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**“Teddy’s His Man”**  
by  
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People say you can tell a lot about a man, or woman, by the books he reads, the company he keeps, and those whom he admires and tries to emulate. I thought it would be interesting to highlight some of the strengths of the man Sen. John McCain has said he most admires as a role model for his own Senatorial and, hopefully, Presidential conduct and policies. That man is former military hero and Republican two-term President, Teddy Roosevelt.

McCain has said he is a conservative candidate who will shape his cabinet and presidency along the models of Roosevelt’s reputation for reform, environmentalism and tough foreign policy. Many critics of McCain say Roosevelt was anything but a conservative but if one examines his life and record he would find Teddy fits hand in glove with the ideals of those on the modern ‘Right.’

**Roosevelt’s answer to those who would have us, as the strongest nation in the world, stand back and allow other, weaker, nations be defeated, controlled and/or coerced by despots and tyrants.**

“The kind of ‘neutrality’ which seeks to preserve ‘peace’ by timidly refusing to live up to our plighted word and to denounce and take action against such wrong as that committed in the case of Belgium, is unworthy of an honorable and powerful people. Dante reserved a special place of infamy in the Inferno for those base angels who dared side, neither with evil or with good. Peace is ardently to be desired, but only as the handmaiden of righteousness. There can be no such peace until well-behaved, highly civilized small nations are protected from oppression and subjugation.”

**His comments on criticisms of his bold initiatives, both foreign and domestic.** “It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.”

**Could this one correlate to those in Congress who don't want McCain in the Presidency?** "The opposition to reform is generally well led by skilled parliamentarians, and they fight with the vindictiveness natural to men who see a chance of striking at the institution which has baffled their greed. These men have a gift at office-mongering, just as other men have a peculiar knack at picking pockets; and they are joined by all the honest dull men, who vote wrong out of pure ignorance, and by a very few sincere and intelligent, but wholly misguided people."

**Other quotes that apply today:**

1. "Every immigrant who comes here should be required within 5 years to learn English or leave the country."
2. "Anyone can give up, it's the easiest thing in the world to do. But to hold it together when everyone else would understand if you fell apart, that's true strength."

Teddy Roosevelt... a man before his time. Seems like John McCain has chosen a great individual to be his hero.

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