

United States Ready to Take Drastic Steps to Protect American Lives

President Madero and His Ministers Are Barricaded in National Palace Against Revolt Army—Diplomatic Corps Looks to Diaz for Protection of All Foreign Residents

with which the new revolt had been suppressed was only another indication of the strength of the government and the loyalty of the army. Pointing from a window in the palace to a mob, for the most part of boys carrying the national flag and crying vivas for Madero, the president said:

"There you can see the people are with us. It is said that the government stands alone, but that is not true. The government has the support of the people. There will be no more temporizing; we are going to use the iron hand."

Earlier in the day, shortly after the first outbreak occurred, Madero declared martial law throughout the city and announced that he would ask congress to authorize a suspension of the guarantees throughout the republic.

General Huerta was named as post commander in account of the wounded of General Villar.

MINISTERS ARE GLEEFLY

In the belief that the government had scored an easy victory, Foreign Minister Lascurain, Ernesto Madero and others of the cabinet embraced one another and congratulated themselves and the president on what they called the new turn of events.

ARMY STARTS REBELLION

The army rose in revolt in Mexico City today, took possession of the public buildings, and drove federal adherents in the streets, released General Felix Diaz, leader of the Vera Cruz revolt, from prison, and, falling into Madero's hands, he was captured.

Francisco Madero, president of the republic, and members of his cabinet took refuge in the national palace, where they were besieged, but with some loyal troops at their back, succeeded in defending the palace from the assaults of the revolutionists.

Madero's father had been summoned from Toluca, 40 miles distant, but Blanquet has only a thousand men under his command, and the rebels are confident of defeating him, should he refuse to join the revolt.

The day was marked by four separate engagements, the most sanguinary of which took place in front of the national palace.

FELIX DIAZ LEADS REVOLT

General Diaz, who is the nephew of the deposed president, Porfirio Diaz, now is at the head of a majority of the capital troops, including the artillery, and is in possession of the arsenal in the city and the powder works near by.

Madero is relying on the loyalty of General Blanquet, who has been summoned from Toluca, 40 miles distant, but Blanquet has only a thousand men under his command, and the rebels are confident of defeating him, should he refuse to join the revolt.

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But the most important was that which terminated in the formal surrender of the troops in the artillery barracks.

GENERAL REYES AMONG SLAIN

It is believed that not less than 200 persons were killed in the fighting. Among the number was General Bernardo Reyes, a strong adherent of Porfirio Diaz and former Secretary of War.

The mutiny, however, was not confined to students of the military school in Tlalampala, a suburb.

They marched to the prison to which General Felix Diaz had been transferred for safe keeping, and released him.

General Bernardo Reyes also was freed from Santiago military prison, there being no resistance in either quarter.

To the army of the mutineers quickly came portions of the First cavalry, Twentieth fourth cavalry and Twentieth infantry.

General Manuel Mondragon, retired, was in command, but gave way to Generals Diaz and Reyes.

FIRST ENCOUNTER SANGUINARY

At 5:30 o'clock the first encounter with the loyal troops occurred in front of the National Palace and General Reyes, whose long record as an army officer was broken little more than a year ago by his resignation, was killed instantly by a bullet through the head.

Many fell in this engagement, and among the scores of bodies which strewn the streets were those of minor officers, women and boys of the lower classes, and members of the great crowd of spectators which had gathered at the firing of the first shot.

General Lauro Villar, post commander of the capital, who remained loyal, was among those slightly wounded.

The minister of war, General Garcia Pena, also received a slight injury.

MADERO TAKES COMMAND

At the first call to arms President Madero took command of a force of approximately 1,000, consisting of mounted police, fire police, cadets, and a small detachment of volunteers.

He appeared at the head of this force a mile from the national palace, riding a big gray horse.

By his side rode General Huerta, hero of the campaign against Orozco, and one of the army generals whom the public generally had suspected of being traitors.

Several blocks from the palace one of Madero's aids attempted to dissuade the president, and placing his hand on the horse's bridle, half turned the animal from the line.

Madero protested vigorously and continued to lead the advance until the shooting began. General Huerta succeeded in persuading him to enter a building in a side street.

This building, by a coincidence, was the same in which General Reyes took refuge during his campaign against Madero, and he was shot by a mob of Madero supporters, who attempted to stone him.

POPULACE IS STUPEFIED

The revolt, in its unexpectedness, was such as to stupefy the populace, the lower elements apparently not knowing for whom to cheer.

This is popularly given as the reason for lack of pillaging and looting.

The attack on the national palace found the government not altogether unprepared. In the interim between the release of General Diaz and General Reyes from prison, Gustavo Madero, brother of the president, and Governor Garza of the federal district learned of the plans of the rebels.

The minister of war and General Villar made hasty preparations to guard the palace, hiding at the head of their troops in the national palace. Reyes approached from the east into the Zocalo, the big square in front of the palace.

General Reyes appeared for the first

time in many months in the uniform of a general, but Diaz wore a blue sack suit and soft gray hat.

CHALLENGE DRAWS BULLETS

A halt of the mutinous forces was made when General Villar, appearing at the door of the palace, raised his hand and challenged them.

His answer was an order on the part of the rebels to begin firing.

Quickly the invading forces assumed positions around the square, which soon clouded with smoke from their rifles.

Immediately from the palace came an answering fire.

The defenders were using rifles and machine guns.

From the west could be seen advancing the force headed by President Madero. As it approached the rebels retired into a side street.

Thirty minutes later street fighting began in the neighborhood, but lasted only a short time. Neither side appeared ready to press its advantage, but just before noon General Diaz led his command, numbering 1,000, on a wide detour, in an effort to reach the side of the palace.

PLAZA STREWN WITH DEAD

When the fighting in the Zocalo ceased, ambulances of the Red and White Cross picked up the dead and succored the wounded.

The plaza, an area of four city blocks, was strewn with bodies of men and horses. Within the palace there were few victims, but Colonel Morales, one of the most loyal of Madero's adherents, was killed.

Colonel Gregorio Ruiz, a retired officer, two captains and three lieutenants were executed in the patio of the national palace.

It is officially reported that this was by order of the government, but another story is that they were killed by a detachment of their own men because they opposed their joining in the revolt.

Stray bullets entered the embassy. RECKLESS MADERO PROMISES

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They complained of little or no justice. Diaz had been a dictator. Personal rights slowly but surely went into the hands of his patriarchs.

Big business enterprises were becoming concentrated. The individual had little opportunity to operate for himself or to avail himself of the business opportunities without hindrance from close followers and friends of Diaz.

Madero called attention to these conditions in his first public addresses. He made reckless promises which inflamed the public to the point of enthusiasm. He promised heavy tax on large estates so that the owners would be compelled to divide them and sell parcels.

Diaz did not surrender his power directly to Madero, but to meet the constitutional requirements of a popular choice of the presidency, Francisco de Ibarra, at that time ambassador to Washington, was placed in the executive office under a provisional appointment until the Mexican voters could elect a president.

In less than six months this formally had been completed and November 6, 1911, Madero took oath as president of Mexico.

REVOLTS START SOON

Almost from the day that Madero took office, he was the center of political activity and a revolution which several times threatened his power. His downfall is attributed not to the presidential ambitions of others, but to the charges that he failed to prove the benefits of the public that he promised.

It was upon the strength of these promises that thousands followed him and his generals into battle.

It is noted that the very men who supported President Madero as generals during the revolution he started and brought to a successful conclusion are the men at the head of the present revolution in Mexico.

General Zapata and Orozco Jr., and General Zapata and Orozco have been for 12 months undermining his administration with articles and threats, and harassing him in every possible way. General Orozco, in the Madero revolution, was his chief of staff.

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MADEIRO'S POLICIES FAIL Rule Worse Than Diaz's Cause of War

(Special Dispatch to The Call)

CITY OF MEXICO, Feb. 9.—It is less than two years ago that Porfirio Diaz, after a rule of more than a quarter of a century as president, tendered his resignation and left Mexico, retiring to Europe after the Madero revolution had utterly undermined his power. The revolution of a year was led by the present president, Francisco Madero Jr., a member of one of the wealthiest and most influential Mexican families. Diaz did not surrender his power directly to Madero, but to meet the constitutional requirements of a popular choice of the presidency, Francisco de Ibarra, at that time ambassador to Washington, was placed in the executive office under a provisional appointment until the Mexican voters could elect a president.

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