



Historical Background

- (1) Revolt of Latin American colonies from Spain; increased British trade to them (as a result of Napoleon's Continental System)
- (2) Possible French and Spanish alliance to rebuild lost colonial empire in Americas
- (3) Russian Tsar issued an edict warning other nations away from Alaska
- (4) British approached America with offer of joint declaration

Responses by ex-President Jefferson, and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams

British withdraw offer to the US, and get France to commit to not sending army to the Americas

3 Points of Monroe Doctrine

1. No further European colonization in Americas
2. Toleration of current colonies
3. Neutrality in European affairs

Historical Impact

Not a commitment to go to war or maintain a pan-American alliance, but a policy

After the Civil War, 50,000 US troops (Civil War veterans) were sent to border with Mexico as warning to France, which had sent 30,000 troops to Mexico. Napoleon III announced in January 1866 that the troops would be withdrawn.

In the 1800s, Latin America remained free, while Africa and Asia were colonized and dominated.