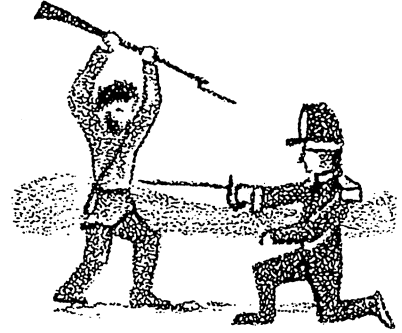


## THE MEXICAN WAR

- (1) When Texas was admitted to the Union in 1845, Mexico broke off diplomatic relations with the United States. The government of Mexico was angry because it still considered Texas to be Mexican territory. But Mexico did not declare war, as it had threatened to do if the United States annexed Texas. However, a boundary dispute soon arose which raised tensions to the breaking point. Mexico said that its boundary line with Texas was the Nueces River. The American government claimed the boundary was the Rio Grande. Both sides said they owned the land between the two rivers. At this time, many American citizens were complaining that the United States should force Mexico to pay them \$3 million for property which had been taken or destroyed by the Mexicans. Other Americans were ready for war because they believed it was the "manifest destiny" of the United States to expand into new lands in the West.



### On the map:

- Print the following names in CAPITAL LETTERS next to these numbers:  
1 – UNITED STATES; 2 – TEXAS; 3 – MEXICO; 4 – DISPUTED AREA.
  - Lightly shade the DISPUTED AREA.
  - On the back side of the map, write the heading Causes of the Mexican War. List the following causes under the heading:
    - Texas becomes a state, and Mexico ends relations with the United States.
    - The U.S. claims the Rio Grande as its boundary, but Mexico says it is the Nueces River.
    - American citizens demand that the Mexican government pay them \$3 million for property taken or destroyed.
    - Many Americans believe it is the "manifest destiny" of the United States to expand its territory farther west.
- (2) President James K. Polk decided to have General Zachary Taylor move his 3,000 troops from the Nueces River to the Rio Grande. Just north of the Rio Grande, a small number of U.S. cavalymen were defeated by a larger Mexican force. President Polk used this incident to ask Congress to declare war on Mexico. Congress passed a war declaration on May 13, 1846.

### On the map:

- Use a colored pencil, marker, pen, or lead pencil to color the battle symbol between the Nueces River and Rio Grande to show a Mexican victory. Use the same pencil, marker, or pen to color the Mexican battle symbol in the key.
  - Next to the battle symbol, print April 1846: First Battle.
  - Next to "UNITED STATES," print May 1846: Congress declares war on Mexico.
- (3) Americans under the command of Stephen Kearny left Fort Leavenworth and marched into Mexican territory, where they occupied Santa Fe. Kearny took some of his men on to California. About this time, a small band of American settlers overthrew the Mexican government in northern California during the Bear Flag Revolution. The settlers carried a flag showing a grizzly bear facing a single red star. But the real conquest of California was carried out farther south by Kearny, army captain John C. Fremont, and naval commander Robert F. Stockton. They joined forces and won battles near San Diego and Los Angeles. This ended Mexican rule in California.

### On the map:

- Trace the route of Stephen Kearny from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe and San Diego. Print Stephen Kearny next to it.

- (b) Print Bear Flag Revolution next to the battle symbol near San Francisco. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory, using a pencil, pen, or marker that is different from the one used earlier for the Mexicans. Color the American battle symbol in the key.
  - (c) Color the battle symbol at San Diego to show an American victory.
  - (d) Trace the arrow from San Diego to Los Angeles, and print Kearny and Fremont next to it.
  - (e) Trace the arrow from Monterey to Los Angeles, and print Robert F. Stockton next to it. Color the battle symbol at Los Angeles to represent an American victory.
- (4) U.S. troops under General Zachary Taylor crossed the Rio Grande and captured the city of Monterrey after a hard-fought battle. Five months later, Taylor defeated Santa Anna and a large Mexican army at the Battle of Buena Vista. Santa Anna at the time was the president of Mexico, as well as the commander of the armed forces. Taylor's great victory at Buena Vista made him a hero in the United States, and helped him win the presidency in 1848.

On the map:

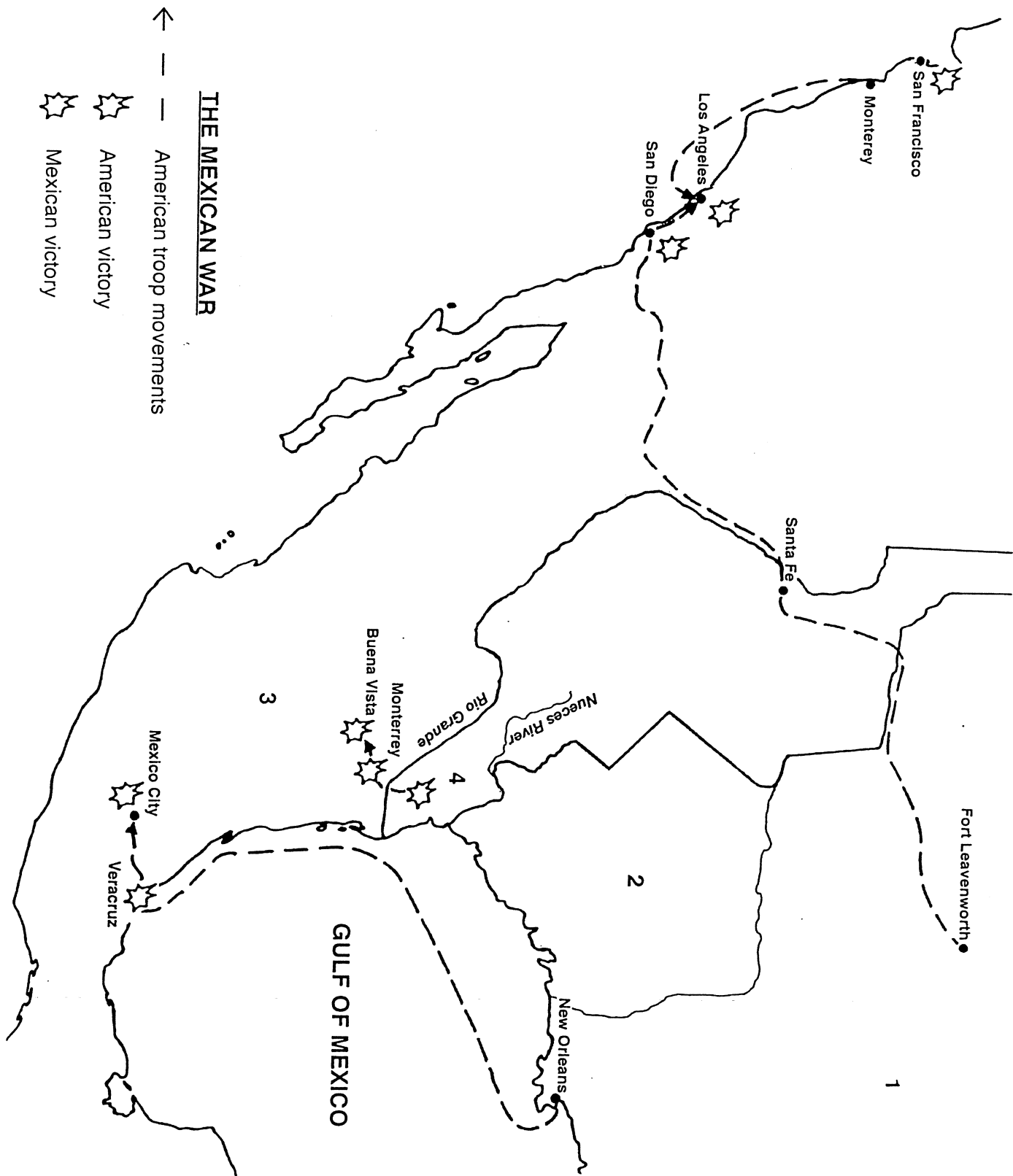
- (a) Trace the arrow across the Rio Grande to Monterrey and Buena Vista, and color the battle symbols to show American victories.
  - (b) Next to Buena Vista, print Zachary Taylor defeats Santa Anna.
- (5) A 10,000-man army under General Winfield Scott crossed the Gulf of Mexico and landed at Veracruz on the east coast of Mexico. Scott's invasion followed a three-week bombardment of the city by American gunboats. When Veracruz surrendered, the American army moved inland toward Mexico City. After a series of battles, General Scott marched triumphantly into the Mexican capital. A short time later, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed ending the Mexican War. The war had lasted from 1846 to 1848.

On the map:

- (a) Trace the American troop movements from New Orleans to Veracruz and Mexico City. Print Winfield Scott next to the route.
  - (b) Color the battle symbols at Veracruz and Mexico City to show American victories.
  - (c) Next to Mexico City, print Sept. 1848: Last Battle.
- (6) In the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico gave the United States a huge territory known as the Mexican Cession. In return, the United States paid \$15 million and took responsibility for the \$3 million owed to American citizens by the Mexican government. Mexico recognized the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of the United States.

On the back side of the map, write the heading Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. List these terms of the treaty under the heading:

1. The United States obtains the Mexican Cession from Mexico.
2. Mexico recognizes the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of the United States.
3. The United States pays Mexico \$15 million, and assumes \$3 million in debts owed to American citizens by the Mexican government.



## The Mexican War

### Directions

Fill in the spaces with the missing words.

When (1)\_\_\_\_\_ was admitted to the Union in 1845, Mexico broke off diplomatic relations with the (2)\_\_\_\_\_. A dispute soon arose in which Mexico said its boundary line with Texas was the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ River. The United States claimed the boundary was the (4)\_\_\_\_\_. Both sides said they owned the land between the two rivers. At this time, many American citizens were complaining that (5)\_\_\_\_\_ owed them \$3 million. Other Americans were ready for war because they believed it was the (6)\_\_\_\_\_ of the United States to expand into new lands in the West.

President (7)\_\_\_\_\_ decided to send General Zachary Taylor into the disputed area between the United States and Mexico. When Taylor's army was attacked, the President asked (8)\_\_\_\_\_ to declare war on Mexico.

Americans under the command of (9)\_\_\_\_\_ left Fort Leavenworth and marched into Mexican territory, where they occupied Santa Fe. The expedition then moved on to California. About this time, a small band of American settlers overthrew the Mexican government in northern California in what came to be known as the (10)\_\_\_\_\_. The settlers carried a flag showing a grizzly bear facing a red star. Stephen Kearny, army captain (11)\_\_\_\_\_, and naval commander Robert F. Stockton joined forces to win battles near San Diego and Los Angeles. This ended Mexican rule in (12)\_\_\_\_\_.

General (13)\_\_\_\_\_ crossed the Rio Grande and captured the city of Monterrey after a hard-fought battle. Five months later, the Americans defeated Santa Anna at the Battle of (14)\_\_\_\_\_. (15)\_\_\_\_\_ at the time was president of Mexico.

General (16)\_\_\_\_\_ crossed the Gulf of Mexico and landed at (17)\_\_\_\_\_ on the east coast of Mexico. When the city surrendered, the American army moved inland toward (18)\_\_\_\_\_. After a series of battles, the Mexican capital was captured. A short time later, the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed ending the (19)\_\_\_\_\_. The war had lasted from 1846 to (20)\_\_\_\_\_.