The Murder of Teddy Roosevelt

On October 14, 1912, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Bull Moose candidate Theodore Roosevelt stood up in his open car to acknowledge cheers from a crowd about to hear a campaign speech from the ex-president. A shot from the second rank of the crowd rang out. A bullet entered the right side of Roosevelt’s chest and lodged in a rib. In real life, Roosevelt, true to his reputation for braver, proceeded to deliver the speech, saved in part by his iron spectacle case and the manuscript of his speech. He was however, forced to suspend his speaking tour.

In our simulation, the bullet didn’t miss. A day and a half after the shooting, Theodore Roosevelt died.

Since the murder of a president was not a federal crime in 1912, the chief of police of Milwaukee, your instructor, is in charge of the investigation. His initial search of the area immediately after the crowd dispersed uncovered in a garbage pail a large man’s jacket with a note inside that read, “Thanks, my friends, I know we’re going to do it.”

In one of the pockets there were some foreign coins, a picture of what appeared to be a catlike silhouette, a button with an elephant on it, a map of Chicago, a blank postcard from Lake Mohonk Mountain House, a picture of Teddy Roosevelt taken at a Rough Rider Reunion in 1905, and a receipt for a train ticket from Washington D.C.

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Your job is to take the role of an investigator for the Milwaukee police. You must write a report on who killed the President.

I recommend you look closely at:

* 1. The early political and military career of Roosevelt
  2. The various diplomatic crises of Roosevelt’s two terms
  3. The struggles over Progressive reform during Roosevelt’s presidency
  4. The collapse of the positive relations between William Howard Taft and Roosevelt
  5. The events surrounding the Election of 1912 (note: the election itself hasn’t taken place yet).

This will be taken for a grade and is also an opportunity for you to earn EXTRA CREDIT!!!!! Whoever does the best job of convincing me that their person has committed the crime will be the one that gets extra credit therefore it is in your best interest to keep your information to yourself. The following people are the people that you should look closely at :William H. Taft, Emma Goldman, Andrew Carnegie, “Uncle” Joe Cannon, JP Morgan, Mary Harris Jones, William Randolph Hearst, John D. Rockefeller