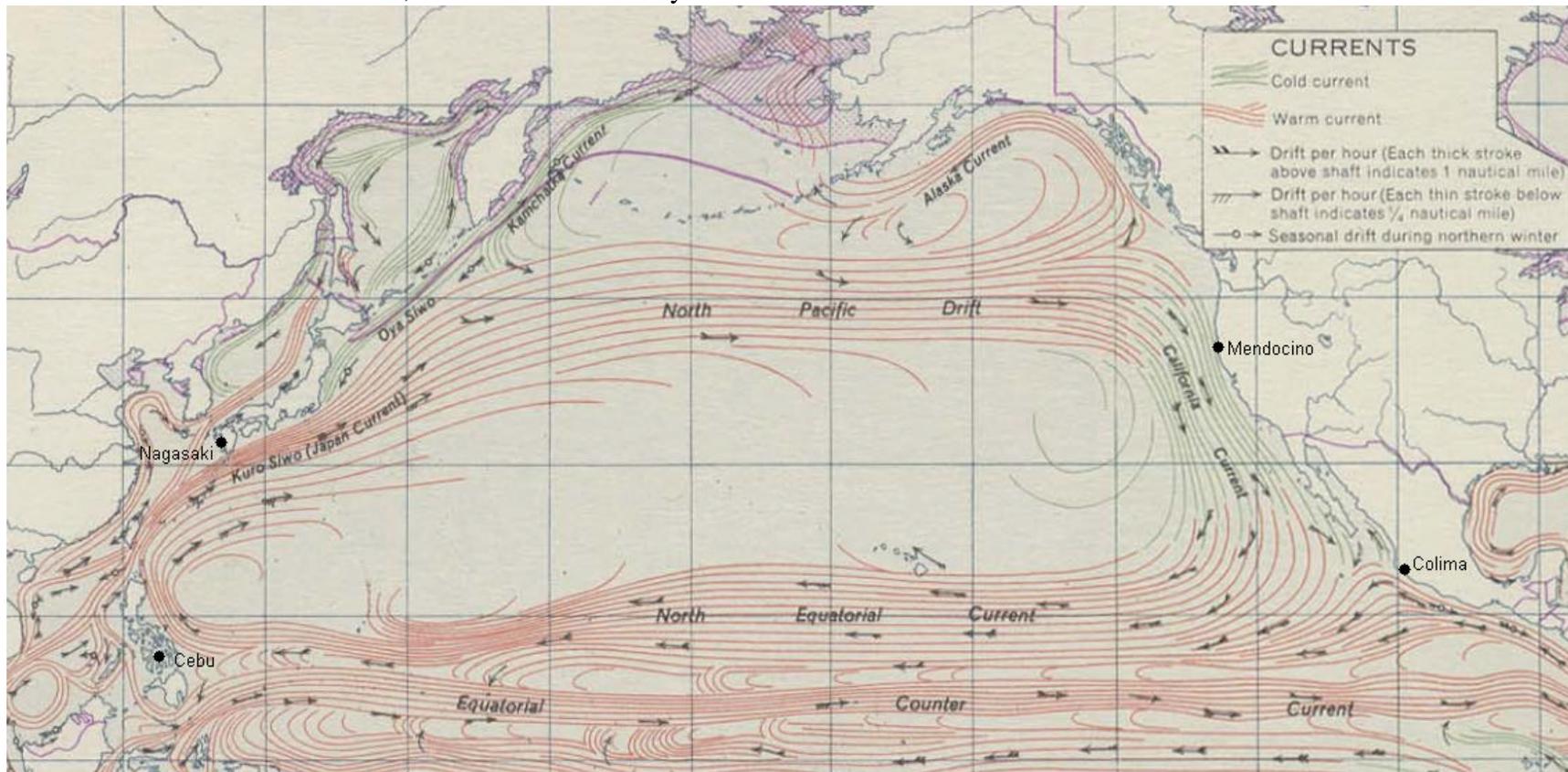




In 1565 Andres De Urdaneta, a Spanish friar, discovered the Pacific western trade wind.

At about 1 nautical mile, the earth's natural ocean currents will transport a ship from Cebu, in the Philippines, past Nagasaki, Japan, directly to the Mendocino coast in California, and from there directly south to the state of Colima in Mexico.



The capital of the Spanish empire in the New World (all of Latin America and the American south west) was Mexico city. The closest port on the Pacific side to the capital was in Colima.

However, throughout the middle ages, until the early 1800s, finely manufactured goods produced primarily in China, but also throughout asia, were the rage in Europe. Porcelain art, fine vases, textiles, silks, spices, games, flooded Europe from China and Asia. In return thousands of pounds of silver flooded Asia from silver mines located in Mexico and owned by the Spanish.



From Mexico city these imported goods from travel across the Atlantic ocean to Europe. In order to secure the trade route from the Russians (who had already established Fort Ross in Mendocino) or the English, the Spanish built a series of forts from south of Mendocino, California all the way to Mexico city. These forts over time become large settlements, known today as the Spanish missions. If there was never a natural trade current that landed just north of San Francisco bay, and there was not a lucrative global trade with Asia that encouraged the Spanish to provide security for their trade route, then the State of California would never have been developed. It was not until around 1830 that land routes were looked for and found to reach California from either northern Mexico or the American Midwest. The old Spanish trail from Pueblo de Los Angeles to Sante Fe, is now known as I-40, a major goods movement truck route.

TODAY:

- Western countries prefer manufactured goods from China, Japan and the Phillipines.
- The Asian economies primarily depend on western money coming in for goods going out
- Cebu, is still the number one port and industrial complex in the Phillipines.
- Colima, is the location of port of Manzanillo, the number one port in all of Mexico. And the Mexican state with highest percentage of people of Phillipino ancestry.
- The western trade wind is still the preferred path for all Pacific shipping. Although modern ships have engines, ships use much less fuel using this current along with diesel power instead of using engine power alone. In addition, there is a proposal to attach giant kites to super cargo ships and sail them across the Pacific using no engine power.

- The California economy literally depends on the goods movement trade



Spanish Galleon, San Diego, California



Spanish ships wrecked off California coast: San Agustin (off Drakes bay), Santa Marta (Catalina island), Nuestra Senora de Ayuda (West of Catalina island), San Sebastian (Santa Catalina island)