

Tentative title?: Furnishing the War: Yellow Journalism and the Spanish American War
Research ongoing; awaiting further materials on order. Thus, list of topic covered not exhaustive.

EE Outline - Rough Draft

- I. Introduction
 - A. What was the Spanish American War?
 1. McKinley opposed to war at least until inauguration, likely longer (see Inaugural Address); something must have changed his mind
 - B. Who were Hearst and Pulitzer? Their newspapers?
- II. Evidence to suggest that the actions of the *Journal* and *World* had an influence on US entry into the war
 - A. Introduction to Yellow Journalism
 1. "Hearst used his brand of journalism to promote causes as well as build circulation, though often the two aims were indistinguishable" (Cohen)
 - B. Cisneros Incident
 1. Background of incident
 2. Known in the *Journal* as the "Cuban Joan of Arc" (Cohen)
 3. *Journal* claimed to have broken her out of prison (Leary)
 4. *Journal* ran a nationwide woman's campaign to have her released, signed by McKinley's mother (Cohen)
 5. "Hearst... was convinced that he had accomplished something significant in the cause of freedom" (Cohen)
 6. "It was an unnecessary war. It was the newspaper's war. Above all it was Hearst's war" biographer WA Swanberg (Cohen)
 - C. De Lôme Letter
 1. Delivered to *Journal*
 2. "belittled President McKinley" "hinted that the Spanish commitment to reform in Cuba was not serious" (Cherny)
 3. Published with title "Worst Insult to the United States in Its History"
 - D. The Maine
 1. Immediate report that the warship was destroyed "by an enemy's secret infernal machine", despite lack of evidence
 - a) "The Spaniards, it is believed, arranged to have the *Maine* anchored over one of the Harbor mines. Wires connected the mine with a power magazine and it is thought that the explosion was caused by sending an electric current through the wire." *Journal* (Brannen)
 2. Hearst personally offered \$50K to whoever would find the perpetrator, began drive for memorial
- III. Other possible causes for US entry into the war
 - A. Nationalist fervor unrelated to media
- IV. Conclusion, implications