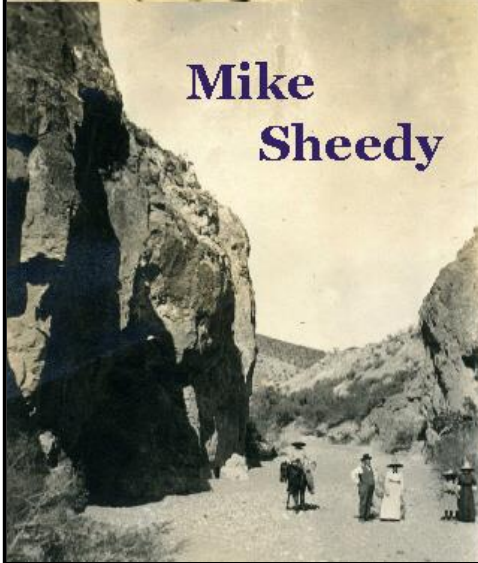
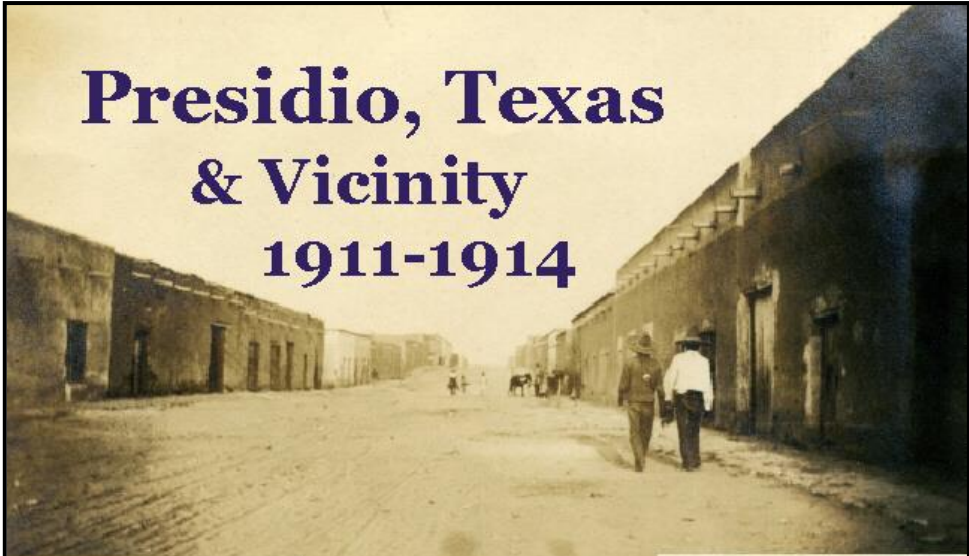


Presidio, Texas & Vicinity 1911-1914



COPYRIGHT © NOTICE

This collection of scans is registered at the U.S. Copyright Office. I am making it available for personal use only. Re-use for professional, commercial or publishing purposes must be approved by me. [Contact](#). And check out my other work at mikesheedy.com.

Presidio, Texas & Vicinity 1911-1914

A few years ago I scanned a photo album put together by schoolteacher Myrtle Dean. The album documents the time that she lived and taught in Presidio, Texas. She was there from 1911 to 1914 (possibly 1915).



The 156 pictures in this collection are presented as they were found in the album. It appears that Miss Dean intended to arrange the photos chronologically, but some are out of order. Scan #75 for example is dated 12-25-1914, but it comes before pictures dealing with the Battle of Ojinaga, which was fought a year earlier. So there are chronology issues. Also, many of the places are not named, so I don't know whether the pictures were taken in Texas or Mexico.

Miss Dean wrote on the fronts and backs of the pictures and on the album's pages. I've included all of her notes.

My original scans are large, but I reduced them to fit in this document. They're all about the same width but vary quite a bit in height. That's why some pages have only one image.

Background on time and place

The Texas State Historical Association says that in 1911 a school was opened in Ochoa, Texas (about 8 miles west of Presidio). Jessie Head was hired to teach. Unless I'm mistaken, that is the school that's pictured in these scans. One of the women in the album is referred to as Jess.

The first photo of the school in this collection shows a schoolyard with just a main building, outhouses, fence and so on. Later photos show a windmill and cistern, and there's one picture labeled "School Annex." So this collection shows growth at the school grounds from 1911 to 1914.

The Mexican Revolution lasted from about 1910 to 1920. An important battle of the revolution was fought across the Rio Grande from Presidio, in Ojinaga. Pancho Villa's account of the battle is at the end of this document.

Scans



001

Marfa House. If Myrtle Dean meant to arrange this album in chronological order, then she may have passed through Marfa, Texas on her way to her new job.



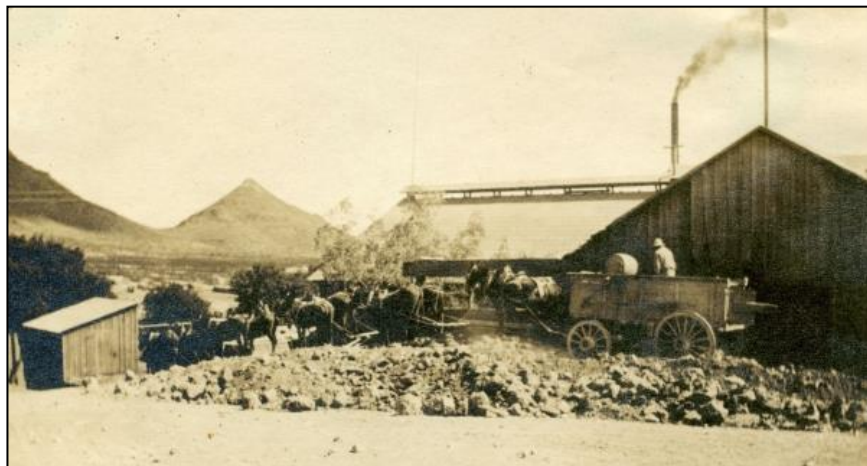
002

An old vehicle. Photos 007 and 008 were taken from "the stage," so perhaps this is the stage that Miss Dean meant.



003

The Hotel Saint George, in Marfa, Texas. FROM THE INTERNET: The existing courthouse of Presidio County was built in 1886 in Marfa, where it still stands as a centerpiece to the town. In the same year, the St. George Hotel was erected to house ranching families who made their annual or semi-annual visit to town.



004

Writing on the page between this photo and the next says, "Oldest Silver Mines in Texas. Been running more than 30 years continuously." Not sure where this is. Maybe this was a site Myrtle Dean passed on the way from Marfa to Presidio. Presidio County has a history of mining.



005
Second photo on page showing silver mines.



006
Caption on page reads, "Catholic Church."



007

Photo #1 from a page with "Scenes I saw from the stage on approaching Presidio" written on it. Photo also labeled, "Mountain across from Presidio 'Santa Cruz'."



008

Photo #2 from a page with "Scenes I saw from the stage on approaching Presidio" written on it. This one is labeled, "Presidio Apartments." Blurs in the foreground indicate the picture was taken from a moving vehicle.



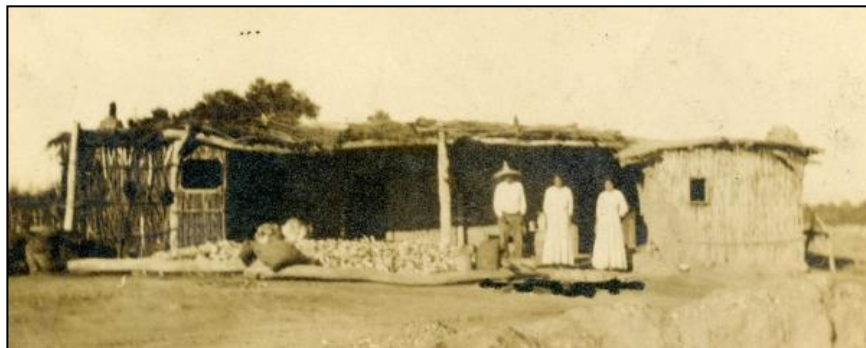
009

No caption. The right side of the structure seems to be made of cornstalks.



010

Written on back, "A very quaint Mexican house. When you're walking around this house, you'll find yourself on its roof."



011

Labeled, "Corn stalk jacal."



012
Unlabeled. Building must be in or around Presidio.



013
Labeled, "Presidio's Leading Store."



014
Labeled, "La Botica." Sign over door says "Post Office, Presidio, Texas."



015
Labeled, "Interior of the Botica." Post office mailboxes are on the right.



016

Labeled, "Colie and Nellie and the Doctor's Rattle trap." The doctor is George Candlin, whom Myrtle Dean later married.



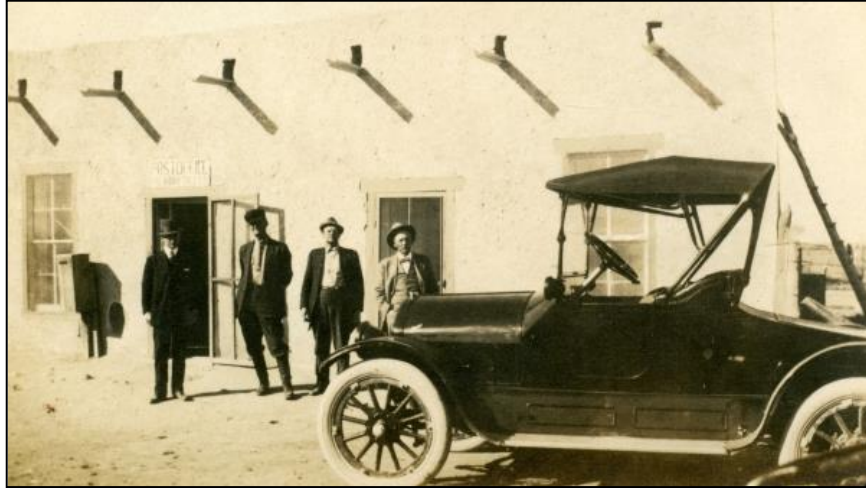
017

Labeled, "East Plaza."



018

Labeled, "Cantina."



019
Labeled, "Bachelors apartments."



020
No labeling. Woman by a building, possibly a dwelling. Looks like a chimney on the left. The woman appears to be Myrtle Dean.



021
One of two photos from a page labeled, "How the Mexican Adobes are made." Caption under this one says, "Mixing mud and straw."



022

Second photo on page labeled, "How the Mexican Adobes are made." This one is captioned, "Moulding Adobes and setting to dry."



023

Caption reads, "Ranch Home of U.S. Hydrographer W. T. Millington." (Script is very cursive, but I believe the second initial is a T).



024

Caption reads, "Where I learned to cook Frijoles & Tortillas."



025

Caption reads, "Home of U.S. Customs Inspector, R.L. Hockman."



026

Caption reads, "Where I changed my Mind about School teaching." Presidio schoolhouse in 1911? Two outbuildings in back...probably His & Hers out-houses.



027

Caption on picture reads, "Wing da bell." Written on back, "Orriell & Jess and four children." The woman on the right has a bell in her hand. I believe this is Jessie Head, mentioned in the Texas Handbook.



028

A class photo. Possibly from 1911 (first year of the school's operation). Myrtle Dean is at the back right corner, and the woman identified as "Orriell" in the previous picture is at the back left. I believe Jessie Head is on the back row, center.

(I inserted a higher resolution scan here, for detail. If you had an ancestor who went to this school at this time, then he or she might be in the picture. Zoom in to search for the face).



029
Caption reads, "One of our pets."



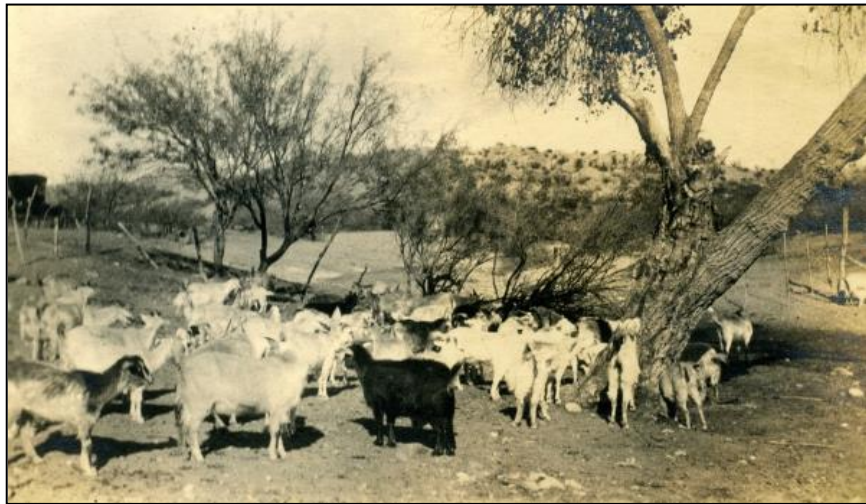
030
"Little friends" written on back.



031
Caption reads, "Wood and water peddlers."



032
Caption reads, "Hauling hay."



033
Caption reads, "Spring Dairy." Goat milk.



034
Caption reads, "Vendedor."



035
Looks like a man shot a *big* hawk. Same type of sweater seen in scan #77.



036
Caption beneath picture reads, "Three Queens and a Jack." Writing on back says, "School house."



037
Caption on album page says, "School Annex."



038
Man hauling something, possibly some kind of fodder.



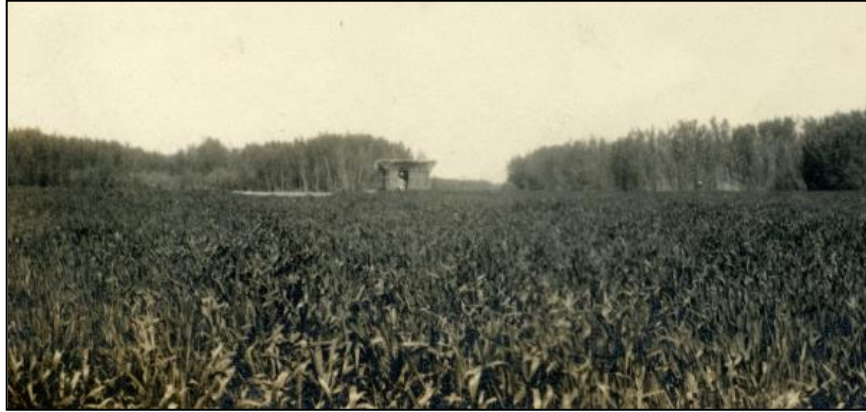
039
Caption reads, "Billie Boy."



040
No caption, no writing on picture. Covered wagon, looks pretty old.

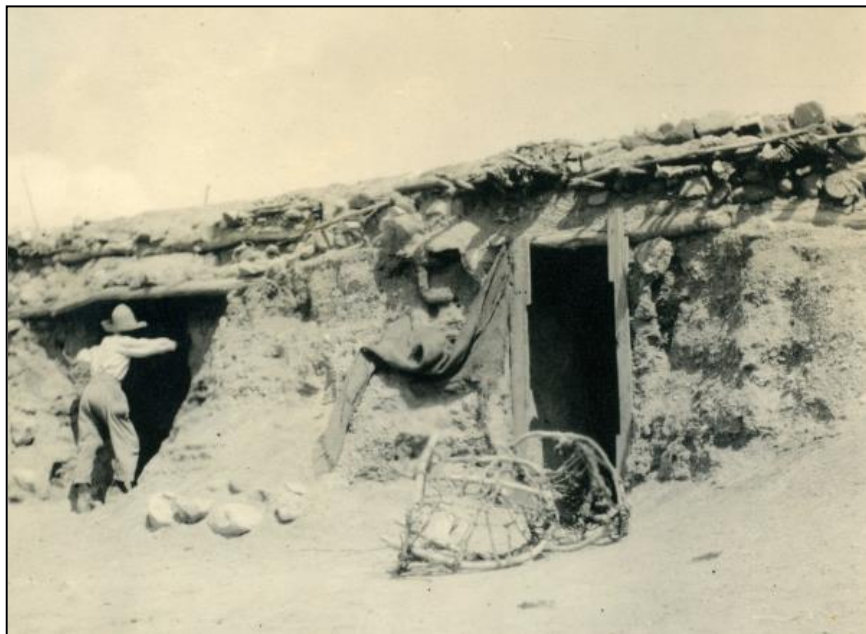


041
No caption. Looks like a family of girls.



042

Caption says, "Mr. Mc's Wheat." Shack and man in the distance.



043

Caption says, "House in side of Hill."



044

Written on back, "In a pila, or a stone & cement water tank."



045
Caption says, "Presidio Corn."



046
Written on back, "Scene on Main Street. P.O. & Drug Store."



047
Caption reads, "A Load of Calabazas."



048
Caption reads, "Reyes, Maria and the Kid."



049

Labeled, "U.S. Army Barracks," and "Old Fort used in early days to protect people from Indian Raids."



050

Caption reads, "Present Barracks of U.S. Troops on Mexican Border Patrol."



051

Caption reads, "Army Drill." Drill taking place in front of building identified in previous photo as barracks.



052

Caption reads, "Charge." Man leading the charge seems to be the officer named in the next picture--Lt. Tate. The lead horse has the white blaze on the forehead, white sock on rear right leg, white saddle blanket.



053

Caption reads, "Lieut. Tate, 15th Cav." His sidearm may be an original issue Model 1911.



054
Caption reads, "Picket Line."



055
No caption or writing on picture. Soldier with mules.



056
Caption reads, "Caring for their horses."



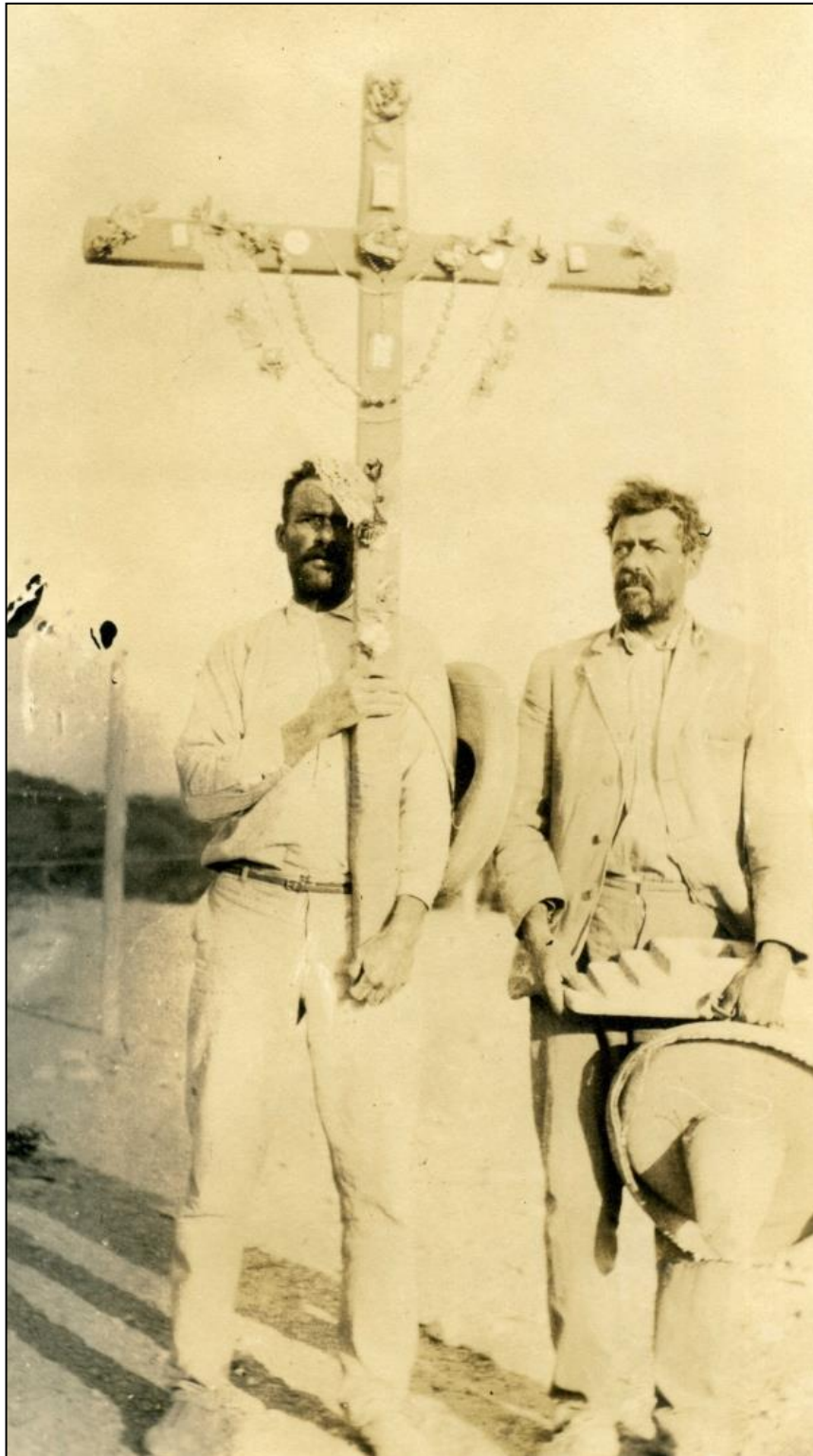
057
Caption reads, "Catholic Church."



058
Caption reads, "The Altar."



059
Caption reads, "Loma Pelona Capilla."



060

Caption reads, "Dia de Santa Cruz." Man on right seems to be holding base for the cross.



061

Photo #1 from a page with caption, "Who says it does not snow in Presidio!"
Looks like the school on the left.



062

Photo #2 from a page with caption, "Who says it does not snow in Presidio!"



063

Photo #3 from a page with caption, "Who says it does not snow in Presidio!"



064

Caption reads, "Los Americanos." Possibly the Rio Grande in the background.



065

No caption, but another shot of the riders in the previous picture--"Los Americanos." Looks like a face or two are different.



066

Written on back, "Mrs. Nuirsiger & 'The Presidio Rough Rider' taken about two weeks ago."



067
No label, but this is "Orriell" from photo #27.



068

Photo #1 from a page marked, "Dignified Teachers on a holiday." Looks like they went around the schoolyard taking snapshots, having fun. Written on back of this one, "The papalota in the schoolyard." Myrtle Dean is on the right.



069

Photo #2 from a page marked, "Dignified Teachers on a holiday." Written on back, "Hello Central? Teachers? Yes. Well who'd a thunk it." Two teachers pretending to use the burro as a telephone--speaking into the ear and listening through the tail. Myrtle Dean on the right, Jessie Head on the left.



070

Photo #3 from a page marked, "Dignified Teachers on a holiday." Three teachers playing with wagon.



071

Photo #4 from a page marked, "Dignified Teachers on a holiday." Written on back, "Tour of Presidio's Bells. The other one is on the Catholic church. This was taken in the schoolyard."



072
Jessie Head. She has a ring on her left ring finger that wasn't in previous pictures.



073
Jessie Head and an unidentified man.



074
Myrtle Dean, on railroad tracks.



075

Written on the back, "Taken Dec 25 '14 after our Xmas dinner. Don't we look full?" Myrtle Dean is directly behind the boy in the center of the shot.



076

No caption or writing. A soldier talking to a woman under a parasol.



077

No caption or writing. Could be on the American or the Mexican side of the river. Possibly a family showing off their weapons.



078

Unlabeled picture. Looks like the women of a family, of various ages. Bouquets...maybe a celebration?



079
Unlabeled picture. Young woman.



080
Unlabeled picture. Unidentified woman with child.



081

A group of riders. Could be on the American or the Mexican side of the river.



082

Car stuck in mud, men on horses. So much for superior technology.



083

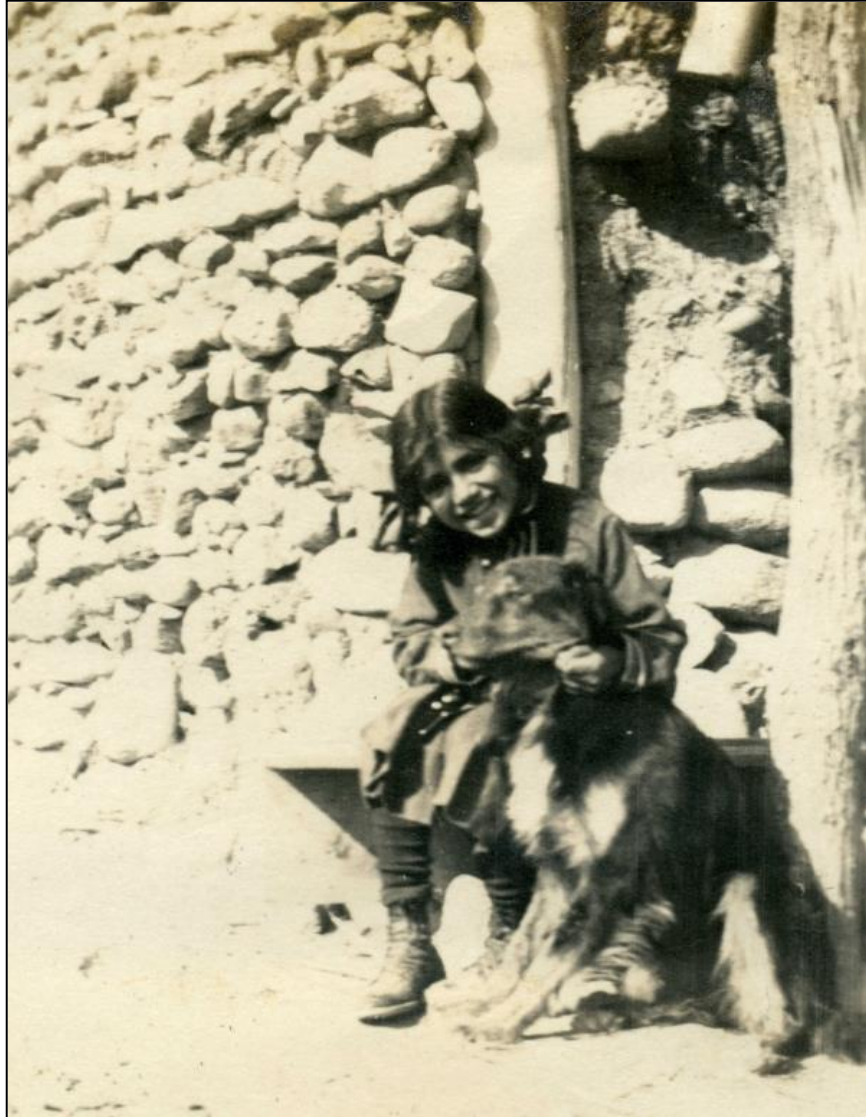
A couple standing outside an adobe building. Building looks old.



084
Three men standing outside an adobe building. They look fairly official.



085
Baby sitting in a window.



086
Girl with dog, outside of old building.



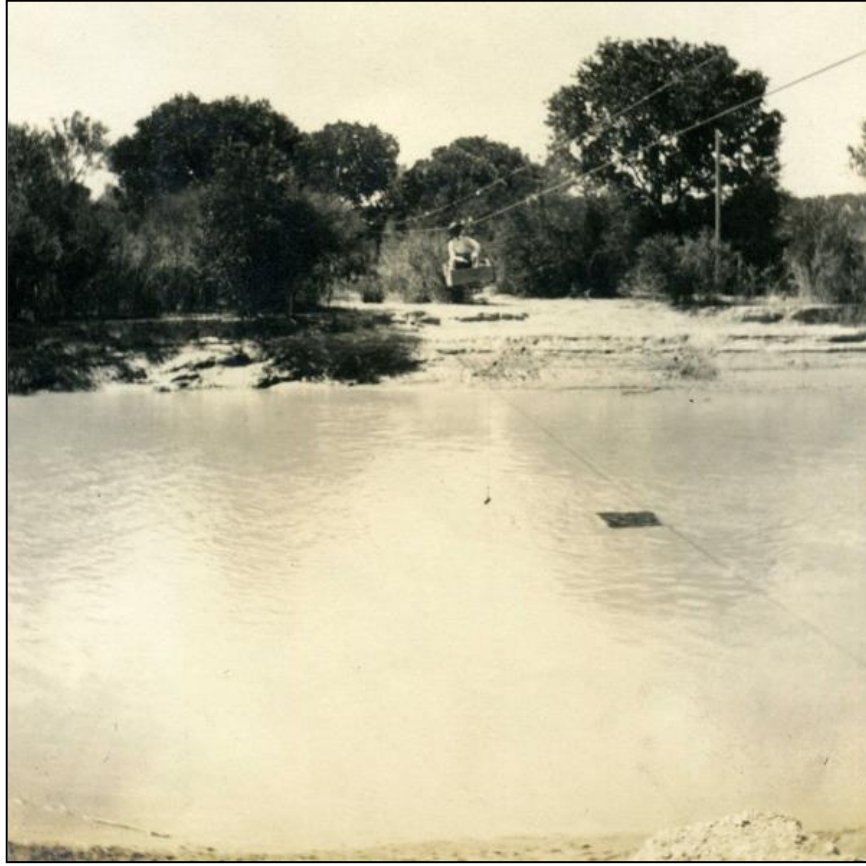
087
Unlabeled photo. Burros and sombreros.



088
Caption reads, "On the Silvery Rio Grande."



089
One of several pictures on pages labeled, "The Dividing line between Texas and Mexico." The Rio Grande. Horses and riders on the right, in the distance.



090

Caption reads, "Measuring flow of water." There's a man in the bucket suspended over the water. One of the scans in this collection shows the home of "U.S. Hydrographer W. T. Millington," so maybe the man in the bucket is Mr. Millington at work.



091

Caption reads, "The Ford." Marking on page identifies this as the Rio Grande.



092

Caption reads, "A herd of cattle crossing the Rio Grande."



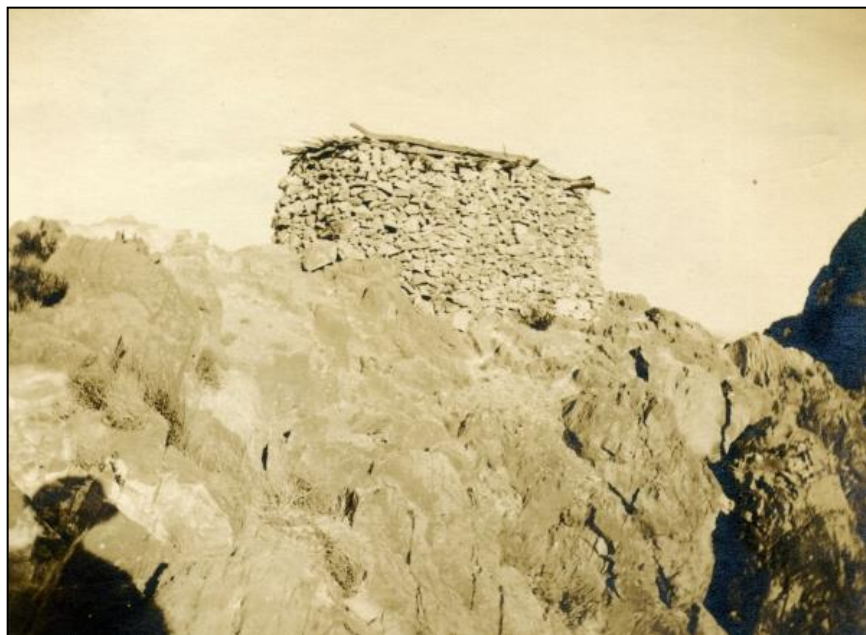
093
Horse at the river. Marking on page identifies this as the Rio Grande.



094
Caption reads, "Junction of Rios Concha and Grande."



095
Photo #1 from a page marked, "La Capilla de la Santa Cruz."

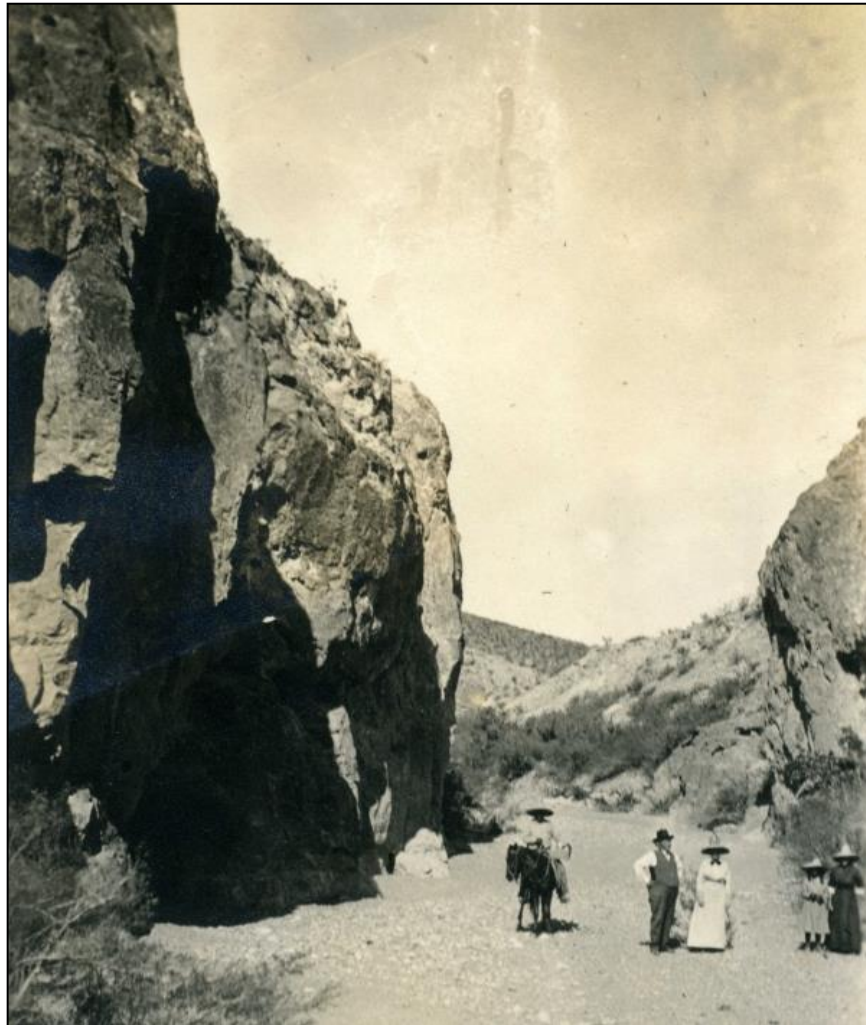


096
Photo #2 from a page marked, "La Capilla de la Santa Cruz."

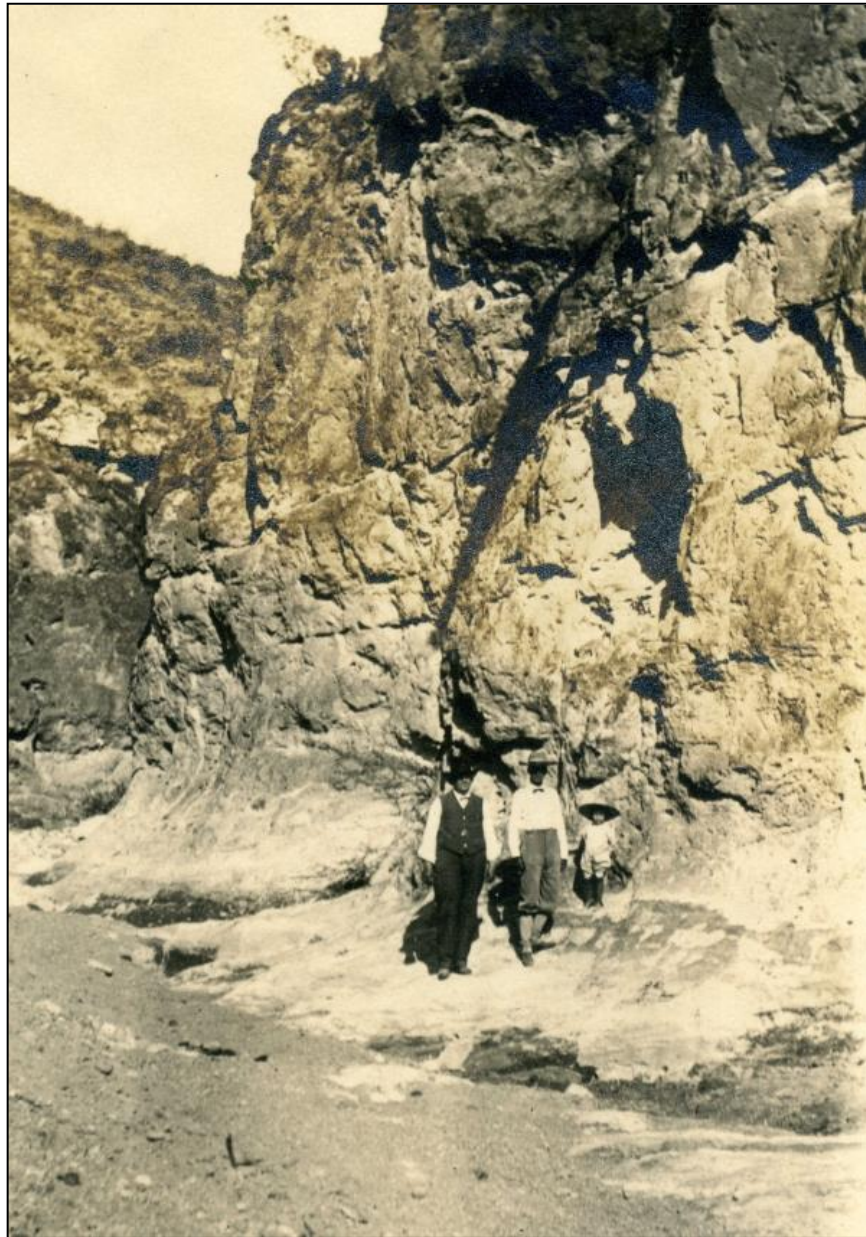


097

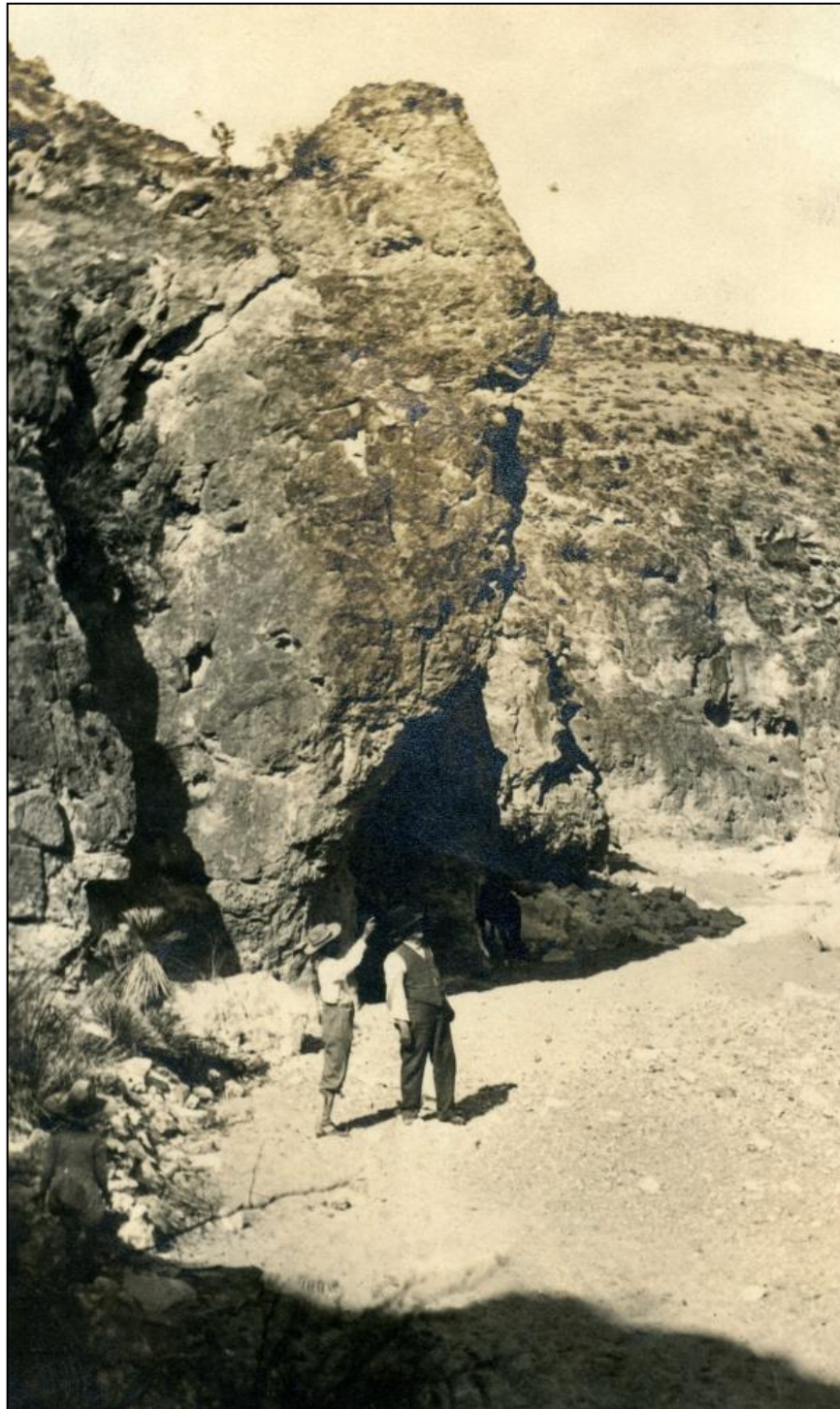
Photo #3 from a page marked, "La Capilla de la Santa Cruz."



098
Photo #1 from a page marked, "El Canonsito."



099
Photo #2 from a page marked, "El Canonsito."



100
Photo #3 from a page marked, "El Canonsito."



101

Photo #1 from a page marked, "Ojinaga, Chich., Mexico." This one has the additional caption, "Main Street."



102

Photo #2 from a page marked, "Ojinaga, Chich., Mexico." This one has the additional caption, "Calle Principal."



103

Photo #3 from a page marked, "Ojinaga, Chich., Mexico." This one has the additional caption, "El Mercado."



104

Photo #4 from a page marked, "Ojinaga, Chich., Mexico." This one has the additional caption, "The Market."



105

Caption on picture reads, "Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico. La Plaza and Church."



106

Caption on picture reads, "Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico. The Most Popular Pastime." A cockfight.



107

Caption reads, "Typical Red-flagger." The Red Flaggers of the Mexican Revolution were followers of Pascual Orozco. They were known as Orozquistas and also as the Colorados (Red Flaggers).



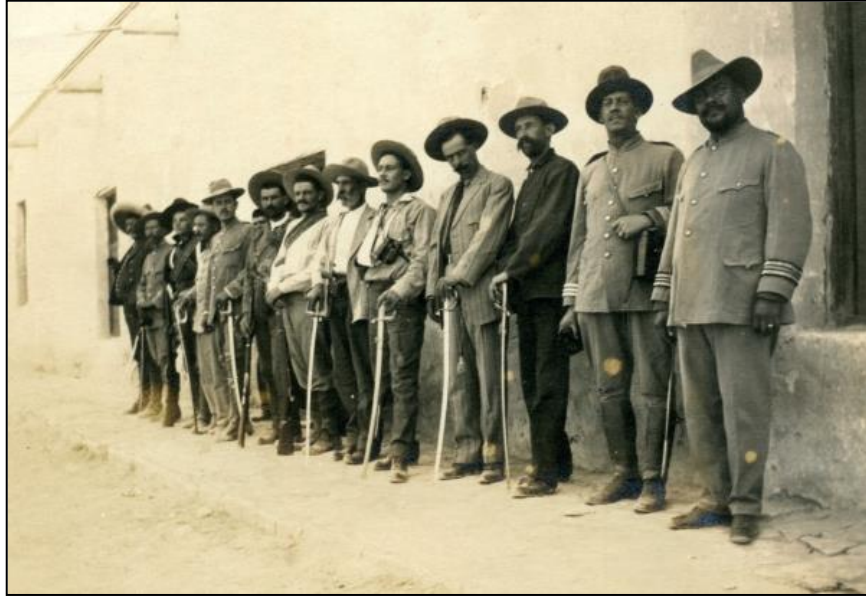
108

Photo #1 from a page marked, "Four different factions that held Ojinaga 1911-1915." Caption below this photo says, "Mexican Federal Soldiers."



109

Photo #2 from a page marked, "Four different factions that held Ojinaga 1911-1915." Caption below this photo says, "Carranzista Soldiers."



110

Photo #3 from a page marked, "Four different factions that held Ojinaga 1911-1915." Caption below this photo says, "Orozcistas." Also, written on this photo in Spanish is, "Jefes y Oficiales de Los 5. Orozco Fortificados en Ojinaga."



111

Photo #4 from a page marked, "Four different factions that held Ojinaga 1911-1915." Caption below this photo says, "Col. Jose de la Cruz Sanchez. Maderistas."



112
Caption beneath this picture says, "Col. Ortega and Staff."



113
Caption beneath this picture says, "Generals Ortega and Ornelas."



114
Caption beneath this picture says, "Toribio Ortega and Body Guard."

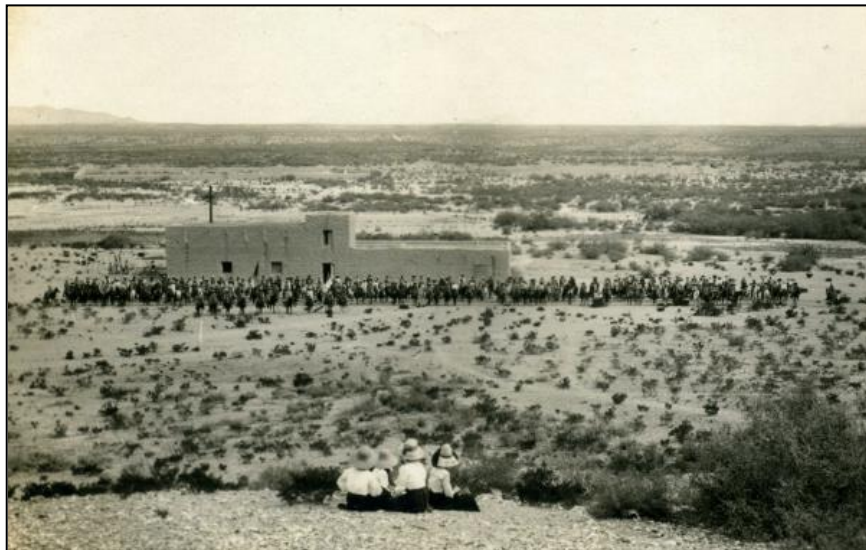


115
Photo #1 from a page marked, "Maderista Soldiers. Ojinaga, Chih., Mex."



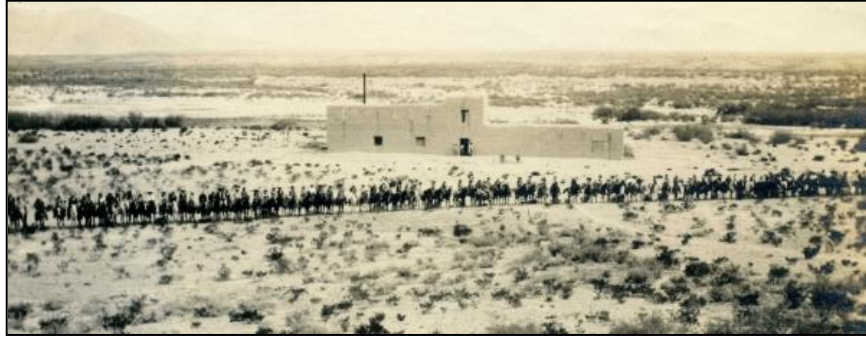
116

Photo #2 from a page marked, "Maderista Soldiers. Ojinaga, Chih., Mex." This group of men is the same as the group in another photo, one with the caption, "Col. Ortega and Staff."



117

Photo #3 from a page marked, "Maderista Soldiers. Ojinaga, Chih., Mex."



118

Photo #4 from a page marked, "Maderista Soldiers. Ojinaga, Chih., Mex."



119

"General Mercado Arrives. Dec. 20, 1913" written on page. "Watering the Pack Animals" written on picture.



120

Photo #1 from pages marked, "Encamped in Arroya Cibilo." Probably camp followers who traveled with Huerta's army.



121
Photo #2 from pages marked, "Encamped in Arroya Cibilo."



122
Photo #3 from pages marked, "Encamped in Arroya Cibilo."



123
Photo #4 from pages marked, "Encamped in Arroya Cibilo."



124

Photo #5 from pages marked, "Encamped in Arroya Cibilo."



125

"Crossing River to Presidio for Provisions" written on picture.



126

Photo marked, "Federal (Huertistas) Scouts." Curious photo, with either peeling or a double exposure at the upper right.



127

Photo marked, "Machine Gun Platoon" and "In the Trenches."



128

One of two pictures with the caption, "Taking Moving Pictures." It was known for some time that there would be a battle at Ojinaga, and American newsreel companies sent film crews. American newspapers sent reporters. The most famous reporter to cover the event was Ambrose Bierce, who disappeared during the assignment. He was never heard from again.



129

One of two pictures with the caption, "Taking Moving Pictures."



130

Picture #1 from pages marked, "Refugees." Civilians evacuating to the U.S. to escape the fighting.

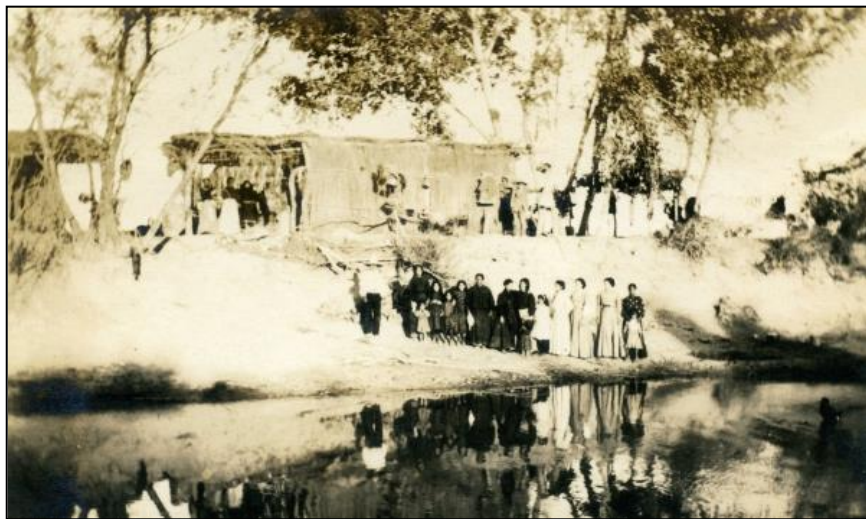


131

Picture #2 from pages marked, "Refugees."



132
Picture #3 from pages marked, "Refugees."



133
Picture #4 from pages marked, "Refugees."



134
Picture #5 from pages marked, "Refugees."



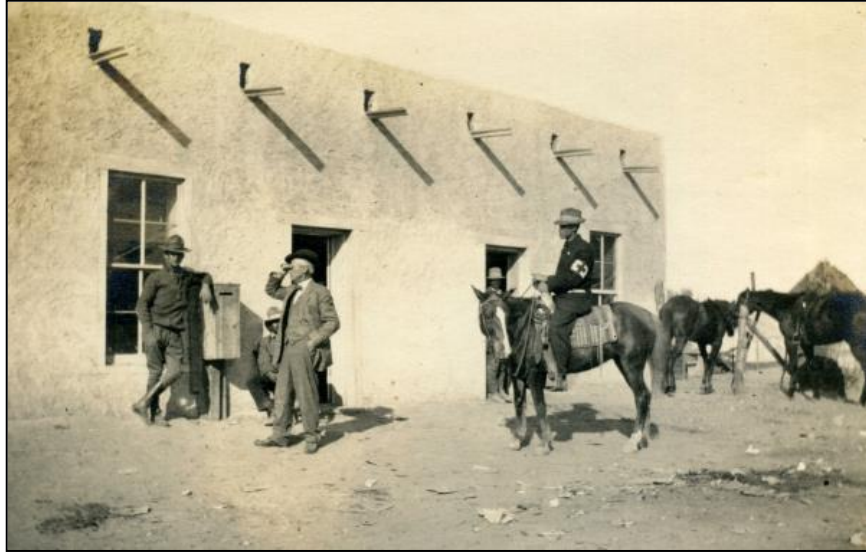
135
Written on picture, "Presidio, Tex. Refugees from Ojinaga, Mex."



136
Caption below picture says, "Typical Refugees."



137
Photo from a page marked, "On the Approach of the Constitutionalists, the Motley Crowd Rushed to the American Side." Writing on picture says, "Refugees from Ojinaga, Mex. at Presidio Jan. 1914."



138
Caption beneath picture says, "Watching a Battle."



139
Caption beneath picture says, "Taken from roof of Post Office." Writing on picture says, "House burning about Dec 31 / 13. Presidio, Tex."



140
Caption beneath picture says, "Among the Ruins."



141
Caption beneath picture says, "Shattered by a Shell."



142

Labeled, "Breastworks Ojinaga, Mex. Dec 1913 - Jan. 1914."



143

Caption beneath picture says, "A Substantial Breastworks."



144
Photo #1 from a page marked, "After a Battle."



145
Photo #2 from a page marked, "After a Battle."



146
Photo #3 from a page marked, "After a Battle."



147
Caption beneath picture says, "Wrecked Casa."



148
Caption beneath picture says, "School Converted into Hospital. Presidio."



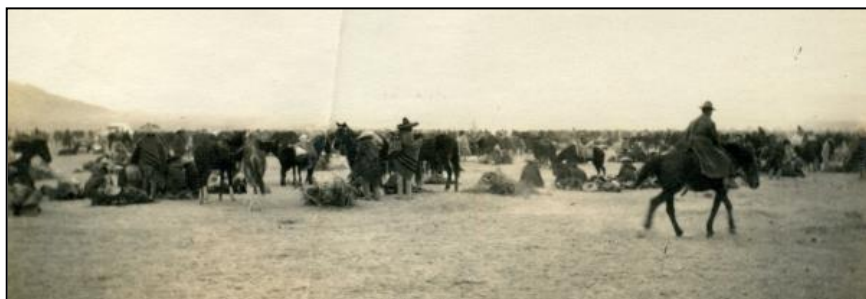
149
Caption beneath picture says, "Red Cross Hospital."



150
Caption beneath picture says, "Red Cross Hospital."



151
Caption beneath picture says, "Operating Rooms."



152
Caption beneath picture says, "U.S.A. Prison Camp of 5000 Prisoners."



153
Photo #1 from a page marked, "Prisoners are Marched to Marfa."



154
Photo #2 from a page marked, "Prisoners are Marched to Marfa."



155
Photo #3 from a page marked, "Prisoners are Marched to Marfa."



156

Photo #4 from a page marked, "Prisoners are Marched to Marfa."

PANCHO VILLA'S ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF OJINAGA:

At the end of November (1913) I received reports of the panic which had struck the rich men of Chihuahua when they learned of my victory at Tierra Blanca. To discredit my forces, they spread rumors of crimes we were committing. But the discipline and good behavior of my troops had been demonstrated in Ciudad Juarez, where no one was killed or robbed, and no one was punished without cause. General Salvador Mercado, chief of the Huertista forces in Chihuahua, was responsible for fears. When the Battle of Tierra Blanca ended on November 25, he was in such a hurry to leave that he was already on the road to Ojinaga by the twenty-eighth, taking the principal families of the town along with him. Marcelo Caraveo, the last to leave, abandoned the city three days later, and after that - that is, after December 1, 1913 - it was at my mercy.

As I remember, I left Juarez December 3, and after five days of marching entered Chihuahua. We were met by a commission of civilians headed by a man named Don Federico Moye, who said, "Sr. Villa, we come in the interests of peace. General Mercado's troops have abandoned the place and it is yours. We hope for the treatment great conquerors give to peaceful towns. Your orders will be carried out, but respect our lives, Señor, and those of our families, and do not despoil us."

I listened calmly and answered without arrogance, but I knew the ways of people who were submissive when helpless but who continued to work under cover as implacable enemies. I explained that the inhabitants of Chihuahua, rich and poor, would have to unite in aiding the cause of the people, saying, "Señores, my forces are not puffed up with their triumphs. They will not mistreat you. But don't deceive yourselves. There will be punishment for those who commit evil acts against us. No one shall withhold the supplies my troops need or engage in conspiracies against our cause. My soldiers are ready to inflict the death penalty for such acts."

My entrance made a great impression perhaps because I had so many troops, for I had left only the Hernandez and Zaragoza brigades in Juarez. Our enemies could hardly contain their fear, but the humble people received us with affection. On my arrival I found two hundred soldiers of the 6th battalion, under three Federal officers: a captain, a lieutenant, and a second lieutenant. They were there to guarantee order but were no longer needed. I called the captain and said to him, "You are not afraid of Pancho Villa or deceived by the slanders about me. Well, you shall see you are right. I give you and your officers safe conduct to any place you wish. But as for your troops, who are from this town, don't reproach me if I keep them to fight for the popular side."

At first I assumed the office of governor of Chihuahua to stimulate public business. But after two weeks of work I transferred it to General Chao in obedience to Carranza's orders and occupied myself with military affairs only. I made a trip to Ciudad Juarez in connection with financial arrangements and the international situation. The American general at Fort Bliss, Hugh L. Scott, wanted to talk to me. We had exchanged greetings in the middle of the bridge at Ciudad Juarez, and now he wanted to visit me.

I appointed Lazaro de la Garza to attend to the collection of money. He had served me well after the taking of Torreon. As assistant collector I appointed an engineer, Felicitos Villareal, who was also a financier. These appointments were needed because the loan we received in Torreon was getting low and the Torreon bankers were showing bad faith. They were hardly free of troops when they refused to pay the drafts which I had drawn on them. They said, "We sign under duress and are not obligated to keep the agreement." But they were wrong. It was not rue that they had agreed under duress to honor the drafts. It was from fear of my troops, quite a different thing. I did not take them by the hand and compel them to sign. They signed of their own free will that otherwise the people would treat them as enemies. Furthermore, the money they gave me did not really belong to them. It belonged to the people, the true owners of all the money there is in a country. The people are the ones who produce it. I, the representative of the people, had the right to demand, and it was just for them to deliver, all the money necessary for the cause.

I was also necessary to settle the conflict and find all possible resources. I returned to Chihuahua and organized a column of three brigades to advance on Ojinaga. It numbered about three thousand men, including artillery. My problem was to find a leader, since I had duties I could not leave. I summoned the generals and principal commanders to a meeting in the Federal palace. I explained the importance of the operation and suggested that they chose a leader. Present were Tomas Urbina, Herrera, Hernandez, Ortega, Jose Rodriguez, Chao, Trinidad Rodriguez, and a few others. Also present was General Panfilo Natera, chief of the Central Division, who had been on his way to consult with Carranza but was returning from Juarez by way of Zacatecas because the United States would not let him cross to Nogales. Taking advantage of his presence, I said, "My friends, the operation is of great importance. I can rid the state of Chihuahua of our enemies and leave us the masters of our action on the march south. But I cannot go,

and you should choose General Natera, who is here, or General Ortega, who is familiar with the region."

I expected Natera to be chosen. I was hoping to avoid rivalries and jealousies. As it happened, Natera declined, having little knowledge of the terrain and troops, and spoke for Toribio. Not to be outdone, Toribio, though he wanted the command, responded with praise of Natera. He extolled Natera's ability and said he would gladly yield to him. The others quickly took him up on his offer, none of them wanting Toribio as his superior.

The column to take Ojinaga consisted of 500 men in the Villa brigade, under the command of Jose Rodriguez; 550 men from the Gonzales Ortega brigade, under the command of Toribio Ortega; 450 men from the Morelos brigade, under Faustino Borunda; 400 men from the Cuauhtemoc Brigade, under Trinidad Rodriguez, then a lieutenant colonel; 300 from the Contreras Brigade, under Luis Diaz Cuder. Also, there were two batteries of 75 and 80-millimeter cannon under the command of Martiniano Servin and a machine-gun regiment under Margarito Gomez.

They left Chihuahua on December 22, 1913, with munitions and equipment of all kinds. In San Sostenes they found a great deal of railroad material, arms, ammunition, and clothing which the enemy had abandoned. Four days later they were at the ranch La Mula. Two days later they were in Mulato. The next day they fought with Caraveo and Flores Alatorre, who were defeated and forced to flee. Caraveo was wounded, and 260 prisoners were taken. They got four machine guns and ten mules loaded with ammunition. Three days later, on January 1, 1914, they made contact with the enemy at Ojinaga. This time the enemy attacked, dismantled a piece of artillery, caused many casualties, and forced a retreat. The next day the battle continued, and the enemy killed 200 men. On the third day enemy cavalry came out, supported by artillery. There was a furious encounter resulting in great bloodshed, and although the enemy withdrew, driven back by Servin's cannon and the action of our troops, Ortega ceased fire during the combat, and 80 of our men were killed and 130 taken prisoner. Señor! Our forces saw the enemy withdraw without loss or damage, and the 130 prisoners were shot in Ojinaga.

Our action was paralyzed in spite of Natera's effort and ability. The trouble came of disputes and quarrels among brigade leaders, who were angry with Toribio because he was apparently unwilling to win under Natera. So, on the second day, in the heaviest of fighting, our forces retired to rest; and two days later there weariness and discontent increased; and a day later, Martin Lopez and Carlos Almeida wanted to return to Chihuahua and Jose and Trinidad Rodriguez wanted to withdraw to Jimenez. Failure demoralized them, and it was only because Servin would not follow them that that they decided either to wait one more day longer and take Servin by force or to keep fighting until the end if Natera would shoot Toribio, whom they held responsible.

On January 6, I was advised in Juarez of these events and took my measures. The news reached me at eight at night. At once I gave General Rosalio Hernandez orders to march with his troops and horses, and by two we were on the road. By telegraph I ordered Herrera and Juarez Brigade to

advance by train toward Ojinaga. In this way, without preparations or supplies, I started to Ojinaga with my two brigades. In three days we were in La Mula. Having nothing to eat, we began to kill cattle on the ranches and our food was roast beef without salt. I sent General Hernandez and General Herrera to El Mulato to await my orders, and with an escort of twenty-five men, I myself made forced march to the Hacienda de San Juan. I reached camp at four on the afternoon of January 10. There was a heavy frost, and the wind almost blew us from our mounts. I appeared when spirits were lowest, and as the news of my arrival spread, everyone began to feel better. I dismounted under a cottonwood tree and stretched out on the ground. I sent for the chiefs. As soon as they came, I began to talk to them. wanting to give them an impression of calm, I had picked up a sprig of grass, and as I talked indulgently, nibbled at it.

I asked them, "How have you been doing, boys? The reports are bad. But the coyote has had his last hen from my hen house. I am to blame. Natera told me he wasn't familiar with conditions here. But nothing will happen now I am here. Don't worry, and get some sleep." That night I heard them all singing.

The next day I dictated the following orders for the attack: the troops would be divided in three columns; on the south Hernandez and Jose Rodriguez with eight hundred men, supported by Servin's artillery; on the right, that is on the east between the Conchos and the Bravo, my headquarters and nine hundred men under Trinidad Rodriguez and Herrera; on the left, Toribio Ortega with seven hundred men and Auxiliaries of San Carlos under Chavarria. All were to be ready by seven at night. The horses would be chained, guarded by one man for every ten, and at 7:30 we would advance on the city, with our hats on our backs for identification.

Before the generals and chiefs withdrew, I called Toribio Ortega and said, "Compañero, it seems that you forgot the instructions I gave you in Chihuahua and because of that many Revolutionaries like Onesimo Martinez are dead. Well, I won't pardon you a second time. Good-bye."

We were ready to take Ojinaga, and that afternoon I addressed my chiefs and soldiers: "Chiefs and soldiers of liberty, any man who turns back will be shot then and there. The password is 'Juarez', and the countersign is 'Faithful Ones'. When your gun is trained on a man, ask him, 'what number', and if he is one of us, he will answer, 'One'; if he does not answer or gives a different number, fire. Do you understand?" They shouted yes.

My right wing, under Herrera and Trinidad Rodriguez, defeated Antonio Rojas and Fernandez Ortinel in fifteen minutes and gained their objective. On the south, Mansilla and Salazar offered hardly any resistance to Jose Rodriguez and Rosalio Hernandez. And on the west, where the fighting was the heaviest, Caraveo's troops, after battling for forty-five minutes, abandoned their position when told of our success elsewhere. The action was much shorter than I could have expected. We took Ojinaga, not in an hour and a half, as I had ordered, but an hour and five minutes. When the firing was dying down in every sector, I advanced at a moderate pace and entered the streets. Everywhere I heard soldiers shouting my name and advancing without opposition.

That is all I had to do to take Ojinaga, but it was not my triumph, it was that of my officers and soldiers. Thirty five of my men were killed, among them Jesus Felipe Moya, a Revolutionary whom I had just promoted to general and for whom I wept. Four hundred of the enemy fell. We secured their horses, saddles, rifles, machine guns, and cannons.

Salvador Mercado and Pascual Orozco, who directed the battle from the Old Customs House, crossed the river and took refuge in the United States. Of the generals, chiefs, officers, and soldiers who crossed the frontier with them, only Marcelo Caraveo, with eighteen men as an escort, and Desiderio Garcia, with three or four others, ventured back into Mexican territory and set out for the south.

The next day I gave orders to clear camp, after giving the inhabitants of the town assurances of safety. Colonel John J. Pershing, in command on the other side of the river, asked permission to visit me in our territory. We greeted each other courteously. He congratulated me on my successes and I praised him for sheltering the defeated troops, since this spared me from being responsible for further casualties. When he offered me his hospitals for my wounded I answered that I could take care of them with my own facilities, but told him I was grateful for the offer and would have accepted it if necessary. In less than forty-eight hours I was ready to return to Chihuahua, leaving only the Gonzales Ortega Brigade behind as a garrison.

I made the trip by automobile, with Raul Madero, Rodolfo Fierro, Luis Aguirre Benevides, and a chauffeur.