"The power to the north had always been hostile to our struggle, since a long time before it had targeted our country with the 'Manifest Destiny' to make it part of its territory in its quest for expansion.

At a given point, the decline of the Spanish Empire, over which the sun never set, facilitated the blow to smash Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Guam given by the new imperial power. It sought excuses, it used deceit and lies, and recognized that to all intents and purposes the Cuban people were free and independent, and with this it sought the backing of its valiant combatants to support the interventionist war".

References to the original: <u>REFLECTIONS "THE IMMORTAL IDEAS OF MARTÍ", May 22, 2008</u>

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