

- Essential Question:

- How did the American desire for Manifest Destiny lead to the acquisition of Texas, Oregon, & California?

# In the 1840s, America realized its “manifest destiny” by acquiring all lands to the Pacific Ocean

In 1845, the USA annexed the independent nation of Texas

In 1846, the U.S. settled a dispute with England to gain Oregon

In 1848, the USA gained new lands in the SW by winning the Mexican-American War





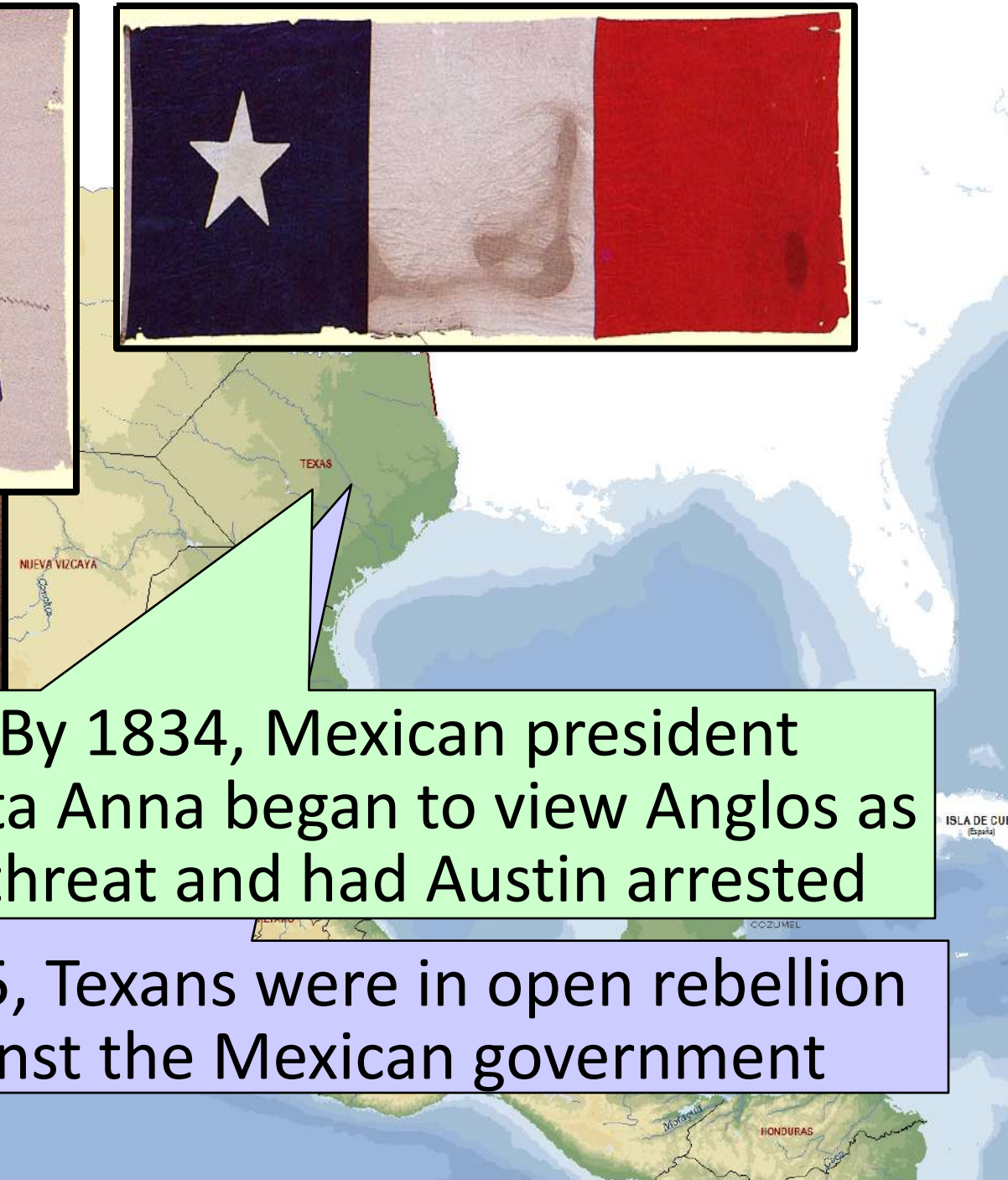
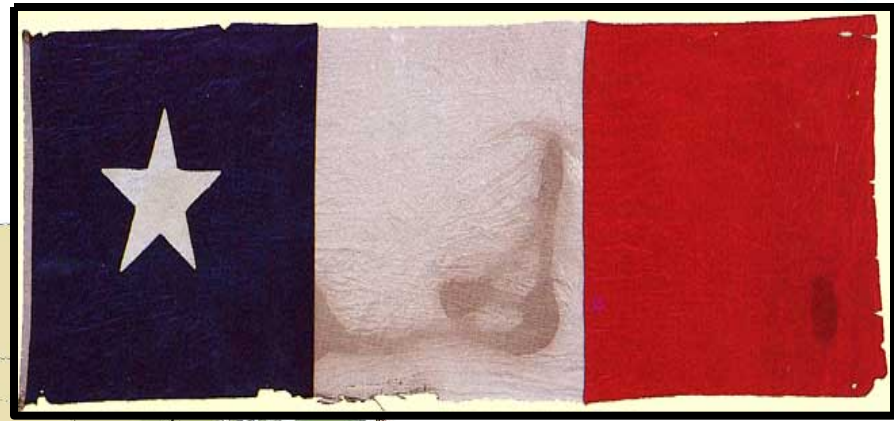
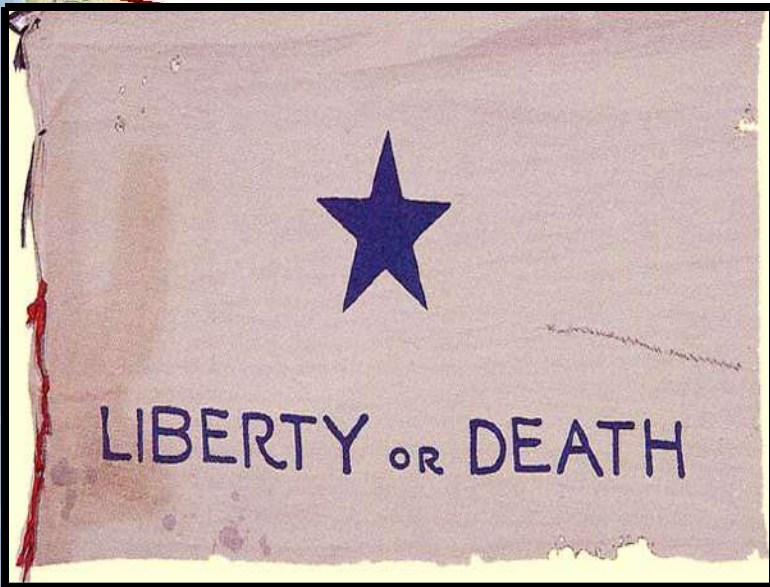
Americans refused to accept Mexican laws

They would not convert to Catholicism

They would not accept a ban on slavery

They wanted a voice in Mexican government





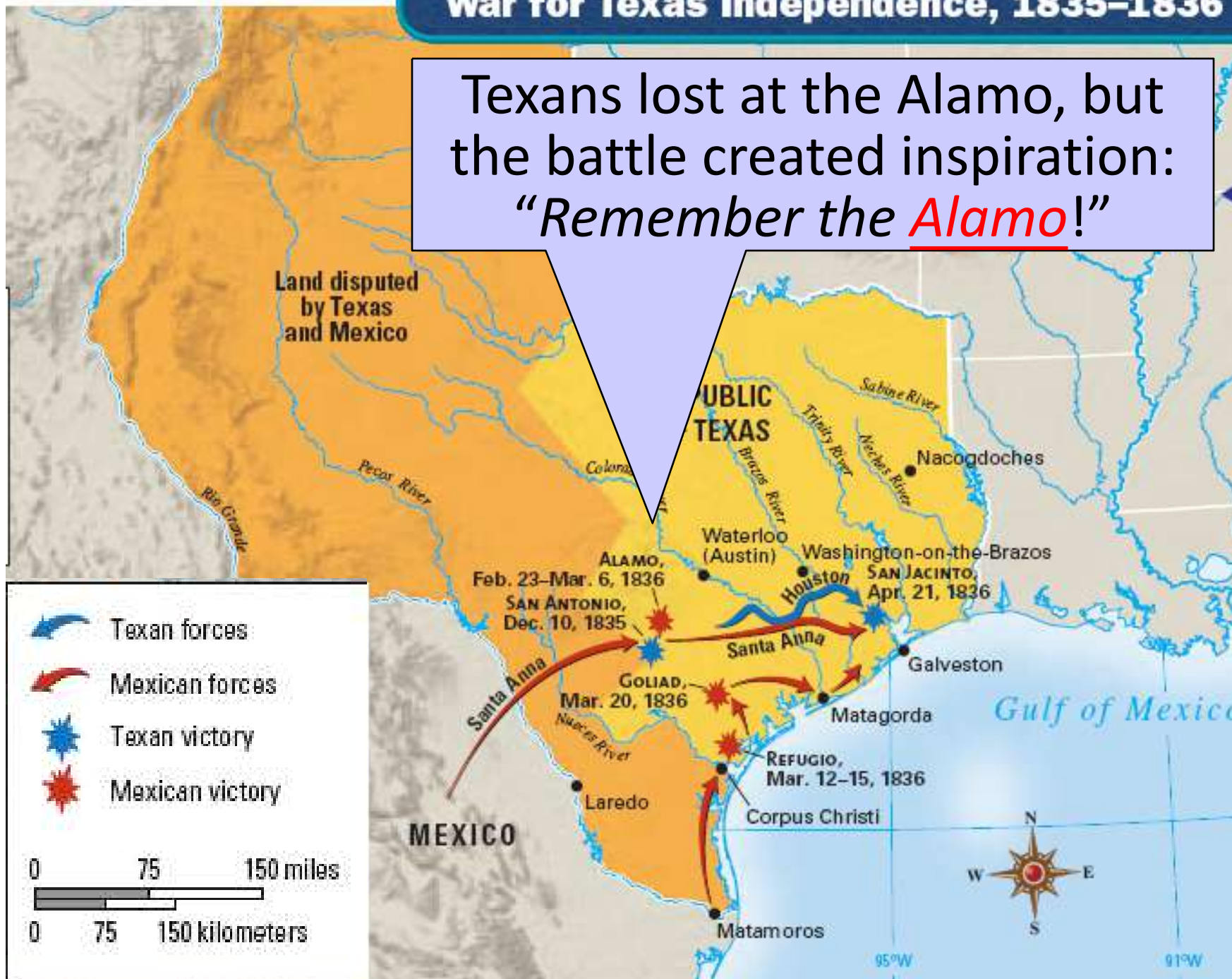
By 1834, Mexican president Santa Anna began to view Anglos as a threat and had Austin arrested

In 1835, Texans were in open rebellion against the Mexican government



# War for Texas Independence, 1835–1836

Texans lost at the Alamo, but the battle created inspiration: “Remember the Alamo!”





# War for Texas Independence, 1835–1836

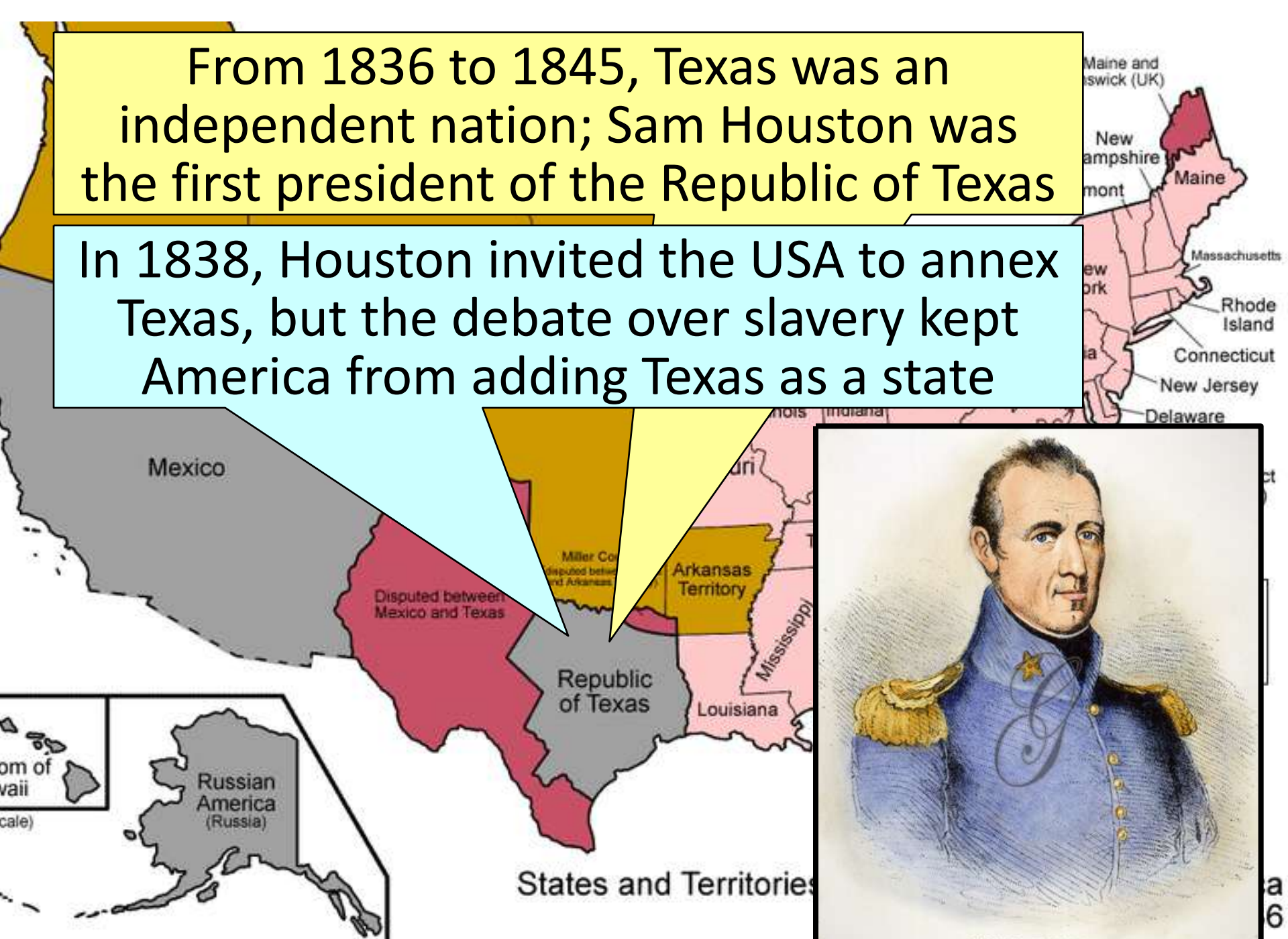
Texans, led by Sam Houston, captured Santa Anna and won their independence in 1836





From 1836 to 1845, Texas was an independent nation; Sam Houston was the first president of the Republic of Texas

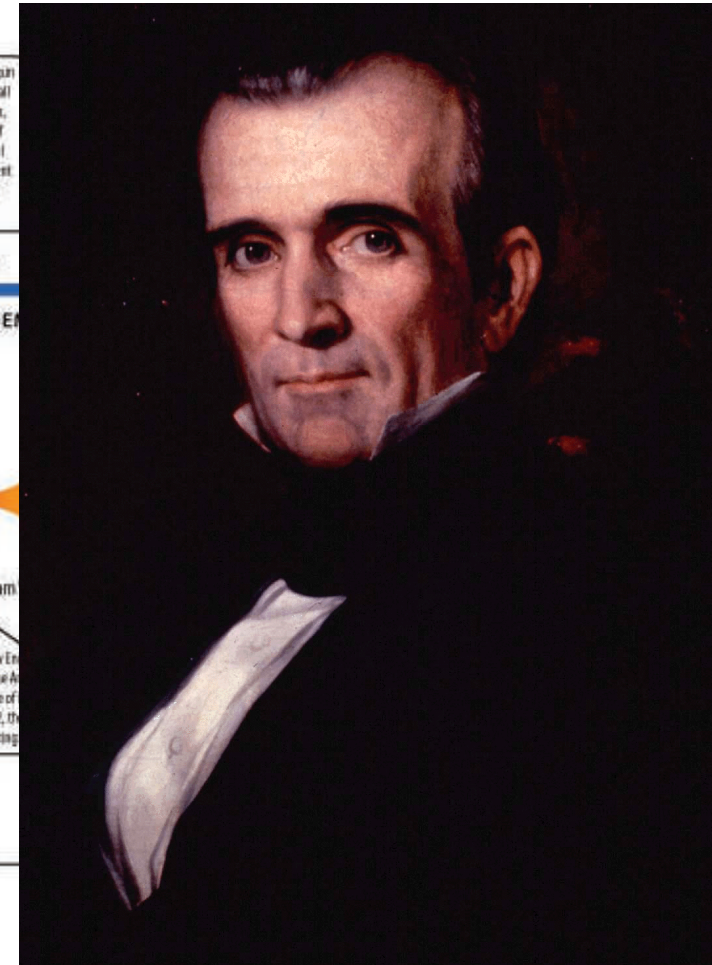
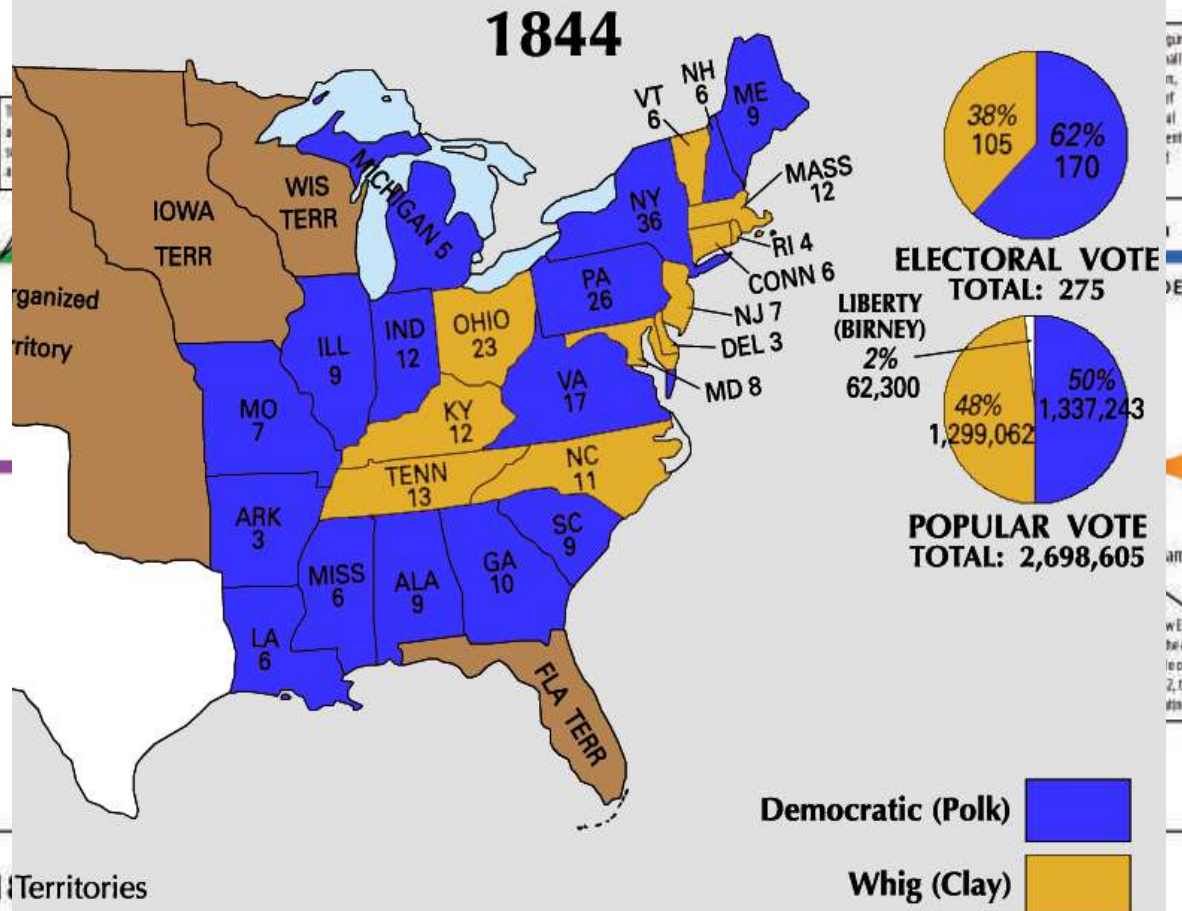
In 1838, Houston invited the USA to annex Texas, but the debate over slavery kept America from adding Texas as a state



Democrat James K. Polk won the election of 1844 and became the “Manifest Destiny” president

He urged Congress to make Texas the 28<sup>th</sup> U.S. state in 1845

He wanted to end British claims to Oregon



When Texas was admitted into the Union in 1845, it came in as a slave state

To make Northerners happy, President Polk wanted to add Oregon as a free state, but...



**AMERICAN EXPANSION**  
1818-1853



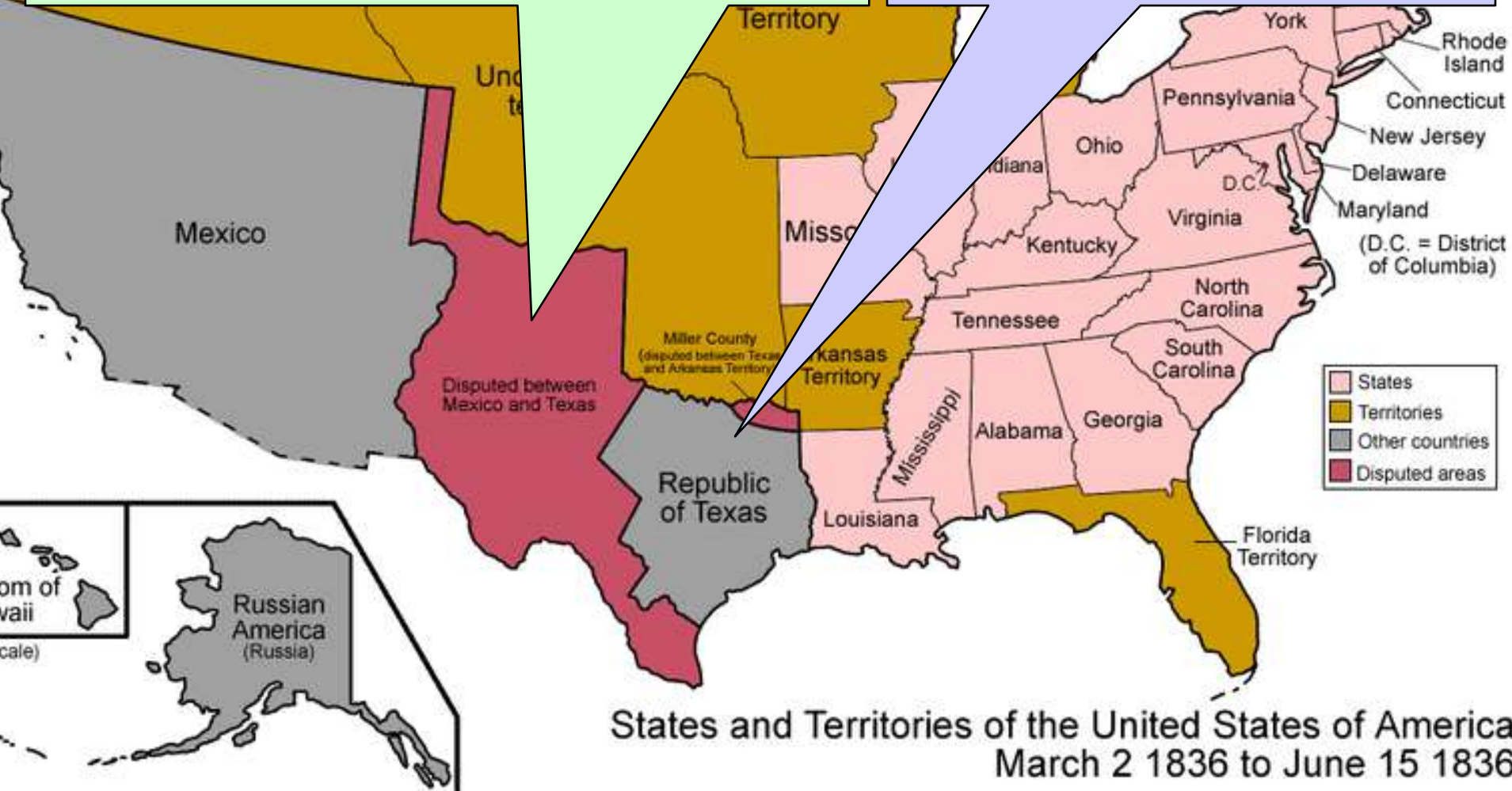
But, the U.S. and Britain compromised, divided Oregon along 49° parallel, and Oregon became a free territory in 1846

by the USA & Britain

Oregon residents & President Polk demanded the entire Oregon territory: "54°40' or fight!"

When Texas won its independence from Mexico in 1836, the 2 sides disagreed over the territorial borders of the Republic of Texas

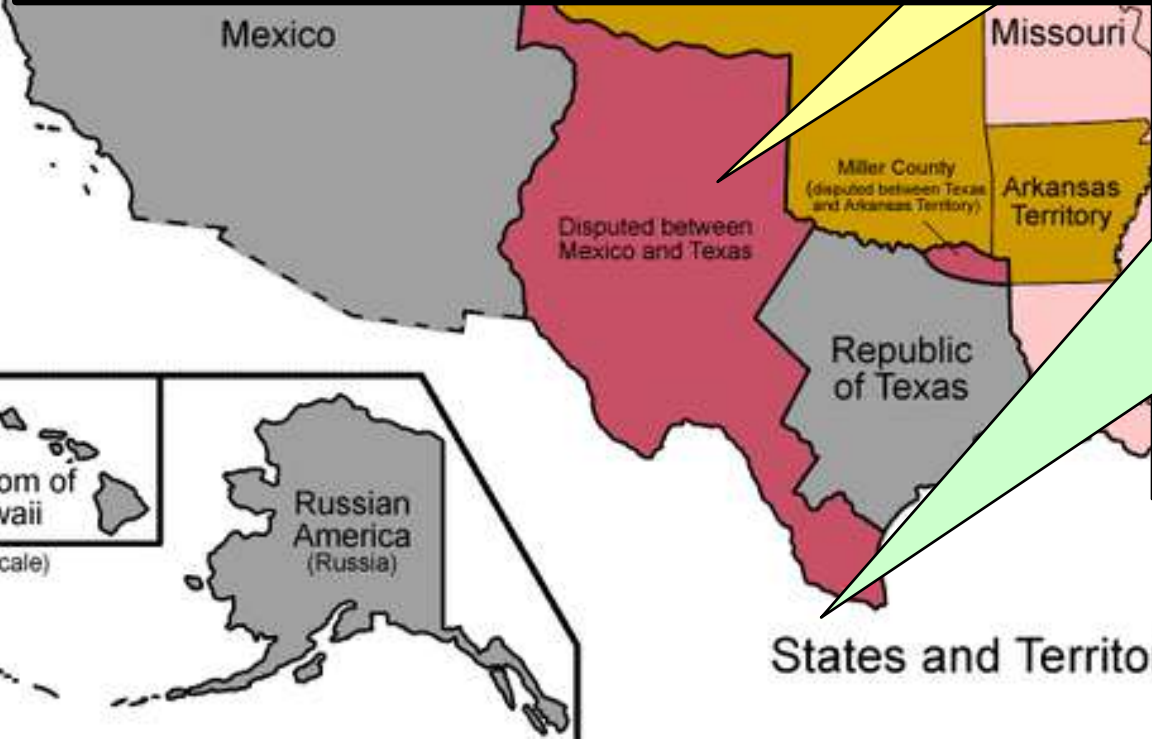
When the U.S. annexed Texas 9 years later, this land claim was not settled



(1846–1848)

Dispute led to the Mexican-American War in 1846 to 1848

In 1846, President Polk sent General Zachary Taylor across the Rio Grande River which provoked Mexico into war



States and Territories of the United States of America  
March 2 1836 to June 15 1836

# The U th

June 14,



ed

The Mexican-American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848

The USA gained all of Texas to the Rio Grande River

Mexico gave up (ceded) territory in the Southwest, called the Mexican Cession

5 years later, the U.S. bought the Gadsden Purchase for \$10 million to build a southern railroad







PLUCKED :

THE MEXICAN EAGLE BEFORE THE WAR!

THE MEXICAN EAGLE AFTER THE WAR!

# Manifest Destiny in the 1840s



In the 1830s, Mexico offered cheap land to American ranchers & farmers to move to California

When the Mexican War broke out in 1846, Californians revolted from Mexican rule and created an independent nation

The California Republic was annexed by the USA as part of the Mexican Cession in 1848

**CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC**

**AMERICAN EXPANSION**  
1818-1853



The discovery of gold in San Francisco led to a flood of Americans to California in 1849

“Forty-Niners” hoping to strike it rich came from the East, Latin America, Europe, & Asia



**SETTLEMENT AREAS**  
1810-1850

- ★
- By 1810
- By 1830
- By 1850

Political boundaries of 1850.

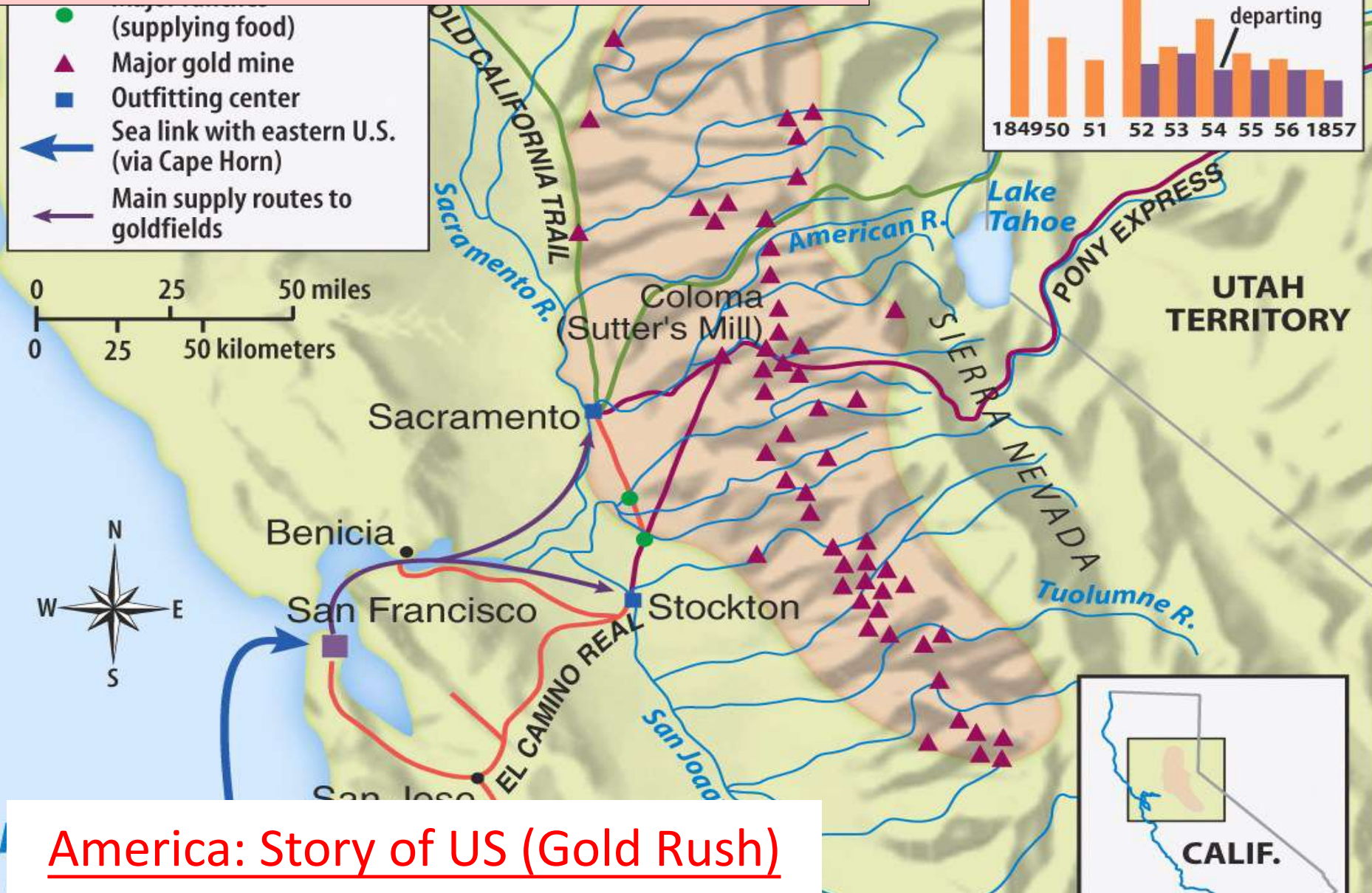
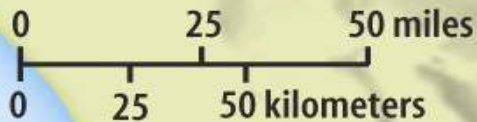
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Despite exploration beyond the Rockies, Americans were largely discouraged from settling too far west of the Mississippi River before the Gold Rush. The sheer distance involved,



# The California gold rush led to a population boom in the West

- (supplying food)
- ▲ Major gold mine
- Outfitting center
- ← Sea link with eastern U.S. (via Cape Horn)
- ← Main supply routes to goldfields



America: Story of US (Gold Rush)

# Gold Fever & Immigration to CA was national



MINING LIFE IN CALIFORNIA.



CHINESE MENSA.

# San Francisco after the gold rush



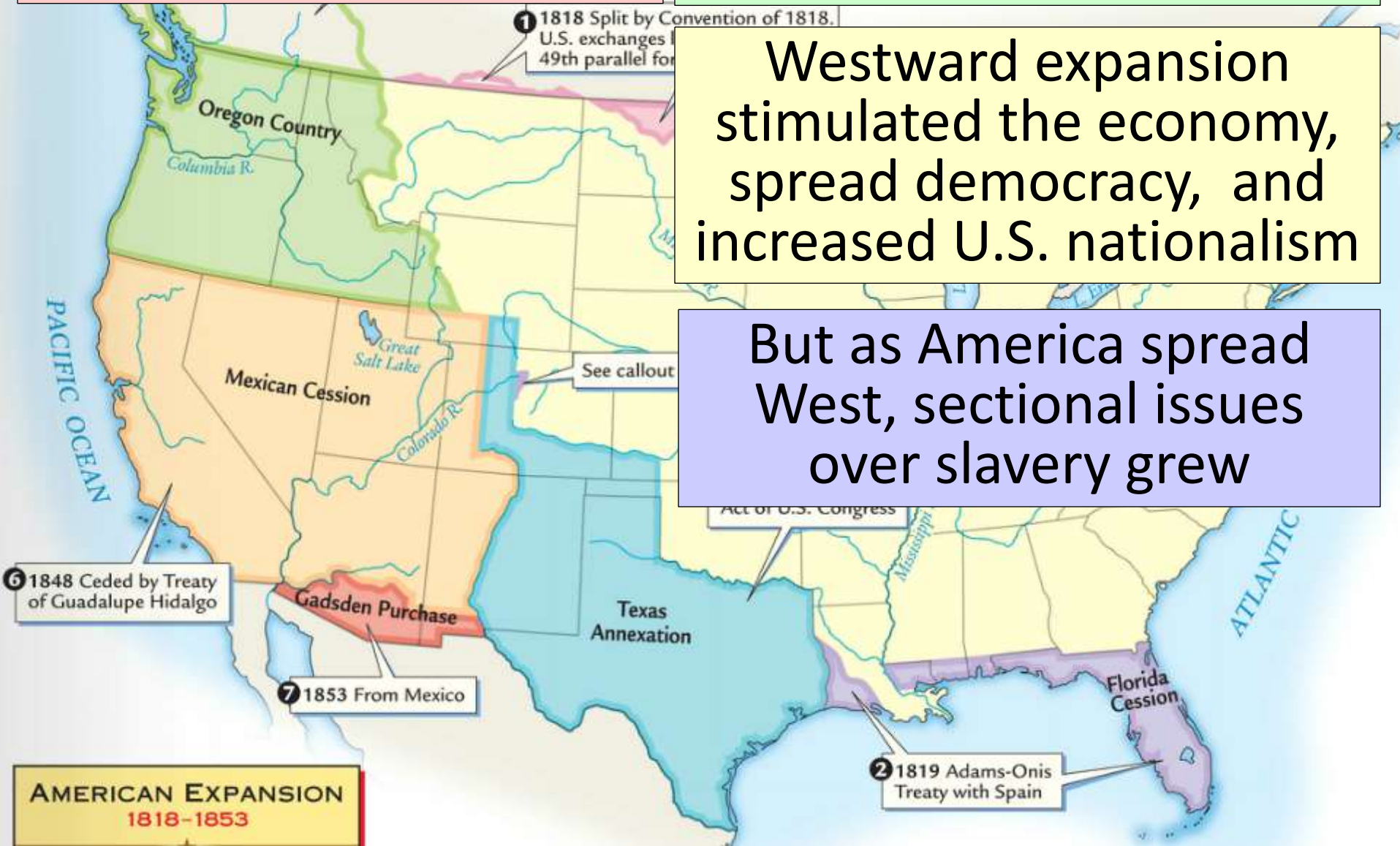


By the end of the 1840s, the USA had achieved its Manifest Destiny

America had a “continental” empire from the Atlantic to Pacific

Westward expansion stimulated the economy, spread democracy, and increased U.S. nationalism

But as America spread West, sectional issues over slavery grew



# U.S. Territorial Growth: Land Acquisition by Year

