

Key Events in the Mexican-American War

| Event | Date | Location | Significance |
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| Mexico snubs Slidell | November 1845 | Mexico City | Pres. Polk instructs John Slidell to offer up to \$25 million for New Mexico and California. Insulted Mexicans refuse to see Slidell. |
| Polk orders troops to southern Texas | January 1846 | Rio Grande River | Zachary Taylor and 4000 men are sent to disputed territory, expecting attack. Conflict with Mexican troops results in 16 American casualties. |
| Congress declares war on Mexico | May 1846 | Washington, D.C. | Polk asks for war with Mexico. Northern Whigs fear victory would add more slave states to U.S. Declaration passes 40-2 in Senate, 174-14 in House. Whig Congressman Lincoln asks for the spot on American soil where American blood was shed. |
| Bear Flag Republic established | June 1846 | Northern California | John C. Fremont and volunteers capture town of Sonoma and hoist Bear Flag. |
| Americans capture Monterey | July 1846 | Monterey, California | 250 sailors capture Mexico's California capital without a shot. |
| Kearny takes Santa Fe | August 1846 | New Mexico | Marching from Kansas to California, Stephen Kearny's 1700 men take key Mexican trading post. |
| Battle of San Pascual | December 1846 | San Diego, California | In fierce fighting, Kearny's forces barely survive attack of Mexican lancers. |
| Battle of San Gabriel | January 1847 | San Gabriel, California | Californio forces retreat as American forces cross San Gabriel River and take Los Angeles |
| Battle of Buena Vista | February 1847 | Central Mexico | With a much larger army (20,000 to Taylor's 5,000), Santa Anna is unable to defeat Taylor's American forces. |
| Veracruz | March 1847 | East coast of Mexico | Winfield Scott and 14,000 men capture port and begin following Cortez's route to Mexico City |
| Mexico City | September 1847 | Central Mexico | U.S. captures city. Santa Anna loses 4,000 of his 25,000-man army, while Scott loses 900 of his 10,000. |

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| Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo | February 2, 1848 | Central Mexico | <p>Mexico gives up all claim to Texas. U.S. pays Mexico \$15 million and agrees to assume American citizens' claims (\$3,250,000) against Mexico.</p> <p>Expansionists call for "All Mexico."</p> <p>Senate passes treaty 38-14.</p> |
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