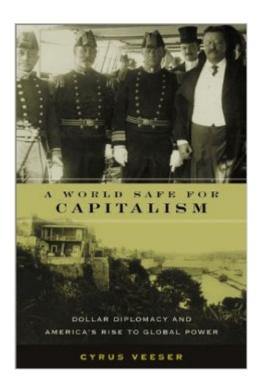
The book was found

A World Safe For Capitalism





Synopsis

This award-winning book provides a unique window on how America began to intervene in world affairs. In exploring what might be called the prehistory of Dollar Diplomacy, Cyrus Veeser brings together developments in New York, Washington, Santo Domingo, Brussels, and London. Theodore Roosevelt plays a leading role in the story as do State Department officials, Caribbean rulers, Democratic party leaders, bankers, economists, international lawyers, sugar planters, and European bondholders, among others. The book recounts a little-known incident: the takeover by the Santo Domingo Improvement Company (SDIC) of the foreign debt, national railroad, and national bank of the Dominican Republic. The inevitable conflict between private interest and public policy led President Roosevelt to launch a sweeping new policy that became known as the Roosevelt corollary to the Monroe Doctrine. The corollary gave the U. S. the right to intervene anywhere in Latin American that "wrongdoing or impotence" (in T. R.'s words) threatened "civilized society." The "wrongdoer" in this case was the SDIC. Imposing government control over corporations was launched and became a hallmark of domestic policy. By proposing an economic remedy to a political problem, the book anticipates policies embodied in the Marshall Plan, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank.

Book Information

Series: Columbia Studies in Contemporary American History

Hardcover: 190 pages

Publisher: Columbia University Press (September 15, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0231125860

ISBN-13: 978-0231125864

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,106,540 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #96 in Books > History >

Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Dominican Republic #2875 in Books > Politics & Social

Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Diplomacy #3175 in Books >

Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean &

Latin American

Customer Reviews

"A World Safe for Capitalism" is an excellent case study of Dollar Diplomacy. The story begins in the 1890s, when a U.S. company floated bonds in Europe to raise money for the Dominican Republic. Most of the money wasn't invested in productive assets, but was used instead to cover the DR government's operating expenses and to pay exorbitant fees to the company itself. This strategy wasn't sustainable, but money flowed in anyway, thanks to a surplus of idle capital in Europe and to investors' confidence that repayment was guaranteed by a lien on DR customs revenues. Eventually, the artificial structure came crashing down. The State Department and U.S. Navy were quick to lean on the Dominicans to pay their debts. Before long, however, it became clear that draining money from the DR was also unsustainable because it left the government too broke to maintain order. Even worse, enforcement of private U.S. claims, by preferring U.S. over European creditors, raised the prospect of European intervention. In 1905, the U.S. government changed course. It shunted aside the U.S. company, took control of DR customs revenues itself, and rescheduled the country's debt, essentially putting the DR into receivership. The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine was born." A World Safe for Capitalism" is well-written. It is alive to the nuances of international diplomacy and finance. It rejects simplistic models of U.S. foreign policy. It's a really good book. I took off one star only because of gaps in the narrative that betray the book's origin as a PhD dissertation. In particular, the focus is on the U.S. actors, with only a proforma treatment of the European bond holders and the Dominican government, even though they played huge roles in the story. This sort of omission is understandable and commonplace in a dissertation, but it isn't appropriate in a book issued by a major university press.

Download to continue reading...

Build a Survival Safe Home: The Latest Guide for Building Safe and Warm Wilderness Shelters (Survival Safe Home, Survival shelter, Survival shelter books) A World Safe for Capitalism: Dollar Diplomacy and America's Rise to Global Power (Columbia Studies in Contemporary American History) A World Safe for Capitalism Build a Survival Safe Home: Over 40 Helpful Tips on How to Construct a Protected Shelter and Defend Yourself and your Family from Natural Catastrophes ... a Survival Safe Home Books, survival home) Self Defense on the Street: Feel Safe Be Safe (Deadly Attack Survival Book 2) Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Politics: Transmedia World-Building Beyond Capitalism (Radical Cultural Studies) Money, Greed, and God: Why Capitalism Is the Solution and Not the Problem Framing Finance: The Boundaries of Markets and Modern Capitalism A User's Guide to Capitalism and Schizophrenia: Deviations from Deleuze and Guattari The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism Capitalism v. Democracy: Money in Politics and the Free Market Constitution The Plantation Machine: Atlantic Capitalism in French

Saint-Domingue and British Jamaica (The Early Modern Americas) Sugar Cane Capitalism and Environmental Transformation: An Archaeology of Colonial Nevis, West Indies (Caribbean Archaeology and Ethnohistory) The Constitution: Understanding America's Founding Document (Values and Capitalism) Climate Capitalism: Global Warming and the Transformation of the Global Economy China: History of China - History of an Empire: A Historical Overview of China, & East Asia. Including: Ancient China, Communism, & Capitalism (Chinese ... Medicine, Mao Zedung, Confucius Book 1) Making Money: Coin, Currency, and the Coming of Capitalism Fifty Years Later: Antislavery, Capitalism and Modernity in the Dutch Orbit City of Gold: Dubai and the Dream of Capitalism Falso Amanecer/ False Dawn: Los Enganos Del Capitalismo Global / the Delusions of Global Capitalism (Paidos Estado Y Sociedad / Paidos State and Society) (Spanish Edition)

Dmca