

AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN RUSSIA

AND WHY

I. WHERE/DID WE INTERVENE? IN NORTH RUSSIA:

1. In the North -- Archangel and Murmansk (1918)

Along with the British.

Several thousand Americans. (4,500 Americans landed in Archangel in Sept. 1918)

2. Intitial Reasons for Landing in the North:

- To prevent military supplies from falling in German hands.
- To prevent Germans from ~~making~~ establishing submarine bases.
- Allied Pressure on Wilson. He resisted at first, later gave in partly for the sake of Allied unity.

3. Later Use of American Troops there:

- To overthrow the Bolsheviks, support the Whites.
- To ~~stage~~ stage an attack southward toward Moscow (Jan. 1919)

4. Evacuation of Troops from the North (completed in Oct. 1919)

- Little prospect of overthrowing Bols. Whites losing.
- Disaffection among American troops.

II. AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN SIBERIA, AT VLADIVOSTOK. (Aug. 1918)

~~1. Pressure from the Allies -- on Pres. Wilson to increase our intervention. Wilson resisted for some time.~~

1. Japanese -- landed there, ~~hoped~~, hoping to seize territory. (Aug. 1918)

~~2. Wilson Decides on Large Intervention in the Far East (July 1918)~~

2. British and French -- ~~also~~ also sent troops.

3. Wilson's Reasons -- Confused, inconsistent, reasons given.

- Real reasons -- Pacify the Allies.
- Help overthrow Bolsheviks
- Rescue the Czechoslovaks

AND -- Keep an eye on the Japanese, prevent them from annexing Russian territory, and upsetting the balance of power in the Far East.

III. JAPANESE-AMERICAN FRICTION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCE.

1. Territorial aspirations.
2. Supported White leaders who were real bandits -- Semenov, Kalmikov.
3. American General (Graves) -- became disgusted. Refused to support the Whites, or to fight against the Reds.
- Mostly kept an eye on the Japanese.
4. American Troops withdrawn ← last ones left in April 1920.
5. Japanese Remained until Oct. 1922 -- Left partly because of American pressure.

IV. AMERICAN INTERVENTION COMPARED WITH INTERVENTION OF OTHER POWERS.

1. We were not the instigators of it. Reluctant partners.
2. Not as eager, or as active, as the Japanese, British, or French,
-But we did go along, to our discredit.
- ~~2. In the Far East~~
3. Our Motives -- Not as bad, at least, as those of the Japanese.
4. Net Results of our Intervention -- ⁱⁿ the Far East, we actually aided the Bolsheviki, by restraining the Japanese, and eventually, in 1922, in pressuring the Japanese to get out of Russian territory.

Otherwise, the Japanese might have annexed the Maritime Province, or Northern Sakhalin.

So we didn't look quite as bad to the Bols as the other Interventionists.

VI. ALLIED INTERVENTION IN RUSSIA.

1. Reasons for Intervention -- already discussed.

2. American Intervention in the North --

a. 5,000 American troops to Archangel

b. Complaints of American soldiers:

It's the land of the infernal odor,
The land of the national smell
The averal United States soldier
Would rather be quartered in L.

(bailey 242)

~~Inter-American~~ Inter

3. American Intervention in Siberia -- made everybody mad at us.

4. Results

VI. American Diplomats Leave.

VII. Ambassador of Prov. Govt (Bakmeter)

Quote from Kennan
Decision to Intervene, p. 470-1