

# The Seminole Insurrection 1835-42

*“ I will make the white man red with blood; and then blacken him in the sun and rain...and the buzzard shall live upon his flesh” - Osceola*



# Historical Background

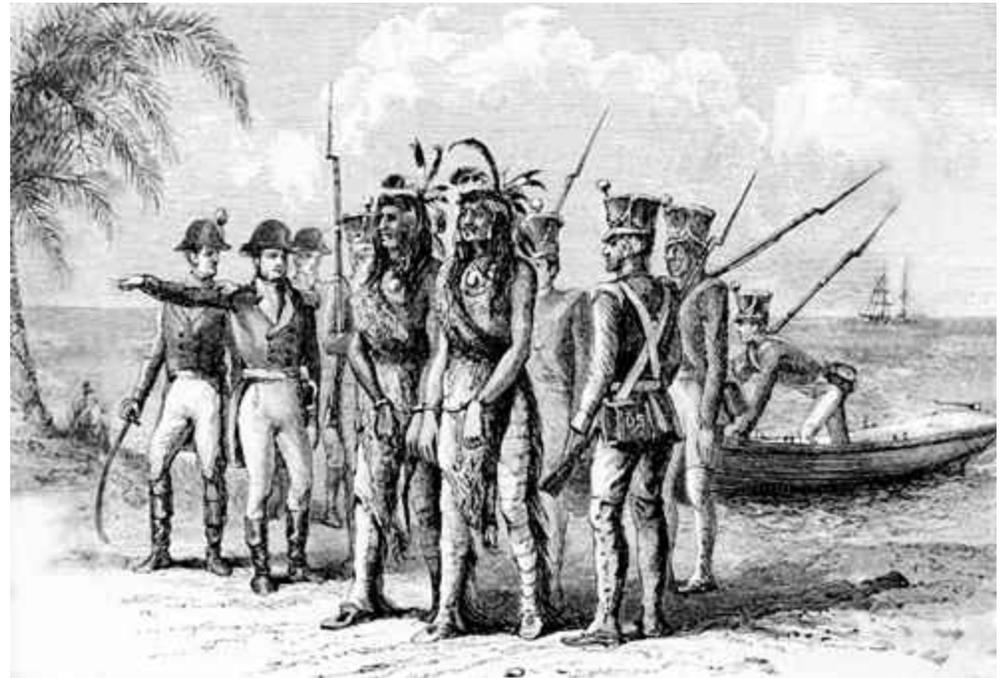
- Creek Civil War 1814
- First Seminole War 1817
- Treaty of Fort Moultrie 1823
- Treaty of Payne's Landing 1832
- Dade's Massacre December 1835



# Revolutionary Theory: State Centered Theory

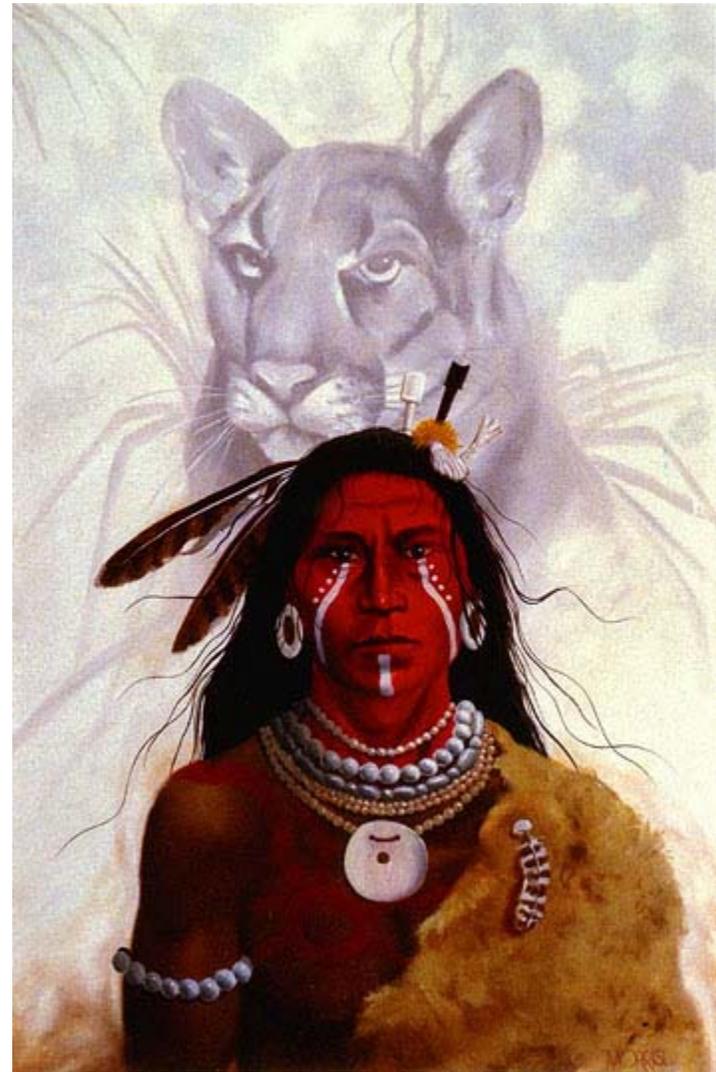
U.S. Government attempted to force unreasonable terms on the Seminoles.

- Unfair treaties (Fort Moultrie and Payne's Landing)
- Relocation
- Loss of Black Seminoles
- Forced habitation with tribal enemies.



# Typologies

- Outside-in
  - Few major cities in Florida
  - Seminoles were interested in the wilderness
- Vertical (Tribal/ethnic)
  - Tribal structures were already in place.
- Low Profile
  - Undermines the legitimacy and power of the U.S. in Florida.



# Phases of the Insurgency

- Phase 1: Latent and Insipient
  - Treaty of Moultrie (1823)-  
Dade's Massacre (1835)
- Phase 2: Guerilla Warfare
  - Isolate cities and forts.
  - Conduct terror raids on homesteads.
  - Ambush military patrols.
  - Attack along the width and breadth of Florida (from the Georgia Border to the Florida Keys)



# Dynamics of the Insurgency

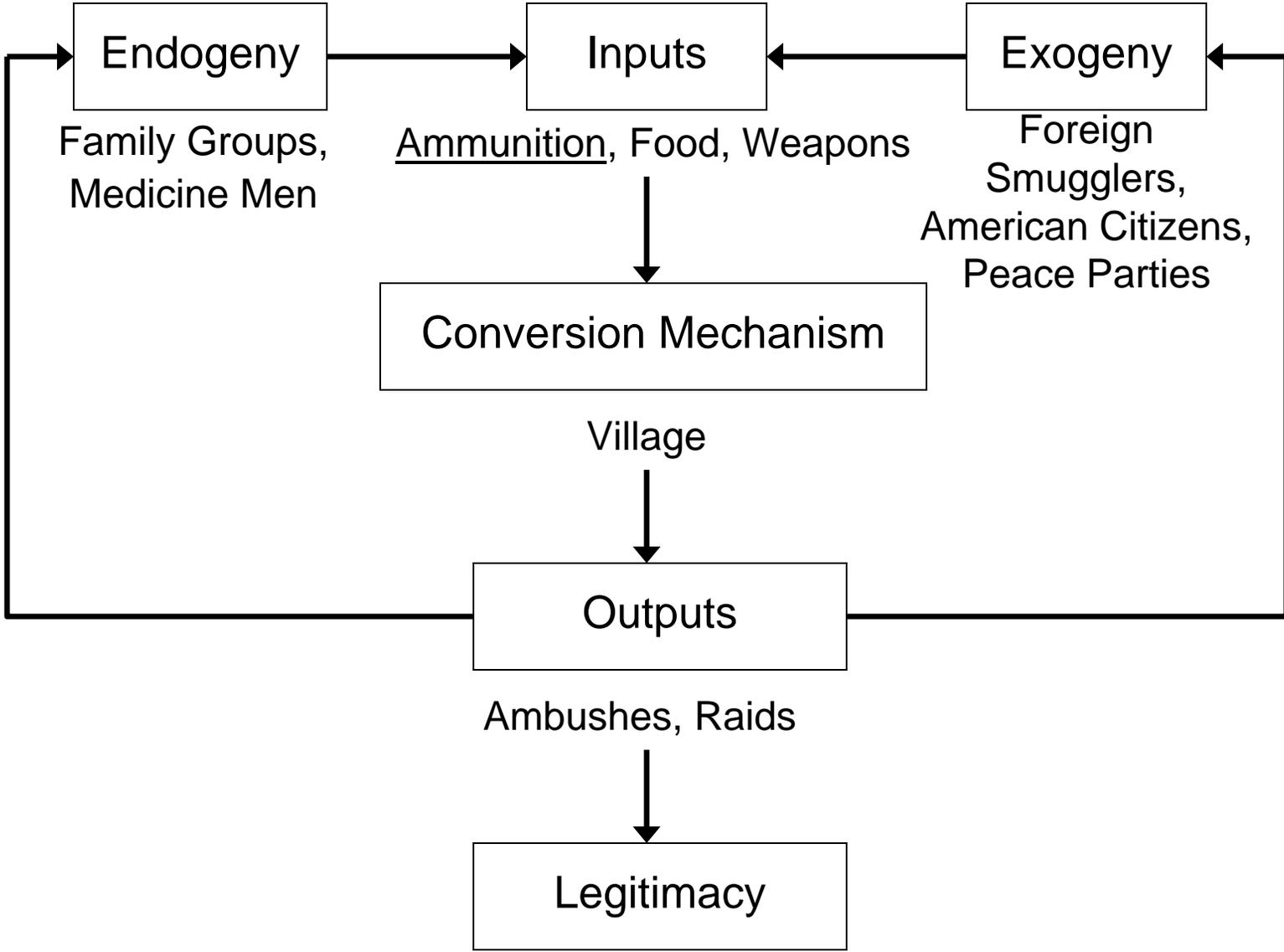
- Leadership
  - Provides motivation and drive.
  - “War Spirits”
- Environment and Geography
  - Sanctuary
  - Force neutralizer
- Organizational and Operational Patterns
  - Extremely decentralized
  - Unpredictable



# Battlefield Operating Systems

- Mobility and Survivability
  - Sickly Season
  - Equipment
  - Knowledge of the Land
- Combat Service Support
  - Women
  - Secreted Villages
  - Peace Parleys
- Intelligence
  - Cultural Brokers
  - Interpreters and guides





U.S. Government can't protect its settlers or maintain communications between towns

# Questions??



# Sources

- <http://redcloudindianarts.com/images/PantherWarrior2.jpg>
- <http://www.piessus.com/Miami/images/hist/SeminoleIndian1.jpg>
- <http://images.encarta.msn.com/xrefmedia/sharemed/targets/images/pho/t029/T029029A.jpg>
- <http://plaza.ufl.edu/moverton/images/afterdadesmass.jpg>

