Moctezuma and Cortes:

Many are familiar with the popular tale of the meeting between Emperor Moctezuma and conquistador Hernan Cortes. As it goes, Moctezuma mistook the Spanish invaders for gods, thereby setting the stage for the conquest of the Aztec Empire. But, how does this compare to what the historical record tells us?

As we look at two sixteenth century sources and one contemporary source, we shall attempt to answer the question: “What happened when Moctezuma met Cortes?”