

Lyrics to “The Spanish-American War”

Turn of the century
America’s foreign **diplomacy**
Turned its gaze south
Where they saw opportunities abound
Spain ruled Cuba
One of our closest of neighbors
For hundreds of years
But a Cuban rebellion Spain feared
This unrest concerned us
We had Cuban investments, which earned us
Many millions of dollars
So for war some Americans hollered
Channeling war fever
Were many American newspapers
With biased sensationalism
And the untruths of yellow journalism
South of our borders—possibilities for us
Cuba, Puerto Rico in the Caribbean
And in the Pacific, the Philippines and Guam
In 1898
The United States sent the battleship Maine
To the shores of Havana
To protect all interests American
It sunk in an explosion
That was most likely an accident
But the papers claimed the Maine
Was done in by an enemy called Spain
South of our borders—possibilities for us
Cuba, Puerto Rico in the Caribbean
And in the Pacific, the Philippines and Guam
“Remember the Maine!”
Newspapers vehemently exclaimed
And Americans demanded blood
So the Spanish-American War was begun
South of our borders—possibilities for us
Cuba, Puerto Rico in the Caribbean
And in the Pacific the Philippines and Guam...Remember the Maine!

Adapted from Gillenwater & Gillenwater. (2010). *The Spanish-American War*. Retrieved from <http://www.historytunes.com/The%20Spanish%20American%20War.php>

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