

a full decade, and that the problems have been enormous. Isidro Fabela, the original editor, died several years ago, and direction was assumed by colleagues; the publisher had to be changed after the first five volumes were in print. And most important, it was impossible to determine in 1960 what documents worthy of publication would be uncovered in 1968 or 1969. In short, the ungainly structure of the set is a small price to pay for the service it performs.

Volume XV comprises 117 chronologically arranged documents covering the period from January 1914 to January 1915. Although a few sundry dispatches refer tangentially to the Tampico incident and the Veracruz invasion (including the seldom-mentioned position of the Huerta government that the whaleboat carrying the sailors was not flying the American flag), the student interested in these topics would do better to concentrate his efforts on Volumes II and III. Of greater interest here is the correspondence of the rebel leadership in the north. Through a careful examination of the letters and telegrams prior to and immediately after Huerta's resignation (July 15, 1914), one can trace many of the causes for the growing hostility between the Villistas and Carrancistas. This, in turn, renders more intelligible the subsequent schism between Conventionists and Constitutionalists and, indeed, sheds light on the whole complex subject of factionalism in the Mexican Revolution.

As I have indicated in previous reviews, the Comisión is projecting a total of 23 volumes. With each successive publication the desirability of a 24th becomes more obvious to those of us who use the series regularly. I am suggesting the growing need for a general index divided in two parts: a chronological listing of all the documents published, for those interested in a specific and restricted period of time; and a comprehensive index of names, for those interested in tracing the elusive careers of such fascinating characters as Felix Sommerfeld, Abraham Ratner, José Inés Salazar, or Francisco Cárdenas. Nobody would envy the Comisión such an onerous task, but the community of Mexicanists would be forever in its debt.

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El ejército mexicano (1911-1965). By JORGE ALBERTO LOZOYA. México, 1970. El Colegio de México. Notes. Appendix. Bibliography. Pp. 128.

“Depoliticized” or “apolitical” are terms frequently employed by scholars to describe the contemporary posture of Mexico’s army.

Such academicians note that for several decades the country has been spared a military coup d'état and that Mexico now has named its fifth successive civilian president. However, Jorge Alberto Lozoya's monograph, *El Ejército mexicano (1911-1965)* gives some indication of just how enmeshed the present army may be in the nation's politics.

Lozoya, a graduate of El Colegio de México, has made considerable use of interviews with high ranking military personnel, who are listed on the acknowledgments page. To be sure, he believes that the army has been or is in the process of being depoliticized, but other statements in his book seem to contradict his own conclusion. Or perhaps he is cutting his definition of "apolitical" too thin. In a chapter concerning the military today, Lozoya classifies the army as regular forces, reserves, and *defensas rurales* or rural militia units. The country is divided into military zones that roughly correspond to state boundaries. The regulars in these zones, he writes, are directed by military zone chiefs, who are personally selected by the president and ordered to cooperate with state governors. In the process the chief, normally a general, comes to enjoy a prominent political and social position in the state. In case of conflict between the governor and federal government, it is the zone chief who acts as mediator. If the character of the dispute leads the national legislature to dismiss the governor, the general becomes acting governor.

Because military service is compulsory in Mexico, most males fulfill their obligation in the reserves. These reserve units are undisciplined, ill-equipped, controversial, and not effective, according to Lozoya, but they are retained because they serve an important political function. They allow the government to classify and control the male population of the country.

The rural defense corps are principally composed of ejidatarios, as distinguished from all campesinos. They receive no pay but the weapons, uniforms, and indoctrination which they get from the government all help to cement their loyalty to the regime. The principal chore of the rural militia is political; they create, writes Lozoya, an extraordinary intelligence network which extends to every corner of the nation and permits the national government to receive immediate news of subversive activity. The ejidatarios relay such information to the regular army officers who train them; then army units are dispatched to quell any impending disorder.

Generally speaking, Lozoya's slim volume is not a study of Mexico's army but of the military's involvement in politics. He traces

Mexican militarism from colonial times to the present, an undertaking that leaves much of his book superficial. It contains little documentation, and the bibliography is almost entirely composed of secondary sources. One wishes that the author had appended his opinions concerning the role of the army in containing the student disorders of 1968. At that time it was commonly suggested in Mexico City that the army had proved and had perhaps enhanced its political strength by the efficacious (some thought it brutal) manner in which it suppressed the riots. In short, a solid book concerning Mexico's army in any era remains to be written; yet Lozoya has presented some new material which can only stimulate further interest in the subject.

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Guanajuato: An Analysis of Urban Form. Edited by JAY MOOR. Seattle, 1968. University of Washington. Department of Urban Planning. Urban Planning and Development Series. Illustrations. Maps. Figures. Pp. 73. Paper. \$3.50.

Distribución del ingreso en una área urbana: el caso de Monterrey. By JESÚS PUENTE LEYVA. Introduction by IFIGENIA M. DE NAVARRETE. México, 1969. Siglo Veintiuno Editores. El Mundo del Hombre: Economía y Demografía. Charts. Tables. Figures. Notes. Appendices. Bibliography. Pp. xxvii, 117. Paper. \$20.00 (Mex.).

The first of these books delightfully describes the colonial silver city of Guanajuato, and attempts to draw urban planning conclusions from its morphology and the circulation of its people and vehicles. The study was written by students of urban development and resulted from a five-day stay in Guanajuato supervised by Myer R. Wolfe of the University of Washington. Little of value for urban analysis seems to have been unearthed. If urban development is really a social science, there is not much evidence of it here. Ambiguous concepts are utilized to draw vague conclusions which at best elaborate the obvious.

The second book is a study of income distribution and occupational changes in Monterrey. It was sponsored by the economic investigation center (*Centro de Investigaciones Económicas*) of the University of Nuevo León. There is a lengthy and interesting introduction by Ifigenia M. de Navarrete, one of Mexico's leading authorities on the distribution of income. Data contrasting income, occupational, and educational changes between 1960 and 1965 were