

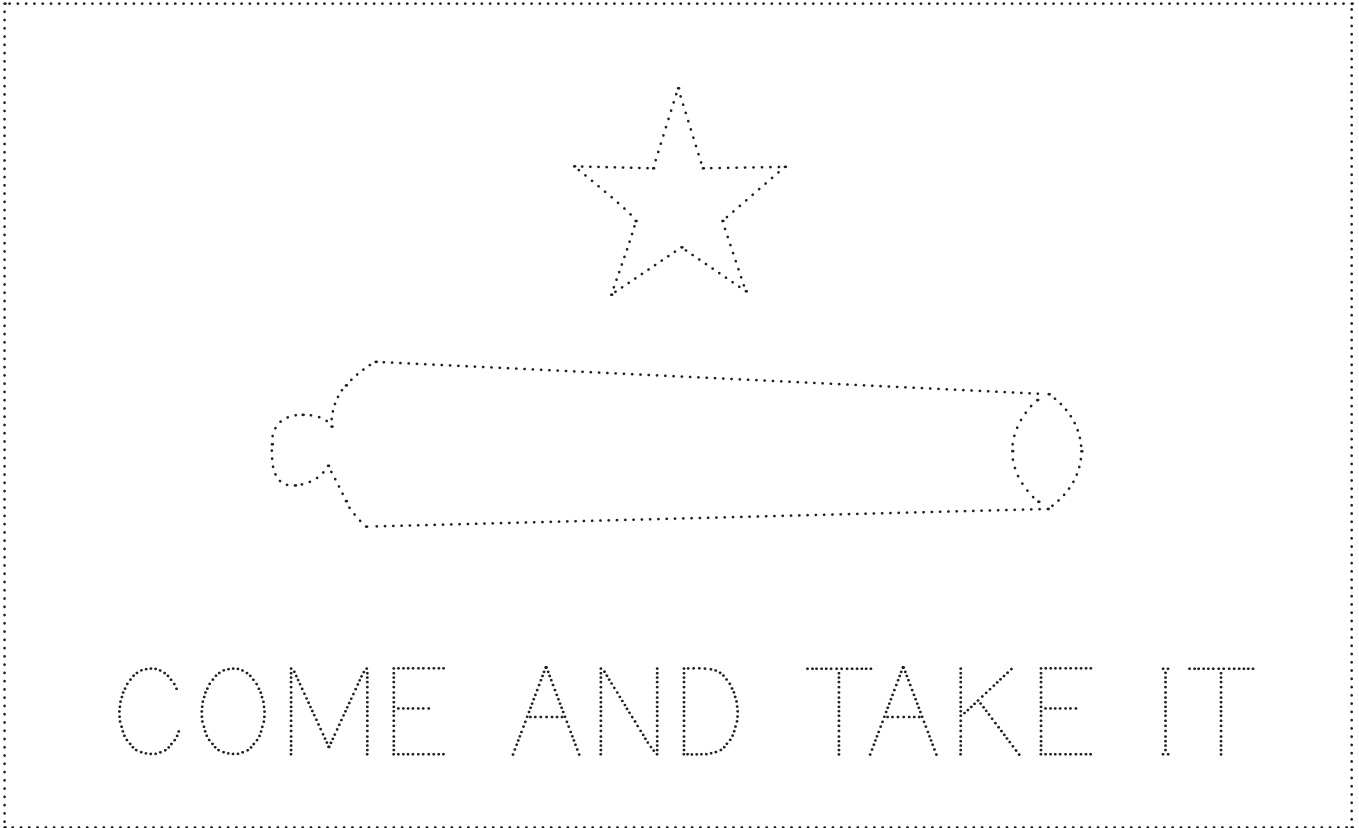
The **Battle of Gonzales** is considered the start of the Texas Revolution
October 2, 1835
which ended with
Texas Independence on
March 2, 1836

Depicted in this flag is a small cannon which in 1831, Mexican authorities, who ruled over Texas at the time, lent the settlers of Gonzales, Texas to help protect them from frequent Comanche raids. Over the following four years however, the political situation in Mexico deteriorated. As the commander of all Mexican troops in Texas felt it unwise to leave the residents of Gonzales with a weapon and requested the return of the cannon. When the request was refused, the commander sent 100 dragons, a kind of horse-riding Mexican soldier, to retrieve the cannon. But as the soldiers neared Gonzales in 1835, Texas colonists secretly gathered from many towns, determined not to give up their protective cannon. On October 2, 1835, after several hours of fighting between the Texans and the dragon soldiers, the soldiers withdrew. This marked the start of the Texas Revolution. As news of the skirmish spread throughout the United States, to which Texas did not yet belong, the Battle of Gonzales became known as the "Lexington of Texas".

"Come and Take It"

references the iconic phrase 'Molon Labe',

First cited in stories recounting the ancient greek Battle of Thermopylae between Persia and the Spartans in 480 BC, this sentence is considered a classic statement of defiance.





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