

Section 1

The U.S.–Mexican War

Main Ideas

1. The United States and Mexico went to war over issues involving Texas and California.
2. Many Texans took part in the U.S.–Mexican War.
3. The United States defeated Mexico in 1847.

Why It Matters Today

Despite efforts from some Americans, the United States and Mexico

Key Terms and People

- Zachary Taylor
- John S. “Rip” Ford
- offensive
- Winfield Scott

The Story Continues

U.S. lieutenant Napoleon Dana was stationed with his fellow soldiers along the Rio Grande.

As the war between the United States and Mexico began, Dana and his fellow soldiers were stationed along the Rio Grande, the border between the two nations. Dana and his fellow soldiers were excited and nervous, anticipating a fight with Mexico. Many of the troops were becoming anxious, eager to prove themselves in battle. Dana, who described his wife, wrote a letter home: “Here we are at a dead standstill, doing nothing but waiting for a chance of glory and was on my way home again.”

Fighting Breaks Out

The border conflict between Dana and his fellow soldiers began because of a dispute between Mexico and the United States about the location of the border between Texas and Mexico. Dana and his fellow soldiers were angry because they felt that the border was in Texas. They feared that ar

hand, maintained the old U.S. position of Texas claim as the boundary. In addition, the Mexi

...the United States and Mexico went to war over issues involving Texas and California. Many Texans took part in the U.S.–Mexican War. The United States defeated Mexico in 1847.



In November 1845





In November 1845,





AUS Victory

...battles in Texas. The capture of

...the



1847

...the

...event more than Taylor had. He sailed to Veracruz, which had the strongest fortress in Mexico. After a long artillery battle, Scott took control of the city. He then moved on to

...the

...soldiers at Monterrey.

Hays also fought in other important battles. He died in California in 1883. How did Hays make a place for himself in Texas history?

August 1847, Scott had reached

Scott ordered a massive attack on the city. Fighting took place in the streets and even on the rooftops. Finally, on September 14, 1847, Mexico

...fell. U.S. troops raised the American flag over the National Palace



1847



Section

2

Results of the Mexican War

1848-1850

- 1. The United States gained the territory of the Mexican Cession, a 530,000 square mile area.
- 2. In 1850, the annexed territory became a territory.

1848-1850

- 1. Treaty of Guadalupe

1848-1850

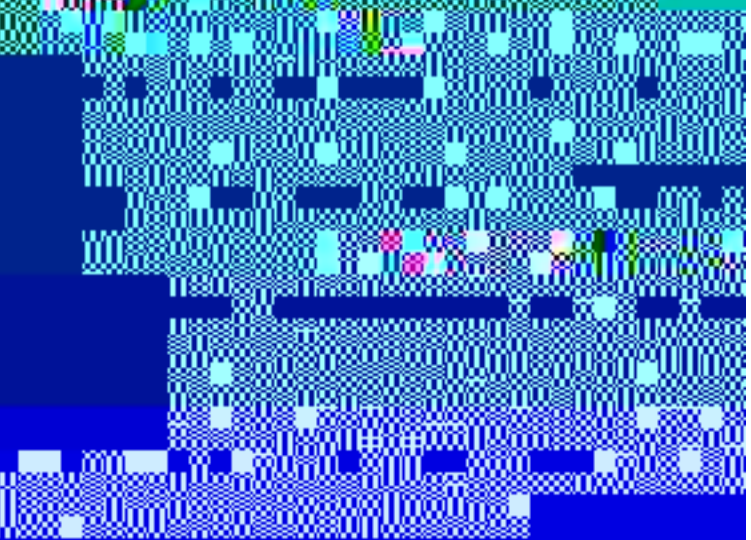
1848-1850

1848-1850



The Story Continues

1848-1850






The addition of so much territory to the United States reignited old debates about slavery. As before, the debate was split over regional lines. Legislators from pro-slavery states wanted to allow slavery in the new territories, while antislavery legislators wanted to ban it.

The Mexican Cession also raised questions about the borders of Texas. Texans claimed that the state included all land east of the Rio Grande. This would include the city of Santa Fe. Early in 1848, the Texas legislature declared the huge disputed region to be Santa Fe County, Texas.

However, the people in this region—particularly in Santa Fe—rejected the Texas claim. Most people in Santa Fe opposed slavery and had no desire to become part of a slave state like Texas. Pro-slavery

southern members of the U.S. Congress supported the Texas claim. Northern members

In 1850, Senator Stephen A. Douglas began to resolve both the border conflict and the issue of slavery in the Texas and New Mexico. His plan was called the Compromise of 1850. To settle the b



U.S. senator Stephen A. Douglas proposed a compromise on slavery.

1850

