

EXTRA! EXTRA!



WASHINGTON SENTINEL August 18, 1843

MEXICO THREATENS

Washington - Today a spokesperson for President John Tyler announced that he had recently received a threatening message from Mexico. Sources report that Santa Anna wrote the president saying he would "consider the passage of an act for the incorporation of Texas equivalent to a declaration of war."

The Texans have been trying for years to gain American statehood. Time after time their efforts have been blocked by anti-slavery forces fearing the addition of such a large "slave state" or worse, several slave states if Texas were to be divided.

President Tyler, who is in favor of Texas annexation, said an independent Texas could fall under the control of other powers, such as Great Britain, if the U.S. fails to take action.

OREGON DAILY October 10, 1844

"FIFTY-FOUR FORTY OR FIGHT!"

Salem - The Oregon Territory, it seems, is of great importance to the United States this year. In his bid for the presidency, James Polk has been using our cause to win election. Using the slogan, "Fifty-four forty or fight!" Polk is campaigning on the issue that the U.S. should annex all land to 54° 40' N latitude, which means Britain will have to give up claim to that land. This issue is quite popular with the many Americans who have settled here.

The debate about the annexation of Oregon is part of a growing movement to extend America's borders to the Pacific Ocean. Many in the U.S. view it as the country's "Manifest Destiny" to do so. Is it? Only time and this election will tell.

THE TEXAS SUN April 27, 1846

MEXICO ATTACKS!

SAN ANTONIO - Since last year's annexation of Texas, Yesterday, Mexican troops crossed the Rio Grande, the border between that country and the United States, and ambushed a group of American cavalry in command of Captain Seth Thornton. Some Washington sources say that this attack could mean the beginning of a war with Mexico, as has been suggested by President Polk.

annexation of Texas, the government of Mexico has been unwilling to accept its lost claim. The Mexican government has been threatening the U.S. for years about this issue and now seems to be following through with its threats in spite of America's military superiority. If this is the start of a war, it is expected to be a short one.

WASHINGTON TIMES May 14, 1846

U.S. DECLARES WAR

WASHINGTON, DC. of Mexican territory from Texas to the Pacific Ocean.

It seems today that President James Polk's vision of America's "Manifest Destiny" is one step closer to reality. Yesterday the Congress approved his request for a formal declaration of war against Mexico.

Though American troops have already fought battles with Mexican forces, this declaration opens the way for an all-out war effort to gain control

Forces in what is now being called the "Mexican War" are expected to be led by Gen. Zachary Taylor, who has been actively engaged in defense of Texas. Sources reveal that it was, in fact, Taylor's advance of troops to the Rio Grande that began the recent round of fighting between the two sides.

EXTRA! EXTRA!



THE CALIFORNIA CRYER

June 19, 1846

U.S. ANNEXES OREGON

WASHINGTON, DC - A vote in Congress yesterday resulted in Oregon being solely under U.S. control. For many, including American emigrants in the northwest, this vote is cause for great celebration.

The territory was claimed by both the U.S. and Britain, and in his 1844 campaign President Polk vowed to control the land. A final war threat by the president led to

an agreement in May, allowing annexation. The vote to annex Oregon provided the United States with its first deep-water port on the Pacific Ocean. It also brought many former U.S. citizens who had moved to Oregon back under the American flag.

It is still unclear if, when, and how the land will be granted statehood. There is talk, however, of two states being formed.

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

January 15, 1847

CALIFORNIA SECURE

San Diego - Though fighting in Mexico has proven difficult, the U.S. has found great success in the southwest. Two days ago Mexican forces here gave up control of California to the settlers. This victory follows the conquest last year of New Mexico, meaning that now Americans have control of almost all western lands to the Pacific. Of course the Mexican government

has not yet accepted defeat in this war.

To force a Mexican surrender, plans are in the works for a full-scale U.S. attack. Sources report that Gen. Winfield Scott will lead the assault toward Mexico City, which is under the defense of Gen. Santa Anna. No date has yet been set for the campaign to begin, but the government is hopeful that it will bring the war's end.

NEW MEXICO NEWS

May 26, 1848

IT'S REALLY OVER!

Tomé, NM - Yesterday Mexico's government officially approved the "Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo," ending the Mexican War. In the treaty, approved by the Senate on March 10th, Mexico cedes all of California and New Mexico to the United States, and recognizes American sovereignty over all of Texas to the Rio Grande. The addition of California and New Mexico amounts

to 1.2 million square miles of new U.S. territory. In exchange for the land the U.S. agrees to pay \$15 million to Mexico for property damages.

Mexico's surrender was in large part due to a campaign led by Gen. Winfield Scott to capture Mexico City. The successful assault led the two sides to negotiate the treaty, which was signed on February 2nd of this year.

EL PASO POST

December 31, 1853

MORE LAND FOR U.S.

EL PASO, TX - A new treaty signed yesterday between the U.S. and Mexico resolves some issues left over from the Mexican War. The 1848 "Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo" placed the countries' border along the Rio Grande to a point just north of El Paso and then west to the Gila River. This boundary was based on a map which has since been found to be faulty.

To clear up the problem the two countries have agreed to what they call the "Gadsden Purchase." The United States will pay Mexico \$10 million for disputed territory in Texas and New Mexico. The land in question is considered valuable for several reasons: it is expected to be a rail route for the transcontinental rail and is a main route for stagecoaches.