

## Panama: The Colombian Perspective

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In 1903 the Colombian Senate did not approve a treaty allowing the US to build a channel in Panamá, a remote province of Colombia. The Panama leaders felt mistreated and declared independence. The Colombian government sent troops to quell rebellion, but the US government, in the name of humanities' progress, blocked them. Panamá became an independent country, a US company built the channel and Colombia, finally, accepted what she could not change. A tangled story, with contradictory policies and conflicting actors within each country.