



CUBAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE BEGINS

Cuba, a Spanish colony, already had two failed revolutions. On February 24, organized uprisings started the third attempt.



Cuban prisoners being held by the Spanish. (Public domain, ca. 1898)



On June 12, President Grover Cleveland issued a proclamation of U.S. neutrality as Cuba and Spain fought.





RECONCENTRATION POLICY

Spanish military leaders forced Cubans into concentration camps. The camps didn't have enough food, housing, clothes, medical care and sanitation. Thousands of Cubans died from starvation or disease.



★
FEB
1896

Cubans in a Spanish reconcentration camp. (LOC, ca. 1899)





PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION BEGINS

The Philippines, a Spanish colony,
began their own revolution.



★
AUG 26
1896

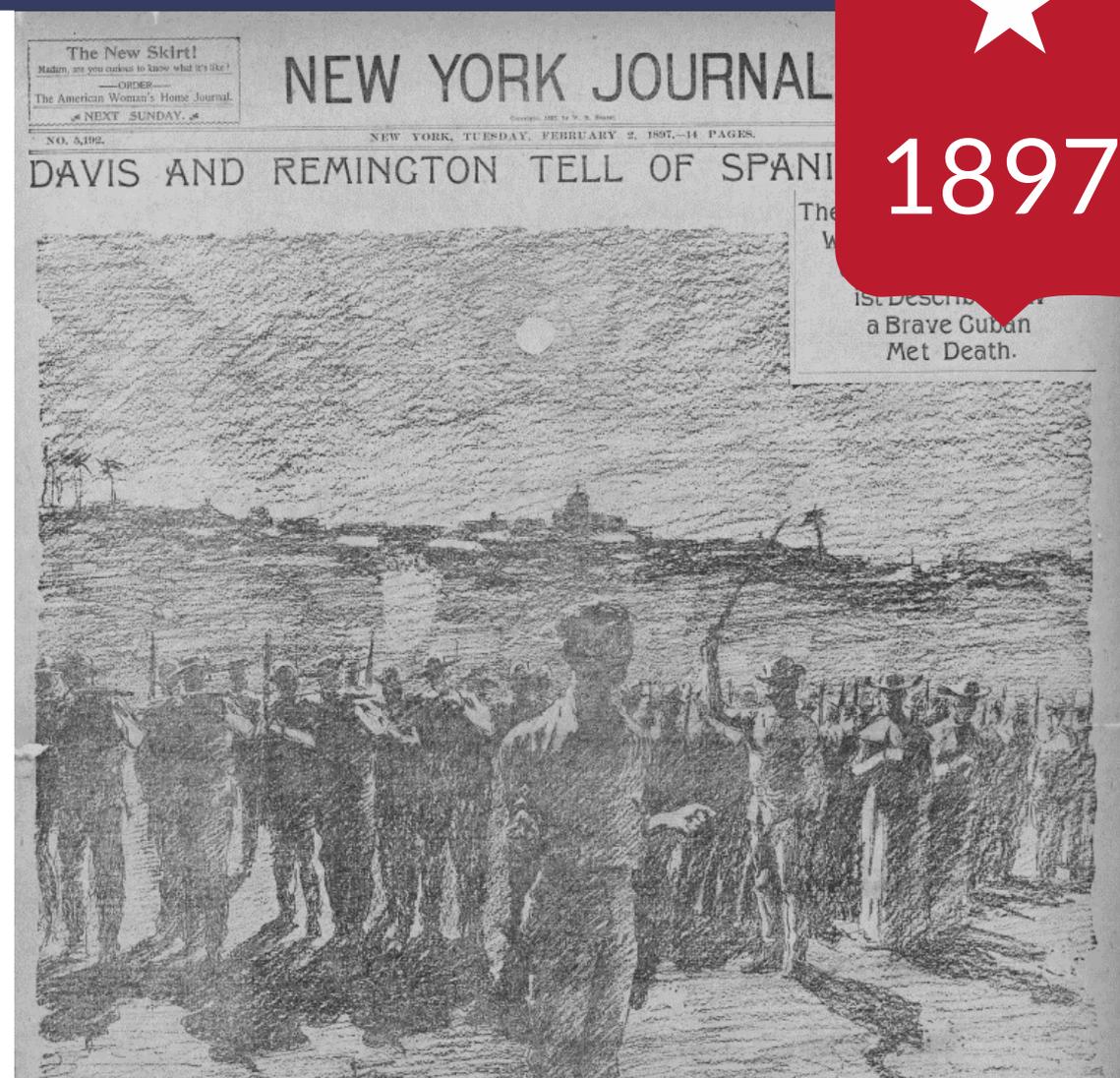
Filipino soldiers line up, ca. 1899. (Public domain)





SENSATIONAL JOURNALISM

Competing for readership, newspapers in New York City reported exaggerated stories about the Cuban revolution. These stories strengthened anti-Spanish feelings in the United States.



An 1897 New York Journal cover story about the Cuban revolution. (LOC)





USS MAINE EXPLODES

The USS Maine was an American ship docked in Havana. When it suddenly exploded, more than 260



The wreckage of the USS Maine in the Havana harbor on February 16, 1898. (NARA)

sailors were killed (out of a crew of 354). Newspapers in America blamed the Spanish. Even now, the exact cause of the explosion is still unknown. “Remember the Maine!” became an American rallying cry for war.





U.S. DECLARED WAR

On April 25, Congress declared that the U.S. and Spain were at war. They demanded Cuban independence and said the U.S. couldn't annex Cuba.



★
APR 25
1898

Marine guard drilling onboard the USS Iowa. (LOC, ca. 1899)





U.S. VICTORY IN THE PHILIPPINES

In six hours of fighting, the U.S. Pacific Fleet destroyed all seven Spanish ships in the Philippines and killed or injured more than 370 Spanish sailors. No Americans died and fewer than 10 were injured.



★
MAY 1
1898

Illustration of the Battle of Manila Bay. Dewey's flagship, the USS Olympia, is shown on the lower left. (LOC, 1898)





U.S. VICTORY AT SAN JUAN HEIGHTS

U.S. and Cuban troops captured the San Juan Heights. Theodore Roosevelt and the Rough Riders (a volunteer unit made up of Western cowboys, Native Americans, and Ivy League athletes) charged up Kettle and San Juan Hills alongside Buffalo Soldiers (African American soldiers) and white regular soldiers.



Theodore Roosevelt and Rough Riders atop San Juan Hill after the battle. (LOC/William Dinwiddie, 1898)





SPANISH FLEET IN CUBA DESTROYED

Six ships of the Spanish navy tried to leave Santiago Bay. The U.S. Navy destroyed all six ships.



★
JULY 3
1898

The Spanish destroyer Furor is attacked by the USS Iowa, USS Indiana and USS New York in this illustration of the battle. (Public domain/R. Verdugo Landi, 1898)





U.S. ANNEXES HAWAII

Hawaiian Queen Lili'uokalani was overthrown in 1893. Americans on the island supported the U.S. annexing the island, but most Hawaiians were against it. It was also unpopular in the United States. The Spanish-American War convinced Congress to annex Hawaii.



Queen Lili'uokalani in 1898. (Public domain)





SPANISH SURRENDER AT SANTIAGO

Fighting in Cuba ended. The U.S.
Navy seized Puerto Rico soon
after.



★
JULY 17
1898

Illustration of the Battle of Santiago. (LOC, 1899)





PEACE PROTOCOL SIGNED

The Protocol of Peace ended the fighting and set the terms of the official treaty.



Secretary of State William R. Day signing the Peace Protocol. (LOC, 1898)

★
AUG 12
1898

In the treaty, Cuba became independent and the U.S. got Puerto Rico and Guam. Spain also had to sell the Philippines to the U.S. for \$20 million.





PHILIPPINE BATTLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

The U.S. refused to recognize the new Filipino government. When 3 Filipino soldiers were killed by U.S. soldiers near Manila, Filipinos declared war on the U.S.



The 20th Kansas Volunteer Infantry in trenches in the Philippines during the war. (LOC, ca. 1899)





PHILIPPINE- AMERICAN WAR ENDS

After 3 years and thousands of deaths, fighting ended and the U.S. declared victory.

The Philippines remained part of the U.S. until 1946, when they became independent.

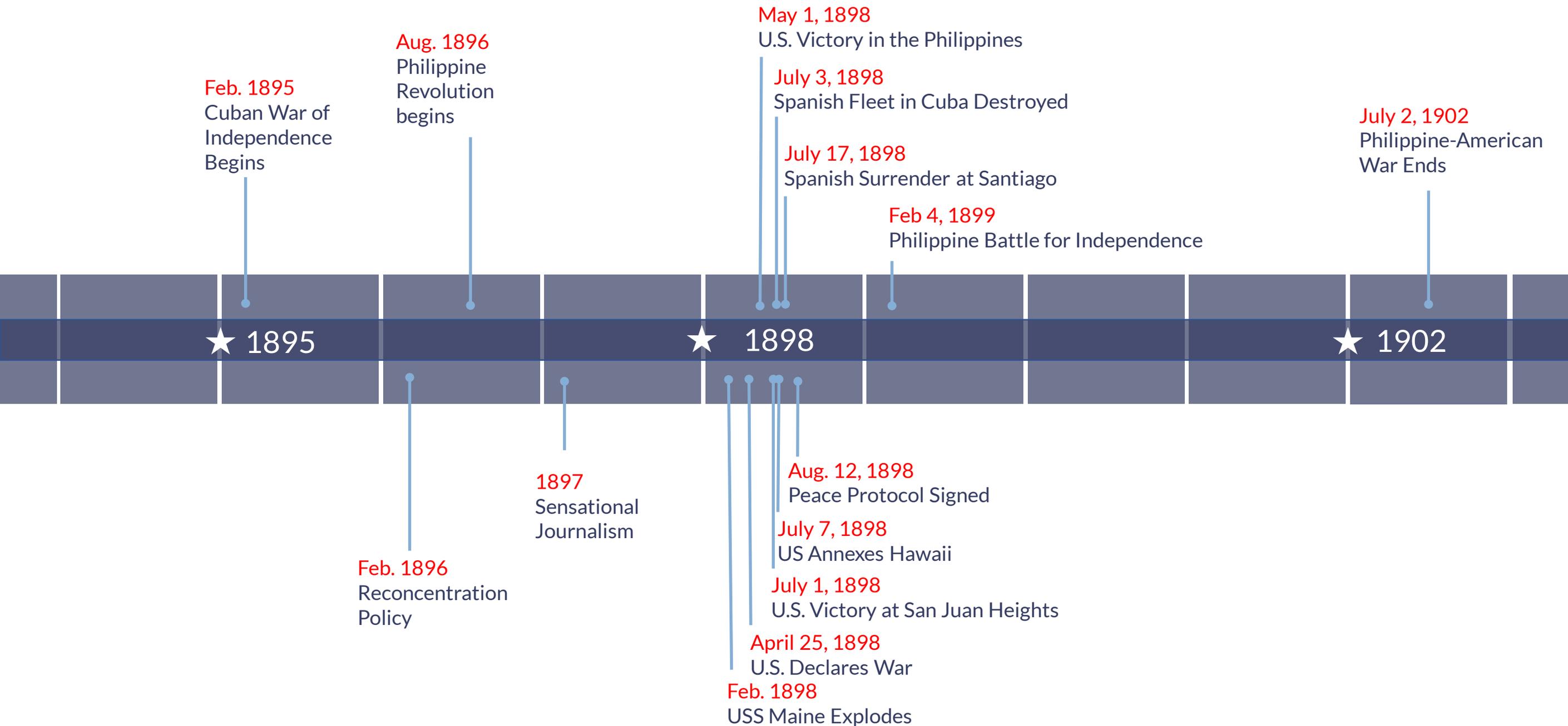


★
JULY 2
1902

U.S. soldiers and Filipino prisoners in 1899 in Manila, Philippines. (LOC)



SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR: A TIMELINE



1895



1896



1897



1898



1899



1900



1901



1902

