

Spanish-American War Grew From Second Cuban Insurrection

April 10, 1895: Second Cuban Insurrection begins.

Aug. 26, 1896: Philippine Revolution begins.

March 4, 1897 — William McKinley inaugurated.

Jan. 1, 1898 — Spain institutes limited political autonomy in Cuba.

Jan. 12, 1898 — Spanish residents of Cuba riot against autonomy.

Jan. 25, 1898 — Battleship USS Maine arrives in Havana.

Feb. 15, 1898 — The Maine explodes; 266 crew members die.

March 28, 1898 — Naval Court of Inquiry reports Maine was destroyed by a mine.

April 11, 1898 — McKinley asks Congress for war.

May 1, 1898 — U.S. victory at Manila Bay.

May 14-17, 1898 — The 10th U.S. Cavalry, 71st New York Volunteer Infantry, 2nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and 1st U.S. Cavalry arrive in Lakeland for training and preparation for war.

May 30 to June 7, 1898 — The four regiments head to Port Tampa.

June 6, 1898 — U.S. Marines land at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

June 22, 1898 — V Corps con-

taining 16,000 men, including the four regiments that had encamped in Lakeland, lands at Dairquiri in Cuba.

June 24, 1898 — The V Corps tastes battle at Las Guasimas.

July 1, 1898 — Battles of El Caney, Kettle Hill and San Juan Hill, guarding approaches to Santiago.

July 3, 1898 — Spanish fleet attempts to escape from Santiago; all ships destroyed.

July 15, 1898 — 1st Ohio Volunteer Cavalry arrives in Lakeland, almost too late for the brief war.

July 17, 1898 — Spanish garrison in Santiago surrenders.

July 25, 1898 — U.S. Army invades Puerto Rico.

Aug. 12, 1898 — Truce is signed.

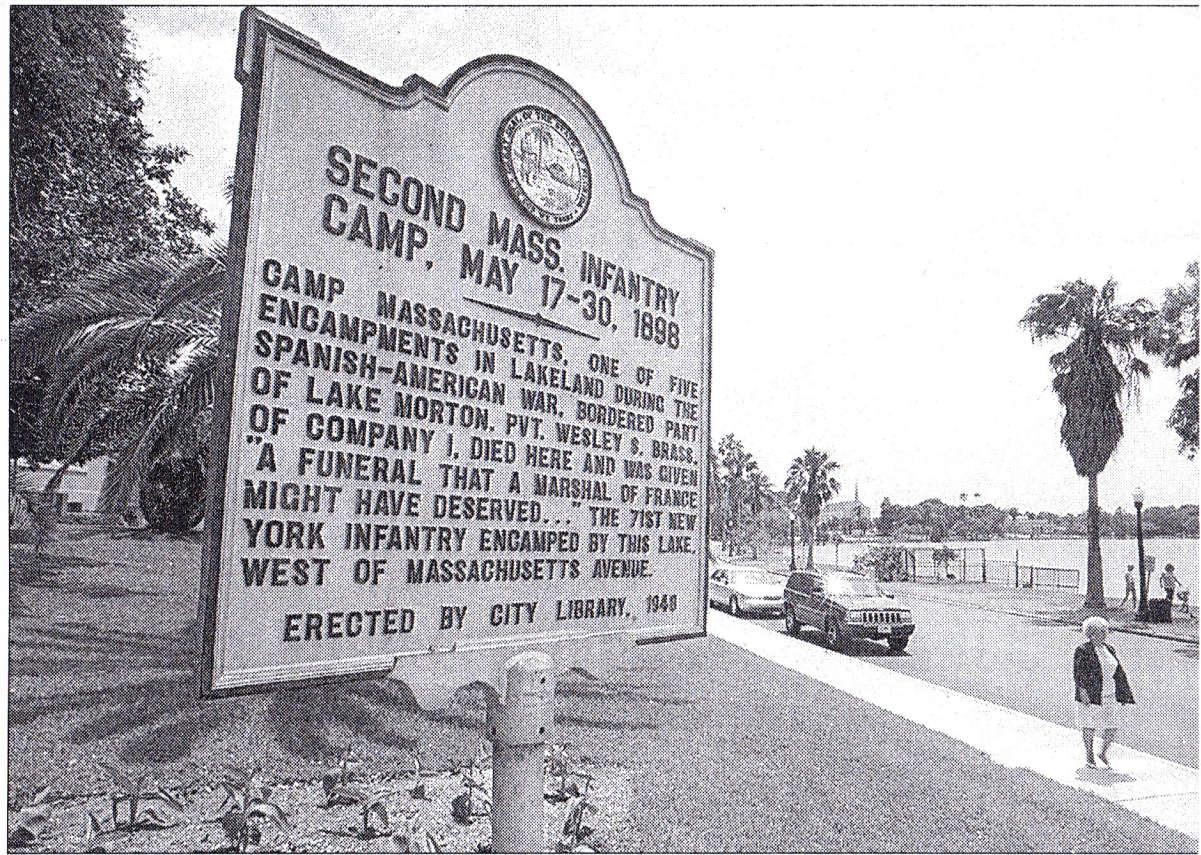
Aug. 13, 1898 — U.S. forces attack and capture Manila.

Aug. 15-30, 1898 — Battle-weary troops from the original four regiments return to Lakeland to pick up their rear supply units, then return home.

Aug. 20, 1898 — The 1st Ohio is ordered from Lakeland to Huntsville, Ala. It eventually returns to Ohio.

Dec. 10, 1898 — Treaty of Paris ends the war.

Sources: Dave Rodgers through the Spanish-American War Web site and Ledger research.



A historical marker at Lake Morton Drive and Massachusetts Avenue in Lakeland marks the site of the 2nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry camp in 1898. The site was one of five encampments in Lakeland established in preparation for the Spanish-American War.