

NIÑOS HEROES AND CHAPULTEPEC



1. Today is the 164th anniversary of “Los Niños Heroes” a day that is remembered in Mexican History as the day 6 brave young boys fought and died for their country against the American military. This event began in the year 1846 when the president of Mexico Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, rejected the American annexation of Texas. War was declared by President James Polk with the purpose of expansion, Manifest Destiny.
2. The battle at Chapultepec began with an intense artillery bombardment, causing serious damage to the building, the infantry defended it but they could do little with the range of their guns. The defense of Chapultepec was at the command of General Nicolás Bravo, who provided the 200 cadets from the Military School and 632 soldiers from San Blas. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was at the foot of the hill with 450 men. The American Military attacked from the west and south of the Military School, where they were detained for several hours by the cadets, but later the groups managed to scale the castle. Inside the building the fighting was hand to hand. Finally, the fighting of the cadets had to surrender to the greater numbers and equipment of the American military. There is a story of a cadet soldier, Juan Escutia, who took the Mexican flag from one of the towers of the castle, wrapped it around his body and jumped of the castle to a certain death, to prevent the flag from falling into the hands of the American Military.
3. After being occupied, on February 2, 1848, The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed, this agreement ended the war. With the signing this treaty Mexico lost much of its territory, 2 million square kilometers, which included the present states of California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado and Utah. The treaty recognized the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of Texas. Meanwhile, the U.S. government agreed to pay the citizens of Mexico for losses during the war.