Military Intervention throughout Victorian Britain

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Africa (The Second Boer War 1899-1902):
- Contemporary Connections
  - Interventions as part of a quest for regional hegemony or balance of power (Iraq against Iran, Vietnam against China)
  - Conflict fought for resources (Oil in Iraq, Rubber in Vietnam)
  - Harsh treatment of POWs and civilians (Abu Ghraib in Iraq, the Phoenix Program in Vietnam)
  - Initial expectations of winning an easy victory (Shock & Awe and Mission Accomplished in Iraq)
  - Difficulty countering insurgency campaigns (Al Qaeda in Iraq, Taliban in Afghanistan, Viet Cong in Vietnam)
  - Continental European opposition to foreign interventions (Backlash against Iraq war, French withdraw from Vietnam)

China (First Opium War 1839-1842 and Second Opium War 1856-1860):
- Contemporary Connections of First Opium War
  - Motivated by nationalist sentiment (First and Second World War, Chinese Civil War, Russian intervention in Ukraine)
  - Stemmed from trade disputes like a Chinese trade surplus of gold, silver, and tea exports to England and Chinese attempts to prohibit opium imports from British India
  - Internationalization of a regional conflict (Syrian Civil War)
- Outcomes
  - Reparations, opened ports, and gave the city of Hong Kong to Great Britain in perpetuity
  - The British Supplemental Treaty of the Bogue - Gave extraterritoriality rights & most favoured nation status
- Contemporary Connections of Second Opium War
  - (World War 2 & Chinese Civil War)
  - Resurgence of rightist nationalist group (Putin and the Ukraine)
  - Arrow Ship incident leads to the renewal of the Opium War
  - British responded by bombarding Canton and invading the city
  - French joined the fighting after a French missionary was killed
  - Four Treaties of Tientsin between Great Britain, France, US and Russia brought the end of conflict
    - More ports opened, established British diplomatic mission, re-negotiation of the tariff and due rates, all ports are opened to British warships that do not have ill-intent, and reparations

China (Boxer Rebellion 1899-1901):
- Contemporary Connections
  - "Resource Curse" leading to more instability and violence (Iraq, Central Africa)
  - Uprising in China launched by rebels known as "Boxers" against Western colonialism in China
    - Caused by geographical reasons, religious reasons, and anti-foreign sentiment
      - Contemporary connection with these causes and the rise of ISIS
    - Goal was to kill and drive away foreigners, foreign culture, and Christianity
  - Empress Dowager Cixi of the Qing Dynasty backed the rebellion
  - In August 1900, the foreign nations organized the Eight-Nation Alliance to end it all with 20,000 troops total
  - September 7, 1901 officially ended the rebellion with the Boxer Protocol
  - The total deaths were estimated at 100,000 people or more

India (Indian Rebellion of 1857):
- Contemporary Connection: Indirect rule giving way to British Raj has some similarities to US intervention in Vietnam
  - In 1840s and 1850s British practices in India became more interventionist & heavy-handed, imposed British culture
  - Immediate results:
    - Government of India Act of 1858 - Brings India under direct rule of the British crown
    - East India Company replaced by a new Indian Civil Service & the Viceroy of India and India Office were created
    - Influx of British soldiers moved into India
    - Queen Victoria’s proclamation on the 1st of November, 1858 ushers in the British Raj
  - Long term effects = Despite Queen Victoria pronouncing equal opportunity for Indians, racial disparities and resentment continued, independence would begin in the 1880s, and the partition of India would launch in 1947