

# **FIRST GREAT TRIUMPH**

*How Five Americans  
Made Their Country  
a World Power*

**Warren Zimmermann**

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX  
*New York*

BOOKNOTES  
BRIAN P. LAMB  
C-SPAN AIR DATE  
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Book about  
Imperialism

Treaty of Paris

Merrill Doctrine

Manfred Bernstein

Social Darwinism

Lodge - Advancement of the  
Race

Mahan's - struggle of life

T.R. - great masterful races  
most received in superiority  
of Anglo-Saxons

Treaty of Paris

Platt Amendment -  
one of most important  
Foreign Policy statements  
in History p 381

702. Warren Zimmermann

First Great Triumph: How Five Americans Made Their Country  
A World Power

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Tape #: 174516

Phil and Hawaii became first (pure) American Colonies in history

May 6, 1838 - Salem Ind.

Brown V. - depressive  
Hay never comfortable with  
power or leadership

met Lincoln while prac. law  
Midway (Bavaria - 6 yrs. old, journalist)  
made sec. to A.L. - hired Hay as an  
assistant - May 22

Sent by Secord to be No. 2 in Paris - get away from Mary Todd  
US did not create rank of Amb until 1893

Foreign service officer for 5 yrs. - Vienna / Madrid / France quit to  
hated monarchy - loved being a republican

4 1/2 yrs. writing editorials for Greeley's Tribune

5 ft 2 ins - Marriage to Clara Stone<sup>(24)</sup> moved to Cleveland (35 yrs old  
father-in-law commits suicide after accident which kills 80

goes to Europe summer whole year 82 - Neurasthenia

Nov 86 - serialization of Lincoln's book for 4 yrs.

from 86-97 - he was unemployed - trips - then Amb to London  
affair with Nanine Lodge - wife of Henry Cabot

Alfred T. Mahan - anti imperialist -

outspoken against navy corruption - liked a Big Navy - 700 ships  
during Civil War -

acting Pres. of War College 86 - new school a lot in navy didn't like 89

invites TR to lecture - starts a life long alliance bet. the two for Big Navy  
wrote books - laid out why U.S. needed great navy to be a world power!

Modern historians say "The Influence of Sea Power Upon" was not  
original or wholly accurate TR read it - gave it rave reviews

Born 1840 at West Point - went Naval Acad. grad at 18 left in.

Spent years at sea in Japan / Philippines through Suez Canal -

Married Ellen Evans June 11, 1872 - he grad. academy at 18

1890-1914 - he wrote 130 articles

1892 - Become Pres of War College

He was ordered by his enemy Ramsey to sea. Command of USS Chicago

daughter Ellen / Helen - son Lytle

had to return from Navy 1896 - relied heavily on Christianity

3 friends Asher, Luce, Geo. Douglas

Compared to Geo. Kennan - fathers of doctrine - for Mahan -  
Sea Power

greatest contributors - writers

T.R. -

Mother from Georgia  
Civil War - Father 29 Teedie 2 | Father lived substitute  
as did his 4 brothers - as did James B. Blaine - D. Child.  
P 1927

went to Howard - bunch of eccentrics - dandrified clothes  
powder puff wipers - wrote English letters to Corinne  
allow \$8000 a year. 5ft 8" 130 lbs

father die top. yr. - grades shoot up  
wrote Naval War of 1812 when he was 23

1881 - State Assembly - 3 terms

Wife / mother / die on Feb 14, 1884 - He was 25 - widower, orphan  
and father

83-87 - spent a total of 2 yrs. in Medora, N.D.

married Edith Carow in London

86 ran for Mayor came in 3rd

Harrison nominated for Civil Service Commission - stays  
6 years - he was so short moved in Henry Adams' circle

got to know John Hay who found TR too ambitious and pushy -  
1887 - Mahan invited him to Naval War College to speak  
Police Commissioner - 1895

Called Indians savages etc. Latin's Dagoes

1897 - out. Sec. of Navy

Expansionist U.S. ① War of Independence  
② LA. Purchase  
③ J.Q.A. purchase of Flo. from Spain  
④ Monroe Doctrine - 4 No's. (PIB)

next to Jeff - Polk greatest Expansionist Pres.

Northwest Ordinance

Mexico 1840

~~Canada~~ Canada

Virgin from Dutch

Sec. of State - William Linn  
alaska 7.2 mil.

Manifest Destiny - J.Q.A. (The West) James H. Blaine  
journalist John O'Sullivan - 1839

Anglo-Saxon - superiority - Charles Darwin - Social Darwinism

Herbert Spencer - Rockefeller - Rev. Josiah Strong P35

all based on a belief in racial inequality.

Lack of strong Navy - weak Presidents - Spanish  
atrocities against Cubans - enter

Root Hay Mahan Lodge T.R.

Root - Sec War for McKim and TR - Sec State for TR

U.S. Senate - Council on Foreign Relations - Carnegie Endowment  
few enemies / sense of humor / idealistic / liberal Republican  
attended Hamilton College N.Y. at 15

Law Degree - NYU - later 71 represented Boss Tweed

joined Union League Club - married Clara Wales 1878

is a lawyer - ambitious but not greedy

friend of Chester A. Arthur - with him when Garfield killed

supported T.R. for state assembly 1881 / He became U.S. attorney

for western district of N.Y. (Arthur)

86 became leader of GOP in N.Y.C.

He was not a populist but could bite hand that feeds him p139  
at constitutional convention spoke about politicians being hand  
murders for insurance companies etc.

He was a stalwart.

Hay's Clara was social Root's was not - 17 yrs. older than T.R.

he had sympathy for Blacks but was against women's right to vote

he opposed direct election of Senate

McK asked Root to be Sec War because he wanted a ~~strong~~ lawyer

to be able to set governments in Phil and P.R. and Cuba

when American soldiers committed atrocities against Phil

he thought his duty to cover it up. p148

ALSO BY WARREN ZIMMERMANN

Origins of a Catastrophe: Yugoslavia and  
Its Destroyers

Hamilton  
Hannibal  
Lindbergh

Hay's affair with Hiram  
Lodge

Adam's affair with Senator  
Cameron's wife Lizzie

MacArthur in Phil.

protected zones  
outside army treat everyone as enemy  
property destruction - wholesale burnings  
gun emplacements to ground  
torture - water cure

P407

Officer Thomas Lowell - 56 men massacred by Filipinos

Court martial in 1902 -

T.R. - Gen. Young, Chaffes and Bell  
Muller in Phil: appointed Army Club of Staff

## First Great Triumph

Lodge - 3 terms in U.S. House | 1892 Freshman in Senate - <sup>he remained</sup> for 30 years

1895 - speeches about Hawaii and need for strong navy as per Mahan's sea power thesis - he supported Mahan in disputes with senior officers but had never met him

Point man: for American imperialism "commerce follows the flag"

Battleships: Britain 50 U.S. - 3

Only son - lived around 4 great historians Bancroft et. al.

While at Harvard engaged to Nannie Davis - married June 1871

His teacher Henry Adams tells him to make it pay (p159)

at 26 - law degree and doctorate from Harvard

He wrote 22 books - targeted at H. for 4 years.

liberal agenda - rarely met poor - anti-slavery - believed in superiority of his kind - a prig - a snob

Warrington Lodge's political ideal

Lodge voted for Tilden (a reformer) in 76

He lost election Congress in 84 because of Mugwumps - (reformers)

T.R. and Lodge became close over opposition to Blaine in 84

Lodge (8 yrs. older) than T.R. - T.R. ~~lost~~ closest friend

Lodge went for bat with McKinley for T.R.'s assist Sec of Navy job -

L and McKinley sat next to each other in House -

L: cold, ruthless and bigoted. - over valuing overweening

Self confidence

Met. on what to do with the Peace p 320 -

check applause reaction to speeches in Midwest

during Oct 1898 elections

Treaty of Paris - 17 articles - signed by 5 on each side Dec 10

Americans showed no mercy on Spaniards

final tally 61-29

Anti Imperialist League - Carnegie / Twain - Northeastern

Godkin - Irish immigrant - Karl Schurz - Prussian immigrant at 25

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This book is dedicated to my grandchildren

Louis Warren Metcalfe    Corinne Chubb Worthington  
Percy David Metcalfe    Arthur Alsop Worthington  
Natasha Zimmermann

### Maula Boy -

Dewey's 7 ships destroy Spain's 7 ships - 168 dead  
T.R. joins Army - father's fortune to fight in Civil War.  
made Lt. Col. - Leonard Wood - M.C. doctor to command unit.  
Rough Riders - from Howard to N.M. - Indian  
Tampa - 48 vessels, 16,000 men embark for Cuba.  
First Great Triumph - world movement P225  
Naval Blockade in Santiago Bay Cuba  
T.R. land at Daiquiri - lost 8 Rough Riders - first  
American killed Hamilton Fish grandson of Sec. State  
R. Riders - supporting role in taking San Juan Hill - T.R.  
shoots one Spaniard (kills him) 15,000 Spanish soldiers - 15,000  
American sent into battle -  
T.R. a hero but shameless promoter  
Spanish-American War - most popular war in American history  
July 6, 1898 - Lodge get 42-21 vote to Annex Hawaii  
Capt Cook set foot in 1778 - eventually killed and eaten by  
Polynesian - Hawaii - sugar boom - in 1872 leased  
Pearl Harbor to U.S. for Navy Port  
In Hawaii American threatened Human Rights unlike in  
Cuba.  
Proves Cleveland - didn't want annexation  
Surrender of Santiago July 17  
In Cuba Rebels were stormed by U.S. soldiers - all black

It is a great historical expedition, and I thrill to feel that I am part of it. If we fail, of course we share the fate of all who do fail, but if we are allowed to succeed (for we certainly shall succeed, if allowed) we have scored the first great triumph in what will be a world movement.

—Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt to his sister Corinne from the troopship Yucatan bound for Cuba, June 15, 1898

Cuba —

T. R. signed letter to get U.S. soldier out of Cuba because of malarial — leaked letter to A.P. — campaign to get Medal of Honor. Got his fellow officers to write letters citing his bravery. 1913 — published them in his diary  
Clinton awarded T. R. medal Jan 2001 p 298  
4014 American killed in Cuba 3/4 is by disease

Sumatra — June 20 — fires on island — thinks it a salute but eventually surrenders — makes 2nd overseas colony after Wardway

Manila — troops same on Spanish and American sides P305

Aquinaldo — leader of insurgents wanted independence 13,000  
American and Spanish pretended to fight — American raised flag on Aug 13

No battle fought for Santiago / Havana / Manila —  
Still insurgents treated battle referred to as Wiggen by U.S. —

Shelman / Merrill / McK turn to John Hay as Sec State

Jungles and Boo-Boos

Treaty of Paris — U.S. / Spanish agreement

Jung — T. R. / Lodge / Mahan

Panama Canal - negotiated with Columbia  
T.R. Prior rationalization on throwing out Columbia  
Money to Rep W. Cov. from William Crowell \$160,000  
1906 - 1st trip of U.S. Pres. outside country - to Panama  
10 million to Panama - 40 million to Baran Verilla  
Co.

T.R. considered Hay to be soft  
Panamanian Revolution - aided by U.S.  
T.R. - Canal - most important achievement of his Presidency  
Germans in St. Thomas and Venezuela -

Roosevelt Corollary and The Monroe Doctrine - p 444  
authorized American intervention in Latin America  
Cuban crisis 1906 - U.S. sends in Marines  
T.R. makes Charles Magoon in charge - country back to  
Cuban in 1909

T.R. leaves successors - principal of intervention  
Open Doors to China 1900 - 500 American troops - Rogers  
one of Hay's 2 great contributions - the other S.P.  
he should get credit for opening Asia the great trade that  
we have today.

During 1st decade of 20th C. - 9 million immigrants lead to  
xenophobia  
Howard etc - anti immigrant - anti non-anglo papers  
Henry Cabot Lodge - most restrictive on immigration  
Immigration Restriction League

TR - mixed on race and immigration  
All first unfriendly to mass immigration - p 465  
Exclusion of Chinese  
\* need for diplomacy through diplomats p 467 \*

T.R. negotiates peace bet Russia and Japan - Nobel Peace P  
Root becomes Sec State after 18 months in law practice  
TR thought of Root as the greatest statesman of  
his time

Hawaii  
Phillipines  
Cuba  
P.R.

Root  
Mahan  
T.R.  
Lodge  
Hay

Legacies  
① Created an authentic American Imperialism  
less likely to treat our subjects as permanent changes

TR and W.W. foremost imperialists

You call Jimmy Carter courageous for Panama Canal

You call it Vietnam debacle  
Phillipines - founder of American Imperialism might have made a mistake - need to defend asia.

- ② prepared America to become a great power
- ③ first comprehensive assertion of U.S. interests abroad.
- ④ 2 For. Policy priorities - Human Rights and Stability
- ⑤ Strengthened U.S. Presidency

Since end of Cold War - you say both power and self-confidence is waning

\* weakening of Presidency because of role of private money and special interests

All 5 followers of Alexander Hamilton  
belief in activist government

Maine Blows up - kills 268 sailors - T.R. - ant. Navy / Mahan in NY writes article retired / Hay - G.B.

Root in private practice / Lodge in Senate  
T.R.'s theme p 236 - TR as King - reasons for attacking Cuba: p 242  
Humanity / Hemisphere domination / self improvement / practice for armed force

Spain - revolution of 1868 - wanted belligerent rights recognition from U.S.  
Grant refused - In 1895 - war began in Cuba - Jose Martí - intell.  
leader dies early on. (killed)

Mck. did not want war with Spain  
Senator Proctor speech on Cuba - Bombshell - US injury aint  
Maine explosion: Navy not at fault. - Rectover 1926 agreed  
with Spanish = explosion came from mine  
In end - principal reason for war given by Mck. - Human Rights  
\* First time in History - America has right of intervention p 262

Lodge <sup>private</sup> called Wilson - mean, selfish  
 unenlightened, self righteous, stupid  
 lacking in intellectual integrity p 479

- 41 Mahan - d. Dec 1914 (73)
- 59 T.R. - d. Jan 1919 (60)
- 50 Lodge - d. Nov 1924 (74)
- 46 Root - d. 1937 (91)
- 41 Hay d. July 1905 (66)

TR was 18 yrs. younger Mahan  
 13 yrs younger Root

years to go

1898	Mahan 57	16
	T.R. 59	21
	Lodge 48	26
	Root 52	39
	Hay 57	7

	b	d.	AGE
Alfred Mahan	1841	1914	73
John Hay	1841	1905	66
Edwin Root	1846	1937	91
Henry Cabot Lodge	1850	1924	74
Thomas Russell	1859	1919	60

	1898	1904
	57	63
	57	63
	52	58
	48	54
	39	45

Civil War —

Ft. Sumter

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Spanish American

Maine explosion

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WW I

Lusitania

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WW II

Pearl Harbor

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Vietnam

Tonkin Gulf

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