

# Uneasy Neighbors: Latin America and the United States



Presentation 1

W. Frank Robinson  
Department of History  
Vanderbilt University

# Latin American-United States Relations



## 1. questions and issues:

control of territory and resources

asymmetric economic, military, political power

cultural and ideological difference

political sovereignty

## 2. U.S. indifference

## 3. Latin Americans cannot ignore U.S.

# Physical Geography





# Imperial Spain



# Overview

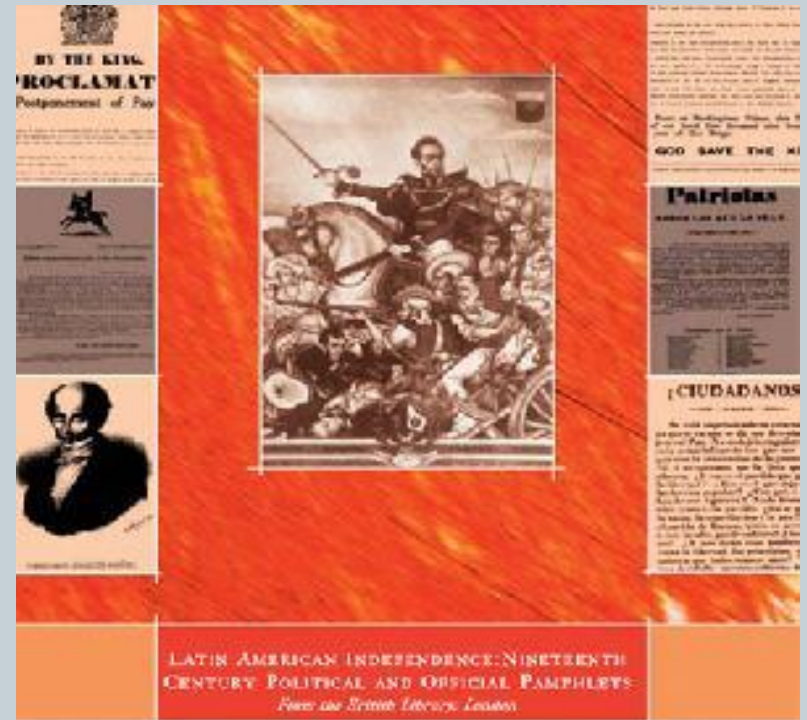


## Imbalance of Power

1. timing and nature of revolutionary movements
2. common challenges of new nations
3. American Revolution (1776-1783) vs.  
Latin American independence (1808-1826)



# Independence in the Americas



# Caudillos and Dictators



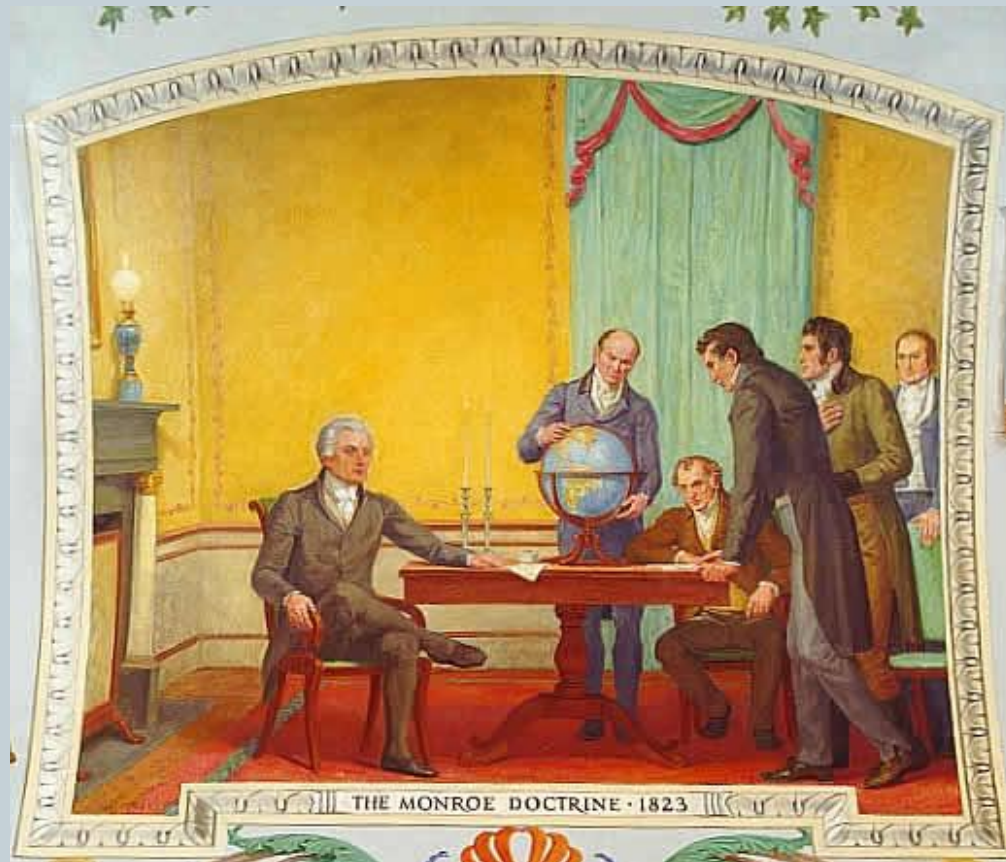


# 1783-1830: Independence and Disappointment



1. U.S. territorial expansion by default
2. Monroe Doctrine (1823)
  - a. American uniqueness
  - b. U.S. destined to expand
  - c. “exclude European influence from this hemisphere”
3. desire to penetrate Latin American markets
4. Monroe’s two concepts:
  - a. noncolonization
  - b. two-spheres principle

# Monroe Doctrine



# 1831-1897 Filibustering and Fury



## Mexican-American War (1846-1848)

issue of Texas

opposing forces and strategies

### 1. three-pronged United States offensive

Army of West - occupy New Mexico and California

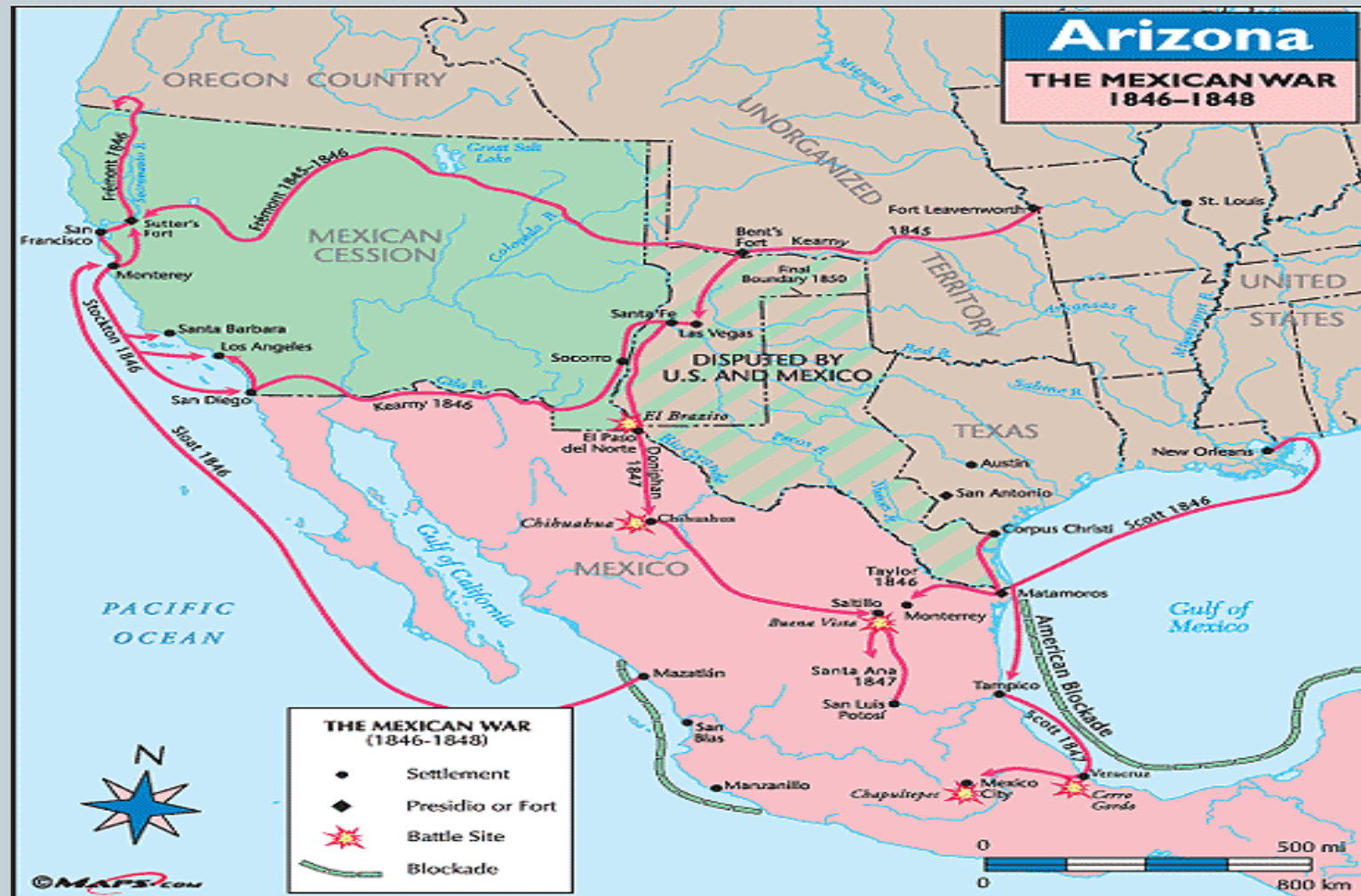
Army of Center - sent into northern Mexico

Army of Occupation - carry fight to Mexico City

### 2. Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

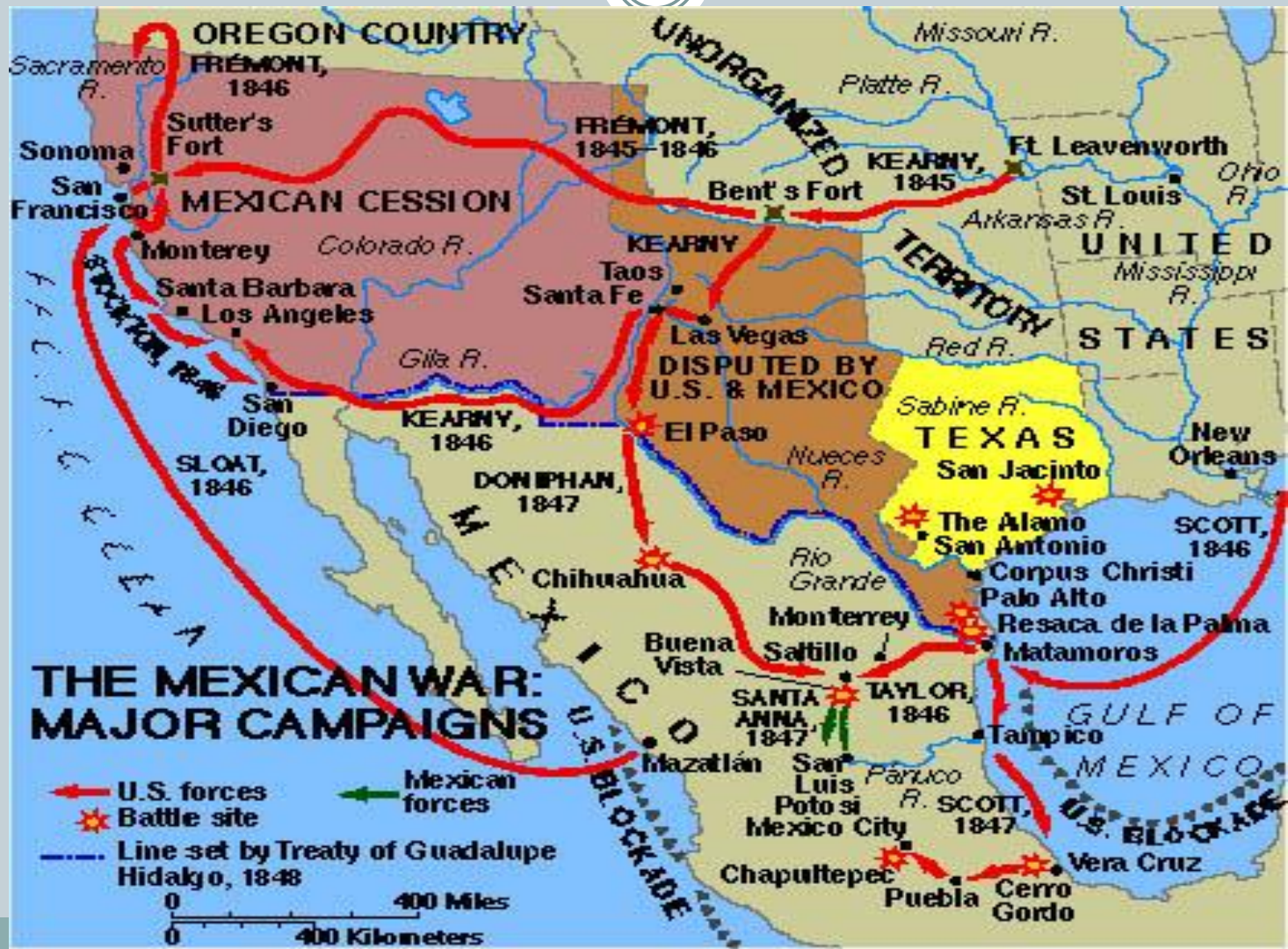
### 3. legacy: hostility, humiliation, xenophobia, civil wars

# Mexican-American War





# Mexican War 1846-1848



# Mexican Homeland



# 1898-1933: American Empire and Interventionism



## Spanish American War 1898

1. late 19<sup>th</sup> century American society and crisis in Cuba
2. coming of war
3. Dewey's naval victory in the Philippines
4. assault on Cuba: Teddy Roosevelt and Rough Riders  
Battle of San Juan Hill and heavy casualties
5. US naval blockade – defeat of Spanish fleet

Roosevelt Corollary: colonies, protectorates, and Panama  
Woodrow Wilson and interventions



# Yellow Journalism





# Sinking of the Maine



**Photo # NH 46774 Diving on MAINE's wreck**

# Major Campaigns

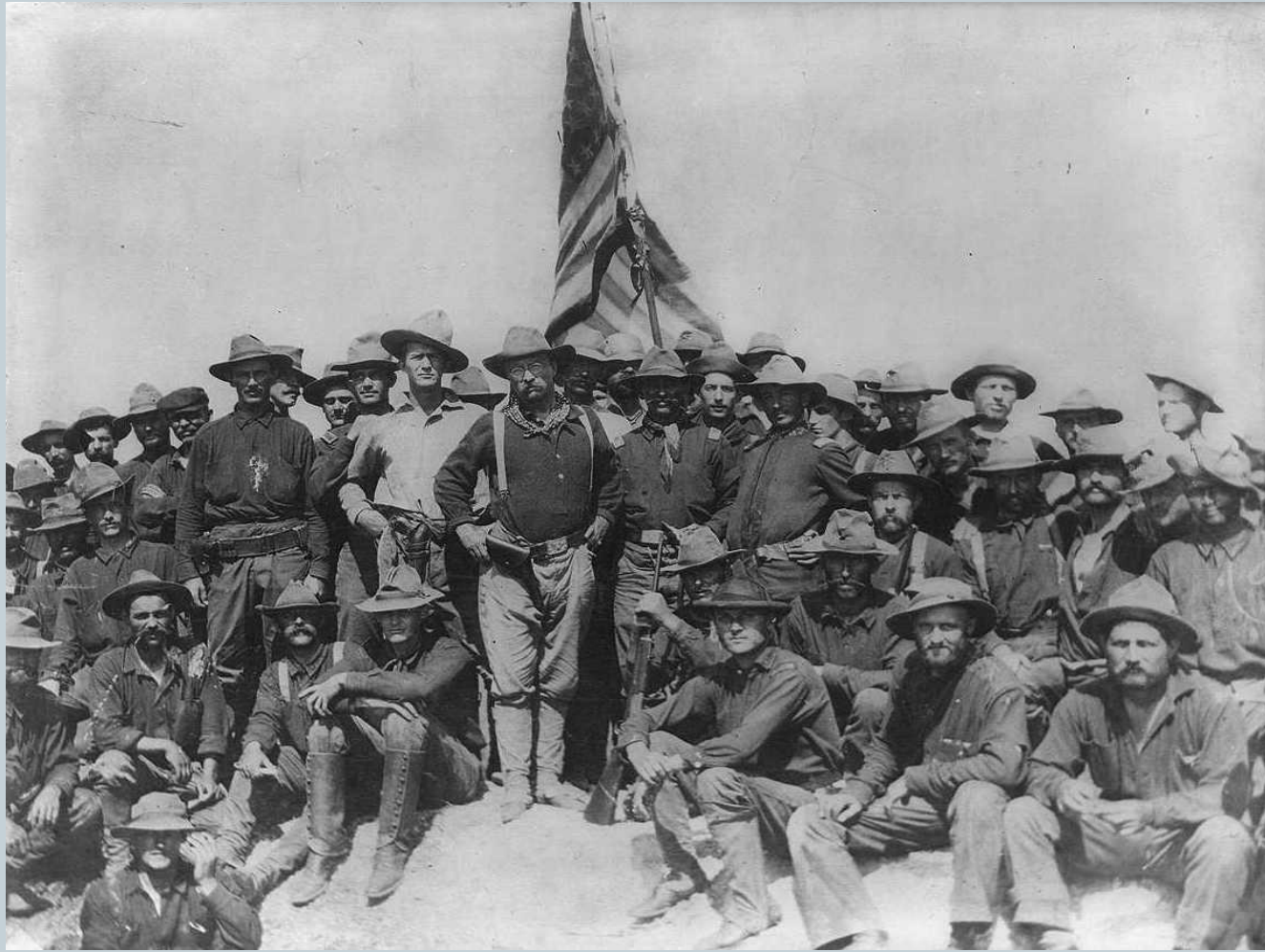


# American Empire





# TR and the Rough Riders





# Panama Canal



# Roosevelt Corollary

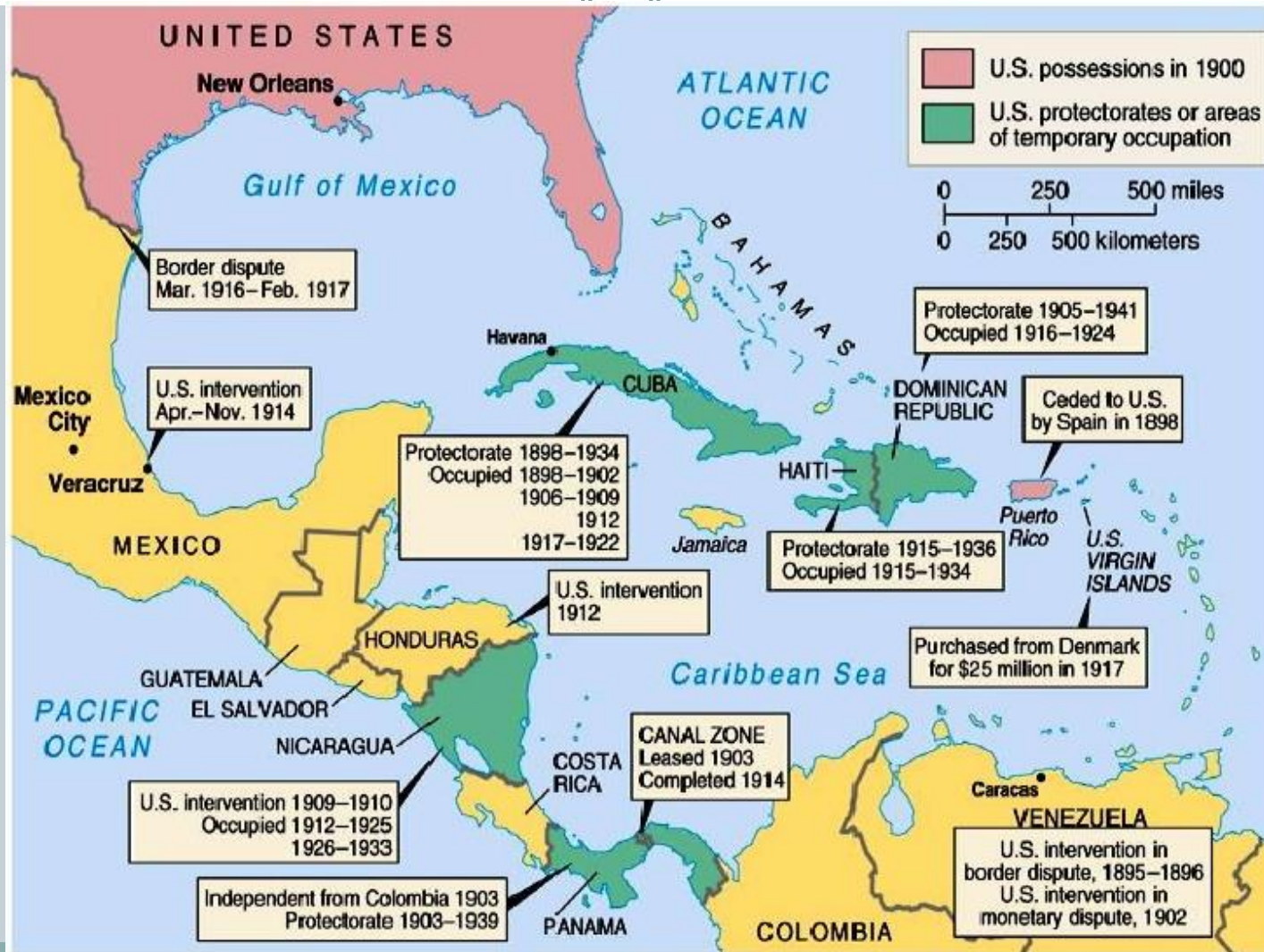


# Roosevelt Corollary





# Interventionism





# Marines in Haiti



# 1934-1945: Good Neighborliness



1. effects of Great Depression
2. FDR and Good Neighbor Policy
3. end to direct military interventions
4. U.S. support for dictators and military regimes

# Dependency





# Good Neighbor and Trujillo





# Cold War: Superpowerdom and Socialism



1. security interests – fear of communism
2. Cuban Revolution – Bay of Pigs and Missile Crisis
3. Ronald Reagan – issues of ideology

# Cold War



# Cuban Revolution





# Fidel Castro Triumphant





# Cuba



## Bay of Pigs



## Cuban Missile Crisis



# Alliance for Progress



# National Security States and Dirty Wars





# Revolutionaries



# Jimmy Carter, the Canal, and Human Rights





# Ronald Reagan and the Return of the Cold War



**PEACE  
THROUGH  
STRENGTH**

**EXCLUSIVE**  
**SHOCKING EXPOSE OF CRIMINAL GOVERNMENT**

**TIME**  
**Reagan's Secret Dealings With Iran**

**TIME**  
**"I was authorized to do everything that I did"**  
— Oliver North

**TIME**  
**HOW FAR DOES IT GO?**

**The New York Times**  
NEW YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1986

Completes Cabinet  
**BUSH PARDONS 6 IN IRAN AFFAIR, AVERTING A WEINBERGER TRIAL; PROSECUTOR ASSAILS 'COVER-UP'**

**THE IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR**

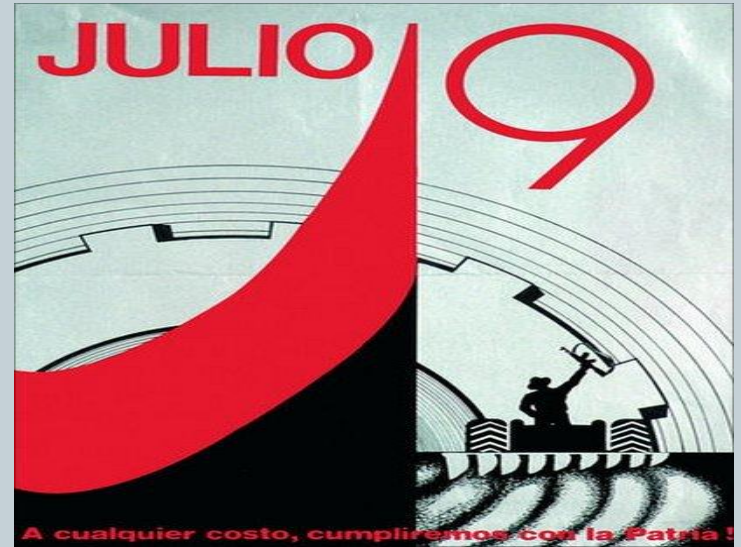
**BUSH DIARY AT ISSUE**  
6-Year Inquiry Into Deal of Arms for Hostages Not Just Swept Away

1983 - 1988

Once again the rightwing Republicans make a mockery of our nation.



# Sandinista Victory of 1979

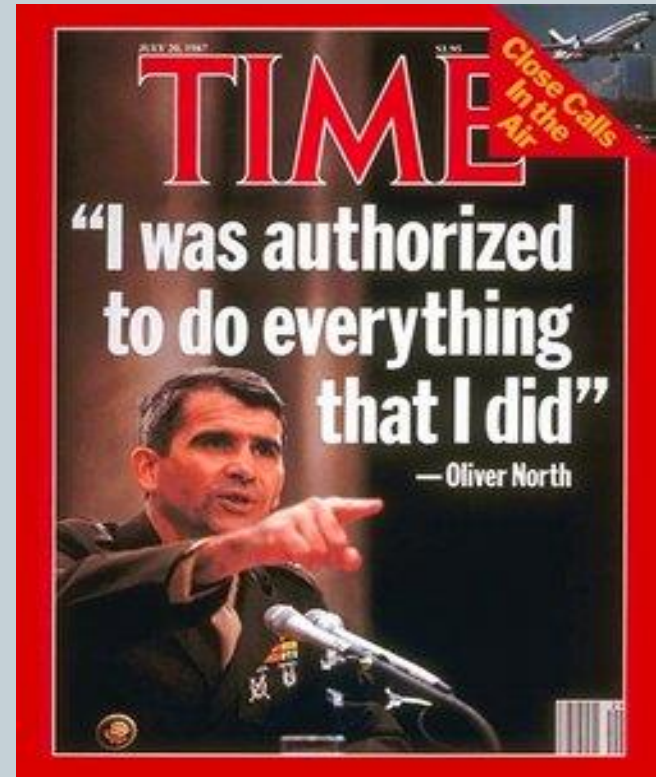


# Contras





# Iran Contra Aftermath





# Operation Just Cause



# 1991-Present: Contemporary Issues

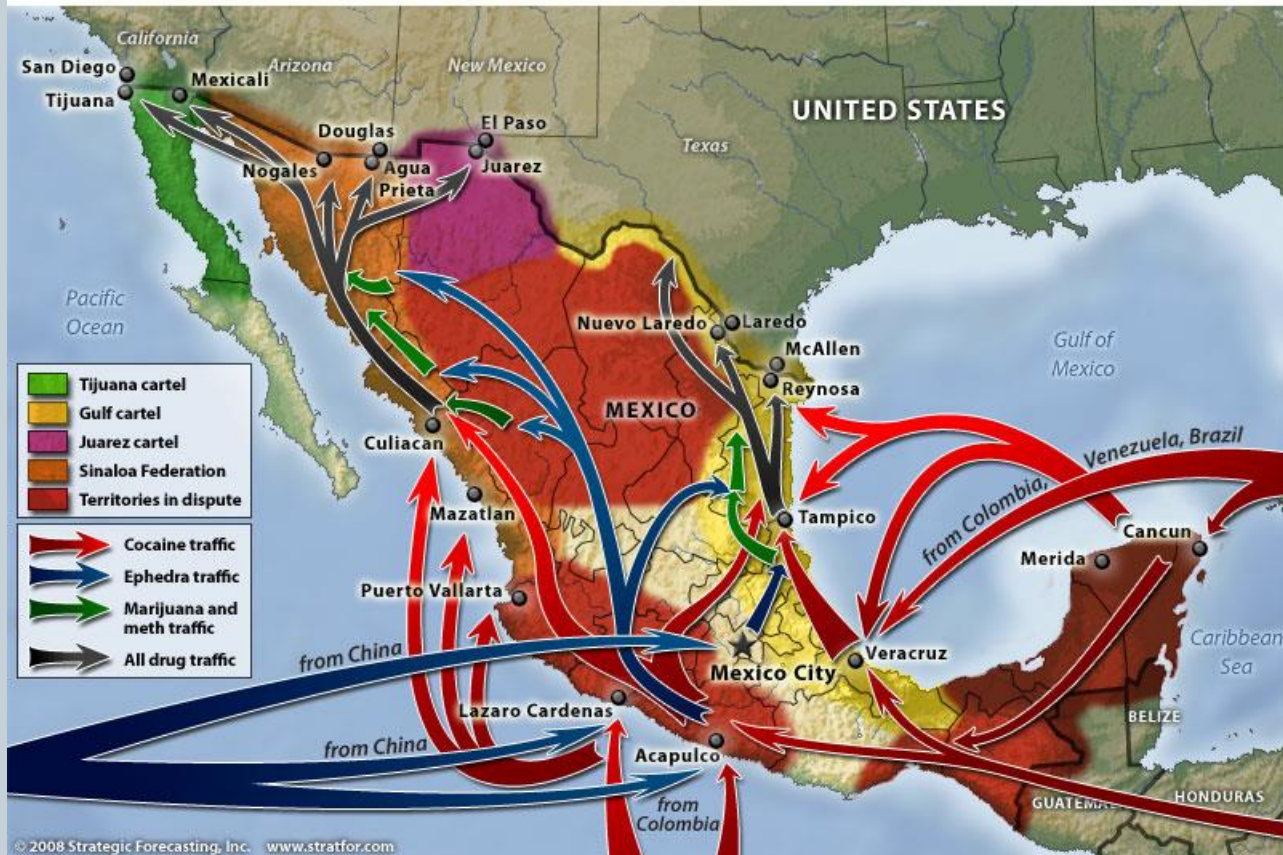


1. consultation and cooperation
2. illegal drug trade
3. migration and immigration

# Mexican Drug Trade



## CARTEL TERRITORIES AND DRUG ROUTES





# Immigration



# Venezuelan Unrest

