American History

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Remember the Maine

After accused of being a weak president by a Spanish Ambassador, President McKinley sent the U.S.S. Maine to Havana Harbor. The U.S.S. Maine sat in the Harbor as a sign of empowerment for the United States. It was there to prove that we can help the Cubans overthrow Spain. Cuba needs our help to be freed from Spain.

The U.S.S Maine was planned out in October of 1888 and then launched in November of 1890. This battleship was one of the largest and most updated ships of its kind. It cost more than two million dollars to build. Although some of the parts were able to be salvaged, not everything was. Over two hundred and sixty men died in the boat. Since the explosion happened early in the morning, very few people had time to even process what had happened. Buildings and homes near Havana Harbor even had damage from the boom. The hearts of the families experiencing the loss of dads, sons, brothers, or friends, are hurting because of this terrible incident.

Ever since "The Butcher" was sent by Spain, he has done terrible things to the Cubans. The Butcher has terrorized, hurt and killed many living in villages. The Butcher poisoned whole villages. He has also made people jump into dangerous water. Americans can only assume that he, his army, and Spain are behind the Maine blowing up. We sympathize for the Cubans, however as Americans, it is our duty that we fight back for Cuba’s freedom.

Spain was making the Cubans be slaves in their own country. We have aided by supplying Cubans with training and weapons, yet that only helped them get rid of slavery. Jose Marti, a Cuban poet, was exiled to the U.S., for protesting against Spain. That did not stop Marti though, as he was still able to launch a second revolution from New York. We have helped Cuba, and in return we receive crops, such as sugar cane, and tobacco plants that can't be grown in America. Americans can also get more business trade with Cuba. With Cuba being so close to the U.S. we can also put Navy ports there.

Just before President McKinley sent the U.S.S. Maine to the Havana Harbor, he was accused of being “weak” by Spanish Ambassador Enrique Dupuy de Lôme. He was just sending the letter to a friend, but somehow Cuban rebels got ahold of it and it was shared to everyone in a previous issue. President McKinley demanded an apology, and Enrique Dupuy de Lôme resigned from his spot as an Ambassador. Most everyone in America felt this letter as an insult to not only the president, but America as well.

Since Spain has threatened our country by hurting the lives of our men, we are proposing that the United States do something. The United States is a young country, but we fight for the morals we believe. We can’t let Spain free from hurting the United States. There will be a large money amount award for anyone who can find out more details about the Maine blowing up. For example, who was involved and what else is to come?

The Butcher, De Lome Letter, the U.S.S. Maine, as well as other complications are all a part of Spain’s plan. When will it become too much for The States to handle to make it stop? With everything that has happened, each incident layers atop another. Sooner or later, we will have to do something.