

Annotated Bibliography

Primary

Abbot, Willis John. *Blue Jackets of '98: A History of the Spanish-American War*. New York, NY: Dodd, Mead, 1899. *Google Books*. Google. Web. 7 May 2011.

Willis John Abbot was a journalist who primarily wrote about war, army, and navy. This book, written about a year after the war ended, charts the history of the Spanish-American War. There is a section that talks about the Maine and what role it played in sending America to war. Abbot mentions an event in 1873 where an American ship was captured by the Spanish, and her crew executed. The US was unable to respond because of its lack of naval power. However, after the Maine explosion, the US was able to respond, and it did.

This book helped show that Spain had a reputation for being cruel throughout history, and that America always had problems with Spain. With the explosion of the Maine, it was just another act by Spain against the US, that could not be tolerated.

Alger, Russell A. *The Spanish-American War*. New York, NY: Harper and Brothers, 1901. *Google Books*. Google. Web. 7 May 2011.

Russell Alger was the Secretary of War from 1897 to 1899. This book is another general history of the Spanish-American War, that contains a part on the Maine. From one of my previous sources, I learned that there were two sides on how the public reacted to the explosion. Alger seems to be on the side that believes the public waited patiently to see the results of the naval inquiry before forming any opinions. He then goes on to say that once the results declared that there was an external explosion, people then lost all hope for peace with Spain, and that "the most zealous optimist felt his hopes falling from him and saw at last the vision of the coming cataclysm."

"Destruction of USS Maine." *Naval History & Heritage Command*. 16 April 2011. <<http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq71-1.htm>>.

The Naval History & Heritage Command is an official website of the United States Navy. Since the USS Maine was a part of the Navy, the facts about it must be as accurate as possible. According to the source, they believe too that the USS Maine was a major trigger that led to the Spanish-American War, which they also believe, was a major turning point in this US history. The Cubans' plea for independence attracted sympathies from the US citizen, which understands the Cubans. In January of 1898, a riot supporting the Cubans independence was instigated, raised concern for the country's capital, Washington. In order to protect the citizen from any threats, Washington ordered the second class battleship, USS Maine, to Havana Harbor for protection. Three weeks later an explosion sunk the USS Maine, and elevated the tension between Spain and the US. The US Navy Department immediately formed a board of inquiry to investigate what had caused the explosion, and concluded that a mine set off under the ship. Even though Spain was unidentified as the cause, the people blamed Spain, and on 25 April 1898, Congress

formally declared war.

"The Maine Blown Up." 17 February 1898. *New York Times*. 5 May 2011. <<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/big/0215.html#article>>.

This is an online version of the actual newspaper published by the New York Times, back in 1898 after the Maine has exploded. There are many yellow journalism back then, especially with local newspaper, but the New York Times seems to show no sign of bias at all. The newspaper even quote Senor De Lome, who stated that no Spaniard were the cause of the explosion. New York Times seems to want people to hesitate and really examine the cause of the explosion before going to war. Despite the effort by New York Times, and many others including President McKinley, the voice of the nation was for war with Spain. It was from the pride of American that the people were all so proud to have fought the Spanish-American War, ideally jingoism.

"The Maine Blown Up!" *The Mason City Globe-Gazette* 17 Feb. 1898: 1. *HistoryBuff.com*. Web. 17 Apr. 2011. <<http://historybuff.com/archives/new/?ID=500>>.

Many newspapers printed articles on the explosion of the battleship *Maine*, this source was one of them. In the article there were some interesting bits of information about a possible conspiracy, and some telegraphs and conversations that were not revealed to the public. The article shows the uncertainty about what actually happened when it repeatedly reports that most sailors were unable to remember any specific information about the explosion, and that naval officials had not discovered the cause yet. It was this uncertainty that led to Americans jumping to conclusions, and the start of the Spanish-American War.

Schurz, Carl. "Thoughts on American Imperialism." *The Century* 56.5 (1898): 781-88. *Making of America*. Cornell University Library. Web. 22 Apr. 2011. <<http://digital.library.cornell.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=cent;idno=cent0056-5>>.

The Century was a "popular quarterly." In this article, Schurz talks about the forces that were driving imperialism, such as the belief in having responsibilities and duties as a nation. He also talked about whether a nation should get involved with the outside world, or just keep to itself. After the Spanish-American War, which was called, "a war of disinterested benevolence," the United States had to choose between their traditional foreign policy or a new one. Their choice would effect their reputation as a democratic society. This article provided great insight into what America thought about imperialism after the Spanish-American War.

Zimmermann, Warren. *First Great Triumph*. New York City: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002.

Warren Zimmermann spent thirty-three years as an officer in the US Foreign Service, and has once served in Spain. In order to write this book, Zimmermann has consulted numerous sources, over a hundred. According to book, the Spanish-American War serves as a turning point for the US, making the country achieve recognition as a world power. At time after the Civil War, even though the US has mushroomed the number of its navy, the country lost pace to other rivalries, such as the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan. The victory over the Spaniard brought the US successes, for "now Americans and their

leaders could act with self-confidence, a sense of their own power, and an abiding belief that they could shape international life according to their values." Not only that, but the War also unifies the country economically and socially once more, which previously was torn apart by the Civil War. Theodore Roosevelt gained momentous supports and ratifications for war from all over the country, from which the country as a whole unites.

Secondary

Boyle, Charles, ed. TimeFrame AD 1850-1900: The Colonial Overlords. TimeFrame. Alexandria, VA: Time-Life Books, 1990.

A book in a series about world history on a timeline. Many consultants and editors worked on the book, making it a valuable source. The book helped explain the effects that the Spanish-American War had on America's views about foreign affairs. It also split Americans between viewing the acquiring of Spanish territories as a negative or beneficial act. This debate has been going on for many years and is still alive today.

Freidel, Frank. *The Splendid Little War*. Ithaca: Burford Books, 2002.

Prior to the Spanish-American War the United States was in a deep depression and many influential businessmen felt that a war with Spain would not only help the United States economically, but also helped the United States to become a world power. The War, brought about by newspaper publishers, such as Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer, spicing up the news, did help the US gets back on its feet. Prior to the War, the US not only was isolated and weak, due to being torn apart by first the Revolutionary War, and latest the Civil War. The Spanish-American War, brought about by the USS Maine, really was a splendid little war. It was the first step the US takes to become a world power.

Gleijeses, Piero. "1898: The Opposition to the Spanish-American War." *Journal of Latin American Studies* 35.4 (2003): 681-719. JSTOR. Web. 1 May 2011.

Piero Gleijeses is a professor at The John Hopkins University. Gleijeses examined papers of the McKinley administration, the Congressional Record, and forty-one U.S. newspapers to answer the questions: why was opposition to the war so strong in America?; and why did it not prevail? He provides evidence that the Maine explosion caused many newspapers to instantly switch their position on the war, from anti-war to pro-war. It is very clear from the article that there were many people strongly opposed to the war, but then after the explosion of the Maine it cause the majority of the country to shift, showing that the explosion was a significant cause of the war.

Hodge, Carl C., and Cathal J. Nolan, eds. U.S. Presidents and Foreign Policy. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2007. Google Books. 22 Apr. 2011 <<http://books.google.com/bkshp?hl=en&tab=pp>>.

A book that touches on the foreign policy of every U.S. president from 1789-2007. In the section on President McKinley was a description of the Spanish-American War's effect on imperialism. It also tells how the war made American a world power because of the

territorial gains from the U.S. victory. Even though at his inauguration McKinley said he wanted to avoid wars like this, the pressure from political parties and citizens drove him to declare war.

Hunt, Michael. *Ideology and US Foreign Policy*. New Heaven: Yale University Press, 2009.

Michael Hunt is a historian who is specialize in US foreign relations and international/global history. The book was published under Yale University Press, meaning it is a scholarly book for a specific audience. According to Hunt one of the reasons that American can freely express their hatred against Communism today is because of the explosion of the Maine. Before the War, America was isolated from the world, from the moment the people have won independent from Britain. Winning the War brought American to being a world power, but it also spread internationalism and became imperialist. Having become a world power, America could now spread its values and believes, including that of democracy, and fight back communism wherever it is spreading. All this was the effect of a turning point in the history of the US, the explosion of the USS Maine.

Kennedy, Paul. "Birth of A Superpower." *Roosevelt's expanded Navy vanquished Spain and helped the U.S. project its might around the world*, 5 May 2011, pg. 2-3.

The document is listed under Google Scholar, under the direct search term of "USS Maine." Theodore Roosevelt was the person responsible for transforming the US into a world power, even before when he was the president. In fact he did it beginning when the Maine exploded, and opened up the opportunity for war with Spain. Roosevelt has always been an advocate for war with Spain, to drive out its presence in Cuba and Philippines; and to turn Spain into a minor power, while turning the US the opposite. As Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt was determine for war with Spain, and through any methods did he accomplish such that. The war promoted stronger Navy power, much more powerful naval ships than the Maine. And due to the importance of naval power, Roosevelt urged for a construction of a canal across Central America, to defend against those threats in the Atlantic and the Pacific. Slowly, as the US expanded its presence became known world-wide, and slowly it began its rise to a world power.

Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. New York City: Atheneum Macmillan Publishing Company, 1999.

Moritz, Frederic. "Creelman in Cuba." 2009. WorldlyMind.org. 8 May 2011. <<http://www.worldlymind.org/creelcuba.htm>>.

Today Americans love their country, they serve their country, and they are proud of their country. These are signs of jingoism, which really was introduced to Americans when they successfully gained independent from the British Empire. However, the idea was emphasized on heavily during the era of the Spanish-American War. Once again, there is the whole connection as to why the effects of the War is the effect of the USS Maine. The Maine, its explosion to be exact, promoted jingoism once again in American, which has seemed as if everyone had almost forgotten.

Offner, John L. "McKinley and the Spanish-American War." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 34.1 (2004): 50-61. JSTOR. Web. 8 May 2011.

A journal article that examines how McKinley dealt with the riots in Cuba, and how he decided to go to war with Spain. Before the *Maine* explosion, the population was split on whether they should intervene or not. McKinley confronted Spain, and Spain took action to help Cuba set up an autonomous government. However, there was Spanish military opposition and riots. This is what caused the *Maine* to be sent to Havana. Congress had a plan for dealing with the war, but before they could act, the explosion occurred. Everyone united in outrage, and practically the whole country was now pro-war. McKinley himself tried to justify that the war was not just revenge for the *Maine*, but many legislators and citizens wanted revenge. Overall, this article shows the effect that the *Maine* had on the government's decision to go to war with Spain.

Pérez, Jr., Louis A. "The Meaning of the Maine: Causation and the Historiography of the Spanish-American War." *Pacific Historical Review* 58.3 (1989): 293-322. *JSTOR*. Web. 1 May 2011.

The author of this article, Louis A. Pérez, Jr. is a member of the history department at the University of South Florida. This article examines how people explained the Maine explosion as a cause of the Spanish-American War. It shows the different interpretations of how the Maine affect public opinion, the government, and the press. The source draws from many statements made from officials in 1898. Each side for each issue has significant evidence to support its position. Overall this source has provided fantastic insight into every view and opinion relating to the Maine.

"Spanish-American War for Cuba's Independence." 2 May 2011. *Exploring Florida*. 2 May 2011. <http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/lessons/s-a_war/s-a_war1.htm>.

Exploring Florida is an [.edu](http://www.education.com), education website, with the purpose of sharing social studies facts to students and teachers. In this article we learn that the USS Maine served as a pivotal factor for the US to declare war on Spain. For a long time the Cuban struggled for independence from Spain, the Cuban War of Independence, and the US was all of that. However, Spain held strict control over one of its only remaining New World territories. The US had many businesses in Cuba, and many American were residing in Cuba. After the explosion of the USS Maine, not only did American believed that Spain had did it to threaten the US, but they also saw it as a threat to businesses, and Americans and Cubans. No longer could the US allow Spain to be in control, and finally the war began.

Streich, Michael. "Importance of the Spanish American War." *Suite101.com*. 19 April 2011. <<http://www.suite101.com/content/importance-of-the-spanish-american-war-a285980>>.

Suite101.com's slogan is "Insightful writers. Informed readers." Truly Michael Streich has maintain those principals within his writing. He refers to 7 sources in total; having an in depth knowledge, he then wrote a very informative page to inform the readers of the common perspective on the importance of the Spanish-American War. According to Streich the Spanish-American War brought American fame, recognition as a world power; it promoted internationalism for the US; and unifies the country, which has been axed apart by the Civil War. The war significantly weakened the Spaniard navy, and made them no longer one of the great world powers.

“The World of 1898: The Spanish-American War.” *Library of Congress*. 19 April 2011. <<http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/1898/intro.html>>.

Wukovits, John. *The Spanish-American War*. San Diego: Lucent Books, 2002.

The book was written for the general audience, at which the book seems to have plenty of reliable information about the USS Maine. The USS Maine serves as one of the major events which led to the War. The USS Maine was a symbol of pride and strength for Americans, being one of the earliest pre-dreadnaught ships assembled to defend the country. Americans, after the explosion, were upset and in shock. News and propagandas related to the USS Maine were immediately published, illustrating and suggesting that Spain were to be blamed. This quickly gained the urge for war with Spain, from all over the country.