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Don Bailey, Editor

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**Estado de Guerrero, Intervención  
 Francesa, G D-196  
 40mm., gold and silver  
 For fighting against the French  
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## VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

## GUERRERO CAMPO MORADO 50 CT.

Joe Flores, C-2

At times it seems that I am about to run out of coins or new finds that I can write about. I go to my collection to see what I may have overlooked, that would be of interest to the members, and noteworthy enough to report here. The coin that I found to be a good example, it is a Campo Morado 50 Centavos coin from the state of Guerrero.

I have owned this coin for sometime, and I hope that you will take note of the pedigree and rarity of this coin. This coin was purchased from the Richard Long Auction #72, lot #61, in 1994. This was the collection of my great friend Cecil (Woody) Woodworth, (deceased), my co-author of the book "*LA VENTANA*", by Woodworth and Flores, 1987. This coin had previously been in the collections of Sr. Laquette and then Sr. Manuel Ferraez, collectors of past years.

It is a true brockage coin with obverse die of G.B. #159, Guthrie and Bothamley die 111 obverse side with regular strike. Reverse is same eagle but incuse as in photo. A truly rare coin that I believe to be unique.

For those who do not understand how this occurred, this coin was struck on a new blank (planchet) while the coin struck previously was still in the collar. Hence one side is incuse.

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OBVERSE

REVERSE  
(incuse)

## 1911 Cruz del Plan de Ayala

G D-354, 52mm., enameled metal



On a gilt laurel wreath is a seven-armed single pointed cross. On the red-enameled medallion is a bust of Emiliano Zapata to the left front. Around the medallion the inscription in a blue-enameled band.

Reverse, on the blue-enamelled medallion Are two cannons and a sheaf of grain. This was worn suspended from around the neck by a green, white and green silk cord.



from the original text

**Front piece of the book  
Portrait of Maximilian**

# Maximilian

EMPEROR OF  
MEXICO

*Memoirs of his Private Secretary*

JOSÉ LUIS BLASIO

---

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPANISH

AND EDITED BY

ROBERT HAMMOND MURRAY

FOREWORD BY CARLETON BEALS

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NEW HAVEN  
YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1934

This forward is as it says, a transaction of the rare book, "*MAXIMILIANO ÍNTIMO El Emperador Maximiliano Y Su Corte, Memorias De Un Secretario Particular*" by José Luis Blásio. This was published in 1905 in Spanish by Librería De La Vda De C. Bouret of Paris and Mexico.

The autograph pictured in this article is from a 1905 edition and in the personal collection of your editor.



In his memoirs Maximilian tells how he stood at the foot of the Royal Stairs of the Palace of Caserta and dreamed of unsheathing a golden sword to conquer a throne for himself. Not he but Marshals Forey and Bazaine at the head of the legionnaires of Napoleon III transitorily rolled a republic into the dust and placed the ambitious Hapsburg Arch- duke upon the cactus throne of Mexico.

Maximilian's early writings reveal an adolescent romantic mind, engrossed in petty happiness and false dreams of grandeur. A Liberal Catholic, a parliamentary monarchist, a sentimental rationalist, and his thoughts are shot through with borrowed French revolutionary sophistry. He presents us with a series of maxims on how the enlightened prince should govern, all of which he was to violate during his brief elevation to power—once more proving the philosophers may be kings but kings can rarely be philosophers. His brief rule in Mexico stands devastatingly condemned by his own youthful yardstick of idealism.

Maximilian and Carlota came to Mexico as sovereigns in 1864. They were disappointed at the squalor of Vera Cruz and the inadequacy of their reception. Their carriage became mired on the trip to the capital, and droll gossip has it that the first night there, the new Emperor slept on "a billiard table because of the "animation" of the palace bed.

But their spirits were soothed by the triumphant floral arches, the smart French cavalry escort of "red legs", and the Joyous "Te Deums" of the priests. Blithely Maximilian sat down on the Mexican volcano to write or have written a 600-page book of court etiquette. When still in Miramar, his Adriatic palace, even before he had accepted the throne, the youthful Archduke had sent off to Paris and London for samples of cloth and buttons for the liveries of his servitors. He promenade through the following three years in a daze of glory, difficulties, self- righteous statesmanship, and glittering illusions.

The ephemeral empire setup for them by Napoleon collapsed in 1867. On the bright sunny morning of June 19 Maximilian fell before a firing squad on the Hill of Bells in Querétaro; Carlota had already gone raving mad in the Vatican and lingered on, insane until her death in 1926. Napoleon's prestige was shattered. France was left disgraced, weakened; soon after, the country got a taste of what had been done to Mexico when the Prussian military heel was ground into its prostrate neck. But the Paris commune paid an unconscious debt to Mexico when it put the Swiss banker Jecker, whose intriguing had done so much to promote intervention in Mexico, against the executioner's wall. Blood-soaked Mexico itself was sunk in financial, economic, and political ruins. Maximilian's empire was built on blood, sand and childish folly.

Strangely enough the best first-hand account of the intimate life of Maximilian that by his-private secretary José Luis Blásio, was not published until 1905. Unavailable to earlier historians, it has been little utilized even by later students. A rare book, even in Spanish, until the present translation and editing by Robert Hammond Murray, it has never appeared in any other language.

The only similar personal document is that of Dr. Samuel Basch, the Emperor's surgeon for less than the bibliography of that tragic drama is staggeringly voluminous. If every



soldier of Napoleon I carried a marshal's baton in his knapsack, apparently every literate soldier of Napoleon III carried an unpublished manuscript of memoirs. One Gallic critic declared that the French soldiers covered six thousand leagues, but brought back only the dust on their boots; certainly to judge by most of the accounts they wrote, they brought back little in their heads. Those copious contemporary records swelled into a flood of secondary works, particularly in French, German, and Spanish. But the first comprehensive study had to wait until 1928 when Count Corti brought out his excellent two-volume work.

a year. He is constantly cited, probably because his book was published immediately after Maximilian's execution when public interest in the imperial adventure was general throughout Europe.

But Blásio is a far more important source than Basch; Blasio became the Emperor's secretary a few months after the arrival of the sovereigns. He was an eyewitness of their triumphal entry into the capital; he portrays vividly the kaleidoscopic scenes that followed. Much favored, he scarcely left the Emperor's side from early morning until late at night; he accompanied him on all his junkets; he was present at nearly every state banquet as well as more intimate suppers. He was with the Emperor as the regime began to disintegrate under the blows of the Juárez armies and Napoleon III's betrayal.

Sent in 1866 on a special commission to Miramar, Blásio traveled to Rome with Carlota, who had frantically and fruitlessly hurried from Mexico to Paris to seek aid from Napoleon and then entreated it from the Vatican as a final desperate and vain resort. Graphically Blásio describes the accumulating disquieting symptoms, her growing persecution complex, which culminated in stark madness in the presence of the Pope.

Blásio hastened back to Mexico in time to endure the prolonged Querétaro siege with its black days of starvation, treachery, and disillusionment. To him and Basch the Emperor entrusted his most intimate personal papers to be burned.

After the execution, Blásio went back to Europe to carry out several thankless commissions from the dead monarch, saw his brother, Emperor Franz Joseph, his mother and other relatives and peered sadly through the iron fence at the demented Carlota pacing under the trees of the Chateau of Laeken, near Brussels.

He did not whip his notes into final book form until thirty years ago. Its publication went practically unnoticed. The author, like most of Maximilian's followers, had already, fallen on miserable days. He died in poverty and neglect in 1923 in a suburb of Mexico City.

His book covers the intimate side of Maximilian's life in Mexico; he had an inside view of all the most dramatic occurrences from the days of glittering prosperity to inevitable collapse. In the appendix Mr. Murray has wisely included those parts of the memoirs of the American circus rider, Princess Salm-Salm, which detail her efforts to free Maximilian from his prison in Querétaro by bribing his custodians. Legend is that she offered more intimate and interesting gages than money, which last, alas, neither she nor



Maximilian had. The account by the dashing unprincipled lady fills a brief gap in Blásio's story with an equally vivid first-hand chronicle.

Blásio is a gossipy raconteur. He tells of the clothes the Emperor and Empress wore, the dishes they ate, the wines they drank, the people they met. Wholly worshipful of the sovereign, Blásio found no detail too simple to record. This very Boswellian naiveté and lack of critical comprehension enhance the value of his observations

Not only does the book cover Maximilian's rule in Mexico, but also it completes the psychological record that Maximilian left broken when he turned from memoirs to action and attempted to put the dreams and maxims of his youth into practice. Blásio's excellent powers of observation, his earnest desire to portray faithfully, illuminate those personal motives and abilities, which so influenced the historical events. The emperor's gaiety, spontaneous and forced, his petty vanities, his noble and generous impulses, his flashes of cowardice and courage, his rationalism and his superstitions, his weaknesses and stubbornness, his secret love-affairs, his kindness, his genial snobbery, his pampered self-indulgences and bursts of martial energy - all the rainbow visions of his soap-bubble world are there, from the days when he shivered from the upland chill in his dismal overheated palace apartments to the days when he galloped over the plains with aching heart and mortal fears. Now he goes gaily off to Cuernavaca behind his twelve spanking show-white mules, light-hearted as a child on a holiday.

Now, according to another chronicler he is weeping in the Chapultepec gardens, still very much a child, in the midst of the crumbling ruins of his dreams. And finally, too late, desperate over the fate of Carlota, trapped in an impossible situation, he bravely seizes the golden sword in a last foolish attempt to save his throne.

Maximilian is one of the greatest protagonists of historical pathos, and Blásio's account is a very human document; it reveals a weak man sustained by a constant sense of nobility and self-righteousness.

Maximilian never knew much about Mexico, never learned enough Spanish fully to understand his inquisitors during hearings outside the court at Querétaro for the trial that spelled his doom and which he was too ill to attend. But he was sincere and had wished to do well by his chosen fatherland; on his death he prayed that his might be the last blood spilled in Mexico. Vain hope.

Maximilian was a lamb among wolves. He was constantly wounded by the brusque realism and cynical crookedness of Marshal Bazaine, and the harsh determination of Napoleon to make Mexico pay through the nose on the French debt. An enlightened Catholic, he was horrified at the narrow bigotry and greed of Archbishop Labastida and other Mexican prelates. He was equally horrified at the bloodthirstiness and predaciousness of his Mexican generals and cabinet members. He was shocked by the harsh treatment of the Indians and the universal denial of all the customary rights of man as he had learned them in his copious readings of French revolutionary thought. Maximilian's academic loftiness of purpose and his vacillations brought about a break with the French;



he broke with Napoleon; he broke with the Church; he broke with the Mexican Conservatives. His one unshakable idealism and honesty caused him to fall into the abyss between all parties, so that those who remained by his side, with the exception of Miramón and the Indian Catholic Mejía were mostly cheap adventurers, avaricious self-seekers, petty plotters, and traitors.

Maximilian and Juárez were the noblest characters' in the whole sordid mess of the intervention. Vaguely, even in his overweening self-superiority, Maximilian realized that the man he had come to depose and whose doctrines as set forth to him in Europe had seemed so iniquitous, was the key to the situation, though he never once had an inkling of the real driving genius of his Indian opponent or the inevitableness of the principles he espoused. He even indulged in the pipe-dream of an alliance with Juárez, the latter in a subordinate role of course, and engagingly sent him his autographed picture; but when the doughty Republican Indian scornfully repulsed his advances, Maximilian's childish spleen caused him to bow to Bazaine's suggestion that he sign the "Black Decree" which condemned every captured Mexican patriot to death and yet before the end of his rule - and this has been ignored by historians - he had embodied in his decree practically all the Juárez religious reforms he had come to oppose: such was the tide of new ideas and political forces upon which he was inevitably carried.

But he never really woke from his dreams. Even in the dark hour of his doom, trapped in the Querétaro death hole like a rat, he spent time in revising the rules of court etiquette; he asked the bloody and treacherous General Márquez (who broke through the iron ring of Republican besiegers) to bring back with him, besides reinforcements, piano sheet music and other fripperies. Márquez never returned.

If precisely all these details are not found in Blásio, others equally amusing, significant, and intimate give us the clue to the greatest of nineteenth-century Don Quixotes. Besides Maximilian, other important and fantastic characters flash through the pages, all those who worked and strutted, plotted and played in the tinsel, meretricious and fleeting radiance of the marionette Emperor's court. What a puppet show it was!

How well Blásio depicts it, while all the time - even to the belated day of the publishing of his memoirs nearly four decades later he mused over and relived his role on the painted stage that he believed firmly was real; even then he seems still to have been unable to understand that gigantic failure.

The historical value of Blásio's account is obvious and thanks and credit re due Mr. Murray for rescuing it from undeserved oblivion and presenting it to us in his graphic and admirable translation, with appendix and notes. But as the one star in Blásio's firmament is Maximilian, and the chronicler is too dazzled to see anything else, the complicated financial, economic, political forces involved are not delineated. For the basic motives of the intervention, the reasons for the failure of the Empire, the dire consequences of that madcap adventure both to France and to Mexico, one must look elsewhere.

Among other things, the intervention was a definite attempt to test the strength of the Monroe Doctrine. Napoleon III was determined to revindicate Europe's right to meddle in New World affairs, and he seized the most opportune moment for such a test - the years when our Union was wholly absorbed in the life and death struggle of the Civil War.



Napoleon, who clearly foresaw the great future strength and prosperity of the United States unless our development were curbed and our Latin American markets withheld from us, gave secret instructions to Forey and other representatives to oppose us at every step, to put up a bar to our further commercial and political expansion. He not only desired a well-situated foothold for France in the New World, but hoped that the setting up of a petty French Manchukuo in Mexico would strike a mortal blow at the further spread of democratic and republican principles.

Napoleon failed. Seward's ultimatums for immediate withdrawal of French troops, and later Juárez implacability with regard to Maximilian's execution wrote finis upon any attempted repetition of such an adventure. Napoleon's blunder strengthened the sovereignty of the Latin American states and promoted faith in popular government everywhere.

The French intervention is also very valuable as a case study of financial imperialism: the use of armed intervention to help international bankers collect debts and obtain unworthy concessions. Our past coercions in Cuba, Nicaragua, Colombia, Panama, and elsewhere had their prototype in the Napoleonic intervention - especially in its financial aspects - save that the French were greedier, more ruthless, far more unrealistic. But three quarters of a century ago the French proclamations stressed the same catchwords of sanitation, law and order, and efficiency. If Marshal Forey could not, being a representative of an imperial sovereign, stress democracy, he did emphasize the popular benefits of military paternalism. All the wordy French manifestoes to the Mexican people portrayed France as the embodiment of "The ideals of the enlightened nineteenth century" - a phrase that echoes and reechoes above the din of brutal battle and the dull roll of musketry shooting prisoners against deep-gouged blood-splattered adobe walls.

In reality those gilt-edge phrases hypocritically concealed the brutal ultimatum sent to Juárez to meet immediately all the French claims in full. Claims, which expanded with tropical exuberance to astonishing proportions. Such righteous phrasology concealed Jecker's spider-like machinations in conjunction with the Duc de Morny (a bastard brother of Napoleon), a force in French politics and at court. Mexican securities were liberally distributed among an influential court clique; and De Morny's close friend, Saligny, French Minister in Mexico (also personally involved in these shady financial deals), vigorously harassed the Juárez government with petty claims of allegedly injured Frenchmen, some of whom, it was later proven, did not even exist. Jecker and his group of Bourse gamblers sought to reward themselves at Mexico's expense and hoped for future windfalls in the subsequent financing of the new puppet state - all the eternal cynicism of private high finance in international affairs was in evidence, with the same willingness to grasp profits by war, blood-shed and national betrayal, while politicians and army officers enunciate lofty purposes.

The story is all there: the corruption of high French government officials, the wangling of concessions, the false padding of debts, the insistence upon improper claims. Indeed, the account reads far worse, far more luridly than the four-volume report of the fairly recent Senate investigation of our own foreign loans.



The most casual perusal of the Mexican year book of the time would have told the French that they would never collect from the Mexican people, though they seized the entire Mexican revenues for decades, even the interest on their fantastic claims, let alone any of the principal. What happened, of course, as usually happens in such imperialistic adventures, was that Mexico was ruined and the French people themselves paid heavily in order that a small clique of court favorites and bankers might make hay while the sun shone. Bankers and politicians had their old worthless obligations made good by new loans totaling hundreds of millions of francs foisted upon the gullible French public, dazzled by the idea of brilliant conquest and the supposed honesty of their financial leaders supported by court friendship.

The third interventionist motive was religion. The Mexican constitution of 1857 destroyed medieval Church privileges, subjected priests to the civil law, separated Church and State, secularized cemeteries, provided for civil registry, confiscated Church' properties, suppressed monasteries. This and Juárez's 1859 Reform Laws aroused great hostility among the Catholic powers of Europe. The Conservative pro-Church Mexican *emigrés* swarmed about the various courts and the Pope; they even pulled wires in England. They found sympathetic ears, in Catholic Spain and Austria; they were amiably received by Princess Eugénie who wept over the sufferings of the Church in Mexico as recounted to her by fat Archbishop Labastida; and José Hidalgo, one of the most active conspirators, found access to the ear of Napoleon through the boudoirs of Eugénie and the Queen Mother. The Catholic powers were determined to stamp out Mexican Jacobinism and republicanism and restore all religious feudal rights.

Thus religion, profit, high finance, and imperial ambition locked arms to set up the monarchy in Mexico with foreign bayonets, aided, it must be noted, by Mexicans themselves, who for years had sought and entreated the intervention. When it came, even many supposedly staunch Republicans stampeded traitorously to climb on the imperial bandwagon and help betray the fatherland.

Mexico had begun its independence with a Catholic Emperor, the renegade royalist, Augustin Iturbide. But he was soon swept aside by the ambitious independence generals, mouthing principles of democracy and republicanism. Though the antecedents of the Church struggle go far back into the colonial period, independence accelerated the effort to bring about the Church-State separation and other religious reforms. The first important "Liberal" victory came with the 1833 Gómez Farías Laws. But this anti-clerical tendency was soon smothered by conservative pro-monarchist forces. From then on, the tide of civil war (its purposes ever obscured by the fantastic volatile personality of the one-legged opportunist, Santa Ana) swept higher, until the victory of Juan Alvarez and Ignacio Comonfort. The resultant 1857 Reform constitution and the 1859 Reform Laws provided the nation's legal basis - save for the short-lived governments of Zuloaga, Miramón, and Maximilian, until the 1917 Querétaro constitution.

When Juárez suspended payment on the Mexican foreign debt, held by British, French, and Spanish interests, a pretext for intervention was provided. Through the cajoleries of Napoleon and the Mexican *emigrés*, a convention was signed in London in 1861, by which the three injured countries pledged themselves to support an armed attempt to



force the Mexican government to meet its obligations. Though not signatories, Belgium and Austria promised aid.

Spain hastened to send the first expedition, a larger contingent than the one stipulated in the agreement, and was already in possession of Vera Cruz when the French and British forces arrived. The leaders of the three expeditions soon quarreled. England wished only her money and had no sympathy with the monarchical intrigues of Spain and France. Spain wished to impose on Mexico a Bourbon or one allied to that house; Napoleon desired a ruler chosen and controlled by him. His personal representative, General Lorencez, acted in a high-handed independent fashion; the French hastened to send over a force which would outnumber that of Spain.

British statesmen soon wormed out of the trap Napoleon had set for them; the British forces sailed away. When Napoleon's purpose to throw a large army into Mexico became increasingly apparent, the Spanish also withdrew. Soon after, England and Spain signed a satisfactory treaty with Juarez. Napoleon now had a free hand to act alone.

Lorencez, not at all realizing he was dealing with veterans of years of civil warfare, had utter contempt for Mexican courage and equipment. At the gates of Puebla he hurled his 5,000 troops against the hill-perched battlements of the forts of Guadalupe and Loreto - a stupid Bunker Hill tactic. His forces cut to pieces and utterly routed, he fled back to Orizaba. With more initiative the Mexicans could easily have completely annihilated the entire French expedition.

Lorencez's terrible reverse was the first grave blow to Napoleon's prestige. French national pride was aroused; the Emperor was obliged to remove the blot of defeat from the Empire's escutcheon. It took the French a year to get their feet under them and begin a real advance into the interior. By then 25,000 more troops were ashore at Vera Cruz, commanded by General Forey, a French politician who issued proclamations so copiously that he had to be reprimanded by Napoleon. Even so it required two months of terrific siege and bloody fighting to overpower the courageous defenders of Puebla.

With its fall, the road to Mexico City was open. Juárez removed his government to Querétaro, then was driven from pillar to post, and finally pushed to the border. But using what is now Ciudad Juarez as a base, the Republicans gradually reconquered their count with the puissant aid of the United States.

The French had established a provisional government of thirty-five Notables hand picked by intriguing French Minister Saligny, a bloc to be the nucleus of an Assembly of 215 members, theoretically representing the whole people of Mexico. Many were so shabby they had to be provided with clothes by the French army. An Oaxaca newspaper observed that of the delegates "representing" that state, only one had ever been heard of before. The Notables promptly leapt through the tissue loop. They decreed the adoption of a constitutional monarchy and decided to offer the crown of Emperor to Archduke Maximilian, brother of Franz Joseph, or if he declined to some other Catholic prince. A provisional government was vested in the triumvirate of General Almonte, General Salas, and Archbishop Labastida. A commission proceeded to Miramar to offer Maximilian the throne in the name of the "Notables."

Carlota was dazzled by the prospect. But eager as was Maximilian, although he was chafing in idleness and thought he wanted a job and a throne, he hesitated; he demanded adequate financial and military support from France and a plebiscite. The French army proceeded to collect the votes. How quickly it learned to imitate the system that largely endures to this day for the inducting of so-called democratic presidents into office! Puppet officials imposed upon subjugated regions merely sent in word under due seal and flourish that so many people in their jurisdiction had voted for Maximilian. One voting place was actually set up in Mexico City, and every passer-by was rounded up by attendant soldiers and forced to sign his acquiescence. The "returns" gave Maximilian an over-whelming majority. There is no reason to disbelieve that, in his ingenuousness and complete ignorance of what was going on in Mexico, he really imagined that the Mexican people had "voted" him the crown. With due ceremony the Mexican flag was run up over Miramar castle. Maximilian and Carlota set forth for Rome to receive the blessing of the Pope, and then sailed for Mexico - in the same Austrian cruiser that later bore the Emperor's bullet-riddled body back to Europe. We next see them passing under a triumphal arch to enter Mexico City.

At this point the curtain rings up on the second act of the Tragedy. From hereon Blásio's book carries us to the grim and sanguinary finale.

CARLETON BEALS

Jose Luis Blásio's

Autograph of

July 1, 1905

*Señor don Maximiliano*  
*Hecho es con satisfacción*  
*la parte central y definitiva de*  
*esta gran obra por la que*  
*se ha logrado la realización de*  
*proyectos de gran importancia*  
*para la nación y para*  
*la humanidad.*  
*Quedan depositados los derechos conforme a la ley.*  
*El depositario por los presentes*  
*tiene el honor de*  
*atenderle con*  
*la mayor atención.*  
*Atte. don*  
*Jose Luis Blásio*



**The Specimen Issues of  
The Cananea Consolidated Copper Co., S.A. Cananea, Mexico**  
By Elmer Powell, R-438

At the beginning of a symphony the piccolo sounds softly in the background inviting the other instruments to join the melody. The workers in the mines must have been like the piccolo as they slowly began to speak out for improved working conditions and unite into a labor front that resulted in Cananea's historic labor strike in the Mexican State of Sonora of June 1, 1906. The melody played on long after the strike was over and along with the piccolo ignited the spark that historians credit with starting the Mexican Revolution.

The Cananea Consolidated Copper Co., like many mining companies of the period, created in-house scrip or private issues to pay the miners that they could then use to purchase merchandise at the company store (tienda de raya). Specimens of the \$1, \$3, \$5, \$10 and remainders with no value listed, printed by the American Bank Note Company, have been discovered which are not listed in any catalog. A close inspection of the Specimens reveals values printed across the top and bottom of the note so that merchandise purchased could be marked off until the card was used up. The \$1 scrip has red printing on a cream card and the \$3 brown, \$5 green and \$10 purple printing. It is believed that the scrip was first used in the early 1900's as dated proofs listed in Simon C. Prendergast manuscript entitled "*The Private Issues of Sonora*" from June 1902 and January 1903 are the only other notes to have survived from this period. The Complete *Encyclopedia of Mexican Paper Money* by Verrey, Douglas and Hernandez does list a post Revolution issue PT -SON-1 dated 1.2.1930 but listed as the Cananea Consolidated Copper Co., S.A./ Cia. Bancaria Mercantil de Cananea, S.A.

Following the Mexican Revolution in 1917 the Cananea Consolidated Copper Company was acquired by the Anaconda Company and later in 1971 sold its 51 % controlling interest of Compania Mineral de Cananea, S.A to Mexican Government agencies. This concluded the Mexicanization process required by the government legislation enacted in 1961.

If one still listens in the night breeze the soft piercing sound of the piccolo can still be heard playing a melody that must be singing "Viva la Revolution".

Elmer Powell, R-438

Dallas, Texas 8/26/05









POST CARD - CARTE POSTALE

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ADDRESS FOR RETURN



Pancho Villa Collection

West Texas Collection

# Pancho Villa Collection

HOME

## The Williwood Meador Collection Pancho Villa and the Border Revolution



Williwood Meador

Williwood Bridwell Meador (1911-1985) spent much of her later years collecting the history of West Texas, in particular the history of Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution 1910-20. Mrs. Meador was born to William A. and Martha Ella Bridwell. She was educated in the Ballinger public schools and at North Texas State University. She taught school in Brady and San Angelo for a short time. In 1936 she married Cecil Meador, a long time rancher and oil man in Schleicher County. He died in 1980.

The collection was donated to Angelo State University's West Texas Collection in 1986 through the estate of Mrs. Meador's son, Joel Tom Meador.

All of the pictures on this page are available in a larger format. Just click on the image to view an expanded version.

### WARNING!

Some of the images are quite large and may load slowly if you are on a dial-up line.

The Williwood Meador Collection (twenty linear feet) consists of 121 monographic titles, unpublished manuscripts, periodicals, newspapers, posters, photographs, picture postcards, lantern slides, photocopied material, correspondence, audio tapes, sheet music and memorabilia.

The Meador Collection covers much of the life and activities of Pancho Villa (1878-1923).

Villa joined Francisco Madero's uprising against Porfirio Diaz. After the assassination of Madero in 1913, Villa formed a military group of several thousand men known as the famous Division del Norte (Division of the North).

As Governor of Chihuahua, Pancho Villa issued money. He placed pictures of his idols on the currency: Madero (left) and Abraham Gonzales (right).



5 peso bill



The Revolutionaries of Mexico were joined by American Soldiers of Fortune in their effort to combat the Federales. These included Sam Dreben, "the Fighting Jew," Tracy Richardson, and others.

Other players in the Revolution are also covered in the Collection: Alvaro Obregon, Victoriano Huerta, Porfirio Diaz, Francisco Madero, Venustiano Carranza and Emiliano Zapata.

## Pancho Villa Collection



**Zapata Recruitment Poster**  
[translated from Spanish]

**MY LAND AND LIBERTY!  
CIVIL WAR**

**Join the Constitutional Army of  
EMILIANO ZAPATA**

**MARRIED MEN**

Bring your wives to carry and cook food  
and to load guns

**SINGLE MEN**

Take any woman without a husband  
Uphold the Doctrines of Benito Juarez!  
**VIVA MEXICO!**

In response to Villa's raid on Columbus, NM, President Woodrow Wilson sent an expedition under General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing to either capture or kill Villa. Because of Villa's popularity, his knowledge of the terrain, and the dislike of Pershing's presence in Mexico, Pancho Villa was never found.

The Meador Collection contains 418 picture postcards of the United States military operations along the border, of Pershing's trek into Mexico, of the Mexican culture along the border and related items.

The postcards depict a changing America - troops arrived in covered wagons but were soon training in and among armored cars, airplanes, sophisticated intelligence gathering equipment and long range artillery guns. The frontier had given way to a more modern world.





The Meador Collection contains numerous original and copied photographs of early aviation along the border and first hand accounts of National Guard units.

Both Mrs. Meador and her son, Tom, were interested in every feature of the Border Revolution. They subscribed to a periodical known as "The Mexican Revolution Reporter," a publication of the Mexican Revolutionary Historical Society (REVMEX). Through this periodical they became friends with a fellow collector of Border Revolution materials, John O. Hardman of Warren, Ohio. Between the years of 1977-1985, the Meadors and Hardman shared information. The material received from Hardman was carefully numbered and kept in files along with all correspondence. This material has been kept in the same sequence and form as arranged by the Meadors.

## THE SMOKE SIGNAL



In addition to monographic materials, which are listed in the Porter Henderson Library Catalog, the Meador Collection includes manuscripts, periodicals, photocopied materials, newspapers and correspondence on the following topics:

American Diplomacy, American Media, American Sentiment, Anti-American Sentiment, Army Medals, Aviation, Bandits, Battles in Mexico, Big Bend of Texas, Border Conditions, Border Raids (Boquillas, TX, Brite's Ranch, TX, Columbus, NM, Glenn Springs, TX, Naco, AZ, Nevill Ranch, TX, Redford, TX), Cattle Ranching along the Border, Cavalry Units, Chinese in Mexico, Colonia Juarez, Eye Witness Accounts, U.S Military Forts, General Information on the Revolution, German Involvement, Immigration, Infantry Units,

## Pancho Villa Collection

International Boundary, IWW in Arizona, Mexican Currency, Mexican Leaders, Mining Companies along the Border, National Guard, Photography and Photographers, Plan de San Diego, Research Materials, Reyes Conspiracy, Soldiers of Fortune, Texas Rangers, U.S. Army, U.S. Government, War Materiel, Yaqui Indians.

In addition, similar types of material can be found on numerous individuals involved with the Revolution. The following is an abbreviated list of individuals: Baca, Elfego; Bierce, Ambrose; Boyd, Capt. Charles T.; Bulger, Col.; Bullard, Gen Robert L.; Bush, Dr. I.J.; Butler, Smedley; Dreben, Sam; Fierro, Rodolpho; Fletcher, Adm. Frank; Flipper, Lt. Henry O.; Foulois, Gen.; Fountain, Tom; Funston, Gen. Frederick; Garibaldi, Guiseppi; Garza, Catatino; Green, Bill; Hammer, Frank; Hoard, L. Roy (Papers); Holmdahl, Emil; Hughes, Capt. John R.; Kosterlitzky, Emilio; Lamb, Dean; Langhorne, Maj. George T.; Lewis, Isaac; Malone, James N.; Matlack, Capt.; Means, Evan; Mix, Tom; Morey, Capt. Lewis S.; Mossman, Burt; O'Shaughnessy, Edith; O'Reilly, Tex; Patton, Lt George S.; Pershing, Gen. John J.; Quinones, Gen. Jesus Jaime; Richardson, Tracy; Roberts, Sterling; Sanders, Capt. John J.; Scobee, Barry; Scott, Hugh Lenox; Scott, Winfield; Sitter, Joe; Sommerfeld, Felix; Viljoen, Gen. B.J.; Warren, Harry (Papers); Watson, Arthur Lee.

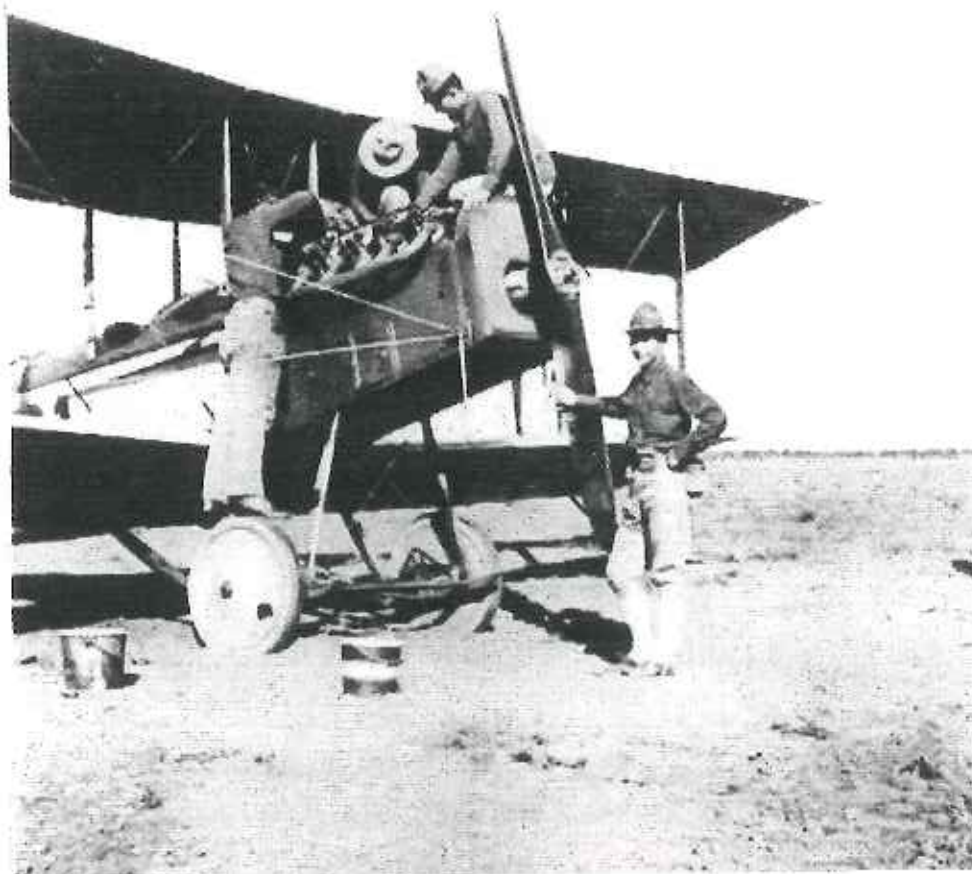


Last Revised: 05/18/99

Comments: Maurice G. Fortin, [Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu](mailto:Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu), Porter Henderson Library,  
or Web Oversight Committee, [Web.Oversight@angelo.edu](mailto:Web.Oversight@angelo.edu),  
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<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/wtxcoll/Pancho/pancho.htm>





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# ¡Viva Mexico!



Noviembre  
1913

We would like to thank the Angelo State University for permission to print the web site of the Pancho Villa Collection, contained in their West Texas Collection..





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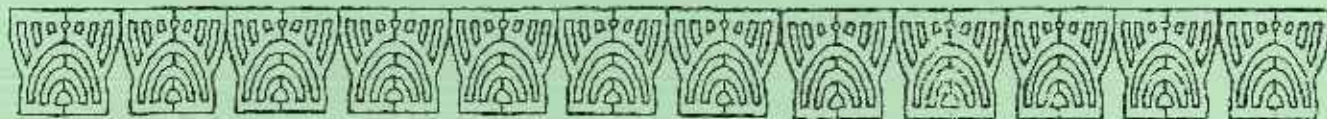
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