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In This Issue

DURWOOD BALL, associate professor of history and editor of the *New Mexico Historical Review* at the University of New Mexico, offers an account of Captain Edwin V. Sumner's expedition to the northern reaches of Iowa Territory near the Canadian border in 1845. The campaign, as originally conceived, had a straightforward mission to inscribe U.S. sovereignty on the land, impress national authority on Native Americans living in the region, and assess the military threat posed by the Santee Sioux, Métis, and British. Ball argues, however, that President James K. Polk's expansionism at the time, and the resulting tensions with Great Britain and Mexico, elevated the importance of the campaign.

PAUL MOKRZYCKI, a doctoral candidate in the history department at the University of Iowa, assesses what the disappearance of Des Moines paperboys Johnny Gosch in 1982 and Eugene Wade Martin in 1984 meant for Iowans and other midwesterners and how they shaped the national discourse about missing children since the 1980s.

STACY PRATT MCDERMOTT, assistant director and associate editor for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, reviews four brief topical books about Abraham Lincoln.

Front Cover

In September 1984 President Ronald Reagan held a campaign rally at the Cedar Rapids airport. With Air Force One parked behind him, Reagan grieved the disappearances of Des Moines paperboys Johnny Gosch and Eugene Martin and assured those gathered at the airport that "none of us will rest until the streets in Iowa and throughout this nation are once again safe, particularly for our children." For more on missing paperboys in the 1980s, see Paul Mokrzycki's article in this issue. Photograph courtesy of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Simi Valley, California.

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