, such as LaFitte, off the Mississippi Delta, chiefly under Capt. John Shaw and Master Commandant David Boxte.

John Shaw and David Porter.

1810 - West Florida (Spanish territory) - Gov. Claiborne of orders of the President, territory) - Gov. Claiborne of Louisiana, on orders of the President, occupied with troops territory in dispute east of Mississippi as far as the Pearl River, later the eastern boundary of Louisiana. He was authorized to seize as far east as the Perdido River.

No armed clash.

1812 - Amelia Island and other parts of east Florida, then under Spain. parts of east Florida, then under Spain.

Temporary possession was authorized by President Madison and by Congress, to prevent occupation by any other power; but possession was obtained by Gen. George Matthews in so irregular a manner that his measures were disavowed by the President. 1812-15 - Great Britain - War of

1812-15 — Great Britain — War of 1812. Formally declared.
1813 — West Florida (Spanish territory) — On authority given by Congress, General Wilkinson seized Mobile Bay in April with 600 soldiers. A small Spanish garrison gave way. Thus we advanced into disputed territory to the Perdido River, as projected in 1810. No fighting.
1813-14 — Marnuess telands—

1813-14 Marquesas Islands Built a fort on island of Nukahiva to protect three prize ships which had been captured from the British.

1814 - Spanish Florida - Gen. Andrew Jackson took Pensacola and drove out the British with whom the

United States was at war.

1814-24 — Caribbean Engagements between pirates and American ships or squadrons took place repeatedly especially ashore and

offshore about Cuba, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, and Yucatan. Three thousand pirate attacks on merchantmen were reported between 1815 and 1823. In 1822 Commodore James Biddle employed a squadron of two frigates, four sloops of war, two

Tunis and Tripoli, where indemnities for offenses during the War of 1812.

opanish Florida Opitic orales forces destroyed Nichold Oro called also Negro Forr, because harbored raiders into United State territory. 1816-18 – S-

territory.

1816-18 — Spanish filorda
Seminole War — The Servinole
whose area was a resort with
slaves and border offian
attacked by troops and backen and burst
profiles. The service of executed. There was no declarat congressional authorization

congressional authorization
Executive was sustained.

1817 — Amelia Island
territory off Florida) — Jund
of President Monroe, Unit
forces landed and expelled a
smugglers, adventure oters.
Oregon

freebootets.

1818 - Oregon - Notario, dispatched from Walanded at the Columbia Riv August took possession. Bruconceded sovereignty but Riverseyled claims to the an Spain asserted claims to the are

1820-25 — Africa — Naval user raided the slave traffic pursuant to 1819 act of Congress.

1822 - Cuba - United States naval forces suppressing piracy landed on the northwest coast of Cuba and burned a

pirate station.

1823 — Cuba — Brief landings in pursuit of pirates occurred April 8 near Escondido; April 16 near Cayo Blanco, July 11 at Siquapa Bay; July 21 at Cape Cruz; and October 23 at Camrioca. 1824 - Cuba - In October the

U.S.S. Porpoise landed bluejackets near Matanzas in pursuit of pirates. This was

during the cruise authorized in 1822, 1824 - Cuba - In October the 1824 — Cuba — In October the U.S.S. Porpoise landed bluejackets near Matanas in pursuit of pirates. This was during the cruise authorized in 1822.

during the cruise authorized in 1822.

1824 — Puerto Rico (Spanish territory) — Commodore David Porter with a landing parry attacked the town of Fajardo which had sheltered pirates and insulted American naval officers, He landed with 200 men in November and forced an anology.

and forced an apology. 1825 - Cuba - In March cooperating American and British forces landed at Sagua La Grande to

forces landed at Sagua La Grande to capture pirates.

1827 - Greece - In October and November landing parties hunted pirates on the islands of Argenteire, Miconi, and Androsa.

1831-32 - Falkland Islands - To investigate the capture of three American sealing vessels and to protect '&American interests'.

merican interprets.

1832 A climater - February 6 to 9

To make the second of the town of the second of the second

force was sent to protect the States and the

saluted. A similar ince week later at San Diego

1843 - Africa, November 29 to December 16 - Four United States vessels demonstrated and landed vessels demonstrated and landed various parties (one of 200 marines and sailors) to discourage piracy and the slave trade along the lvory coast, etc., and to punish attacks by the natives on American seamen and shipping. 1844 - Mexico - President Tyler deployed our forces to protect Texas against Mexico, pending Senate approval of a treaty of annexation.

(later rejected) He defended his action against a Senate resolution of inquiry.
This was a demonstration or
preparation.

1846-48 — Mexico the Mexican War

President Polk's occupation of disputed territory precipitated it. War was formally declared.

was formally declared.

1849 - Smyrna - In July a naval force gained release of an American seized by Austrian officials.

1851 - Turkcy - After a massacre of foreigners (including Americans) at

Jaffa in January, a demonstration by our Mediterranean Squadron was ordered along the Turkish (Levant) ordered along the Turkish (Levant) coast. Apparently no shots fired.

1851 — Johanna Island (east of

1851 — Johanna Island (east of Africa) August – To exact redress for the unlawful imprisonment of the captain of an American whaling brig. 1852-53 – Argentina – February 3 to 12, 1852; September 17, 1852 to April (?) 1853 – Marines were landed and maintained in Buenos Aires to protect American interests during a resolution. revolution.

1853 - Nicaragua - March 11 to 13

- To protect American lives and interests during political disturbances 1853-54 - Japan - The "opening of Japan" and the Perry Expedition.

1853-54 - Ryukyu and Bonin 1835-34 - Kyukyu and Bonin Islands - Commodore Perry on three sists before going to Japan and while waiting for a reply from Japan made a wal demonstration, landing marines twice, and secured a coaling concession from the rule of Naha on Okinawa. He also demonstrated in the Bonin Islands.

o secure facilities for commerce.

85 - China - April 4 to June 15

7 - To protect American interests

o protect American interests are Shanghar during Chinese Nicarous 2 July 9 to 15 — 15 July 2 to 15 — 15 July 2 to 16 July 2 J

interests o 5 to fight pirates September 12

ek reparations

mber 25 to European navat ring an

Del 22 to Servi December 12 to December 12 to Top 10 to 10 United States flag.

United States flag.

1857 – Nicaragua – April to May;
November to December – To oppose
William Walker's attempt to get control
of the country. In May Commander
C.H. Davis of the United States Navy, C.H. Davis of the United States Navy, with some marines, received Walker's surrender and protected his men from the retaliation of native allies who had been fighting Walker. In November and December of the same year United States vessels Saratoga, Wabash, and States vessels Saratoga, Wabash, and Fulton opposed another attempt of William Walker on Nicaragua. Commodore Hiram Paulding's act of landing marines and compelling the removal of Walker to the United States, was tacitly disavowed by Secretary of State Lewis Cass, and Paulding was forced into retirement.

1858 - Uruguay - January 2 to 27 - Forces from 2 United States warships landed to protect American property during a revolution in

ontevideo. 1858 – Fiji Islands – October 6 to

1858 - Fiji Islands - October 6 to 16, - To chastise the natives for the murder of two American citizens. 1858-58 - Turkey - Display of naval force along the Levant at the request of the Secretary of State after massacre of Americans at Jaffa and mistreatment elsewhere "to remind the authorities." (of Turkey). authorities (of Turkey) ... of the power of the United States."

1859 — Paraguay — Congress

1859 - Paraguay - Congress authorized a naval squadron to seek redress for an attack on a naval vessel in the Parana River during 1855. Apologies were made after a large display of force.

display of force.

1859 — Mexico — Two hundred

1859 — Mexico — Two hundred United States soldiers crossed the Rio Grande in pursuit of the Mexican bandit Cortina.
1859 — China — July 31 to August 2 — For the protection of American interests in Shanghai.
1860 — Angola, Portuguese West Africa — March 1. To protect American lives and property at Kissembo when the natives became troublesome.

troublesome. 1860 - Colombia, Bay of Panama -September 27 to October 8 - To protect American interests during a

revolution.

1863 – Japan – July 16 – To redress an insult to the American flag firing on an American vessel - at

1864 – Japan – July 14 to August 3, approximately. – To protect the United States Minister to Japan when he visited Yedo to negotiate

he visited Yedo to negotiate concerning some American claims against Japan, and to make his negotiations easier by impressing the Japanese with American power.

1864 – Japan – September 4 to 14 – Straits of Shimonoseki – To compel Japan and the Prince of Nagato in particular to permit the Straits to be used by foreign shipping in accordance with treaties already signed.

1865 – Panama – March 9 and 10 – To proetect the lives and property of

To proetect the lives and property of American residents during a revolution. 1866 – Mexico – To protect American residents, General Sedgwick American residents, General Sedgwick and 100 men in November obtained surrender of Matamoras. After 3 days he was ordered by our Government to withdraw. His act was repudiated by the President.

1866 - China - June 20 to July 7 -

1866 - China - June 20 to July 7 To punish an assault on the American consul at Newchwang; July 14, for consultation with authorities on shore; August 9, at Shanghai, to help extinguish a serious fire in the city.

1867 - Island of Formosa - June 13 - To punish a horde of savages who were supposed to have murdered the crew of a wrecked American vessel.

1868 - Japan (Osaka, Hiogo, Nagasaki, Yokohama, and Negeta) Mainly February 4 to 8, April 4 to May 12, June 12 and 13 - To protect