

The Impact of the Spanish American War

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Historical Paper

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“It has been a splendid little war, begun with the highest motives, carried on with magnificent intelligence and spirit, favored by that fortune which loves the brave.” - John Hay¹

The war that elevated the United States to become a global power and an empire is the Spanish American War. The Spanish American War was fought between two powerful countries, the United States and Spain.² Tension had been building up for months starting with the Cuban War of Independence and fueled by yellow journalism. War finally broke out soon after the ship named U.S.S. Maine exploded in Havana Harbor in Cuba.³ The short war was fought from April 25 to August 12 of 1898, ending with The Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898.⁴ The end of the war brought many political, social and economic changes to the United States that contributed to their emergence as a superpower.

The Cuban War of Independence

During the years of 1868-1878, the Cubans started an uprising against Spain. Cuba was a colony of Spain at the time and their poor government and treatment caused many to declare independence. The Spanish soldiers treated the Cuban prisoners very poorly which caused the United States to take notice and watch over the war. The Cubans used guerrilla warfare to fight back, which was a tactic of ambushing and sabotaging larger militaries. Because of this strategy, 13,000 Cubans died compared to 68,000 Spanish men. Led by Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, they managed to defeat the Spanish troops. The Republic of Cuba was founded on April, 1869. However, it took many more years for Cuba to officially become independent.⁵

“Remember the Maine! To Hell With Spain!”

The event that prompted the United States to become involved with the Cuban war is the explosion and sinking of the U.S.S. Maine at Havana Harbor, Cuba. The ship was meant to show the

Wang 3

¹ Wang, Bella. “Power, Domestic Politics, and the Spanish-American War.” *E-International Relations*, 21 May 2012,

² “The Spanish-American War.” *Study Guide USII.4*,

³ “Introduction.” *Introduction - The World of 1898: The Spanish-American War (Hispanic Division, Library of Congress)*,

⁴ “The Treaty of Peace.” *Historical Newspapers*,

⁵ “Ten Years of War in Cuba.” *Historical Newspapers*,

United States concern over Spain's actions and their support for the Cuban rebels. The Secretary of the Navy, John Davis Long said it was a "friendly call merely." So on January 24, 1898, the Maine set sail to Cuba as a warning sign.⁶ The rebels, like United States fighters in the Revolutionary War, were fighting for independence. The United States was sympathetic to their cause and supported their independence.

On February 9, a newspaper company, the Journal published a very offensive letter under the headline "Worst Insult to the United States in History!" This letter was written by Enrique Dupuy de Lôme, the Spanish Ambassador stating his true feelings toward the President McKinley.⁷ He described McKinley as a "hack politician," a weak, foolish man who only wanted people to like him. The public was furious and demanded war. However the last straw came on February 15 at 9:40 p.m when The Maine had exploded and sank.⁸ Of the 355 on board, 260 died.⁹

When journalists in the United States heard the news, it immediately became a front page story. Willie Hearst, owner of the Journal, published the iconic phrase "Remember the Maine! To Hell with Spain!" The type of stories the Journal published is yellow journalism, which is when publishers exaggerate stories and use eye catching headlines to sell copies of the paper. The purpose of yellow journalism was to sway the public opinion to help Cubans.¹⁰ Nothing conclusive was found as what caused the explosion but because of yellow journalism, there was a growing belief that the Spanish had purposefully laid a mine on board even though there was no evidence.¹¹ President William McKinley then declared war on April 11 because of the pressure from the public.

There was already a demand for raw materials and new markets in the United States but all the islands worth claiming were already taken by European empires like Spain. But it was not strong enough

Wang 4

⁶ "The Maine Sent to Cuba." *Historical Newspapers*,

⁷ Krenn, Michael L. "An Essay From 19th Century U.S. Newspapers Database Spanish American War." *Gale Digital Collections*,

⁸ Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. Atheneum, 1991.

⁹ Plante, Trevor K. "'New Glory to Its Already Gallant Record.'" *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, 1998,

¹⁰ Elliott, Kimberly. "The Spanish-American War ." *Khan Academy*,

¹¹ "The Maine Disaster." *Historical Newspapers*,

nor have enough allies to initiate a war in order to achieve that. Instead her solution was to hijack another war and hopefully get an island. ¹² The United States was officially going into a war against a powerful empire.

Battles

The entire war only lasted about three months but each battle was important and helped the United States win. The first battle was also the most famous one. Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy ordered Commodore George Dewey to Manila Bay, Philippines. On May 1, Dewey led the squadron to the bay with little damage even after a fight. Every Spanish warship was either burnt or sunk. The Manila citizens were ecstatic, they exclaimed to the soldiers “Américanos siempre caballeros!” meaning “Americans are always gentlemen”. The battle was a huge success. The battle cost the entire Spanish fleet plus 167 seamen killed. For Americans the battle cost one life and they occupied the entire country and Dewey became the American hero. ¹³

Another important battle took place at Santiago de Cuba, Cuba. On July 3, led by William Sampson and Winfield Schley, the American and Spanish ships faced off and fought for hours. After an overwhelming amount of firepower, the entire Spanish fleet was destroyed and more than 300 had died. Only one American was killed. This battle sealed American victory in the war and helped Cuba achieve independence.

So the United States managed to secure both the Philippines and Cuba within six weeks. ¹⁴ The Spanish then declared the war over on July 18. ¹⁵ However, news did not reach everywhere fast enough so there were a few more battles afterward. The final major battle of the war was in Puerto Rico led by

Wang 5

¹² “Causes and Impacts of the Spanish–American War.” *Luceo Magazine*,

¹³ Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. Atheneum, 1991.

¹⁴ Elliott, Kimberly. “The Spanish-American War.” *Khan Academy*,

¹⁵ Mizokami, Kyle. “The War That Made America a Superpower (No, Not World War II).” *The National Interest*, The Center for the National Interest, 26 Feb. 2017,

Nelson Miles. During the battle, he received a telegram that the war had already ended and military action was stopped on August 13. Even though the Americans won, they suffered heavy losses due to diseases like yellow fever and typhoid.¹⁶ By the end of the war, about 2,000 soldiers lost their lives because of disease and about 300 others were killed in combat.¹⁷

Impact

After the Spanish American War ended, many events happened. The war is an example of thucydides trap where a declining power (Spain) and a rising power (United States) triggered the war.¹⁸ On July 18, Spain requested France to arrange a treaty. On December 10, in the Treaty of Paris, Spain surrendered authority on Cuba, ceded Puerto Rico, and Guam to the United States, and sold the Philippines to the United States for 20 million dollars.

The victors of war got the most benefits. The United States's military was reformed, their navy was ranked 2nd in the world and the army got better weapons and supplies.¹⁹ The navy was especially praised. The public said that the navy knew how to fight and most importantly, win, unlike the Spanish. They had lost only 84 men the entire war, which is a huge achievement.²⁰ It was unlikely for any other nation to attack the United States after the Navy's display of power.²¹ Additionally, a national soldiers' home was built to house disabled soldiers.²² In terms of political gains, the United States became an empire and acquired a global presence in the far East and Europe.²³ Also, the Spanish American War was the key to annexing Hawaii²⁴ and building the Panama canal. The public was supportive of the victory

Wang 6

¹⁶ Krenn, Michael L. "An Essay From 19th Century U.S. Newspapers Database Spanish American War." *Gale Digital Collections*,

¹⁷ "The Spanish-American War." *Study Guide USII.4*,

¹⁸ Mizokami, Kyle. "The War That Made America a Superpower (No, Not World War II)." *The National Interest*, The Center for the National Interest, 26 Feb. 2017,

¹⁹ The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Spanish-American War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 20 Oct. 2017,

²⁰ "Navy's Losses in the War." *Historical Newspapers*,

²¹ "American Navy Praised." *Historical Newspapers*,

²² "Care of Disabled Soldiers." *Historical Newspapers*,

²³ The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Spanish-American War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 20 Oct. 2017,

²⁴ "The Spanish-American War, 1898." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State,

because they thought the United States had gained far more than what she lost.²⁵ Also, the United States received gains in the world economy from 1870-1900 because of their new resources and trading opportunities.²⁶ The United States was suddenly in the lead in terms of population, geographic size, and economic resources.²⁷

There were also significant changes to the newly independent Cuba and Spain. Cuba's land was attractive to Americans hoping to strike it rich by farming with Cuba's land wealth.²⁸ Native cubans were also more willing to become americanized.²⁹ For Spain, the war ended their powerful colonial empire in the western hemisphere but the treaty allowed them to continue trade with the Philippines for ten more years.³⁰

However, along with all the good that came with the war, there was damage. The war had cost the United States about 250 million dollars.³¹ The United States was also divided into two distinct groups, imperialists and anti-imperialists about the annexation of the Philippines. The anti-imperialists believed that it was wrong to subjugate others for our advantages because it was hypocrisy. The acquisition would go against the United States's own struggle for independence against Great Britain. The United States had become like the colonial empire they had fought against.³² In June of 1898, an anti-imperialist league was formed by Mark Twain with members like Grover Cleveland and Andrew Carnegie. Mark Twain wrote "[W]e have crushed and deceived a confiding people; we have turned against the weak and the friendless who trusted us; we have stamped out a just and intelligent and well ordered republic; we have stabbed an ally in the back; ... we have robbed a trusting friend of his land and his liberty; we have invited our clean

Wang 7

²⁵ "Great Good from the War." *Historical Newspapers*,

²⁶ Paterson, Thomas G. "U.S. Intervention in Cuba, 1898: Interpreting the Spanish-American-Cuban-Filipino War." *Magazine of History*, 1998, pp. 5, *History Study Center*,

²⁷ "1898: The Birth of a Superpower." *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State,

²⁸ "Cuba Rich in Possibilities for Development by American Capital." *Historical Newspapers*,

²⁹ "American Rule in Cuba." *Historical Newspapers*,

³⁰ "The Treaty of Peace." *Historical Newspapers*,

³¹ Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. Atheneum, 1991.

³² Chimes, Michael. "American Foreign Policy in the Late 19th Century: Philosophical Underpinnings." *Imperialism*,

young men ... to do bandits' work ..."³³ The territories had no promise of statehood nor citizen rights, and they were considered inferior and incapable of self government.³⁴

The war also greatly impacted Cuba. Before the United States entered the war, Cuba signed the Teller amendment stating the United States would promised not to establish control over Cuba.³⁵ But the United States also made Cuba agree to the Platt amendment where they would be tied to the United States. They could not make treaties with other nations that would reduce their independence nor offer territory to them. The United States would also be able to intervene in their affairs and occupy Cuba until 1903.³⁶ Additionally, the public opinion that fired up the war in the beginning changed. Cubans were portrayed as stereotypes and unflattering in the United States.³⁷

Philippine Insurrection

Like the Cubans, the Philippines had been ruled by Spain and they strived for independence. The United States had purchased the Philippine Islands from Spain for 20 million dollars after the Spanish American War. The acquisition of the Philippines sparked a heated debate from two groups-the imperialists and anti-imperialists.³⁸ McKinley had planned to educate and Christianize the citizens of the country. He believed the Filipinos were incapable of self government at the moment.³⁹ He told the angry citizens that the United States never promised them independence during the war. He was taking the Philippines for the good of both sides. Soon, a new war broke out. This time the war was with the Philippines. The Philippines were deprived of their right to self government so they were outraged.⁴⁰

Wang 8

³³ "The Spanish-American War: The United States Becomes a World Power." *Library of Congress*,

³⁴ "Causes and Impacts of the Spanish-American War." *Luceo Magazine*,

³⁵ Elliott, Kimberly. "The Spanish-American War ." *Khan Academy*,

³⁶ "The President Speaks for Cuban Reciprocity." *Historical Newspapers*,

³⁷ Krenn, Michael L. "An Essay From 19th Century U.S. Newspapers Database Spanish American War." *Gale Digital Collections*,

³⁸ "The Spanish-American War and Its Consequences." *Ushistory.org*, Independence Hall Association,

³⁹ "PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY'S EXPLANATION OF THE ACQUISITION OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (21 November 1899)." Presidential Documents, 2000, *History Study Center*,

⁴⁰ "Filipinos Unfit to Rule Themselves." *Historical Newspapers*,

In an attempt to quell the violence that was building up, soldiers fought the Filipinos and demolished almost all of the Filipinos. The remaining soldiers retaliated by attacking the Americans with guerilla fighters. At the end, the leader of the rebels Emilio Aguinaldo was captured and swore loyalty to the United States. He said “There has been enough blood, enough tears, enough desolation. By acknowledging and accepting the sovereignty of the United States throughout the Philippine Archipelago ... I believe I am serving thee, my beloved country.”

This war started on February 4, 1899 and lasted until July 4, 1902. The aftermath was considerably worse than the Spanish American War. Known as the Philippine Insurrection to Americans, it is called the War for Independence in the Philippines. About 4,000 American lives were lost and cost 600 million dollars, at least 30 times the original purchase price. At least 200,000 Filipinos civilians died along with 16,000 soldiers. In the end, the Philippines became an official United States territory in 1901 and was a protectorate until 1946. ⁴¹

Conclusion

The Spanish American War and Philippine Insurrection did not last very long but their results were significant. It started with the Cuban War for Independence, forming the Republic of Cuba. Then the U.S.S Maine exploded. The United States entered the Spanish American War largely because of the yellow journalism. Within six weeks, the United States managed to secure both the Philippines and Cuba because of their military strength. The war ended with United States acquiring Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines. However, Philippine Insurrection broke out and devastated both sides. As a result, The United States had transformed from a colony to a world power with colonies of her own. How she would use her power and live up to the responsibilities will continue to unfold in the future.

Annotated Bibliography

⁴¹ Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. Atheneum, 1991.

Primary Bibliography

“American Navy Praised.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102076899.

The newspaper article wrote about how the United States navy was greatly superior to the Spanish navy. They knew how to fight and win unlike the Spaniards. It is unlikely that any nation would attack the United States because of their powerful navy.

“American Rule in Cuba.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B100447746.

This source said that after the war, more Cubans were willing to become Americans and had better conditions than before. Their lives were vastly improved once they were out of Spain's rule and protected by the United States.

“Care of Disabled Soldiers.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102090444.

This source said that when soldiers of the war cannot take care of themselves anymore, they can be admitted to the National Soldiers' Homes and be cared for there.

10

“Cuba Rich in Possibilities for Development by American Capital.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102635370.

This newspaper said that before and after the war, Cuba was occupied by American businessmen because of the mineral and vegetable wealth Cuba had. Americans thought they could make a lot of money by investing millions of dollars into sugar and tobacco.

“Filipinos Unfit to Rule Themselves.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102416050.

The source talked about the hero of Manila, George Dewey. He said that Emilio Aguinaldo was never promised independence when they were helping each other at one point. Because of this, a long war started with American victory at the end.

“Great Good from the War.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102526335.

The source provided information about the general public. They thought the U.S. has gained more than they have lost. They gained national prestige and an increase in resources and power.

“Navy's Losses in the War.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102124466.

The statistics showed that 84 men in total were killed during the war according to the Navy Department. It shows that they were skilled enough to win the war with minimal losses.

Paterson, Thomas G. "U.S. Intervention in Cuba, 1898: Interpreting the Spanish-American-Cuban-Filipino War." *Magazine of History*, 1998, pp. 5, *History Study Center*, http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:ho-us&rft_dat=xri:ho:sup_pq_ascii:34151615:34151615::TG:37338:37338.

This article showed that after the war, the U.S. was elevated to global power status because they got colonies from Spain. The war also enabled the U.S. to gain in the world economy from 1870 to 1900.

"PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY'S EXPLANATION OF THE ACQUISITION OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (21 November 1899)." *Presidential Documents*, 2000, *History Study Center*, http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:ho-us&rft_dat=xri:ho:sup_ref:prd00073.

12

This article showed that the public was not happy when McKinley purchased the Philippines. McKinley was criticized for the acquisition of the islands. He planned to educate and christianize the Filipinos. The islands remained a protectorate of the U.S. until 1946.

“The Maine Disaster.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B105984463.

The report showed that divers and researchers found nothing conclusive after the Maine exploded. There was a growing belief that it had to do with Spain. They assumed that Spain laid a mine in the ship causing the ship to explode. Divers found 20 bodies after the wreck.

“The Maine Sent to Cuba.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102067641.

The article accounts details from the Maine. The Maine was sent to Cuba on January 24 to show America's concern over the Cuban war. The officials said that it was friendly and was just routine though.

“The President Speaks for Cuban Reciprocity.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B101286994.

13

The article provides information about why the U.S. entered the war. The U.S. intervened in the Cuban war in the Cuban interest. After they got independence, Cuba accepted the Platt amendment allowing the U.S. to establish closer relations with Cuba, however they were forced to agree by the United States.

“Ten Years of War in Cuba.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B105983284.

The article talks about the war preceding the Spanish American War, the Cuban war for independence. There was continuous fighting in Cuba from 1868-1878. They declared independence from Spain on October 10, 1868. Led by Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, the rebels fought Spanish troops using guerrilla warfare.

“The Treaty of Peace.” *Historical Newspapers*,

hn.bigchalk.com/hnweb/hn/do/document?urn=urn%3Aproquest%3AUS%3BPQDOC%3BHNP%3BPQD%3BHNP%3BPROD%3Bx-article-image%3B102497196.

The article provides details of the Treaty of Paris. When the U.S. and Spain signed the Treaty of Paris, it was said that the U.S. will allow Spain to trade with the Philippine islands for ten years after they sold the islands to the U.S. Spain was also to give up Guam, Puerto Rico and other small islands to the U.S.

Secondary Sources

“1898: The Birth of a Superpower.” *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/departmenthistory/short-history/superpower.

This article provides information about after the war when the U.S. cast aside isolation and shifted their diplomatic posture and stood ahead in population, potential, size, and resources.

“Causes and Impacts of the Spanish–American War.” *Luceo Magazine*,
luceo.net/spanish-american-war/.

This article is about why America entered the war. There was a demand for America to acquire colonies after a demand for more raw materials and new markets. America needed to get a colony from an empire but cannot initiate a war, it had to hijack an ongoing war. After the war, America got colonies but the colonies had no promise of future statehood or citizen rights. The inhabitants were considered inferior and incapable of self government.

Chimes, Michael. “American Foreign Policy in the Late 19th Century: Philosophical Underpinnings.” *Imperialism*, www.spanamwar.com/imperialism.htm.

The article wrote about how the Philippines divided the public. Some people said it was wrong to subjugate others for our advantage, it is hypocrisy and goes against the

15

declaration of independence. Because of the Philippines, America was committed an imperial empire.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Spanish-American War." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 20 Oct. 2017, www.britannica.com/event/Spanish-American-War.

The article talks about how after the war, Spain gave up authority on Cuba and ceded Puerto Rico and Guam to the U.S. They also sold the Philippines for 20 million dollars. The U.S. navy was ranked 2 in the world and the government was able to reform the army. The U.S. took place in politics in the far east and became involved in European affairs. On February 4, 1899 the Philippine Insurrection began.

Elliott, Kimberly. "The Spanish-American War ." *Khan Academy*, www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/period-7/apush-age-of-empire/a/the-spanish-american-war.

The article is about how yellow journalism blew up after the USS Maine sinking, it swayed public opinion to help Cuban rebels. Before the war, Congress passed the Teller amendment, saying the U.S. would not annex Cuba. Within six weeks of fighting, the U.S. controlled Cuba and the Philippines.

16

"Introduction." *Introduction - The World of 1898: The Spanish-American War (Hispanic Division, Library of Congress)*, www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/1898/intro.html.

This article provides information on the time period 1868-1878 where guerrilla fighters fought Spain. It was concerning to Americans who had been part of the investors

that invested 50 million dollars in Cuba. On June 12, 1895, President Cleveland declared the United States neutral in the Cuban war.

Krenn, Michael L. "An Essay From 19th Century U.S. Newspapers Database Spanish American War." *Gale Digital Collections*,
www.thorndikepresslargeprint.com/pdf/whitepapers/gdc/Sp-AmerWar_whtppr.pdf+

This article talks about how on February 1898, Spain insulted McKinley fueling the flames of the public. During the war, disease like yellow fever was rampant, thousands of men died from disease. After the war, the public opinion changed and started to think less of Cubans.

Marrin, Albert. *The Spanish-American War*. Atheneum, 1991.

This book provides a lot of information on the Philippine insurrection and details of the Maine explosion, it also gave a detailed account of how powerful yellow journalism was.

Mizokami, Kyle. "The War That Made America a Superpower (No, Not World War II)." *The National Interest*, The Center for the National Interest, 26 Feb. 2017,

nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/the-war-made-america-superpower-no-not-world-war-ii-19582.

The article talked about how the war is an example of Thucydides trap where a declining power and a rising power clash. The U.S. wanted to expand and needed a way to get in a war. The sinking of the USS Maine was the perfect way to fight Spain and

hopefully obtain colonies. On April 19, 1898, McKinley asked Congress for war. On July 18, Spain surrendered and started to work on a treaty.

Plante, Trevor K. “New Glory to Its Already Gallant Record.” *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, 1998, www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/spring/spanish-american-war-marines-1.html.

This article talked about the importance of the navy and their success in the war. On the USS Maine were about 300 men, about 250 died. The war showed that the navy was important for victory and secured the navy’s role in future war plans.

“The Spanish-American War .” *Study Guide USII.4*, www.solpass.org/7ss/standards/StudyUSII.4.htm.

This is a summary about the war. It specifically explains how U.S. became involved in the war to protect businesses in Cuba. After the explosion of the Maine, the U.S. blamed Spain

18

with no solid evidence. There was less than 400 combat deaths but about 2,000 died from various diseases.

“The Spanish-American War, 1898.” *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/milestones/1866-1898/spanish-american-war/.

This analysis of the war focused on the aftermath and results. The war ended Spain's colonial empire in the Western Hemisphere. U.S. was able to annex Hawaii during the war and establish dominance. On April 20 1898, Congress recognized Cuba as an independent country and asked Spain to as well.

“The Spanish-American War and Its Consequences.” *Ushistory.org*, Independence Hall Association, www.ushistory.org/us/44d.asp.

This article targeted the consequences of the war and how it divided the public. After the Philippines were purchased, anti-imperialists were angry. War was about freeing Cuba, not seizing the Philippines.

“The Spanish-American War: The United States Becomes a World Power.” *Library of Congress*,

https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/spanish-american-war/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf

This article is about the cause of war and how the United States got involved. It also stated the importance of yellow journalism, started by Willie Hearst and Joseph

19

Pulitzer. The war first took place in the Philippines. After the war, when the United States transformed to an imperial power, many were not happy. June, 1898, an Anti-Imperialist League was formed including Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie and Grover Cleveland.

Wang, Bella. "Power, Domestic Politics, and the Spanish-American War." *E-International Relations*, 21 May 2012, www.e-ir.info/2012/05/21/power-domestic-politics-and-the-spanish-american-war/.

This article provided information about how different the opposing sides viewed the war. John Hay, an American, called the war a "splendid little war." To the Spaniards, it was the disaster of '98.