

In connection with his charges Mr. Canales introduced the following from the files of the Adjutant General's Department.

STATE RANGER FORCE

SEAL

J.M. Fox. Capt.

Company B

Marfa, Texas.

Marfa, Texas, Oct. 15th, 1917.

Hon. James A. Harley,
The Adjutant General,
Austin, Tex.

I am herewith replying to your request and giving you the names of Rangers, now in my company also their personal record as they came recommended and as I have found it since they have been under my jurisdiction.

I don't believe I quite understand just what you want but will give you the following as a starter.

Five men of this company have been with me for some time and I have found them alright in every respect. Have also men under recent enlistment, and of course will have to try them out before I can tell much about them, and if they don't turn out all O.K. of course will have to let them out, and will if they don't come up to the standard.

H.C. Trollinger has been with me since Oct. 1911, has been Sergeant about one year, and was an Officer about seven years before joining the Ranger Force. He is sober and honest

A.H. Woelber has been with me since Nov. 1915 he also had eight years of experience as a peace officer before enlisting and is sober and honest.

A.G. Beard has been with me since May 1916, he was raised at Austin, had no experience as an officer when he enlisted but has always made good and is both, sober and honest.

N.N. Fuller, a member of my company since May 1916, also inexperienced but has made good and is sober and honest.

H.C. Holden has been with me since May 1916, had no

out those were Caranza Soldiers, who had been sent up the
experience as a peace officer but has always made good and is
perfectly sober and honest. though they may be running yet. Ev-
everything These are the five men referred to in the beginning of
this statement. is placed pretty well squares now.

A. C. Barker and C.E. Vaughan both recently enlisted
but seen service in the Ranger Force. Barker was with me two
years and Vaughan served under Capt. Hughes four years, both
have a good record in every respect.

Bud Weaver, Frank Patterson, Max Newman, J.R. Bates,
and Ben L. Pennington, also recently enlisted but all had ex-
perience as peace officers, the first three came well recommen-
ded by the Sheriff of Kimble County, while Bates has been a
Deputy Sheriff here on this Border for years and Pennington a
Nephew of J.D. Jackson of Alpine also has served many years as
a Deputy Sheriff.

D. C. Ellison, Cecil Jackson, Allen Cole, J. F. Parker,
Leroy Cleaveland and Cecil Boyd and W.K. Duncan, all enlisted
during last month, have no officers experience but are well re-
commended and are Ranch and Cow man from the Border, well ac-
quainted with this country and most of them talk the Spanish
Language, which of course is a great advantage, and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Capt. J. M. Fox.

STATE RANGERS,

J. M. FOX. CAPT.

COMPANY B.

Marfa, Texas.

Marfa, Texas. November 7th, 1917.

General Harley,
Austin, Texas.

I have just returned from the river. The bandits run over 34
Caranza Soldiers. I did not know whether they were Carancistas
or Villaistas until I got down there. I was in hopes it was
the Bandits come over as we want quite a few of them, but found
out those were Caranzq Soldi-

out those were Caranza Soldiers, who had been sent up the river to be stationed there and run into this little bunch and they claim they lost 12 men though they may be running yet. Everything is quite except a few cattle and horses being stolen and I have got the places pretty well guarded now.

Respectfully yours,

Capt. J. M. Fox.

P.S. I will be in about the 12th or 13th. I want to have a talk with you.

February 18, 1918.

Hon. James A. Harley, The Adjutant General,
Austin, Texas.

My dear General:-

On January 29th, eight Rangers on a scout went into the town of Polvanier and began searching Mexican houses and found some ten or twelve Mexicans in these houses. They were carried out on the edge of the town and were being investigated as to who they were, when some of their comrades who were not in this bunch of Mexicans fired into the Rangers, the Rangers horses breaking loose and leaving them all on foot. They immediately lay down returning fire on all moving objects in front.

On the following morning Mr. Warren telegrapher Colonel Langhorne, who is in charge of the Big Bend District, stating that they had found fifteen dead Mexicans. That was the first information we had, or I had, as to how many Mexicans were killed.

Those Mexicans who were taken from the houses to be investigated had in their possession pocket knives, soap, and shoes that came out of Mr. Bright's Ranch of the raid made December the 25th.

One of the Mexicans that was found among those killed has sent word over to our side of the river some eight or ten months ago that they were going to make a raid on the Texas

"Gringos" and what they couldn't carry off with them, they would burn.

The Rangers never did know just how many were killed until Colonel Langhorne notified me the following morning at eleven o'clock when they called upon him to send soldiers to bury the dead Mexicans, which he did not do, and the Mexicans carried them across the river and buried them in Mexico.

The reason that we did not find out how many Mexicans were killed at that particular time was on account of the darkness, Mexicans being in wait for us and we were unable to see them.

Your Very Truly

Captain, Company B, Texas State Ranger Force.

HOUSTON CHRONICLE,
FEB. 8- 1918.

RANGERS ADMIT KILLINGS.

By Associated Press.

Marfa, Texas, Feb. 8.-Texas Rangers reported on January 31 that they had had trouble with a band of Mexicans at Porvenir, who were supposed to have been implicated in the Brite Ranch Raid. They admitted having killed 15 of the number, The bodies were taken across the Rio Grande to El Comidor and buried by their families and friends.

The United States army had nothing to do with the affair and no soldiers were near that place the night of the killings. Instead, a number of Mexicans sought and received protection from the military at Everette ranch, the military authorities here said.

TEMPLE TELEGRAM.

FEBRUARY 8, 1918.

INVESTIGATION TO FOLLOW KILLING OF 15 MEXICANS BY TEXAS RANGERS.

(Associated Press Dispatch)

El Paso, Texas., Feb. 7.- An investigation of the killing of fifteen Mexican citizens at Porvenir, Tex., forty miles north-

west of Presidio, Jan. 13, has been ordered by the State Department at Washington and is being made by the military stationed in the Big Bend district of Texas, where the killings occurred. This was asked for by Mexican Ambassador Ygnacio Bonillas. According to a report made Cosme Bengoeachea of Presidio, the fifteen men were taken from their homes by armed men and shot to death. The reason given was a suspicion that they had participated in the Brite ranch raid Christmas day. Details of the wholesale killing were sent direct to Washington and were only received by the Mexican Consulate here today.

Marfa, Tex., Feb 7- Texas Rangers reported on Jan. 13 that they had had trouble with a band of Mexicans at Porvenir, who were supposed to have been implicated in the Brite Ranch raid. They admitted having killed fifteen of the number. The bodies were taken across the Rio Grande to El Comidor and buried by their families and friends.

4 June, 1918.

Capt. J. M. Fox,
Co. B, T.R.F.,
Marfa, Texas.

My dear Captain:

General Harley directed me to forward you G.O.
No. 5, T.R.F.

The men who are discharged by this order will put in expense account covering expenses to the place where they were enlisted in the Ranger force.

You will be stationed at Austin.

Hoping to see you shortly, I remain.

Very sincerely yours,

Incl.

Major-Assistant Adjutant General.

COPY

HEADQUARTERS TEXAS RANGER FORCE.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Austin, Texas. June 4, 1918.

GENERAL ORDER. resignation as Captain in the Ranger Force has
No. 5. ed over to me and I hereby accept same.

1. Co. B. of the Texas Ranger Force will, on the
8 th day of June, A.D. 1918, be disbanded.

2. The services of the following men will not be
required further by the State:

A. C. Barker	Allen Cole
Max Newman	Boone Oliphant.
Bud Weaver.	

3. The following men will transfer to Co. D commanded
by Capt. Jerry Gray:

J.R. Bates	A. G. Beard
O.C. Dowe	N.N. Fuller
S.H. Neill	Frank Patterson.
A.H. Woelber	

4. Capt. Herry Gray will assume command of the Marfa
district with headquarters at Marfa.

BY ORDER OF GOVERNOR W.P. HOBBY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF

JAMES A. HARLEY, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, CHIEF OF STAFF.

OFFICIAL:

Walter F. Woodul,
Assistant Adjutant General.

TELEGRAM:

85
B7 DAKS 3 EX

Mingus, Texas, 1210 AM JUN 17 1918

MAJ WALTON WOOD

ADJ GNEI OFFICE AUSTIN TEXAS

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF RANGER FOX

W. P Hobby

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS.

715 A.M.

17 June, 1918.

Capt. W. M. Fox,
Marfa, Texas

My dear Captain:

Your resignation as Captain in the Ranger Force has been turned over to me and I hereby accept same.

Very truly yours,

Major--Acting the Adjutant General.

The report given out by the press wherein it was reported that Mexican citizens were killed without cause is being investigated by this Department, and a full and fair investigation will be made.

The matter so far discloses from the reports we have of the occurrence, that the Mexicans killed were not residents of Mexico, but were living on the American side of the river, that after the Brite Ranch Raid in which some of the good citizens from Mexico killed and murdered in cold blood peaceful, unoffending citizens of the State of Texas, for the purpose of looting and robbing a store, the Rangers following the trail of these bandits went to the town of Polvanier where these parties lived and found some of the loot that was taken from the Brite Ranch store. While they were searching for further stolen goods and quietly investigating parties in possession of stolen property, they were fired upon in the dark and returned the fires in self defense. The night was dark and they were not in position to know the casualties resulting of the pitched battle of that night.

Among those that were killed on that occasion was one who had sent word to the Rangers that sometime previously that they "were going to make a raid on Texas" Gringos" and what we can't carry off we will burn."

These are the facts as I have them in my possession, and am reliably informed that they were known to the Grand Jury of Presidio County, composed of as good citizens as any land on earth, and that they did not find it necessary to take any action for unlawful killings.

This Department is willing at all times to receive any

information as to unlawful acts of the Texas Rangers, and if they are found to be true the offending parties will be dismissed and punished. We are not keeping men on the border to murder and kill, but to prevent innocent people from being murdered and the property stolen and destroyed. Good Mexican Citizens of this State and of Mexico will receive our entire protection, and I assure them if they conduct themselves in a lawful manner the Texas Rangers will protect them as it is the policy of this Department to see that all good citizens are, not only unmolested, but protected. This is the purpose of our Ranger Force.

Marfa, Texas, June 11th,
1918 .

Governor Hobby:-

I herewith hand you my resignation to take effect today. I am resigning because you have seen fit to discharge five of my men for the killing of fifteen Mexican bandits on the 20th day of January, 1918. For if there was anything wrong about this matter of killing those Mexicans I was wholly to blame and I so told General Harley on the 30th of May, and that I was the one to be discharged if any one should be which he refused to do, and I then told him that if You discharged those men I would resign. Do you not think I would be an ingrate to send my men out on a duty and because they unfortunately had to kill any number of Mexican bandits to let them be discharged for the carrying out of my orders? You may be built in that way but I am not. I think more of my men and friends than any job I ever heard of. Why do you not come clean and say that this is purely politics just to gain some Mexican votes? The five men you have discharged are good men and were the best of officers, and I want to ask you and all State rangers how you expect to hold up the ranger force under such ruling as in this case. It hurts me to have my men treated in this manner. As to myself I care nothing because only a short while ago you sent a man to

investigate me as to whether or not I was for you for you for Governor or a Ferguson man, so you know that there is no use in trying to have me believe that this action was brought about by anything other than your political reasons. We have stood guard to prevent Mexican bandits from murdering the ranchmen, the women and children along this border while you slept on your feather bed of ease, and then to have my men discharged is too much for me. If there was any wrong done why not leave that for the courts of Presidio County to determine? From your wise view of justice you have found it prudent to try those men without evidence or jury. You may consider this my resignation.

Yours truly,
C O P Y. J.M. Fox.

STATE OF TEXAS
Adjutant General's Department.
Austin.

July 3, 1918.

Capt. J.M. Fox,
Marfa, Texas.

Dear Sir:--

Replying to your letter of June 11th, relative to your resignation in which you assail the Governor as playing politics, I take the liberty of answering, knowing, as you know, that the Governor had personally nothing to do with your resignation nor any politeness being in it.

The evidence disclosed, after a thorough investigation, as you knew, that fifteen Mexicans were killed while in the custody of your men after they had been arrested and disarmed. This is verified by all proof even to admission from the parties and information gathered by this office and by agents of the United States Government.

We are not interested in your political views when a question of the honor and decency of the State is involved. As this Department has announced heretofore, the trouble maker

Philip Castaneda

and lawless Ranger has no place on the border where international complications can be brought on that will involve our nation in trouble; that will hamper its progress in the war in Europe. You know, as all peace officers should know, that every man whether he be white or black, yellow or brown has the Constitutional right to a trial by Jury, and that he organized band operating under the laws of this State has the right to constitute itself judge and jury and executioner and shooting men upon provocation when they are helpless and disarmed. We are fighting a world war not to overthrow ruthless autocracy and do not propose to tolerate it here at home. You were not forced to resign by the Governor for political reasons, but your forced resignation came in the interest of humanity, decency, law and order, and I submit that now and hereafter the laws of the Constitution of this State must be superior to the autocratic will of any peace officer, and that vandalism across the border can best be suppressed by suppressing it on the Texas side first.

Very truly yours,

Brigadier General--The Adjutant General,
State of Texas.

IN RE OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE EL PORVENIR FIGHT,
OF January 28, 1918, in Presidio County,
T E X A S .

Index.

- C - - - - -
STATE OF TEXAS, }
County of Presidio, } SS.
Town of Candelaria, }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one
Grover C. Webb, a private of Troop "k", of the 8th U.S. Cavalry, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I served in the capacity of interpreter in obtaining affidavits from

Montoya Jaquez

Carrasco Gonzalez

Filipa Castaneda

Juana Florez
 Estefana Morales
 Alejandra Nieves
 Eulalia Hernandez
 Francisco Morales
 Masedonio Huerta

that the interpretation is correct to the best of my knowledge and believe.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

GROVER C. WEBB.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly,
 1st Lieut., Cavalry, N.A.,
 Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
 County of Presidio,)
 Candelaria.) SS

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Masedonio Huerta, wife of Masedonio Huerta, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That my husband and I with our family of four children have lived in Porvinir for one year and four months; That my husband was an American citizen; That about January 19, 1918, near midnight, three men came in my house, told my husband to get up and go with them; that they did not offer him violence in the house, and I did not know why they were taking him out; That about thirty minutes after they left my house I heard many guns being discharged; That the next morning I learned that my husband had been killed by being shot at a point very near my house. Other men of Porvinir were killed at the same time and place as my husband, which was around a little hill and about three minutes walk from my house. The day following this night in which my husband was killed I took my childred and went across

the river into Mexico. About January 21, 1918, Juan Mendez brought a paper across the river to where the families of the men who were killed were staying, and had us sign it. I do not know the contents of the paper, and heard several other women who signed it say that they did not know what it was. That to my best knowledge and belief there was no investigation made by the authorities of Mexico. That I was not asked anything concerning this affair by any representative of Mexico.

This has been interpreted to me, and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

MASEDONIO HUERTA .

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of March, 1918.

Hugh D. Chamberlan
2nd Lieut., Cavalry R.C.
Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
County of Presidio,) SS
Town of Candelaria,)

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, One Francisco Hernandez Morales, wife of Manuel Morales, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived in Porvinir, Texas, eight years; that on January 28, 1918, about midnight two Americans who were civilians with masks on their faces came into my house and took my husband out without offering him violence; that I did not recognize the Americans who came into my house; that I did not hear any guns fired; that about 10.00 A.M. January 29, 1918, I learned that my husband has been killed, and moved across the river to Mexico with my family; that this matter was not investigated by the authorities of Mexico; that this affidavit has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark
FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ MORALES.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly,
1st Lieut. Cavalry, N.A.,
Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
County of Presidio,) SS
Town of Candelaria. }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Librada Montoya Jaquez, wife of Tiburcio Jaquez, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived in Porvinir, Texas, three years; that about Midnight, January 28, 1918, four masked men in civilian clothes came into my house, made my husband get out of bed, and took him away, covering him with rifles; that after my husband was taken from the house I went out to go to a neighbor's, and saw four soldiers who ran away when they saw me; that I did not hear firing and did not know that my husband had been killed until just before sunup next morning; that I did not recognize any of the men who came into my house, nor any of the soldiers who I saw on the outside; that I was prevented by Mr. Harry Warren to go and view the remains of my husband; that I do not know how my husband was killed; that the day on which my husband's body was found I moved into Mexico with my family; that this affair has not been investigated by the authorities of Mexico to my knowledge; that I signed a paper brought to me by Juan Mendez; that I do not know the contents of said paper.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark.
Librada Montoya Jaquez.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly
1st Lieut. Cavalry, N.A.,
Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
County of Presidio,) SS
Town of Candelaria. }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, One Juana Bonilla Florez, wife of Longino Florez, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived in Porvinir, Texas, four years; that my husband was a citizen of Mexico; that sometime during the night of January 28, 1918, four masked men-American civilians, two of whom I recognized as Ben Frazier and his brother, the other two I could recognize should I see them again, came into my house and took my husband out, struck him with guns, and took him away; that my house was surrounded by soldiers, some I could recognize were I to see them again; that the soldiers did not take hold of my husband or offer him violence; about one hour after my husband was taken away I heard two volleys fired by many guns; that the next morning before sun-up Mr. Harry Warren informed me that my husband had been killed; that I was prevented by Mr. Warren from going to see the remains of my husband, who Mr. Warren told me had been shot and chopped up with a knife; that ~~on~~ the day my husband's body was found I moved to Mexico with my family; that Colonel Edwardo Forcayo, Carrancista, questioned me concerning the killing of my husband; that I do not know if the government of Mexico made an investigation; that this affidavit has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark.
Juan Zonilla Florez

Sworn to and subscribed Before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly,
1st Lieut., Cavalry, N.A.,
Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
County of Presidio,)
Town of Candelaria.) SS

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Felipa Mendez Castaneda, wife of Antonio Castaneda, who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I had lived in Porvinir, Texas, three weeks prior to the death of my husband; that three masked American citizens came into my house about twelve O'Clock at night January 28, 1918,

punched my husband with rifles, and took him away; that I could not recognize any of the men; that when they took my husband out I saw many soldiers and civilians around my house; that I do not know where they took my husband; that about one half hour after my husband was taken away two soldiers tied a horse near my house and went up the river; that after they passed up the river two shots were fired down the river; that I know the soldiers were not where the shots were fired; that after the two shots were fired the two soldiers came back and went down the river; that I did not hear more than two shots fired during the night; that I live about one half mile from where my husband was killed; that I learned my husband had been killed about sun up January 29, 1918; that I went to the place where all these men had been killed and saw them well; that they were all killed by bullets, and none with a knife; that I moved across the river with my family the same day; that this was not investigated by the authorities of Mexico; that my father had a paper in Pilaris, Mexico, asking the government for help; this has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark.

Felipa Mendez Castaneda.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918

Patrick Kelly,
1st Lieut. Cavalry, N.A.
Summary Court.

State of Texas)
County of Presidio,) SS
Town of Candelaria.)

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Estefana Jaso Morales, grandmother of Pedro Herrera, Bibian Herrera, Severiano Herrera, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived in Porvenir, Texas, three years; that on a date I do not remember, shortly before midnight four masked American civilians came into my house and took my three grandsons out; that they did not offer them violence; that I did not recognize any of the American civilians; that I saw three soldiers outside of my house; that I did not recognize any of

the soldiers; that I did not hear any shots fired; that before sun-up the next morning I learned that my three grandsons had been killed; that I do not know how they were killed; that my three grandsons were citizens of the United States; that on the day in which the bodies of my grandsons were found I moved to Mexico; that I signed a paper brought to me by a Mexican whose name I do not know; that I do not know the contents of this paper; that the contents of this affidavit has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand it.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark.
Estefana Jaso Morales,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly,
1st Lt. Cav. N.A.,
Summary Court.

State of Texas,)
County of Presidio,) SS
Town of Candelaria.)

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Alejandra Iarez Nieves, wife of Roman Nieves, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived in Porvinir, Texas, about seven years; that on a date which I do not remember two masked American men came into my house at night; the hour I do not know jerked my husband out of bed and pushed him out of the door without his clothes; that I followed him out of the door, and saw that my house was surrounded by many soldiers, who followed the civilians and my husband away; that the soldiers did not touch or offer violence to my husband; that the next morning shortly after sun-up I learned that my husband was killed; I did not go to see him and do not know how he was killed; that the day on which my husband's body was found I moved into Mexico with my family; that the killing of my husband was not investigated by the authorities of Mexico; that Juan Mendez brought a paper to me, which I signed, and of which I do not know the contents; that my husband was a citizen of Mexico; that this has

has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further deponent sayeth not.

Her X Mark.

Alejandra Larez Nieves.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918

Patrick Kelly,
1st Lieut. Cavalry N.A.,
Summary Court.

State of Texas }
County of Presidio, } SS
Town of Candelaria. }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Eulalia Gonzalez Hernandez, wife of Ambrocio Hernandez, who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I have lived two years in Porvinir, Texas; that my husband was a citizen of the United States; that about one o'clock in the night on a date I do not remember three American citizens with masks on came into my house, punched my husband in the ribs with a pistol, and took him away; that I could not recognize any of the Americans; that two soldiers came to my house first, stood guard there, and then a large bunch of civilians and soldiers came there, - came up. That the three men then came in by breaking the door down; that when they broke the door down my husband jumped out of bed, and then I got up; that we had not been up before the door was broken down and the men came in; that I did not hear any shots fired during the night; that about sun-up next morning, I found my husband dead, being shot through the head; that my husband's face had been mutilated by many stab wounds; that I then moved across the river into Mexico with my family; that the authorities of Mexico did not investigate the killing of my husband; that this has been interpreted to me and I thoroughly understand the contents.

And further the deponent sayeth not:

Her X Mark.

Eulalia Gonzales Hernandez,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1918.

Patrick Kelly

1st Lieut., Cavalry, N.A.
Summary Court.

State of Texas, }
County of Presidio, } SS
Candelaria. }

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, one Harry Warren, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

That I am an American citizen, and live in Porvinir, Texas. On the morning of January 29, 1918, I was informed that Mexican men of Porvinir had been taken from their houses by unknown white men and killed. Some of the white men were reported to have handkerchiefs tied over their faces. I went with John Bailey and a small Mexican boy and found fifteen dead bodies. I examined the bodies, and found that the men had been killed by bullets. I did not see any of the men who killed the Mexicans, and did not hear any firing during the night.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

Harry Warren.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26 day of March, 1918.

Hugh D. Chamberlain,
2nd Lieut. Cav. R.C.,
Summary Court.

Gov. Hobby,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Sir:--

The statements herein contained can all be verified. The writer takes the ground that you stand for law and order and not for midnight murder by those entrusted with the conservation of peace.

The writer takes the ground that you are not aware how the Rangers and others acting with them are doing.

The following statements are all well known and you can verify them; as you may know, bandits from Mexico raided a ranch L.C. Brite's on Christmas day, in Presidio County, Tex. killing 2 Mexicans and the stage driver, stealing horses and rob-

bing the ranch store, and that they were followed even into Mexico,--by U.S. soldiers.

On the 25th of the next month, January, the Rangers went at night to a ranch about 8 or 10 miles above Pilares in Presidio Co., searched the house took what arms they could find and arrested three Mexicans whom they turned loose next day and who went back to their homes. Three days after that- that is on the night of January 28, some Rangers and ranchment went to the same ranch took out the owner of the ranch & 14 others- all farmers & small stock owners & shot them to death. There was not a single bandit in the 15 men slain. Some of them had been living there 6 or 7 years, farming, & raising their small stocks. These men were all farmers--2 of them were boys about 16 or 17 years old & partly raised there. All of the slain were on the ranch on Christmas day or close around & none of them were in the raid on Brites' ranch or knew of the raid till it was over.

Several of the men murdered were not even on the ranch when the raid on Brite's ranch took place were moving on down from somewhere about Pecos City where they farmed last year.-- had not yet arrived in Presidio County. After the 15 were taken out & shot-all the balance which were only old men, women, & children fled to Mexico & have so far fled to Mexico leaving their fields planted to wheat, their cows & mares & are afraid to come back--about 140. The Mexican farmers at Pilares & their neighbors had been taken out & shot, also fled to the other side & so far, have refused to come back leaving their fields solved to grain-also their stock. As none of the slain were bandits the killing of them was simply murder. This unlawful deed has en raged the Mexicans on the other side to such an extent that we may hear soon of their retaliating on the whites on this side. It will be productive of the most evil consequences, & they ought to be removed for instead of proving themselves

conservators of the peace & dignity of the state, they are proving themselves its worse enemies.

Some days ago two rangers started to Marfa in an auto with a Mexican prisoner, Guadalupe Torres, by name, & killed him near one of Brites gates, they claiming that he tried to escape/ His body was found there. These facts have been found out by the Mexican Consul who is desirous of maintaining the good relations between the 2 countries, but his efforts will amount to nothing as long as the State of Texas maintains a body of Rangers on the Rio Grande who go with ranchmen at midnight & murder peaceful Mexicans as is the case here, and can be proven by the widows of the murdered men, who are now in Mexico. The object of this appeal is to call your attention to this unprovoked, and wholesale murder by Texas Rangers in conjunction with ranchmen-Rangers who instead of maintaining peace are committing murder by the wholesale and to request Your Excellency to have these Rangers removed at once and others (who are peaceable and law-abiding) placed over all that district. No matter what white-washed report may have been made to you or to the Adjutant General, the facts herein are true and can be proven.

Witnesses in U.S.

- (1) Capt. Anderson Co. G. 8th Cav. Camp Evett,
Valentine, P.O., Texas.

and the (2) detail of the 12 men he sent out with the Rangers the night of the murder--Anderson evidently tho't the Rangers wanted to arrest themen--the soldiers showed the way waited below the ranch while the Rangers and ranchmen went to get the Mexicans not knowing that the Rangers and ranchmen were going to murder the men.

- (3) Sgt. Bruin. Co. G., 8th Cav. Camp Evitt, Valentine, Tex.

Witnesses in Mexico:

Widows of Manuel Morales, who owned the ranch.

"	"	Longino Flores	Ambrosio Hernandez
"	"	Alberto Garcia	Gorgonio Hernandez
"	"	Eiburob Jaquez	Severiano Morales
"	"	Eutimio Gonzales	Martin Herrera

