



ANTI-FLAG

LIES THEY TELL OUR CHILDREN

IMPERIALISM

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Did things my own way / Made up my own rules /
Took off a Sunday and stole all of your jewels /
Moved into your house, you said can you move / I said,
I'm goin, I'm goin, nowhere / I plan to fabricate a little
holiday / And find myself a lovely, cozy place to stay /
And if I like it I may never go away / And when I show up
you'll be thrilled to let me in / Cause I got all you need
to wash away your sins / Yeah, once you know me you'll
realize I'm your best friend / You've been needing a new
friend... / I'm gonna be there till the end / The heads
of state are drinking up their vintage wine / While
blowin' smoke on human rights and apartheid /
From Pittsburgh, PA all the way to Palestine / I'll tell
you who's your enemy and who to trust / If you don't
like it, I don't really give a fuck / I'm rolling heavy and
I'm tired of your distrust / You see your loyalty's a
must... / You better bring it motherfucker / And the
sun keeps shining down / On the hills and city streets
of this fair town / What once and what is now are
futile to break down... to break down

There aren't many historical episodes more firmly lodged in the United States's national memory than the attack on Pearl Harbor. It is one of only a few events that many people in the country can put a date to: 7 December 1941, the "date which will live in infamy," as Franklin D Roosevelt put it.

Sumner Welles, FDR's undersecretary of state, described the event as "an attack upon Hawaii and upon the Philippines". Eleanor Roosevelt used a similar formulation in her radio address on the night of 7 December, when she spoke of Japan "bombing our citizens in Hawaii and the Philippines".

That was how the first draft of FDR's speech went, too: it presented the event as a "bombing in Hawaii and the Philippines". Yet Roosevelt toyed with that draft all day, adding things in pencil, crossing other bits out. At some point he deleted the prominent references to the Philippines.

Hawaii, the Philippines, Guam – it wasn't easy to know how to think about such places, or even what to call them. At the turn of the 20th century, when many were acquired (Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Guam, American Samoa, Hawaii, Wake), their status was clear. They were, as Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson unabashedly called them, colonies.

That spirit of forthright imperialism didn't last. Within a decade or two, after passions had cooled, the c-word became taboo. "The word colony must not be used to express the relationship which exists between our government and its dependent peoples," an official admonished in 1914. Better to stick with a gentler term, used for them all: territories.

*excerpts from "How the US has Hidden its Empire"

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.THEGUARDIAN.COM/NEWS/2019/FEB/15/THE-US-HIDDEN-EMPIRE-OVERSEAS-TERRITORIES-UNITED-STATES-GUAM-PUERTO-RICO-AMERICAN-SAMOA](https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/feb/15/the-us-hidden-empire-overseas-territories-united-states-guam-puerto-rico-american-samoa)