

# *ANALYSIS:* THEODORE ROOSEVELT



The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag with a distressed, weathered texture. It features a blue canton with white stars and alternating red and white horizontal stripes.

***UNITED STATES***

*HISTORY*

**with Mr. Willis**

## UNIT 2 - DAY 14

# ROOSEVELT'S “SQUARE DEAL”

**IT'S 1901, AMERICA IS A WORLD POWER  
AND SOCIETY IS REFORMING**

**AMERICAN JUST WON THE WAR W/ SPAIN**



**AMERICA NOW HAS A WORLD-WIDE  
EMPIRE OF TERRITORIES**

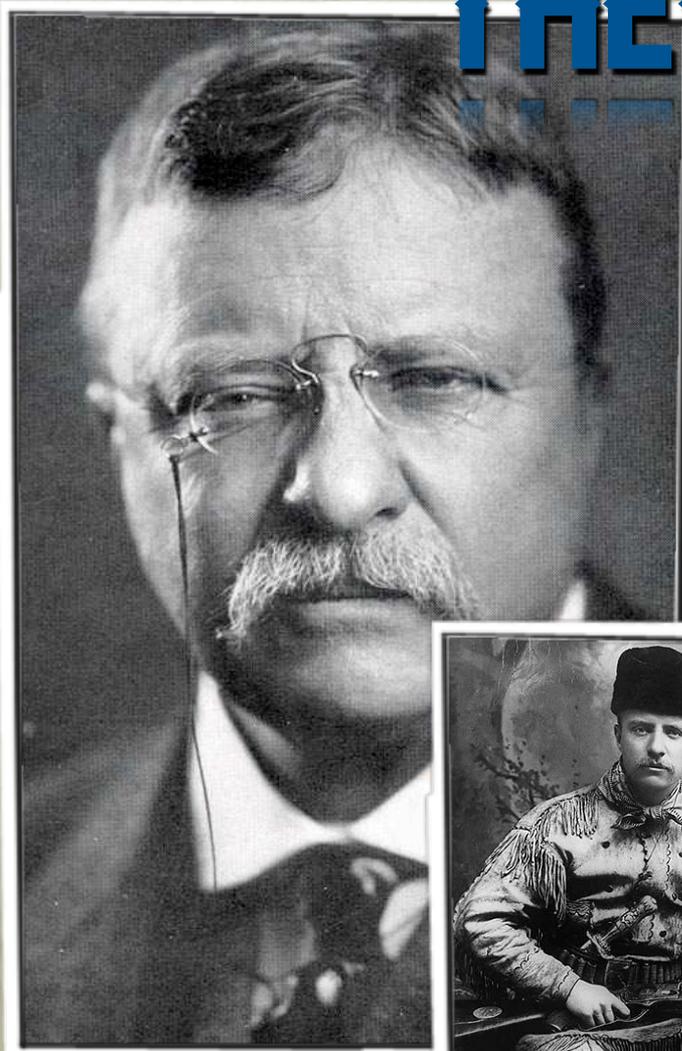


**WITH SECURITY ABROAD, ATTENTION  
NOW TURNS TO REFORM AT HOME**



**AND IT TOOK OFF WITH...**

# THEODORE ROOSEVELT



Son of a **wealthy** New York family.  
TR grew up a **sick little boy**

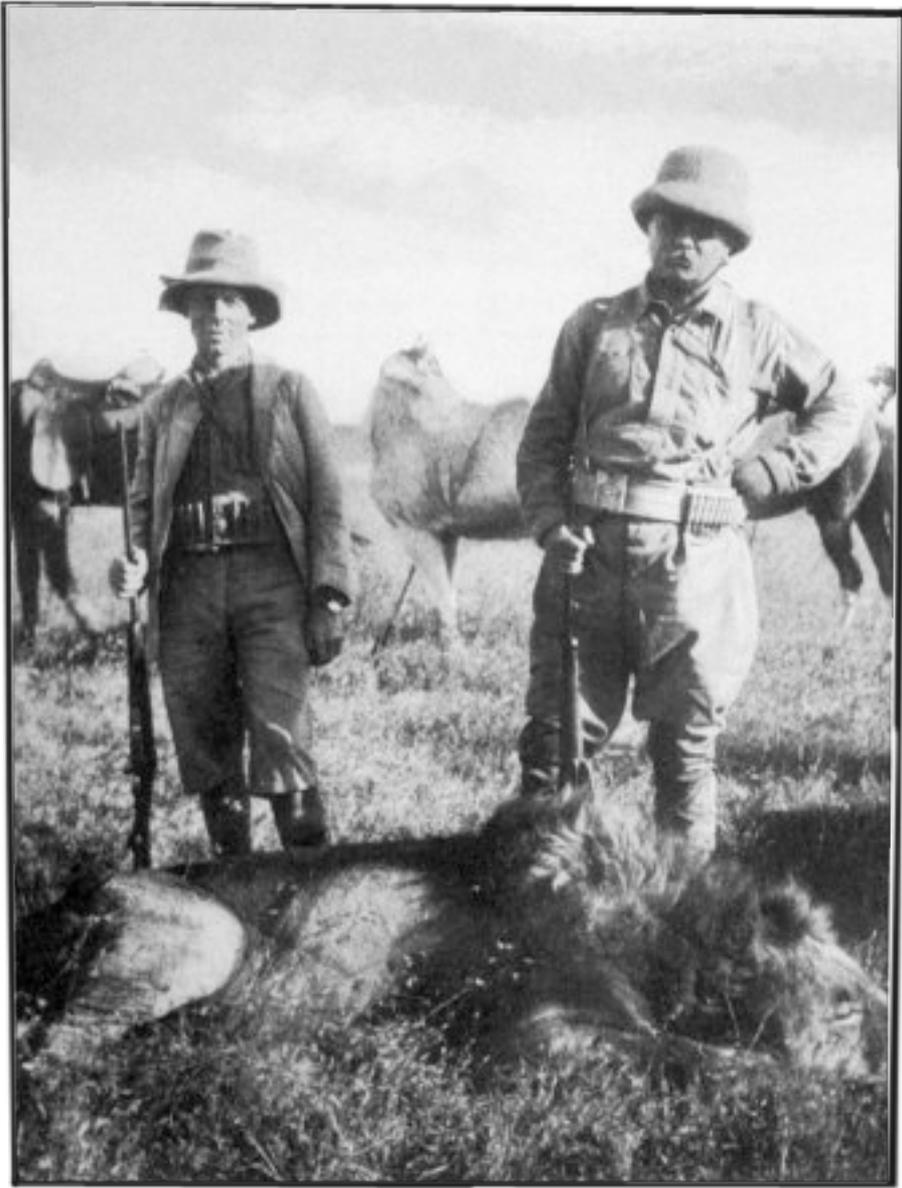
**HIS ILLNESS/FRAILITY MADE HIM EAGER TO  
GROW STRONG, BE ADVENTUROUS**

**HE WAS A BIG GAME HUNTER, BOXER,  
WRESTLER, SWIMMER (SWAM THE POTOMAC)**

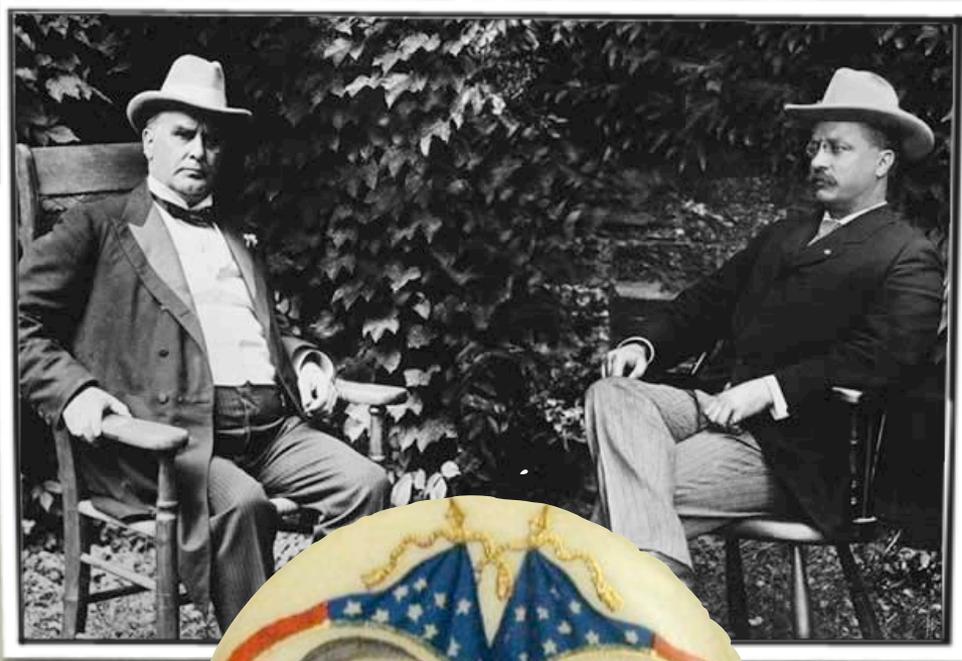
His personality forged his political  
persona as a **ferocious reformer**

As Governor of New York, he  
**fought corruption, broke up political  
machines**

**HIS REPUTATION, ACTIONS EARNED HIM  
POWERFUL ENEMIES, EVEN IN HIS OWN  
PARTY**



# THE ACCIDENTAL PRESIDENT



Seeking to get him out of NY, TR's **GOP enemies** had him **NOMINATED VP**  
HE WOULD RUN ON THE PARTY TICKET WITH **WILLIAM MCKINLEY** IN 1900

Their goal is to send him to DC and make him **INSIGNIFICANT** and **POWERLESS**  
**MCKINLEY/ROOSEVELT** WIN IN 1900

1901 - President **MCKINLEY** IS **ASSASSINATED**

AS VP, TR **ASCENDS TO THE PRESIDENCY**

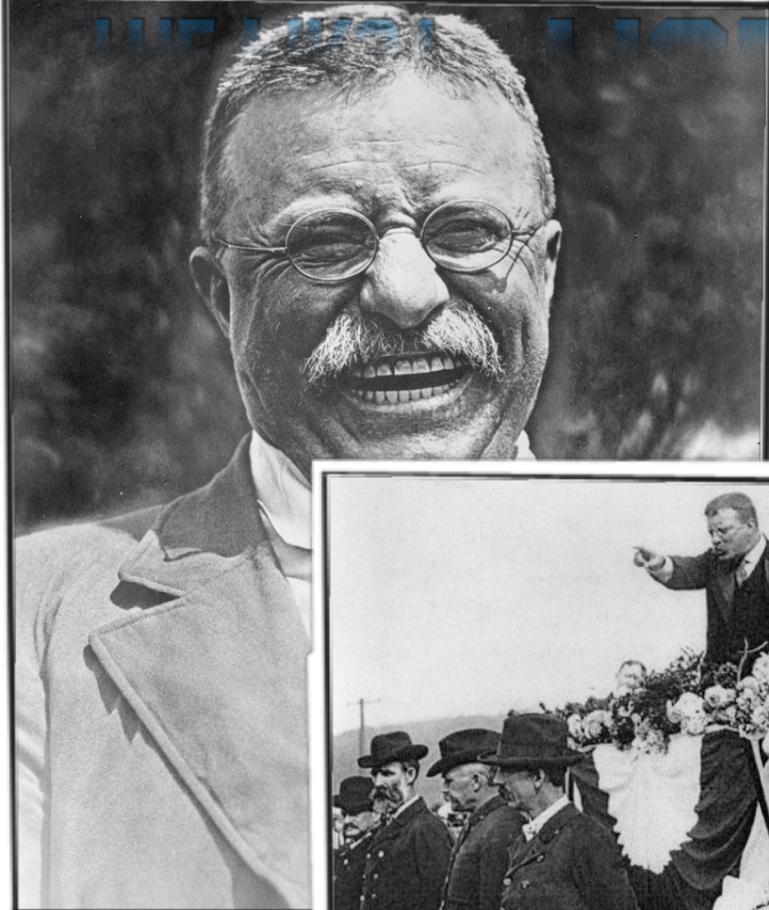
Hoping to **END HIS REFORMS**, TR's **ENEMIES** have accidentally made him the **MOST POWERFUL MAN IN AMERICA!**

**LET'S ANALYZE**

**PROGRESSIVISM UNDER**

**TEDDY ROOSEVELT**

# THE FIRST "MODERN PRESIDENT"



TR immediately thought the POTUS a "steward of the people"  
GOV.'s ROLE: TO STEP IN TO PROTECT  
THE PEOPLE'S WELFARE WHEN STATES CAN'T

He used his bold exploits, robust personality to influence media & laws

To TR, the presidency was a "bully pulpit" from which to govern  
TR WAS DETERMINED TO TAKE POWER FROM RICH BUSINESSMEN AND REDISTRIBUTE IT TO THE COMMON AMERICAN

This plan was called the  
**"SQUARE DEAL"**

**SO, WHAT'S IN THIS...**

**“SQUARE DEAL”?**

# TRUSTBUSTING



TR believed a **powerful government** was essential to a **democracy**

**REGULATION** IS KEY TO TR'S POLITICS

Big business was essential too, but **corrupt/evil trusts hurt the people**

AS STEWARD OF THE PEOPLE, GOV NEEDS TO STEP IN TO **PROTECT GENERAL WELFARE**

TR used the **Sherman Antitrust Act** to sue 44 trusts in 7 years in office

**NOT ALL FIRMS WERE KILLED, BUT MANY WERE AND IT PROMOTED COMPETITION**

TR became known as a "**trustbuster**"

# LABOR & REGULATION



1902 - Penn. coalminers **strike** for better pay, working conditions  
w/ winter approaching, coal reserves ran low (lack of heat for Americans)

w/ **citizen's welfare threatened**, TR arbitrates an end to the strike  
as steward of the people, gov needs to step in to protect general welfare

TR sets a precedent that **future POTUS** can settle labor strikes when **citizens** are directly effected

TR also empowered the **Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)** to strictly **regulate abusive RxxRs**



ROOSEVELT'S BIGGEST GAME

From the *Herald* (New York)

# GUARDING CONSUMER HEALTH



After reading The Jungle, TR used his persona to push for change

1906 - Teddy Roosevelt signs the **Meat Inspection Act**

**MANDATED STRICT CLEANLINESS IN MEAT PLANTS, SET UP MEAT INSPECTION SYSTEM**

Going after abhorrent food & drug industry, TR signs the **Pure Food and Drug Act** in 1906

**REQUIRED TRUTH IN LABELING, BANNED THE SALE OF CONTAMINATED FOOD AND DRUGS**

**Both laws are still enacted today!**

# CONSERVATIONISM



After 100 years of western migration, **American resources were disappearing**

TR saw **conservation of US natural resources** as a **primary concern**  
**CONSERVATION** IS THE **PRESERVING & PROTECTING OF WILDERNESS AREAS & LAND**

Advised by **John Muir**, TR set aside **148 mil. acres** of natural forestland  
**HE CREATED WILDLIFE PRESERVES,**  
**EMPOWERED THE US FOREST SERVICE TO BAN THE SALE OF FEDERAL WILDERNESS**

TR also set up the **US Geological Survey** to **explore for resources**

**HOWEVER, ROOSEVELT DID FAIL IN**

**ONE AREA**

# AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS



Like most Progressives, TR was **hesitant** to promote **rights for blacks** *INSTEAD OF PROMOTING THEM AS A WHOLE, HE SUPPORTED INDIVIDUAL AFRICAN AMERICANS*

Despite backlash, he **appointed blacks** to **federal positions** in **South. states**

He invited **Booker T. Washington** to dine at the White House

However, his **lack of full support** led to need for **black self-representation**  
*1909 - NAACP WAS FORMED AND FOUGHT FOR NOTHING SHORT OF TOTAL EQUALITY OF THE RACES IN AMERICAN SOCIETY*

A black and white portrait of Theodore Roosevelt, showing him from the chest up. He has a prominent white mustache, is wearing glasses, and is dressed in a dark suit with a white shirt and a dark tie. The background of the portrait is dark and slightly blurred.

# ROOSEVELT'S

# PRESIDENCY

The **IMPORTANCE** of the  
**SQUARE DEAL**

## CHANGED AMERICAN SOCIETY BY

SETTING A PRECEDENT THAT **POWERFUL GOVERNMENT**  
SHOULD **REGULATE BUSINESS** ON BEHALF OF CITIZENS  
EXPANDING THE **POWER AND ROLE** OF THE PRESIDENT  
FOREVER IN THE **LIVES OF THE PUBLIC**  
ENDING **ABUSIVE AND NEGLIGENT** CORPORATE PRACTICES  
AND OFFICIALLY **ENDING THE GILDED AGE**