

# Spanish-American War Chapter 20 p. 559-567

## I. War with Spain

1. Imperial ambitions had begun within the United States open for the late 1890s. But war with Spain in 1898 turn those stirrings into over expressionism. The war transformed America's relationships the rest of world and left the nation far-flung overseas empire.

### ***B. Yellow journalism:***

1. Joseph Pulitzer traveled to New York city in 1883 to buy struggling paper, the *World*.
2. The success of the *World* Mark birth of what came to be known as "yellow journalism"
3. This term most likely came from the color of papers yellow kid comics strip but came to mean something else entirely different. It referred to as sensationalists style of writing, the self conscious effort to reach a mass-market, but spread quickly through urban America and change the character of newspapers forever.
4. The style of writing appealed to the working-class readers
5. This is the style that we mainly see you today with its own colored special section on Sunday with comics illustrated features coverage of sports fashion literature and theater. That pioneered large clearing overheated headlines that captured the eyes of those passing the newsstands.
6. This style quickly caught on and spread to many other newspapers
7. Newspaper stopped merely just reporting the facts but strive to apprehend the criminal as an example to bring him to the bar justice rather than just giving the details.
8. The Civil War in Cuba in the late 1890s between native rebels and the Spanish colonial regime gave both papers are best opportunities yet for combining sensational reporting with shameless appeals to patriotism and moral outrage.

### **C. Controversy over Cuba**

1. The Spanish-American war emerged out of the vents in Cuba.
2. Cuba had been resisting Spanish role sense 1868
3. Americans sympathize with the Cubans but didn't intervene
4. In 1895 Cubans rose up again and deliberately devastated the island to force the Spaniards to leave.
5. The Spanish prepared concentration camps where civilians died by the thousands
  - a) (this rebellion produced a ferocity on both sides that were five Americans)
6. The conflict in Cuba gave American publishers opportunity in their newspapers
7. Pres. Cleveland kept to America's neutrality and keeping American neutral, when McKinley became president in 1897 he took a stronger stand and formally protested Spain's "uncivilized and inhuman" conduct.
8. To dramatic incidents in Cuba occurred that rid of all chances there were for a peaceful settlement
  - a) The Cuban agents in Havana stole a private letter written by Dupuy de Lôme, the Spanish minister in Washington, and turned it over to the American press. The letter described McKinley as a weak man and a bidder for the admiration of the crowd. Lôme promptly resigned.
  - b) The American battleship Maine blew up in Havana harbor with the loss of more than 260 people. It was assumed the Spanish were responsible, but war hysteria slept the country, and Congress unanimously appropriated \$50 million for military preparations for war.
9. McKinley still hope to avoid conflict but his administration were clamoring for war.
10. In March 1898, the president of Spain to agree to an armistice, negotiations for permanent peace, and then end to the concentration camps. Spain agreed to stop fighting and eliminate the concentration camps but *refused* to negotiate with the rebels and reserve the right to resume hostilities it's discretion
11. This neither satisfy the public opinion nor Congress, and a few days later McKinley asked for and received a congressional declaration of war

### **D. "A splendid little war"**

1. 4 Causes of civil war – (CLASS NOTES)
  - a) Human Rights Violations
    - (1) Spain vs. Cuba
      - (a) Cuba fighting for independence (1868-1898)
    - (2) In 1898, the Spanish want to stop the war, so they send General Weyler to stop the rebellion at all costs
    - (3) Spain can't win because the Cubans used Guerrilla combat, where they wouldn't wear uniforms (the spanish didn't know who the bad guys or good guys were

- (4) So Weyler to order all loyal cubans into concentration camps, and all of those who didn't go into the concentration camps were the enemies, many died in the concentration camps, because they were inadequate for what was needed to survive
  - (5) We did the same thing 4 years later with the Philippines.
  - (6) USA Response?
    - (a) USA thought that people had the right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.
  - (7) Was there a way that Weyler could have done to not use the concentration camps?
    - (a) Could scare the loyalists into rating out the revolutionists like the "Red Scare", almost like the witch trials as well.
    - (b) Set up a puppet ruler to reach the people on a more local level
    - (c) Secret Police to extract and kill the rebels (bribery), but could even strengthen the rebels want to revolt
    - (d) Although there's no other viable alternative, because the snowball has gained speed
  - (8) US is good at taking a stance, McKinley condemns the Spanish, and orders them to cease and desist.
    - (a) Thus strengthening the US as a power
    - (b) but it also doesn't bring America into War
  - (9) Why don't we go to war?
    - (a) 25,000 regular troops in the US military at this point which wasn't large at all, and they were currently in the west because they were motoring the Indians.
    - (b) On a public level, our nation wasn't really united. The underlying division in America was the racial tension from the Jim Crow laws. The South doesn't really recover until the 1950's. The animosity is still there from the civil war. McKinley is frightened that if we start war against Spain that we as a nation aren't going to stay together.
    - (c) Spain listens to America, and replaces Weyler, and modified the concentration camps (released people in some areas, less harsh, began to disassemble, begin to remove them)
    - (d) Spain still refused to negotiate with the rebels.
    - (e) Instead of compromising to avoid conflict, USA says it's our way or the highway because Spain moves too slow in changing
  - b) Yellow Journalism
    - (1) Sensationalism, exaggerations of the truth, propaganda
      - (a) Propaganda in cartoons
    - (2) For money!!!! Want to sell their papers!
    - (3) The more sensational, the more they sell
    - (4) *"You furnish the pictures, I'll finish the War."* - Hearst to his photographer
    - (5) Their skewed presentation leads the American public to support war
    - (6) Violence, Sex, Drugs, and Rock&Roll (celebrities) gets most of the views in papers
    - (7) War fits nicely into this
    - (8) **Joseph Martee (A Cuban poet) that's pushing to get the Cubans to revolt against the Spanish and to get America into the War to help the Cubans**
    - (9) American Public is now Anti-Spanish, and the Spanish are starting to worry about it.
  - c) De Lôme Letter
    - (1) The Spanish King wants to know if the Americans will seriously get involved
    - (2) He gets an eye witness account from the ambassador of Spain in the US, and asks him if he should worry about America getting involved in the war, and he replies that: **McKinley is weak; and has no stomach for war.**
    - (3) The letter is intercepted, and published!
    - (4) American Public increased to a fervor for war!!!! No one can talk about our president that way.
    - (5) President McKinley then (after reading the letter) and reacts that sticks and stones may break his bones, and doesn't go to war
    - (6) People call the president weak then, McKinley is forced into going into war because of public opinion, he's between a rock and a hard place
  - d) The USS Maine - Feb. 15 1898
    - (1) Top of the line battleship tec.
    - (2) US sends it to dock in Havana Harbor, capital of Cuba
    - (3) Sent "to protect American business interests"
    - (4) We actually sent it to intimidate the Spanish, to show American resolve and power
    - (5) February 20<sup>th</sup> 1898, the USS Maine explodes, killing more than 260 Americans
    - (6) Theory:
      - (a) Spanish did it!
      - (b) Cubans could've done it to start the war
      - (c) Crazy Americans did it
  2. We didn't go to war because William McKinley doesn't want to go to war, which is why he delayed
    - a) He doesn't want to risk American lives
  3. American Attitude
    - a) American public, is Beveridge
    - b) McKinley, is Reluctant
- E. The War - 1898
1. Mobilization
    - a) 28,000 regular army (whole army)
      - (1) Why is it so small?
        - (a) Because we were rebuilding the south, and put more need in this.
      - (2) Most of the army was out west, monitoring the Indians

- (a) Last major battle with indians in 1890, at Wounded Knew, not fighting them then.
  - (b) Monitoring the Sioux indians, because they were the most dangerous because of its size
  - (3) To get more soldiers, they had the President asked the public to volunteer to fight
    - (a) 1<sup>st</sup> US Volunteer Calvary aka "Roughriders"
    - (b) Called this because they were rough around the edges, and 'different'
      - i) Command goes to Leonard Wood
      - ii) Teddy Roosevelt gets the second in command, and brings money and supplies
    - (c) Most of the people came from the AZ & NM territory (wild west), some are cowboys or ranch hands.
      - i) People who were in trouble in the west could die, or join the military, so most went to the military, thus some of them were criminals
    - (d) &, women like men in uniform, so also college boys (esp. from Harvard, Yale & Columbia because of Roosevelt's ties in NY) were seen in the Roughriders
    - (e) So the privileged & the criminal were in the same regimen
  - b) Out-Dated Weapons
    - (1) How can they use outdated weapons if it has already been surpassed, the US were using the Civil War Rifle instead of a repeating riffle, because we were trying to save money
    - (2) The Spanish on the other hand have new tec.
      - (a) Smoke is a dead giveaway with weapons, and the civil war used smoke cartridges, while the spanish had smokeless
  - c) Wool Uniforms
    - (1) Warm, cheaper, durable, but not good for the tropics
  - d) Racism
    - (1) The people being very patriotic, this gets a lot of people to join
    - (2) 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> US regular calvary, use them because they show how far the military has come (AA Soldiers) sent to patrol and keep peace with Sioux Nation
      - (a) They are given the name "The Buffalo Soldier", which is a sign of respect
    - (3) Sioux are treated similarly to the AA soldiers
    - (4) In Tampa, (where they were trained) are made to cross the Mason Dixon line, where they are mistreated and trained, and are forced to set up camp in a park while they wait for a late ship. The 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> soldiers move into the park, that was labeled "white only", starting a riot.
  - e) Can't take it off, because it's needed to identify, and to protect from misquotes which have diseases
    - (1) Like Yellow Fever, Malaria, Dysentery
2. Battles
- a) Manila Bay, Philippines, May 1 1898
    - (1) Commodore George Dewey
      - (a) In charge of the US Pacific fleet
      - (b) Sees Spanish flee, and contacts Washington for orders
    - (2) Asst. Secy. Roosevelt says eliminate any threat to your fleet
    - (3) Pacific fleet crushed spanish fleet in Manila Bay, and the entire Spanish fleet was destroyed
      - (a) The US only lost one person from heat stroke
    - (4) Marines & Emilio Agrinaldo force spanish to surrender
    - (5) **US take control**
    - (6) McKinley tells his cabinet not to go to war without his direction a week earlier
    - (7) Roosevelt later resigns and goes to where the action is
  - b) Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba
    - (1) Santiago Harbor is a deep water harbor, which allows for larger ships to come into port
    - (2) Santiago has a mountainous city known as the San Juan hills, and the largest/most strategic hill is called San Juan hill
    - (3) Whoever controls San Juan hill controls the city of Santiago, which controls the harbor of Santiago, and the Spanish won't give the hill up
    - (4) 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> are sent to take San Juan because of experience, and 1<sup>st</sup> is sent to take it's sister hill Kettle Hill
    - (5) 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> start up San Juan hill, and they "hit a brick wall", they can't make it up the hill, they're stuck
    - (6) Teddy orders the assault on Kettle hill, and he took the lead in the battle and because it's less defended, the riders take Kettle Hill, and told to wait for San Juan to be taken over
    - (7) Teddy however orders the riders to help the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> take San Juan hill because the Spanish have the most of their forces deeply intrrenched in San Juan hill, and flank the Spanish
      - (a) Teddy's actions show that he's very proud
    - (8) Other regimens were included, but these three were the main ones.
    - (9) The US win San Juan hill
      - (a) The victory is credited to the roughriders, and Teddy becomes a household word
      - (b) by mid 1998, Teddy is a war hero, returns to NY in 1899 and elected governor.
      - (c) When McKindly is reelected in 1900, Teddy becomes VP, and when McKindly is assassinated, Teddy goes from Asst. Secretary in the Navy, to the President of the US
        - i) This is partially due because the NY Journal took the "local boy" as a major hero, and blew him out of proportion
    - (10) Spanish now have problems, because they sent in their fleet to help their troops, but now that they don't have Santiago, they run risk of loosing their fleet, the US takes advantage of this, and the Battle of Santiago Harbor takes place
  - c) Battle of Santiago Harbor
    - (1) Admiral William T. Sampson is credited with the attack on the US
    - (2) The US Crushes the Spanish atlantic fleet
    - (3) and US had one death, from heart attack
    - (4) Destroyed the Spanish Pacific in Manila Bay, and then the Atlantic here

(5) US and Cuban rebels take Cuba

(6) By August, the US takes Puerto Rico, the last Spanish outpost in 1898, and the war is over

3. Treaty of Paris of 1898 finished the Spanish American war – (END OF CLASS NOTES)
4. The Cuban rebels had already greatly weakened the Spanish resistance which made American intervention a little more than a mopping up exercise
5. The only serious problems were with shortages of modern rifles and ammunition, uniforms to have the for the warm Caribbean weather, inadequate medical services, and skimpy almost indigestible food.
6. There are also a few racial conflicts, because a significant proportion of the American invasion force consisted of black soldiers.
  - a) The sight of black Cuban soldiers fighting alongside white equals give American blacks a strong sense of the injustice of their own position

#### F. Seizing the Philippines

1. After war was declared on Spain assistant secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt's strengthens the Navy Pacific squadron and ship did that it Scamander to attack Spanish naval forces in the Philippines in the event of war.
2. Immediately after war was declared Commodore George Dewey sailed for Manila.
3. Once they gained the Philippines there had not been a decision about what the United States would do with them

#### G. The battle for Cuba

1. Gen. William R Shafter the American commander move toward Santiago which he planned to surround and capture
2. General Shafter took charge of the American forces that Santiago and struggled would've been almost just Bert theory to ensure that is Ridgevan made it to the Front before the fighting ended
3. American forces were position to assault Santiago but the army was weakened by sickness and feared that they might have to abandon their position. Especially since the American naval force blockading Santiago refuse to the harbor because of mines. Disaster seems imminent but Spanish government give up hope on since July 16 and ordered retreat. The waiting American squadron just destroyed the entire Spanish fleet and on July 16 the commander of the Spanish ground forces in Santiago surrendered around the same time an American Army army landed in Puerto Rico and occupied it against virtually no opposition

#### H. Puerto Rico in the United States

1. The annexation of Puerto Rico produced relatively little controversy United States
2. Puerto Rican society was based on a ruling class and a large African workforce for the coffee and sugar plantations that dominated its economy
3. Uprisings began around the 1820's against Spanish rule
  - a) The growing resistance brought some reforms such as the abolition of slavery in 1873 representation in the Spanish Parliament and other changes
  - b) Demands for independence continue to grow
  - c) Spain granted the islands degree of independence but for the changes could take any affects control of Puerto Rico shifted to the United States
4. American military forces will be islands until 1901 this for her and in military rule and establish a formal colonial government: an American Gov. and a two chamber legislature
5. However United States can't remember veto any legislation the Puerto Ricans past. Agitation for Independence continued and 1917 pressure to clarify the relationship between Puerto Rico and America, Congress passed the Jones Act, Which declared Puerto Rico to be the United States territory and made all Puerto Ricans American citizens.
6. Without the tariff the Puerto Rican sugar industry flourished as it took advantage of the American market