

#2007

Borders, Bandits, and One Revolting Plan

by

Rylee Hernandez

Senior Division

Historical Paper

Word Count: 2497

From 1915-1919, racial tension along the Texas-Mexico border ignited violent exchanges between Anglos, Tejanos¹, and Mexicans, impacting social, economic, and political stability in the region. Inspired by a manifesto called the Plan de San Diego, Mexican and Tejano social revolutionaries answered the call for an "army of all races" to liberate Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and California from the United States.² The Plan resulted in revolting atrocities carried out by both Anglos and people of Mexican descent, redefining Anglo-Mexican relations in Texas for the remainder of the twentieth century. Its impact on the Mexican-American border still affects United States foreign policy today.

Exploration starts rebellion

The Plan de San Diego was rooted in the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which exchanged 55% of Mexico's northern territory for peace to end the Mexican-American War. Over the next fifty years, Anglo-Americans settled in the Nueces Strip,* marrying landed Tejanos, blending ethnic traditions, and dividing political offices and labor equally. Tejanos ranched, farmed, and ran the cities while Anglos engaged in commerce and controlled the counties.³ From 1860-1904, Anglos commercialized ranching, driving cattle from South Texas to markets in Kansas and Colorado. Large ranchers like Richard King pioneered barbed wire, closing off watering sites that all ranchers had utilized as common property. When the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad connected the area to outside markets in 1904, large ranchers invested in irrigation or sold tracts of fertile land to Anglo farmers from the Midwest. Taxes on increased land values forced cash-poor Tejano ranchers to sell and enter the growing labor

¹ To differentiate between citizens of Mexico and Mexicans in Texas, I use the term Tejano to refer to people of Mexican origin who lived in South Texas at the beginning of the twentieth century.

² Charles H. Harris and Louis R. Sadler, *The Plan De San Diego: Tejano Rebellion, Mexican Inrrique*. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2013), 1-6.

³ Gilberta M. Hinojosa, *Borderlands Town in Transition: Laredo, 1755-1870*. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1983), 68-71. *The Nueces Strip refers to territory between the Nueces and Rio Grande Rivers in Texas.

force.⁴ Although new Anglo immigrants hired Tejanos/Mexicans for labor, they had no interest in learning Mexican customs and language. (See Appendix A). Seasonal labor requirements further marginalized Tejanos who became migrant workers to survive.⁵ By November 1910, Tejano newspaper, *La Cronica*, equated Tejano status to that of Europe's Wandering Jew.⁶ *Rebel*, a Texas based Anglo paper, claimed that "Mexican immigration [would] ruin Texas."⁷ Peaceful co-existence rapidly changed to Anglo versus Mexican.

In Mexico, President Victoriano Huerta had assassinated former leader, Francisco Madero, who had usurped power from American sympathizer Porfirio Diaz. When Madero campaigned for land reforms, the United States backed Huerta to protect American interests in Mexico. Backlash from rebels like Francisco "Pancho" Villa, leader of Division del Nolie, and Emiliano Zapata, commander of the Liberation Army of the South, stirred rebellion in Mexicans who wanted to reclaim Mexican land owned by Americans and territory Mexico had ceded to the United States in 1848.⁸ Inspired by Mexican revolutionaries, disenfranchised Tejanos/Mexicans in Texas began to contemplate rebellion in the Nueces Strip.

Early rebellions foreshadow the Plan

Racial tension increased in the borderlands as Tejanos clashed with Anglo settlers, Texas Rangers and local law enforcement. The first rebellion began in 1859 when Tejano Juan Cortina murdered an Anglo city marshal for pistol-whipping Cortina's employee. Two months later, Cortina led armed rebels into Brownsville, executing four Anglo citizens complicit in Tejano

⁴ Benjamin Heber Johnson, "Sedition and Citizenship in South Texas, 1900-1930." Thesis (Ph. D.)- Yale University, 2000, 25-31.

⁵ David Montejano, *Anglos and Mexicans in the Making of Texas, 1836 – 1986*. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1987), 113-116.

⁶ *La Cronica*, November 12, 1910, p.1. Cited in Johnson, "Sedition," 69.

⁷ Neil Foley, *The White Scourge: Mexicans, Blacks and Poor Whites in Texas Cotton Culture*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997), 93.

Arnoldo DeLeon, ed. *War Along the Border: The Mexican Revolution and Tejano Communities*. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012), 8-29, 52.

murders. Texas Rangers retaliated, punishing anyone suspected of following Cortina. This encounter inspired another 500-600 men to join "Cortina's War."⁹ Cortina's bandits razed 120 miles of the Nueces Strip before federal forces defeated them. To stop Cortina, who orchestrated subsequent raids from Mexico, Anglo elites bankrolled Porfirio Diaz, whose first act after seizing Mexico's presidency in 1876 was to jail Juan Cortina.¹⁰ In 1891, a second rebellion occurred to protest Diaz's dictatorship and the Anglo politicians who supported him. Catarina Garza crossed into Mexico, declaring revolt and soliciting Mexican recruits. Within months he commanded over 1,000 men. Supported by Mexicans and Tejanos on both sides of the border, neither Texas Rangers nor federal forces could catch him, escalating his popularity to that of Tejano folk hero.¹¹ These rebellions provided a pattern for the Plan de San Diego that followed.

Encountering the Plan

On January 23, 1915, authorities in McAllen, Texas, arrested Mexican national Basilio Ramos with an encrypted manifesto called the Plan de San Diego and a small cipher. The Plan revealed a scheme set for February 20 calling for genocide to Anglo males over age sixteen and a revolution to liberate territory lost by Mexico in 1848. The Plan solicited people of all races to join a social revolution with Augustin Garza leading the assault.¹² (See Appendix B). This plan was so bizarre that Hidalgo County Sheriff A. Y. Baker questioned Ramos' sanity, yet he notified Deputy U.S. Marshal T. B. Bishop. Both regarded this manifesto and a subsequent, more radical version as jokes when deadlines passed without noticeable activity. After charging

⁹ Benjamin Heber Johnson, *Revolution in Texas: How a Feroz Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans Into Americans*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003), 23-25.

¹⁰ John M. Hart, *Revolutionary Mexico: The Coming and Process of the Mexican Revolution* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987), 107.

¹¹ Elliot Young, "Twilight on the Texas-Mexico Border: Catarina Garza and Identity at the Cross-roads, 1880-1915." Thesis (Ph. D.)-University of Texas at Austin, 1997, 33-40, 85-87.

¹² Harris and Sadler, *The Plcm*, 1-5; Don M. Coerver, "Plan of San Diego," *Handbook of Texas Online*. <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbookonline/articles/ngp04>. (Accessed September 8, 2015). Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Ramos with "conspiracy to levy war," authorities reduced his bail. Ramos promptly paid and then disappeared.¹³

In July, apathy abruptly changed when fotty armed bandits raided ranches in Cameron and Hidalgo counties, stealing horses, equipment, food and ammunition and killing several Anglo ranchers. July–September, raiders expanded their targets to railroads, telegraphs, and irrigation systems. Many Anglo ranchers moved to town.¹⁴ (See Appendix C). Texas Governor James Ferguson appointed Hemy Ransom, Paul West, and Bill Sterling as Texas Rangers with orders to "clean up a bad disease" on the border by killing "every man connected with the trouble."¹⁵ Vigilante groups formed to stop the raids by killing or hanging suspected bandits.¹⁶ (See Appendix D). Tejanos soon found themselves in an untenable situation. Bandits would kill them for refusing assistance. Rangers would kill them for assisting. Aniceto Pizana was one such Tejano.

The Plan gains international attention

A follower of anarchists Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magón and the Mexican Liberal Party, Pizana had organized a group of like-minded Tejanos but refused to risk his family by joining the rebellion. Actions on August 3, 1915, changed his stance. Suspecting Pizana of harboring *sedition* (social bandits), deputies and federal troops stormed Pizana's Tullitas

¹³ Rolando Hinojosa Smith, "River of Blood." *Texes Monthly*, January 1986.

¹⁴ James A. Sandos, *Rebellion in the Borderlands*. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992), 86-87; Telegram from J. J. Sanders to Adjutant General, July 17, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 550-15). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.; Letter from Tom J. J. Sanders to Hon. Henry Hutchings, Adj. Gen., July 22, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box. 550-15). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX; Telegram from W. T. Vann to Adjutant General, September 2, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-10). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX; Telegram from Sheriff W. T. Gardner to Henry Hutchings, September 4, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-12). State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX; Telegram from Sheriff W. T. Gardner to Hutchings, September 5, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-12). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX. .

¹⁵ DeLeon, 67.

¹⁶ Thomas A. Brusino, Jr., "A Troubled Past: The Army and Security on the Mexican Border, 1915-1917." *Military Review*, July-August 2008, 35; Telegram from Sheriff W. T. Gardner to Hutchings, September 5, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-11).

Ranch, injuring his twelve-year-old son. Ranch hands injured several deputies, and one soldier died before Pizana escaped to Mexico, joining his closest friend, Luis de la Rosa, and Plan leader Augustin Garza.¹⁷ (See Appendix E). To retaliate, de la Rosa's bandits raided Las Norias, a division of the King Ranch, motivating Ranger Ransom to initiate a "reign of terror" against Mexicans and Tejanos in Texas.¹⁸ As mass murders began, Texas Rangers became to Tejanos what the Ku Klux Klan represented to Blacks, except Rangers were legal.¹⁹ (See Appendix F). These violent exchanges caused Pizana to intensify Plan objectives by initiating a recruiting campaign called "Basta ya!" (enough is enough). Adhering to the Plan's proposal to include "individuals of the black race," Pizana solicited Blacks to join Tejanos in the struggle against Anglo oppression?²⁰ (See Appendix G). One month after the attack on his ranch, Pizana's men attacked soldiers and Anglo citizens near Brownsville, Harlingen, and Ojo de Agua. By October, Pizana's and de la Rosa's forces controlled the southern half of the Nueces Strip.²¹

Mexican newspapers from Montevideo to Vera Cruz published the Plan in its entirety and glorified the revolt, inspiring Mexicans to assist Tejanos across the border. (See Appendix H). So many newspapers printed *sedicioso* manifestos, that the Postal Service banned them in the United States. From 1915-1916, killings along the Texas border became so commonplace that newspapers like the *San Antonio Express* no longer considered them newsworthy.²² Encountering such terror motivated many Tejanos to return to Mexico, causing a severe labor shortage in the region. Over 30,000 Anglos migrated north or returned to the Midwest, leaving

¹⁷ De Leon, 69-70; Harris and Saddler, *The Plan*, 94.

¹⁸ Montejano, 119.

¹⁹ *Border Bandits*. Dir. Kirby F. Warnock. Trans-Pecos Productions, 2004.

²⁰ Harris and Saddler, *The Plan*, 2.

²¹ Sandos, 94-95.

²² Sandos, 95; Tom A. Fort, "MostHistory History Series, Part 6: The Plan de San Diego I, Rebellion on the Rio Grande." *The Monitor*, September 7, 2013. *Museum of South Texas History*. http://www.themonitor.com/life/valley_life/mosthistory-series-part-the-plan-de-san-diego-i-rebellion/article_c48ac4a8-1981-11e3-b062-001a4bcf6878.html?mode=story. (Accessed January 15, 2016).

the area virtually deserted.²³ King Ranch manager Robert Kleberg suggested martial law and concentration camps along the 100 mile border.²⁴

Major General Frederick Funston confronted Texas Rangers and vigilantes on one side and Tejanos and Mexicans on the other. On August 30, his telegram to President Woodrow Wilson requested reinforcements since an uprising on the border would be impossible to defend with limited troops. By September, 85% of all U. S. troops patrolled the Texas-Mexico border.²⁵ (See Appendix I). Funston also asked Texas Governor James Ferguson for restrictions on Texas Rangers to prevent additional killings?⁶ (See Appendix J). To curtail Mexican involvement in the rebellion, President Wilson initiated diplomatic exchanges with Venustiano Carranza. To secure Carranza's cooperation, President Wilson endorsed Carranza as legitimate heir to Mexico's presidency. Without Mexican support, neither Pizana nor de la Rosa could continue their revolt in Texas and sought refuge in central Mexico, ending any possibility that rebels could reclaim Mexico's lost territory. However, U.S. endorsement of Carranza caused backlash from anti-Carranza factions in Mexico, exacerbating already tense relations between the two countries.⁷

100 years- Encountering the Plan's effects

The Plan de San Diego not only failed to liberate lost territory, but also dissolved former Anglo-Mexican ties, bringing genocide and disenfranchisement to the very people it was designed to benefit. The U. S. Government closed the Mexican-American border and dismantled

²³ Charles C. Cumberland, "Border Raids in the Lower Rio Grande Valley – 1915." *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 57, July 1953 – April 1954, 285.

²⁴ Johnson, "Sedition," 166; Telegram from Captain H. L. Ransom to Adjutant Henry Hutchings, September 19, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-17). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

²⁵ Bruscano, 32-38; *Border Bandits*; Hatfield and Saddler, *The Texas Rangers and the Mexican Revolution*. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004), 247.

²⁶ Letter to Governor James Ferguson, November 16, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 552-13). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

²⁷ Trinidad Gonzales. Interview by author. March 14, 2016.

the 40-60 ferries operating in Brownsville and Roma, which had transported people and goods across the Rio Grande River for 160 years. Federal forces became the U. S. Border Patrol in 1924.²⁸ The Plan triggered revolting atrocities on both sides of the border that exchanged fifty years of social equality for an Anglo mindset that Tejanos and Mexican immigrants were a danger to state and national security. That mindset paved the way for "Juan Crow" segregation, furthering Tejano disenfranchisement.²⁹ Exchanges in economic and political power placed Anglos in control of most businesses and politics at both the local and county levels. The majority of Tejanos and Mexicans supplied the labor force for the burgeoning citrus industry. Though State Representative Jose Canales launched a Texas Ranger investigation in 1919, no significant changes occurred, and Ranger presence continued to intimidate laborers. Poll tax requirements prevented the majority of Tejanos from voting.³⁰ Schools throughout South Texas segregated Anglos from Blacks and children of Mexican descent. Until 1954, Texas counties suppressed Hispanic selection for juries.³¹ Organizations like the League of United Latin American Citizens, the G. I. Forum, and the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund formed to protect and pursue Hispanic rights.³²

Though the Plan de San Diego died a violent death in 1916, its impact still resonates every time Mexican immigration resurfaces in the news. In June 2006, U.S. forces returned to the border to stop illegal immigration once again. Texas, along with other border states, is petitioning Washington's leaders to send Border Patrol agents and National Guardsmen to control modern-day drug and human trafficking bandits who breach the Mexican-American

²⁸ Montejano, 125-126.

²⁹ DeLeon, 48; John Moran Gonzalez, interview by author. March 14, 2016.

³⁰ Harris and Saddler, *The Texas Rangers*. 146; Evan Anders, *Boss Rule in South Texas*. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1987), 78-88.

³¹ Montejano, 220-254. *I change from Tejano to Hispanic when I shift to current events, using the modern-day term for anyone of Hispanic descent.

³² Johnson, *Revolution in Texas*, 191-194.

border. This new class of bandit reinforces old stereotypes generated by the Plan that all Mexicans are an alien threat. That mindset still prevails in southern border-states and is earning national attention in hotly contested political debates, though two initial candidates have Hispanic roots. Consequently, the Plan's effects continue to influence U. S. foreign policy and may hamper the exchange of goods the United States now enjoys with Mexico if American leaders continue to explore the building of a fence on the Mexican-American border.

Appendix A³³: Advertisements like this enticed Anglo Farmers from Kansas and Nebraska to South Texas. Some ads promoted Mexican labor which provided a mindset for Anglos moving to Texas that Mexicans and Tejanos were laborers and not equal in status to their Anglo counterparts.

OPPORTUNITY

DO YOU OWN THE
EARTH?
IF NOT. WHY NOT

IT'S EASY
TO BUY A FARM FROM US IN
=====THE=====
Famous Valley of the Nueces

rrSUPTOYOD

JOIN IN n£ PRoc:£SSION BOUND
FOR 11-1£ LAND OF SUNSHINE.
FL.OWERS AND HONEY.

³³ Montejano, 137.

Appendix B³⁴: This letter (below) from Augustin Garza (right) authorized Basilio Ramos to recruit Tejanos and Mexicans in Texas to *join* the rebellion proposed by the Plan de San Diego. While authorities decided what to do with Basilio Ramos, County Sheriff A. Y. Baker attempted to locate and arrest Augustin Garza. The cipher disk (right) found on Basilio Ramos decoded the Plan de San Diego.

TRAMHJ.TIOJ!

Laredo, Texas, Jan. 15, 1915.

U. B ello aeol,
 Drnovillo, Tee.

= etoed rrlnd **I Onion** :-

I = in roolp or your !cnl lotteT o' •h" I tb.inot., •rd -lltoh,
 ttb plealuro, I nn er.

\th "Patn 'Jnd -lth i'lon.euro, I roM your lettoT, or 1t waa viJY
 r.;uob 'n b') rocretted that !n:\1Yldut\lo -ho, LIXE: G!liER.IL N.U'AnRAT£ batM In
 th, Inexhii.Uatlblo fotIntainl O-rladom, lould not aooopt Wlth !crvor, abne-
 g&tion nrA rolpcot an lcloa io aubll-o, and whioh ll not ono or he and-
 oat of .horloa, it lo no lau tbe CHALLiNGE Uln'O Dii!TR OF **Ur**, "fie f O'LES
 OF DECP.UTATED TAI'III- .llr.tU.O.I 'to 'fm: vmt'te-?AOED BOOB OF TEIDSYLVAIf U,

Thorotoro, doar Baalio, I thnk tbtnt Genernl Hatarrata la one
 of thou :laxloanll o; ttre lll•4 dtaoendod roc the C.uhtOJPO llnlJurnal
 end It culd rleiUo c:o th't Inclvl:NG.lli oC tMa o!au (B:io) 1h:u11 co-op-
 erAte in M Indtrcot :a.a.n•r "ltd' thooof ua "fho arc ?le:r3el te l:o **tul-**
 !illnt or our ord.

PLEASE! niTe'SS TO G7I>:FAL IA7Ai!RAT; "/ SHIC = .AD!HrATIO:
 A"D

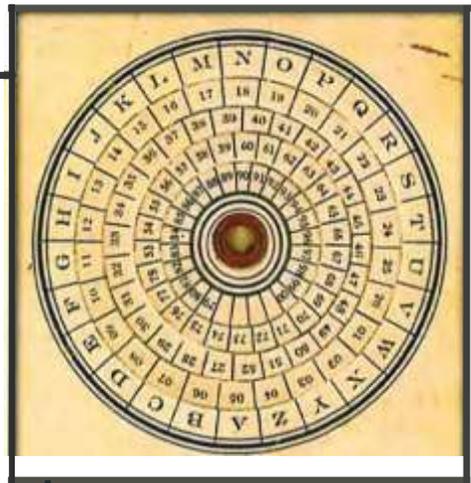
RES F,CT, ror, ln nito o' he tact th t I nr not AQuAlnt d -lth ht, I be-
 lieve he will accept your idea.

norarrtn-: to your Te,uca+, that I aend yu flndii, I bee lcavo to
 rrtorm you tt tho mony htoh I oarried (and nrloh -rao !rom Ohibu&hu) -
 I had to lvo a b:othor of General 9nt toa.o t• wko OF no uao to o;
 .nd in orq'lr to reoah thla aide o' the rlvu I had tel l'm'm lll' "le.tob tor
 nrlo)• to - .v Cor my roo•nl ll:l:l, tn tho tulo:lt l" lca.vln-----
 (:lllllhed) inott.lleel Md trylnr: to tt"ld O\lt O•"ld bolt •uroue our tArCb-
 for th:ae rthlr>nt, I OUI not aend yru .onythln; but l' t ouccood ln obh.in-
 in-: any ll:omey, I ahnll not "it; vru wh&ll bu.VJ "hilL I lily ba o:lls to osnd
 you t'ore.

Slno ry urlvll, I havo b'nn !lt.:rl: mnd t esne.!U'a thct cvlley
 no llOO'l)to tho idoln thh.lol:eot do(r's"; -nd thuntore, I thin'-, th&t
 oh 4Y be d n•in oort tis.

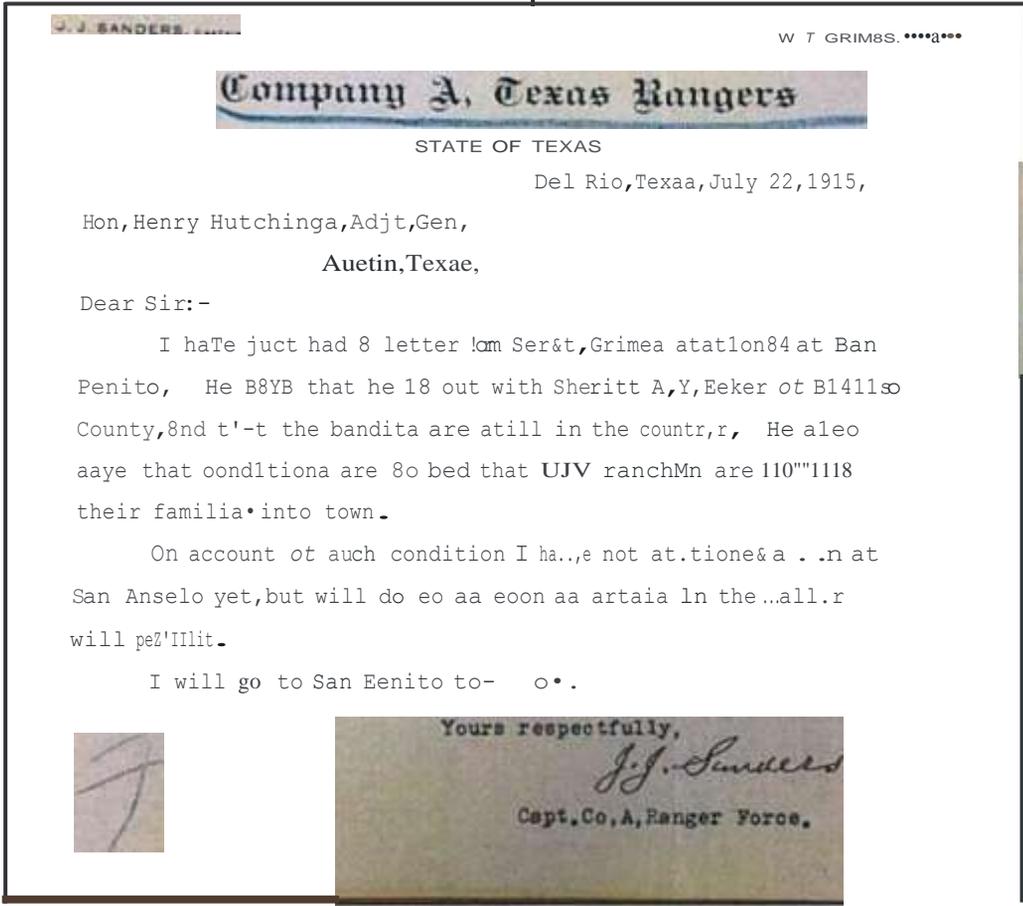
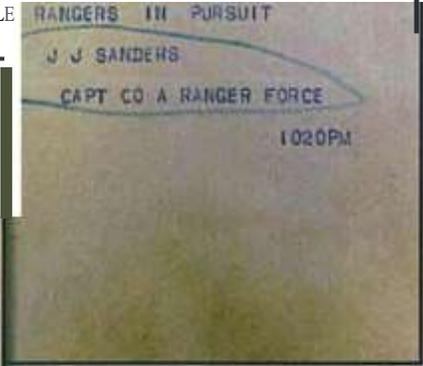
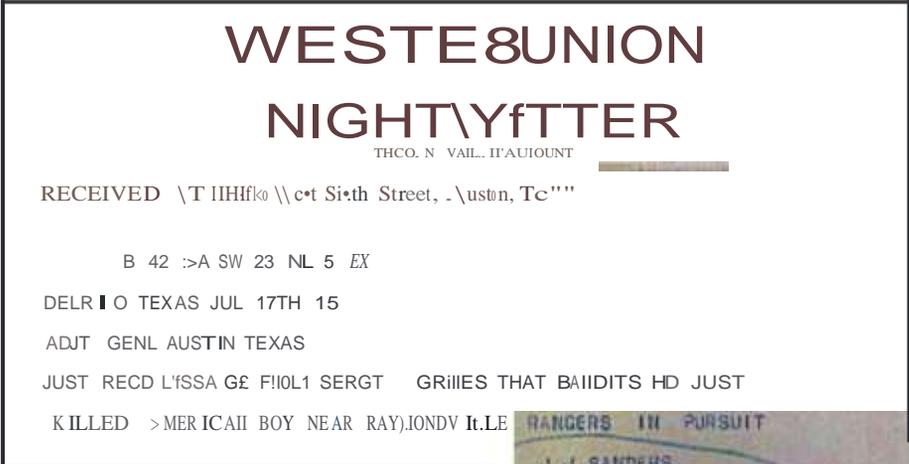
BefoTs OIOha cloud on the horlon, pre'lt 'lith ho otLEOI, of
 the dAllnd bl.--ootsd CTIC.turo:s ll." innt our rllll!, to ha <•let h" orice
 g.ainllt cno•a country; beO!ueo It to •bn hono-aiok hC'lr o! the 'fOk Md
 t ou-bt to be mnnounced to thn=. ThTctor, I tah you hapineo• n the
 orld, ro-eley roAd. -!lob "m l-c.ll trnvrae.

"EQUALITY AND INDEPENDENCE".
 Your friend,
 (signed) **A. G. Garza**



³⁴ Letter from Garza (Laredo) to Ramos (Brownsville). January 15, 1915. Item 2009.006.001a. Augustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX; Photo Postcard, sepia-tone, Garza on Left, Unidentified Man on Right. Item 2009.006.018a. Augustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX; Cipher Wheel. Item 2009.006.015f. Augustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

Appendix C³⁵: J. J. Sanders, Captain of the Texas Ranger Company A Force, notified Texas Adjutant General Henry Hutchings about bandits killing an Anglo boy, stating that Texas Rangers are in pursuit. His letter on July 22, 1915 explains that conditions have gotten so bad that Anglos are leaving their ranches to find safety in town.



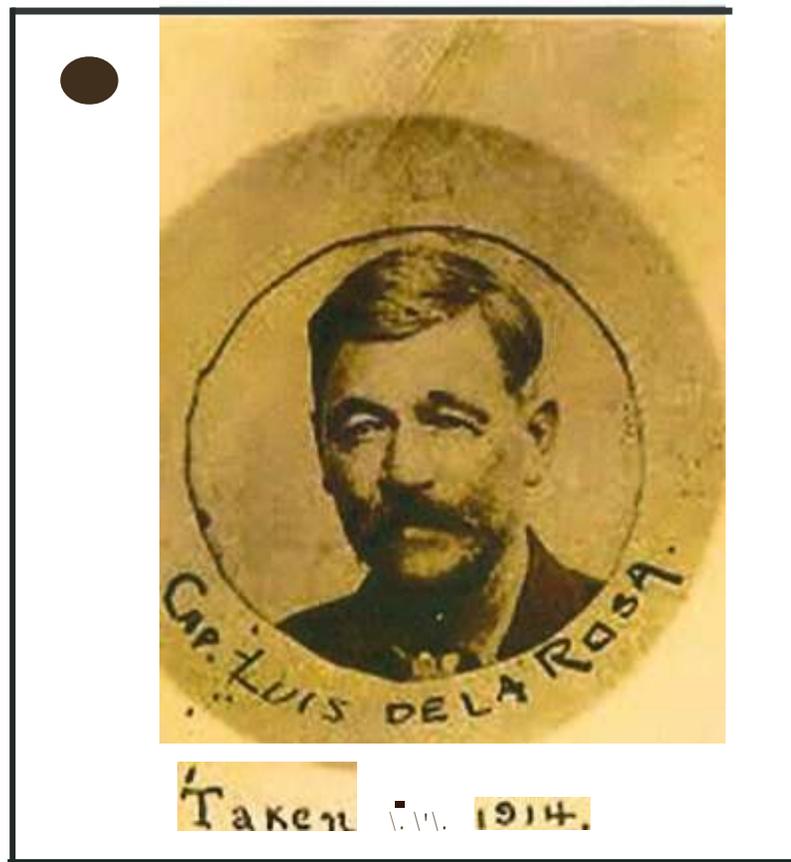
³⁵ Sanders Telegram, July 17, 1915; Sanders Letter, July 22, 1915.

Appendix D³⁶: Vigilante groups retaliated against bandits by executing anyone suspected of being a bandit sympathizer.



³⁶ Bodies of Mexicans with Observers. Item 1999.74.1 0ss. Banditry Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

Appendix E:³⁷ Luis de la Rosa had already become a leader in the Plan De San Diego rebellion when Aniceto Pizana joined him in Mexico. Together they caused chaos in South Texas that led to federal intervention.



³⁷ Boardman, Mark. "No Quarter: The Texas Rangers vs. Mexican Insurgents, 1915-1919." *True West History of the Frontier*. January 1, 2006. <http://www.truewestmagazine.com/no-quarter>. (Accessed December 28, 2015).

Appendix F:³⁸ Ranger attacks on Mexicans and Tejanos in South Texas caused a massive migration from South Texas to Mexico. Estimates range from 500 to 5000 Mexican and Tejano deaths during this time. Images like these below were printed as postcards and used for propaganda to solicit Plan de San Diego recruits *in* Mexico.



³⁸ Texas Rangers on Horseback with Victims of Norias Raid. Item 1998.63.3.III, Banditly Raids. LNorias4. Banditly Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX; Pile of Bodies. Item 1996.74.1OTt. Banditry Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

Appendix G:³⁹ The vigilante attack on Pizafia's home created one of the Plan de San Diego's most formidable leaders. True to the original manifesto, Pizana invited Blacks to join the struggle against Anglo oppression (below left). He also stirred anti-Anglo sentiment in Mexico and South Texas by distributing recruitment flyers that called for direct action (below right).

No my black brother the Anglo so
 dont deserve to be called human
 He is warse than a hayna, he
 makes you double your knees
 and works you brains and expects
 to fight for him and help cruc
 e friendly nation. No! Never,
 my friends and Brothers.
 Never think of taking up arms
 against Mexico the only country
 the world that offers you a
 shadow of a chance, and give
 social rights is the country he
 is talking you to fight on my
 black brother, dont fight Mexico
 but turn you gun the other way
 and march through Texas de-
 monstrating you rights as a
 citizen and defending the Plan
 of San Diego, which means the

A Nuestros Compañeros
Los Mexicanos en Texas

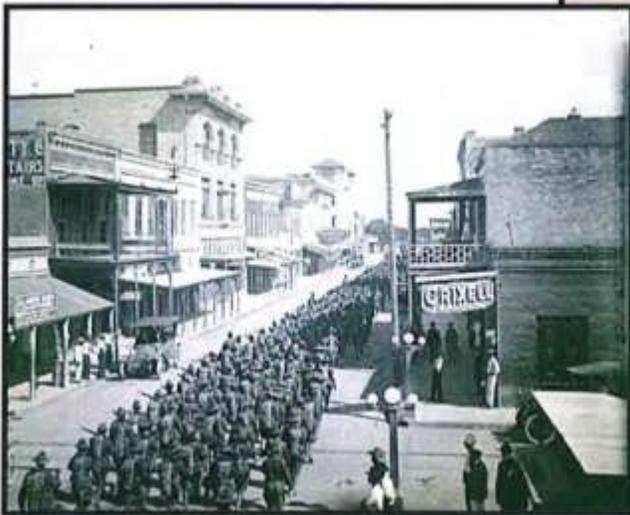
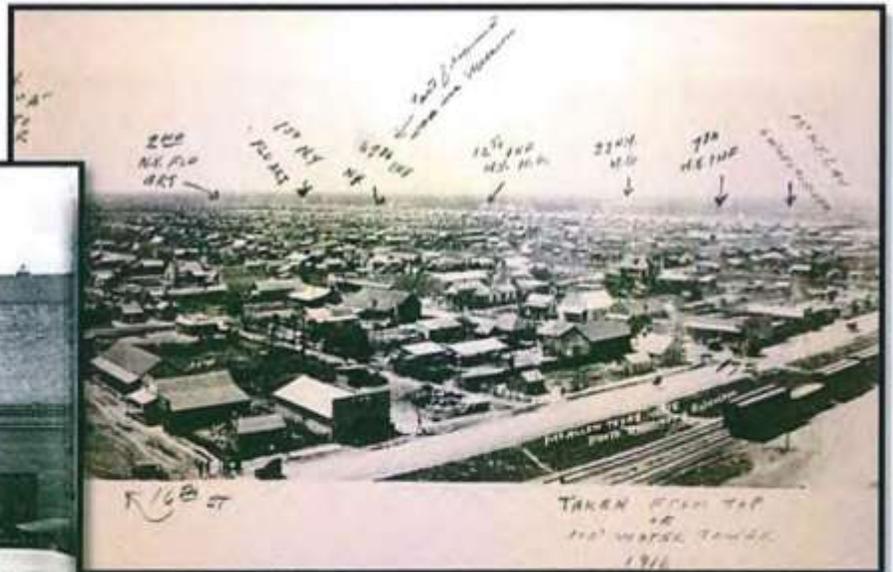
i\h-a In ltlc:pE'ntftollDlI

CUARTEL GRAL. EN SAN ANTONIO TEXAS.

Anin! IO PizaiiH

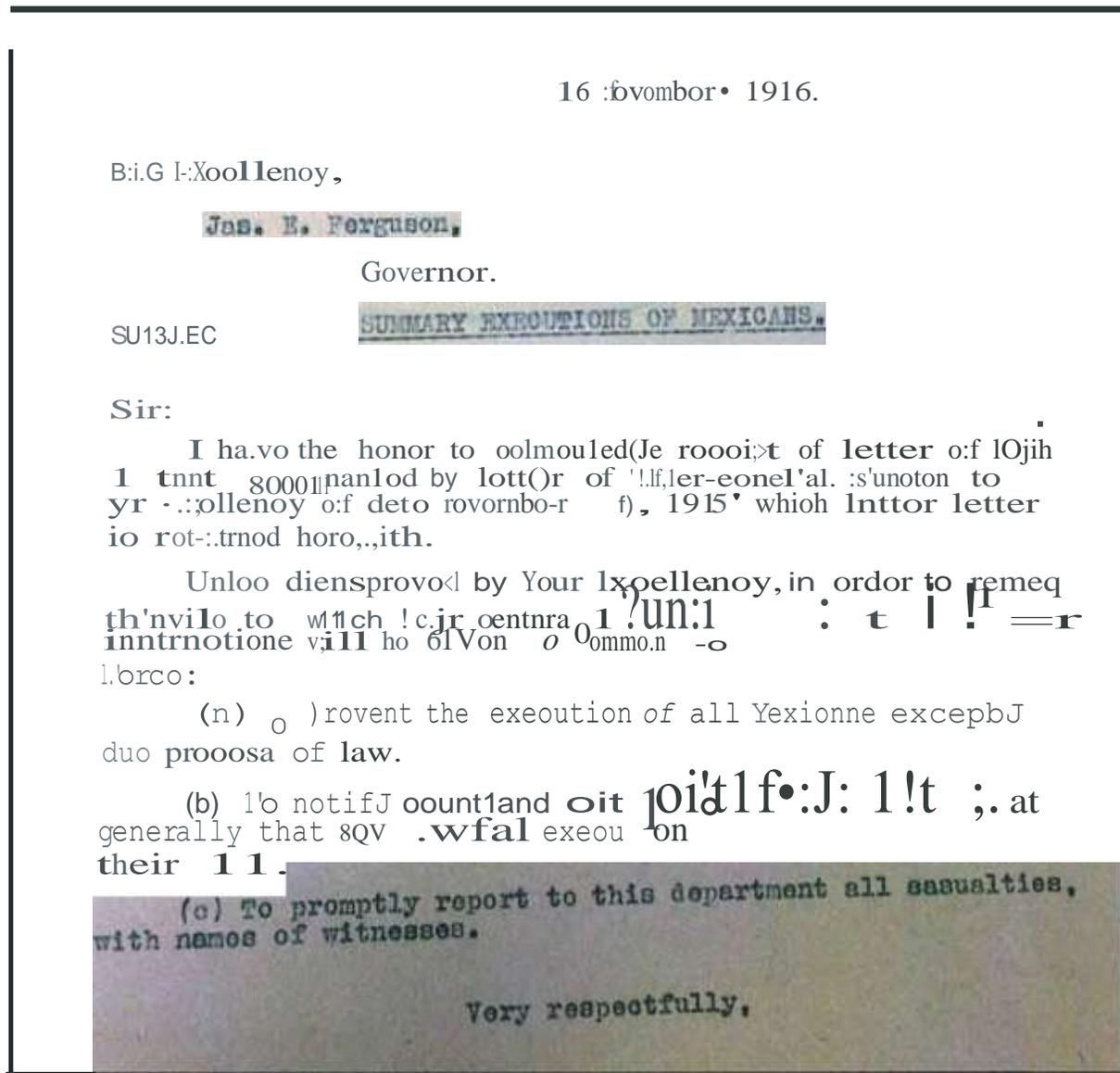
³⁹ Manifesto Draft for Negro Recruits. Undated. Item 2009.006.013b. Agustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX; Fort.

Appendix 1⁴¹: October 18, 1915, De laRosa and his raiders derailed and robbed a passenger train north of Brownsville that belonged to the St. Louis, Brownsville, and Mexico Railroad, killing three and wounding three more (top). This raid caused the Texas Rangers to initiate a massive ethnic cleansing program in the area. On June 18, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued orders for 110,000 National Guardsmen to patrol the U.S.-Mexico border in order to stop the violence caused by *sediciosos*, Texas Rangers, and Anglo vigilantes (bottom).



⁴¹ Bandit Attack on Railroad in Brownsville, 1916. 1970.013. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.; Federal Troops in Edinburg, 1916. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX; 110,000 National Guardsmen patrol the U. S.-Mexico Border. Robert Runyon Collection, University of Texas at Austin. On display at Bullock Museum, Austin Texas.

Appendix J⁴²: This letter to Governor Ferguson asks for his approval on the changes Major General Funston requested to deal with the Texas Rangers. Funston wanted to prevent Rangers from executing Mexicans and Tejanos because such atrocities escalate rebel activities in the area. The stipulations on the Rangers (below) also suggest that Funston wants to hold Rangers accountable for their actions and to prevent further operations that act outside of the law.



⁴² Letter to Governor James Ferguson, November 16, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 552-13). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

Reports

Rich, Burdett A., Henry P. Farnham, and George H. Parmele, eds. *The Lawyers Reports Annotated, 1918E*. Rochester: The Lawyers Co-Operative Publishing Company, 1919.

This report covers appeal of *The State of Texas v. Jose Antonio Arce* case of 1916. Arce was part of a raiding party that entered Texas and killed American citizens, and a lower court sentenced him to death. However, the appeal reversed the decision because the court declared that South Texas was in a state of war at the time. ■ used this information to explain the chaos occurring along the Texas Mexican border during the Plan de San Diego raids.

Government Documents

Transcript of the Treaty of Hidalgo (1848). February 2, 1848; Perfected Treaties, 1778-1945; Record Group 11; General Records of the United States Government, 1778-1992; National Archives. The Avalon Project. Our Documents. <http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?doc=26&page=transcript>. (Accessed October 19, 2015).

This Treaty ended the Mexican American War in 1848, causing Mexico to lose 55% of its territory to the United States. This document helped me understand the initial exchange of land that later inspired The Plan of San Diego.

Correspondence

Letter from Garza (Laredo) to Ramos (Brownsville). January 15, 1915. Item 2009.006.001a. Agustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a typewritten carbon of a letter, written in English, from Agustin Garza, leader of the Plan de San Diego to Basilio Ramos, the man who had the encrypted plan on him when authorities arrested him and discovered the plot. ■ used a photo of this letter in my appendix to show that Ramos had been sent to South Texas to recruit members for the planned rebellion.

Letter from J. J. Sanders to Hon. Henry Hutchings, Adj. Gen., July 22, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 550-15). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This letter from Ranger Sanders explains bandits are in the country and that conditions have gotten so bad that many Anglos are leaving their ranches and moving to town. ■ used this in my appendix to show the effect that the raids had on Anglo ranchers.

Letter to Governor James Ferguson, November 16, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 552-13). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This letter refers to a request from Major General Funston to stop the summary executions of Mexicans by Texas Rangers. I used this letter in my appendix to show that the situation along the border was escalating the rebellion. Major Funston asked for new regulations on Rangers to stop the killings.

Telegram from Captain H. L. Ransom to Adjutant Henry Hutchings, September 19, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-17). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This telegram shows that many Tejanos and Anglos are leaving the Nueces Strip because of the bandit raids. Captain Ransom reports that he travelled over 200 miles and visited a number of ranches and small towns that are entirely deserted. I used this to show that Tejanos and Anglos left the area during the raids.

Telegram from J. J. Sanders to Adjutant General, July 17, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 550-15). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This telegram notified Adjutant General Henry Hutchings that an Anglo boy had been killed in one of the bandit raids. I used this in my appendix to show that Mexicans and Tejanos were targeting Anglos during the bandit raids.

Telegram from Sheriff W. T. Gardner to Henry Hutchings, September 4, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-12). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This telegram is asking Henry Hutchings to station two Texas Rangers in Carrizo Springs, Texas. Although there has been no violence, Sheriff Vann is concerned that towns in this area are vulnerable. He cannot control such a large portion of the border and needs help in case violence breaks out. This telegram helped me understand how alarmed Anglos in Texas border towns became during the bandit raids.

Telegram from Sheriff W. T. Gardner to Hutchings, September 5, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-12). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This telegram explains that Sheriff Gardner is concerned about Mexicans in his area acting suspiciously and moving about at night. He worries that violence will break out and says the town has organized a home guard. This telegram helped me explain how Anglo reacted to the news that bandits were conducting raids in South Texas.

Telegram from W. T. Vann to Adjutant General, September 2, 1915. (AG Correspondence, Box 551-10). Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Austin, TX.

This telegram reports that bandits in Cameron County burned a railroad bridge. One bandit and two citizens were killed, and authorities captured 100 pounds of dynamite. Sheriff Vann requested cavalry which is now camped just north of Brownsville but he expects more the next day. This telegram shows how law officials and townspeople reacted to bandit raids. I used this information to show that raids were occurring in South Texas during July and September of 1915.

Photos

Bandit Attack on Railroad in Brownsville, 1916. 1970.013. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX. Federal Troops in Edinburg, 1916. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX

This is a photo of derailed train after a bandit attack in Brownsville. I used this photo in my appendix to show violent attacks by bandits during the Plan de San Diego raids.

Bodies of Mexicans with Observers. Item 1999.74.10ss. Banditry Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a photo of Anglos looking at the bodies of Mexicans. I used this photo in my appendix to show how vigilantes dealt with Mexicans they suspected of being bandits.

Cipher Wheel. Item 2009.006.015f. Agustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a photo of the cipher disc found on Basilio Ramos and used to decipher the Plan de San Diego. I used this in my appendix to show what authorities used to break the coded manifesto they found on Basilio Ramos when they arrested him.

Federal Troops in Edinburg, 1916. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX

This is a photo of federal troops stationed outside Edinburg in 1916. I used this photo in my appendix to show the national response to Plan de San Diego raids.

"Fighting in South Texas." *La Cronica*, Issue 6, December 1915. Our History as News. <http://www.ourhistoryasnews.org/index.php/lc-1915-plan-de-san-diego> (Accessed December 12, 2015).

This is a photo of a December 1915 article from *La Cronica*. I used this photo in my appendix to show that Mexican and Tejano newspapers glorified the revolution to recruit Mexicans to cross the border and join the Plan de San Diego revolution.

Manifesto Draft for Negro Recruits. Undated. Item 2009.006.013b. Agustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

Although this draft is undated, it is hand written on the back of propaganda literature dated May 31, 1916. This draft is urging Negroes to join with Mexicans against Anglos so they can win back territory from the United States and create their own republics. I used this letter in my appendix to show that Plan de San Diego organizers solicited help from other minorities in order to achieve their goal.

110,000 National Guardsmen patrol the U. S.-Mexico Border. Robert Runyon Collection, University of Texas at Austin. On display at Bullock Museum, Austin Texas.

This is a photo of National Guard troops on the streets of a South Texas town. I used this photo in my appendix to show the mass amount of troops sent to the Nueces Strip because of the Plan de San Diego raids.

Pile of Bodies. Item 1996.74.10Tt. Banditry Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a photo showing the stacked bodies of dead Mexicans who Texas Rangers called bandits. I used this in my appendix to show the mass killing of Mexicans in South Texas during the raids after the Plan de San Diego began.

Photo Postcard, sepia-tone, Garza on Left, Unidentified Man on Right. Item 2009.006.018a. Agustin S. Garza Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a photo of Augustin Garza with an unidentified man. I cropped the original photo and used it in my appendix to show the designated leader of The Plan de San Diego.

Texas Rangers on Horseback with Victims of Norias Raid. Item 1998.63.3.JII, Banditry Raids. LNorias4. Banditry Photographs Collection. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.

This is a photo of three Texas Rangers and the bodies of the Mexicans they killed. I used it in my appendix to show how Rangers carried out the orders they were given from Texas Governor Ferguson.

Secondary Sources

Interviews

Cantrell, Gregg. Interview by author. September 19, 2015.

Dr. Cantrell is the Erma and Ralph Lowe Chair for Texas History at Texas Christian University. He has written several books on Texas History, including *Stephen F Austin, Empresario of Texas*. He coedited *Lone Star Pasts: Memory and History in Texas*, co-authored *The History of Texas*, and is past president of the Texas State Historical Association. He currently teaches courses in Texas and American history. Dr. Cantrell had limited knowledge of the Plan de San Diego, but he was able to explain how South Texas differs from other parts of the state because of the border it shares with Mexico. I used information from this interview to show how the encounters between Anglos and Mexicans along the border helped shape the attitudes that developed during and after the border wars.

Foley, Neil. Interview by author. September 19, 2015.

Dr. Neil Foley is a professor of history at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and specializes in South Texas Mexican history, the borderlands and Mexican immigration. He has written several books, including *The White Scourge: Afexiccms, Blacks. and Poor Whites in Texas*. Dr. Foley suggested several good sources on The Plan de San Diego and was able to help me make connections between border issues today and those that occurred in the early 1900s. I used information from this interview to explain how exploration of the borderlands in South Texas led to a clash between Anglos and Mexicans that altered their relations for the rest of the twentieth century.

Gonzales, Trinidad. Interview by author. March 14, 2016.

Trinidad Gonzales is a history professor at South Texas College. His articles have appeared in the books *War Along the Border: The Mexican Revolution and Tejano Communities*, and *Hybrid Identities*. He is an authority on the Plan de San Diego and the colonization of Mexicans in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and coordinates the Mexican American Studies degree at South Texas College. His interest in the Plan de San Diego stems from his family's direct involvement in the revolt that occurred. He emphasized that the failure of the Plan de San Diego ended any hopes for reclaiming the 1848 territory Mexico ceded to the United States. His information

Gonzalez, John Moran. Interview by author. March 14, 2016.

John Gonzalez is an Associate Professor in the English Department at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of *Border Renaissance: The Texas Centennial and the Emergence of Mexican American Literature* and *The Troubled Union: Expansionist Imperatives in Post-Reconstruction American Novels*. He also serves on the Advisory Board for the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project and acted as an advisor on the Bullock Museum's exhibit on the Plan de San Diego. He toured the exhibit at the Bullock Museum with me and explained the importance of each of the museum displays in the context of the Plan de San Diego. This information helped me prioritize the information in my paper.

Suarez, Grace. 2010. "Grace Suarez Oral History." Porcion and Oral History Project. Unpublished Manuscript. Community Historical Archaeology Project With Schools. University of Texas Pan American.

Grace Suarez grew up in Sharyland Plantation in Mission, Texas. She explained how the Shary Fanns developed in the Rio Grande Valley, changing the area from ranching to fanning. By 1924 there were over two million citrus trees in the Valley. I used this information to discuss some of the Anglo immigrants who came to South Texas in the early 1900s.

Theses

Elliot Gordon Young, "Twilight on the Texas-Mexico Border: Catarina Garza and Identity at the Crossroads, 1880-1915." Thesis (Ph. D.)--University of Texas at Austin, 1997.

This dissertation focuses on the life of Catarino Garza and explains that he became a symbol of resistance in South Texas. Anglo injustice caused him to recruit a small army in Texas which raided a village in Mexico. He wanted to inspire a major rebellion against Porfirio Diaz in Mexico. I used information from this dissertation to show how Catarina Garza became a symbol of resistance to Tejanos in South Texas.

Johnson, Benjamin Heber. "Sedition and Citizenship in South Texas, 1900-1930." Thesis (Ph.D.) – Yale University, 2000.

This dissertation goes into extensive details about the Plan de San Diego and its leaders. I emailed Ben Johnson for information about the plan, and he was kind enough to send his whole dissertation. I used several sections in my research, particularly those about the Texas Rangers and the Plan de San Diego raids. This dissertation helped me with the timeline for my paper as well and led me to several invaluable resources at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in Austin, Texas.

Books

Anders, Evan. *Boss Rule in South Texas*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1987.

This book covers the history of James B. Wells, Archer Parr, Manuel Guerra and John Nance Gamer and the political machines they controlled during the first half of the twentieth century in South Texas. This book helped me understand how county bosses controlled all of the politics and ran the counties. Most of the bosses were Anglo, but Tejanos played an important role in the machine by bringing in the votes for the candidates that the political bosses wanted in office. I used this information to show the roles Anglos and Tejanos played in politics in South Texas at the time of the Plan de San Diego revolt.

DeLeon, Arnoldo, ed. *War Along the Border: The Mexican Revolution and Tejano Communities*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012.

This book contains articles written by scholars on Mexican American history in South Texas. It helped me understand how the Mexican Revolution affected Tejano communities in South Texas, especially the people who came across the border to recruit support. I used information from this source to explain what was happening in leadership in Mexico and the United States and how the chaos for power in Mexico created rebels who then affected Texas.

Foley, Neil. *The White Scourge: Mexicans, Blacks and Poor Whites in Texas Cotton Culture*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987.

When I met with Dr. Foley, he suggested this book for information on how Mexican immigration was viewed before and after the Plan de San Diego. I used information from his book to discuss how Mexican immigrants were viewed as a result of the Plan de San Diego raids.

Harris, Charles H., and Louis R. Sadler. *The Plan De San Diego: Tejano Rebellion, Mexican Intrigue*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2013.

This book covers The Plan de San Diego from the perspective that Mexican President Venustiano Carranza was the person behind its design. It explained that the rebels had a flag that represented equality and independence and called their army the Liberating Army for Races and Peoples. They wanted to reclaim all of the territory Mexico had lost in 1814 and create a Hispanic Republic. It also included Negroes, Indians, and other groups, not just Mexicans. I used information from this book to cover the basic history of The Plan and to show its impact on South Texas.

--- --. *The Texas Rangers and the Mexican Revolution, the Bloodiest Decade, 1910-1920*. Albuquerque: The University of New Mexico Press, 2004.

This book covers the history of South Texas between 1910 and 1920. Their coverage of "The Plan de San Diego" helped explain how the violence during the Mexican Revolution inspired the plan. They also presented evidence to show that Mexican President Venustiano Carranza created the plan of violence along the border so he could attract the attention of U.S. President Woodrow Wilson. I used information from this book to explain what occurred when Mexicans and Tejanos in South Texas encountered the Texas Rangers as a result of the Plan.

Hart, John M. *Revolution in Mexico: The Coming and Process of the Mexican Revolution*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987.

John Hart used sources from Mexican archives to write a newer version of the Mexican Revolution. This book helped me understand why Mexicans were dissatisfied with dictator Porfirio Diaz. His arrangement with the United States gave American businesses priority over Mexican interests. This caused anti-American sentiment among Mexicans who wanted land returned to Mexican citizens. I used this information to give a brief

summary of the Mexican Revolution since it inspired revolution in Texas, and many Mexicans supported or joined Plan de San Diego bandits.

Hinojosa, Gilberta M. *Borderlands Town in Transition: Laredo, 1755-1870*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1983.

This book mainly covers the city of Laredo, Texas, but it does compare Laredo to other communities which helped me understand the relationship between Anglos and Mexicans prior to the Mexican Revolution. I used information from this book to explain Anglo-Mexican relations before the Mexican Revolution and The Plan de San Diego.

Johnson, Benjamin Heber. *Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans into Americans*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

This book covers the violence in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas during 1914 and 1915. He explained that violence that occurred upset the racial, social, political, and economic relationship between Anglos and Mexicans that had established a peaceful atmosphere up until the 1900s. It helped me understand that encountering the railroad and irrigation significantly changed the area and created a powder keg that *sediciosos* used to attack Anglos. The response was the creation of a special unit of Texas Rangers who killed all Mexicans they "suspected" of being bandits. I used information from this book to show the encounters between bandits and Anglos and the response from the Rangers.

Montejano, David. *Anglos and Mexicans in the Making of Texas, 1836 — 1986*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1987.

This book covers the relationship between Anglos and Mexicans from the time Texas became a state. I used information from the early periods to understand the peaceful interaction between the groups and then the chaos that occurred during the Mexican Revolution that changed that relationship. The part that covered commercial fanning helped me understand how the encounters between new Anglos and Mexican changed, creating a Mexican labor force. I also learned that after the border wars, Mexicans in Texas faced discrimination, and used some of those issues in my conclusion to show the impact that The Plan had on Tejanos.

Sandos, James A. *Rebellion in the Borderlands*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992.

This book covers the social and political unrest on the border between the United States and Mexico at the beginning of the twentieth century. It helped me understand what caused the Mexican Revolution and why that affected South Texas. I also learned about the Flores Magon brothers who were anarchists and published articles that incited revolution and helped recruit Mexicans and Tejanos to join that revolution. I used information from this book to discuss some of the raids that occurred in South Texas because of The Plan de San Diego.

Articles

Boardman, Mark. "No Quarter: The Texas Rangers vs. Mexican Insurgents, 1915-1919.'. *True West History of the Frontier*. January 1, 2006. <http://www.truewestmagazine.com/no-quarter/>. (Accessed December 28, 2015).

This is an article about The Plan de San Diego and the bandit raids carried out by leaders Augustin de la Garza and Luis de la Rosa. ■ used a photo from this article in my appendix to show Luis de la Garza.

Bruscino, Thomas A., Jr., Ph.D. "A Troubled Past: The Army and Security on the Mexican Border, 1915-1917." *Military Review*, July-August 2008, 35.

Thomas Bruscino, Jr. is an assistant professor of military history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College School of Advanced Military Studies. This article gives an overview of The Plan de San Diego, but it also explains the U.S. Army's involvement in South Texas at the time. ■ used information from this article to discuss General Frederick Funston's role in South Texas during the time and to explain that the chaos in Texas led to 85% of U.S. federal troops being stationed along the border in 1916.

Coerver, Don M. "Plan of San Diego." *Handbook of Texas Online*. <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ngp04>. (Accessed September 8, 2015). Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

This article gives an overview of the three versions of The Plan de San Diego. It helped me understand how the plan progressed. ■ used information from this article to discuss the race war that developed between Anglos and Mexicans because of the raids that this plan inspired.

Cumberland, Charles C. "Border Raids in the Lower Rio Grande Valley – 1915." Vol. 57. *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*. July 1953 – April 1954.

This article covers part of the General Pershing expedition into Mexico, but it also had a section on the raids carried out because of The Plan de San Diego. ■ used information from that section to discuss the impact that the raids had on South Texas. Four of the counties involved in the raids lost thousands of residents because of the killings and destruction of property.

Fort, Tom A. "MostHistory History Series, Part 6: The Plan de San Diego I, Rebellion on the Rio Grande." *The Monitor*. *The Monitor*, September 7, 2013. *Museum of South Texas History*. http://www.themonitor.com/life/valley_life/mosthistory-series-part-the-plan-de-san-diego-i-rebellionarticle_c48ac4a8-1981-11e3-b062001a4bcf6878.html?rmode=story. (Accessed January 15, 2016).

This is an article that covers the events surrounding the arrest of Basilio Ramos and discovery of The Plan de San Diego. I used one of the photos in this article in my appendix to show a handbill printed by rebels to recruit followers for the plan.

Smith, Roland Hinojosa. "River of Blood: Texas Rangers Terrorize the Border." *Texas Monthly*. January 1986. <http://www.texasmonthly.com/articles/river-of-blood>. (Accessed September 15, 2015).

This is an article that covers the discovery of The Plan de San Diego and explains how Texas Rangers and vigilantes implemented terror tactics by in killing Mexicans and Tejanos during 1915 and 1916. I used information from this article to discuss the response from Anglos after they encountered the raids that were a result of The Plan.

Overfelt, Robert C. "Mexican Revolution." *Handbook of Texas Online*. <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/pqmhe>. Accessed September 3, 2015. Uploaded on March 8, 2015. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

This article explained how the Mexican Revolution created revolutionaries like the Flores Magan brothers who came to Texas to publish their anarchist newspapers and pamphlets. I used this information to explain how rebels from Mexico influenced South Texas during The Plan of San Diego.

DVD

Border Bandits. Dir. Kirby F. Warnock. Trans-Pecos Productions, 2004.

This video contruns interviews with descendants of Jesus Bazan and Antonio Longoria, just two of the many Mexicans and Tejanos who were killed by Texas Rangers during the wars along the border. Professors and historians also explained the interaction between Anglos, Mexicans and Tejanos during that time period. I used information from this DVD to explain how the demographics of South Texas changed during the early 1900s and how that and the Mexican Revolution shaped the relations between Anglos and Mexicans.