Spanish American War
1898

A Newspaperman’s War

video
Aim: Why did the United States go to war with Spain in 1898?

Historical Context-1898

video
A QUIZ FOR CUBA

Stowes on Lorenzo and Emma in Colombia—What! Hang with that cry for aid at your door! What would have been your fate if we had acted quickly in your hour of tribulation!
1. Who is this woman? What does she represent?
2. What do you think is happening on the island?
3. What message is the cartoonist conveying?
War

- **Underlying Causes**: ongoing issues
- **Immediate Cause**: specific events - Spark
Causes of Spanish-American War

• Cuban Revolution
  – Americans sympathized with rebels – seen as similar struggle to American Revolution

• Yellow Journalism
  – “You Furnish the pictures and I’ll furnish the war.” – William Randolph Hearst
  – Reports on Spanish atrocities

• U.S. Business interests in Cuba – sugar plantations – concerned about instability

• IMMEDIATE CAUSE - Explosion of the Maine
THE SPANISH BRUTE
ADDs MUTILATION TO MURDER.

MAINE SAILORS MURDERED BY SPAIN
EXECUTION OF CUBAN SPIES.

Many spies captured by the Spanish troops have been executed without the formality of a trial. The usual mode of execution is to bind them to trees, as seen in the engraving, while a detail of soldiers stands at a short distance from them and fires at the word of command.
DESTRUCTION OF THE WAR SHIP MAINE WAS THE WORK OF AN ENEMY.

$50,000! $50,000 REWARD! For the Detection of the Perpetrator of the Maine Outrage!

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt Convinced the Explosion of the War Ship Was Not an Accident.

The Journal Offers $50,000 Reward for the Conviction of the Criminals Who Sent 268 American Sailors to Their Death. Naval Officers Unanimous That the Ship Was Destroyed on Purpose.

NAVAL OFFICERS THINK THE MAINE WAS DESTROYED BY A SPANISH MINE

Hidden Mine or Sunken Torpedo Believed to have Been the Weapon Used Against the American War Ship—War—Officers and Men Tell Thrilling Story of First Blow by the Air—A Mound of Shattered Steel and Exploding Shells—Survivors Saw Ship Go Down to The Ocean's Bed.
CRISIS IS AT HAND
CABINET IN SESSION, GROWING BELIEF IN
SPANISH TREACHERY.

MAINE DESTROYED BY AN
OUTSIDE ATTACK, NAVAL
OFFICERS BELIEVE.

CENSORED DISPATCHES FROM
HAVANA SAY A SHOT WAS
HEARD BEFORE THE SHIP'S
MAGAZINES BLOW UP.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

SPAIN'S DENIAL.

MCKINLEY SUSPICIOUS
OF SPANISH PLOTS.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.

ENGLAND BELIEVES IT WILL PLAY.

McKinley Suspects
Spanish Plots.
Cuban Sugar Plantation
“A Splendid Little War”
- John Hay, Sec. of State

What should the U.S. do now?
Results of the War

• Cuba
  – Forced to accept Platt Amendment
  - Established Protectorate
    - U.S. control of foreign policy
    - Could send in military
    - Guantanamo Bay

• Treaty of Paris (1898) - U.S.
  Acquired following territories
  - Puerto Rico
  - Guam
  - Philippines
Philippines Debate – A U.S. Empire? (1898, 1899)

Albert J. Beveridge – U.S. Senator from Indiana
Interprets American history in a way that supports expansionism
   Thomas Jefferson – Strict Constructionist
   Seward – William Seward

Platform of the American Anti-Imperialist League - Group that opposed expansionism
   Samual Gompers
   Andrew Carnegie
Philippines Debate

For Annexation
- Rivalries with other countries
- White Man’s Burden - “Fit for self government”
- Potential business interests
- Foothold in Asia to exercise more influence

Against
- Who - Anti-Imperialist League (Mark Twain – VP), William Jennings Bryan
- Why?
  - Countries need to learn democracy through experience – can’t be imposed
  - Inconsistent with Principles of Dec. of Independence and self-determination
  - Would eventually bring US into conflict with Japan
"The World's Plunderers"

By Thomas Nast, Harper's Weekly, 1885

Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.
Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.