

MANIFIESTO
DEL
PRESIDENTE DE MEXICO
AL EJERCITO
DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

1847

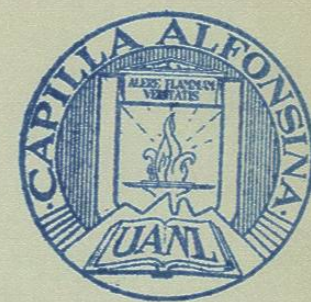
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FONDO
FERNANDO DIAZ RAMIREZ

*The President of the Mexican Republic to the troops engaged in
the Army of the United States of America.*

The circumstances of war have brought you to the beautiful valley of Mexico; in the midst of a wealthy and fertile country. The American Government engaged you to fight against a country from which you have received no harm; your companions have after the battle received and shall only receive the contempt of the United States and the scorn of the nations of civilized Europe that, quite surprized, see that that government seek engagements for their battles in the same manner as they look for beasts to draw their carriages.

In the name of the Nation I represent, and whose authority I exercise, I offer you a reward, if deserting the American standard you present yourselves like friends to a nation that offer you rich fields and large tracts of land, which being cultivated by your industry, shall crown you with happiness and convenience.

The Mexican Nation only look upon you as some deceived foreigners and hereby stretch out to you a friendly hand, offer you the felicity and fertility of their territory. Here there is no distinction of races; here indeed there is liberty and no slavery; nature here plentifully sheds its favors and it is in your power to enjoy them. Rely upon what I offer you in the name of a nation; present yourselves like friends and you shall have country, home, lands; the happiness, which is enjoyed in a country of mild and humane customs; civilization, humanity and not fear address you through me.

General Quarters in the Peñon August the 15th 1847.

Antonio Lopez de Santa-Anna.

370 SANTA-ANNA (Antonio Lopez de). The President of the Mexican Republic to the troops engaged in the Army of the United States.

Broadside (23.9 × 16 cm.), slight repair to a blank corner, otherwise in fine condition, in a leather cover. 1847

£150 \$360.00

This fascinating piece of American history if it is not in fact unique must be of the greatest rarity. It constitutes so far as we know the first attempt to suborn American troops. The Mexican president reminds the Americans that the circumstances of war have brought them "in the midst of a wealthy and fertile country". The president informs them that they come to "fight against a country from which you have received no harm" and offers them a reward if they will desert the American Standard, and present themselves as friends. Dated at "General Quarters in the Peñon. August the 15th. 1847".

By a revolution in March 1847, Santa Anna had assumed the Presidency of Mexico and raised an army of 12,000, but five days after the publication of this broadside the United States army under General Scott had completely defeated the Mexicans and pursued them almost to the gates of the capital.



