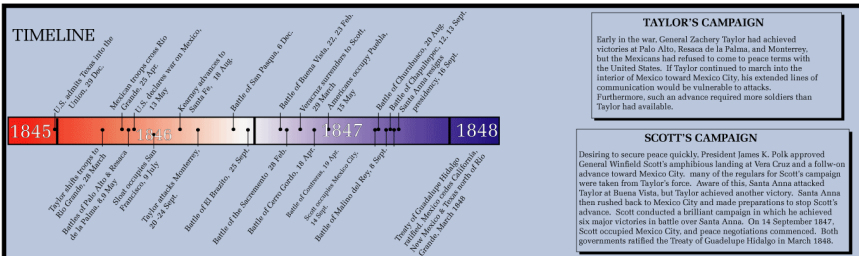
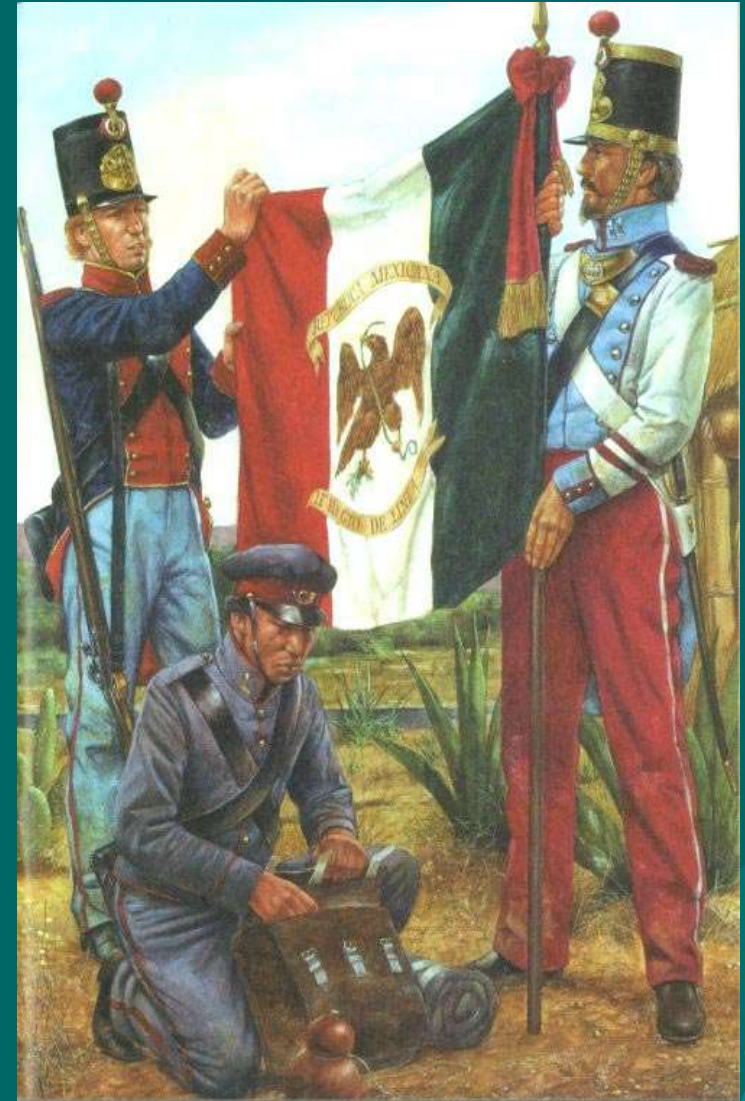


# CH 9

## EXPANDING WESTWARD



# Section 4 – The Mexican War



# Tensions Escalate

- ◆ Texas gains independence following the Battle of San Jacinto (1836)
- ◆ Texas known as the Lone Star Republic, led by Sam Houston
- ◆ 1844 election issue – Do we annex Texas and make it a state?
- ◆ Dec. 29, 1845 – President James K. Polk says “Hell yea !” “It’s our Manifest Destiny.....”



# Polk Goes Hard

- ◆ Texas had claimed their border was the Rio Grande River. Mexico insists it's the Nueces River (100 mi. north)
- ◆ Polk supports Texas' border claim, and hopes to be able to purchase CA and NM from Mexico
- ◆ Polk sends John Slidell to negotiate these terms. Mexico refuses to meet him.
- ◆ Polk places Gen. Zachary Taylor and cannon on the Rio Grande anyway.



# Debate Over Conflict

## Pro-War

- ◆ Southerners and Expansionists
- ◆ Manifest Destiny
- ◆ Mexico was rude and also weak
- ◆ Southerners hope to extend slavery

## Anti-War

Northerners and Abolitionists  
We are bullies  
Fear it is a plot to extend slavery



# Polk Sparks a War

- ◆ Polk send explorer John C. Fremont into Alta California Province w/ troops
- ◆ Mexico sees Taylor's troops on the Rio Grande and Fremont as violating their territory
- ◆ Mexico sends troops across Rio Grande and in skirmish near Matamoros, TX, 9 US soldiers killed

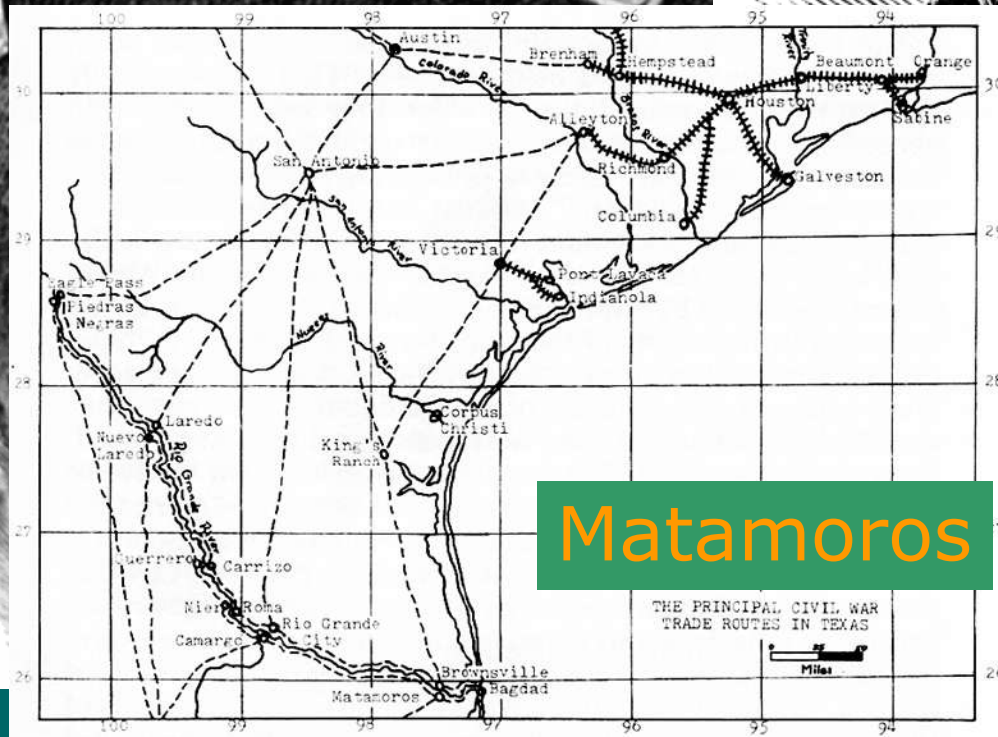
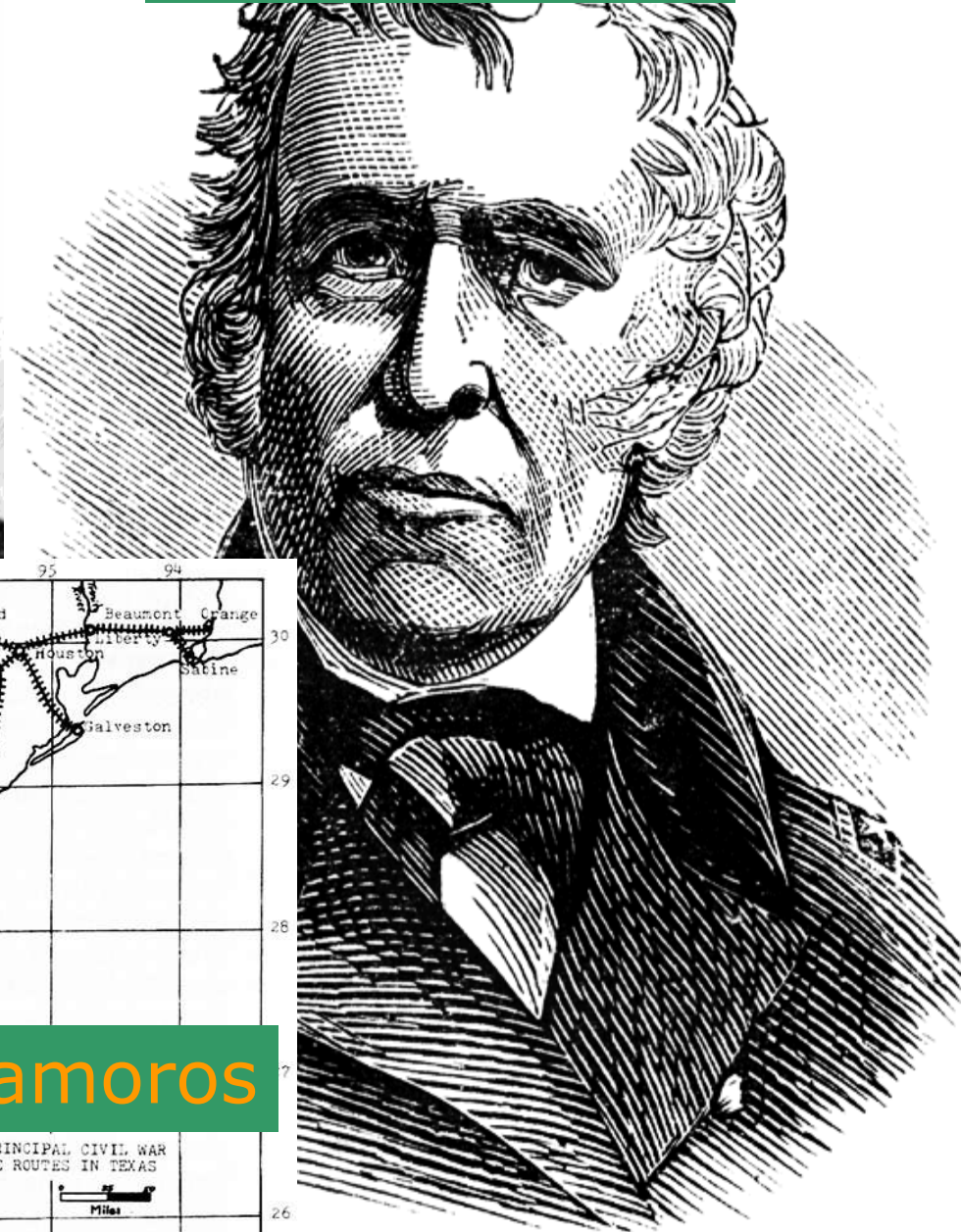




# John C. Fremont



# Zachary Taylor



## Matamoros

# Congress Approves

- ◆ Polk asks for war “American blood has been spilled on American soil!”
- ◆ Congressman Abraham Lincoln asks for Spot Resolution to prove exactly where the skirmish happened
- ◆ Many feel we provoked this...
- ◆ Congress declares war 174-14.





# Taking the Southwest

- ◆ Aug 1846 – Gen. Stephen Kearny marches to New Mexico and it surrenders without a single shot
- ◆ June 1846 – Gen. John C. Fremont leads U.S. settlers in revolt in CA. Republic of California declares independence from Mexico.

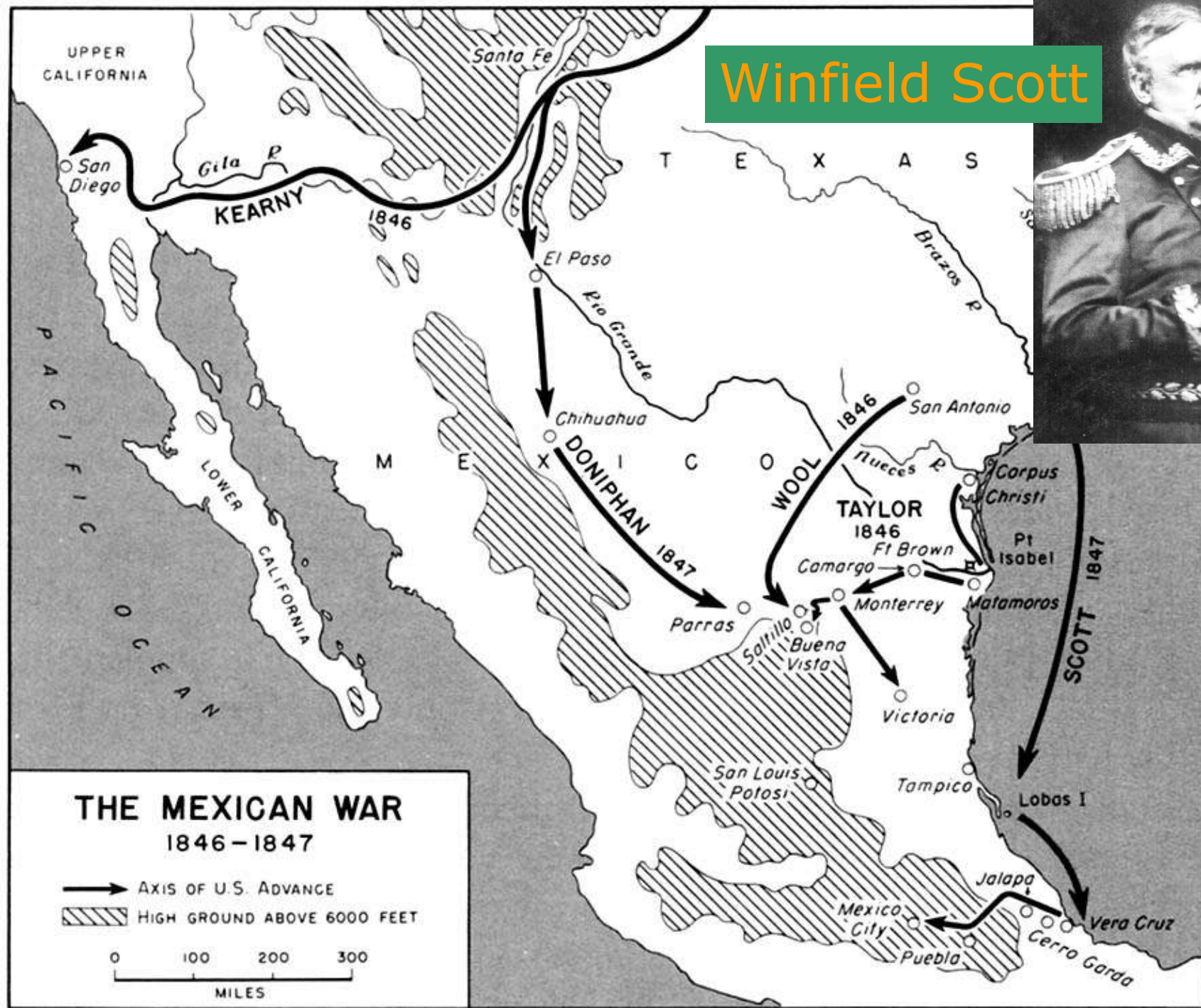
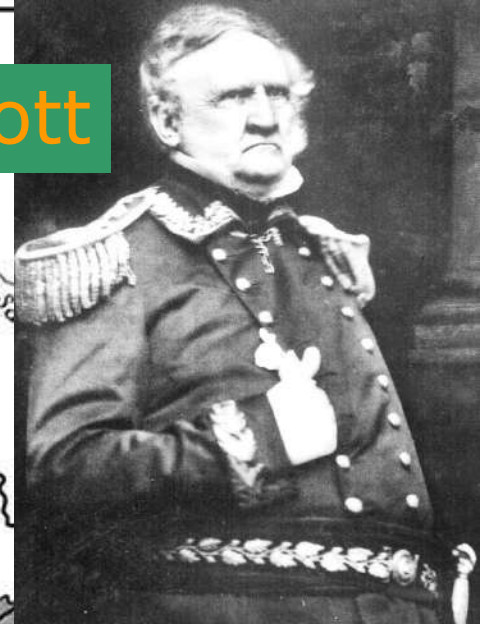


# A Quick Beatdown

- ◆ Gen. Zachary Taylor “Old Rough and Ready” takes Monterrey, Buena Vista
- ◆ Gen. Winfield Scott “Old Fuss and Feathers” takes Veracruz, Mexico City on Sept. 14, 1847.
- ◆ These generals never lost a battle.



# Winfield Scott



# The Spoils of War

## ◆ Casualties:

Mexico – 25,000 killed

U.S. – 13,000 killed

(11,000 from disease)

## ◆ Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo:

Mexico – gets \$15 million

U.S. – gets California, Nevada, Arizona,  
New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming,  
and Rio Grande border for Texas



# The Gadsden Purchase

- ◆ 1853 – President Franklin Pierce approves purchase of southern Arizona from Mexico to extend RR's for \$10 million
- ◆ Borders of 48 states now in place....
- ◆ Tacos are good.





# Knowledge Checkpoint

- ◆ What incident and subsequent bloodshed sparked the war?
- ◆ What 2 states were actually their own independent nations first?
- ◆ Which general, and later president, was involved in the beginning and end of this conflict?

NEXT.....The ongoing debate over the impact of Mexican-Americans relations caused by this war and other conflicts made that much more heated by immigration issues, NAFTA trade obligations, and years of political and economic exploitation.



GOODBYE  
CRUEL  
WORLD

