

## SPANISH TROOPS WITHDRAW FROM PUERTO RICO; U.S. GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED, DETERMINED TO INSTITUTE DEMOCRACY

by Sonya Jampel

I'm issuing a call to all Americans: It is our duty to help these poor people of Puerto Rico reach their fullest potential. After suffering under the imperialist desires of the Spanish since their discovery of the island in 1508 by Ponce de León, we must save the Puerto Ricans. They know not of the bounties of

American democracy nor the compassion of the United States of America. Luis Muñoz Rivera of Puerto Rico attempted learn the ways of democracy and independence after Spain granted a decree of independence in 1898, but failed. They need our help; we must enter and instill our institutions, language, and

political system to help these poor people. The climate of the island is perfect for growing coffee and sugar but the ignorant inhabitants don't know how to utilize the resource. We must teach them how to join the international economy and flourish in this twentieth century world. Our planters, living from the

comforts of their homes in the continental states, could employ laborers helping their economy (and ours), and spreading our superior economic skills. We are even willing to spend extra time helping you develop into a country with one of the strongest tobacco markets! Our job, as the greatest country in the world, is to spread our knowledge and extend our hand to aid these people of Puerto Rico.

### Letter to the Editor

Dear San Juan Sun, I am both shocked and outraged at the stance your newspaper and our president have taken regarding Puerto Rico. The U.S. was founded upon the ideals of liberty, freedom, and the rights of the people, but this Caribbean empire we are creating blatantly violates these ideals. The people of Puerto Rico do not want foreigners to rule their nation. The appointment of U.S. General John Brooke as governor of Puerto Rico yesterday is forcing the subjugation of Puerto Ricans to foreign rule. This subjugation is a blatant violation to the Puerto Ricans' right of self-government and this new government has

stripped away their freedom and liberty. The U.S. is empirically ruling Puerto Rico just like the British did to the American colonies in the 1700s. Imperialism is a clear violation of the ideals found in The Declaration of Independence and it is obvious to any intelligent man that imperialism is a dreadfully hypocritical policy. Furthermore, U.S. actions in Puerto Rico can only be justified by selfish reasons. The arguments that we are helping the Puerto Ricans by spreading Democracy are comical. How can forcing a people to be ruled by a foreign government be

democratic? The U.S. is using Puerto Rico as a method of showing the rest of the world that we are a world power. Is fair to violate an entire nations rights just to flex our muscles to the European countries halfway around the world? Officials argue that U.S. intervention will help the Puerto Rican economy grow, but the only reason they have interest in the Puerto Rican economy is so that U.S. businessmen will have a new foreign market and can sap funds out of Puerto Rico. I am astounded that so many people are convinced that imperialism in Puerto Rico is something the U.S. should continue to pursue. As a selfish and hypocritical policy, it is quite evident that all U.S. troops should be removed from

Puerto Rico and that the Puerto Ricans should be permitted to establish their own government.

-Quentino la Maravilla  
(Miami, FL)



### McKinley Vows Revenge against Spain for High Weight and Cholesterol Problems

by Bikram el Segundo

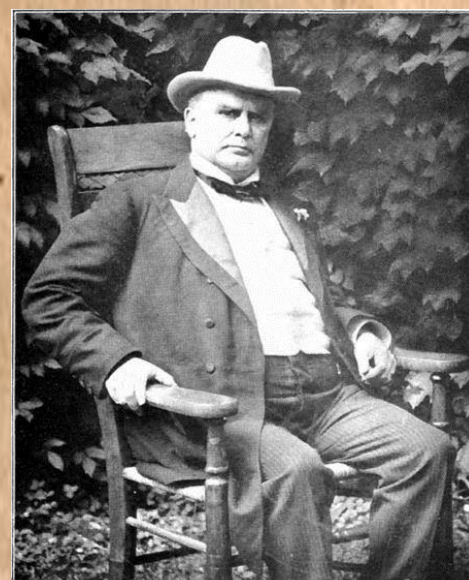
While many factors have been considered as a part of McKinley's intervention in Puerto Rico and Cuba, the main reason has been shrouded in secrecy. A senior White House aide revealed yesterday that McKinley's declaration of war was a result of a doctor's appointment gone awry. McKinley clocked in at 199 pounds and 5 feet 7 inches, quite unseemly for a president. The doctor warned him of the risks of being overweight, including high cholesterol and blood pressure. Embarrassed,

McKinley took his doctor's advice to "control the sugar" a little too literally. He consulted Secretary of State John Sherman, who told him that all his sugar was coming from Cuba and Puerto Rico, both colonies of Spain. Immediately, McKinley took action against sugar. While munching on a generous slice of pound cake, he wrote up a severe declaration of war against Spain, which he presented to Congress on Monday. Upon reading the document, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt reportedly told McKinley that "he had no more backbone than a chocolate éclair." An insecure McKinley ordered Roosevelt out of Washington and sent him to Cuba as a member of the "Rough Rider" political enemy gang. Today, McKinley continues the battle against sugar in Puerto Rico and Cuba

even though his health is not improving.

President McKinley did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment. White House spokesperson James D. Knight later released the following statement:

The White House takes great pains to ensure the wellbeing of our nation's elected officials. We do not allow health to interfere with political decision-making and this has always been the case. However, we do thank you for your concern regarding the health and safety of our nation's leaders and promise to continue working hard to achieve our nation's goals



**Weekly Edition of "In the Booth"--  
Today's Interviewee: President  
William McKinley on the Spanish-  
American War & Puerto Rican  
Imperialism**

American Interviewer (Benito de Kapalán): Hello all, I'm here with the President of the United States, the one and only, William McKinley, also known as "The Liberator of Cuba."

President William McKinley: Thanks Frank, it's my pleasure to be here.

AIF: Great; mine as well. Let's start by talking about the Spanish-American War. Describe your thought-process heading into this conflict.

WMK: Well Frank, I must say that at first, I was hesitant about entering it. Here in the US, we (usually) try to stick by our foreign policy set by one of my predecessors, General George Washington. That is, lay low in times of war. However, in this case, it soon became evident to me that I might need to send in some troops. I could see that Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Philippines, and a few others were really suffering under Spanish rule. We Americans pride ourselves in always trying our best to promote liberty and equality.

AIF: So, you're saying that you decided to enter the war simply because you felt bad for the nations being abused by Spain?

WMK: Well yes, that was certainly the primary reason. Of course, there were some other factors involved, but as I stated, here in America, we like to focus on working to achieve fairness for all.

AIF: Yes, I see. Doesn't that seem like a lame, if I may, reason to send American soldiers overseas? Especially seeing that the matter at hand had no effect on them no matter what the outcome?

WMK: No, I wouldn't go so far as to call it lame. In case you were unaware, you must remember the Maine. The USS Maine was destroyed by Spain, and I think that serves as legitimate reason to enter a war and fight for our country.

AIF: But I thought you said it was for other countries' rights? Now you say it was for your country?

WMK: Well, you're a persistent reporter, I'll give you that. There were multiple factors that played into the decision. I don't know if I'm supposed to announce this, but in addition to providing peace for the world and getting revenge for the 'Maine' incident, we also fear falling behind in our little game known as imperialism. The last thing anyone would want, in my opinion at least, is for foolish European states improperly imperializing helpless savage nations. It is America's job to do so, so that we can educate those who deserve more than they are currently receiving. For example, Puerto Rico, one of the nations being terrorized by

the evil Spaniards, has vast supplies of farmland perfect for sugar and other delicious crops, but their incompetence has resulted in no attempt to take advantage of this land of paradise. Us Americans often let our emotions get the best of us, and we feel bad for the poor Puerto Ricans, so we decided to go in and just teach them how to use their crops.

AIF: Interesting. On the topic of Puerto Rico, I'd like to ask you another question. What played into your decision to remain in Puerto Rico, instead of exiting because the war is over and the Spaniards have fled?

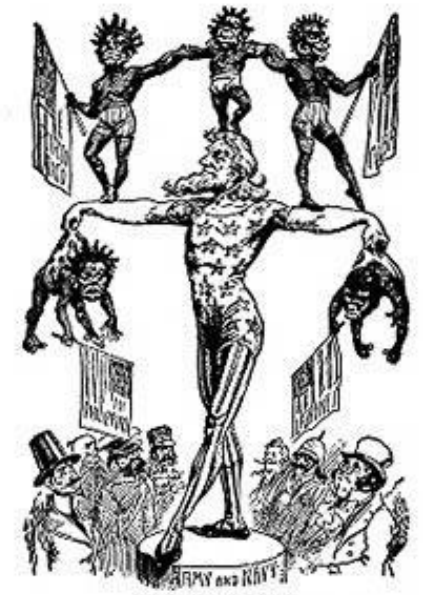
WMK: Well Frank, I know that heading into the war we were aiming on getting in and getting out quick, but while fighting the war, our mindset changed. We realized, as we stood up for these poor savage Puerto Ricans, that they needed more than just independence. They needed someone to guide them, someone to educate them. We felt that we were up for the task.

AIF: Did the Puerto Ricans tell you that themselves? Or did you just assume that?

WMK: I wouldn't exactly call it "assuming," we carefully surveyed the situation and made the best decision based on their conditions and needs.

AIF: Okay, and how long are you planning to remain in Puerto Rico?

WMK: Sorry, but I think our time here is up. I'm a very busy man. Good bye.

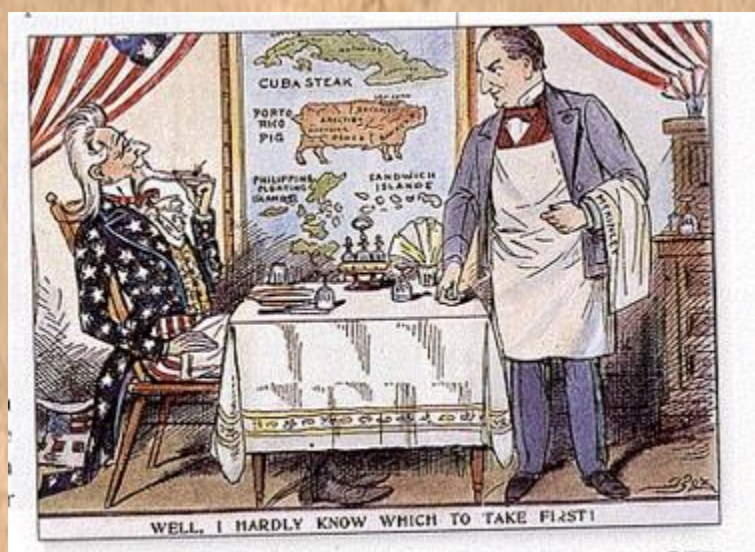


**HOLDING HIS END UP.**  
New York--"It's really most extraordinary what Uncle Sam will do. Why, only the other day I thought that man unable to support himself."--Philadelphia Inquirer.

The sudden strength displayed by Uncle Sam was a great surprise to Europe. Even his friend and kinsman, John Bull, did not think him capable of such an athletic performance as he is giving in the above picture, standing on the firm support of the army and navy.



The Goddess of Liberty heralds the day of Freedom for Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.



WELL, I HARDLY KNOW WHICH TO TAKE FIRST!