**Bexar Archives, Microfilm Roll 151, frames 220 to 225**

**Transcription (Spanish) and Translation (English),**

**based on Dora Guerra transcription and translation for the Center For Archaeological Research (CAR), The University Of Texas at San Antonio, Apr-1981, with minor additions**

**by Chris Kneupper, 26-Feb-2020; *significant alterations highlighted in yellow***

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* *italics added by transcriber*

**Letter from Domingo de Ugartechea to Antonio Elosúa, 1-Jul-1832**

Con esta fha. dirijo al Exmõ Sõr. Grãl.

de estos Estados el puerto siguiente.

Exmõ. (***Excelentíssimo*)** Sõr. (*Señor*) = El dia 23 del que fino como á las cuatro de la tarde se divisaron venir con bandera blanca cuatro individuos y luego q. (*que*) se les contesto con otra de igual color se llegaron a las in mediaciones del fuerte y les pregunte cual era el objeto de su mission; me dijeron q. (*que*) eran miembros de la junta q. (*que*) se habia formado en Brazoria pues toda aquella jurisdiction y las demas de la colonia de Austin se habian pronunciado poe el plan de Veracruz, capitando por el Gral. Santa Anna, y que benian de parte de dha. Junta y de los gefes de su divicion a inbitarme para que me pronunciase Yo desde luego me negue a su pretencion, y les hic ever que el atentado u rompimto. (*rompimiento*) con el punto military de Anahuac les azia abrazar aquel plan creyendo azi cubrirse, pero que si dezistian de su demanda estava seguro que el Supremo Gobierno losindultaria pues de lo contrario pondrian en peor esta do sus negocios : me dijeron que no deseaban pelear con migo, haun que tenian muchas fuerza con que poderlo acer, y que ya que no queria pronunciarme los dejase pasar en la Goleta Brazoria q. (*que*) sabia que aquella Goleta venia armada con cuatro pzãs. (*piezas*) y traia á su ordo mucha gente con el objeto de ir á Anahuac: Me dijeron q. (*que*) era \_\_\_\_\_ y que solo querian ...

*//p.2 (Roll 151, frame 221a)*

... ir a batirse con el Sor. Bradburn; pero que si yo no acedia trayian ord.n (*orden*) de intimarme rendicion : a esto conteste con la energia correspondiente a mi empleo y al dever de un Mejicano que nada le intimida, quedando con esto despedidos dichos comicionad.s = Como a las doce de esa misma noche se observe por uno de mis vigias., q. (*que*) alguna fuerza se acercaba por el camino de Brazoriay a la vez se les fué un tiro ; al momento mande tirar dos cañonazos por aquella direccion, y fué bastante para que su regresaran. = El siguiente dia 24 como a las once de el se bio venia con direccion al fuerte un grupo de caball.a (*caballeria*) como de 150 hom.s (*hombres*), y a larga distancia hicieron algunas excaramusas ; no quise hacerles fuego de cañon por no desperdiciar la polbora (*pólvora*) cuando estava bien ezcasa, y como a la media hora se retiraron. La manana del 25 se aproximo algo mas la Glta. (Goleta)., y como a distancia de media milla por tierra se campo la chusma, q. (*que*) al parecer era de 200 a 250 homb.s (*hombres*) montados. El 26 todo el dia se estubieron viendo hombres montados que su campo, a distancia de tiro de fucil del ntro. Handavan como de sentinelas ; Llantes de oscureser salieron mis guerrillas a espolar el campo como lo asain diariam.te y al momento se replegaron los abistados regresando dichas guerillas y a oscuro y saliendo inmediatam.te mis Vigias. Como a la media hora se presento la que estava situada al lado del Rio dando parte que lq G.ta (*Goleta*), que a pesar de la oscuridad de la noche se la veia el velamen y desde luego ...

*// p. 3 (Roll 151, frame 221b)*

... fue contestado por ella ; Dispuse asi mismo que el ciudadano Ten.te Juan Moret con 20 homb.s  bajase al foso a sostener el fuego si se acerca ban los enemigos, interin la demas fuerza lo \_\_\_\_\_ desde a dentro del fuerte : En efecto los primeros cañonazos de este, rompio el fuego la chusma de los enemigos parapetados de la mucha palisade que cubre la playa y como a distancia de 50 pasos de nosotros : A la tropa correspondio con el mayor denuedo, pues como yo observaba q.e (*que*) el fuego que nos hacian no era compatible con la fuerza q.e (*que*) alla tenian, guardava todas las avenidas con la poca mia, la cual constava de 64 Infantes y 9 artilleros ; pero los fuegos de cañon de los enemigos que sin intermicion disparaban y el de ntro. como asi mismo los de caravina y fusil no permitian observer ningun ruido a pesar de tener por todos rumbos sentinelas de obsevacion : Los enemigos favorecidos de la obscuridad formaron parapetos a diez y seis pasos del fuerte hasiendo posos en la arena, y despues de cubrir el frente con ella obserbo uno de los sentinelas con el crepusculo que se acer cava mucha gente silenciosa y que ignorava lo que traian ; al momento les rompi el fuego a ester umbo, y desde luego la G.ta (*Goleta*) atraco en el rio a distancia de 200 pasos del fuerte : Este correspondia los fuegos a dha. G.ta (*Goleta*) cargando la mayor fuerza sobre los enemigos parapetados, cuyo numero seria sobre 150 homb.s (*hombres*) siendo el fuego sostenido por mis valientes sin la mas corta intermission : ellos gritivan desde su trinchera Viva Santa Anna ; y mi tropa con ...

*// p. 4 (Roll 151, frame 222a)*

... testava Viva la Republica Mejicana, la constituc.n (*constitucion*) y leyes : Viva el Supremo Gob.no (*Gobierno*) : Yo mande tocar Diana y los vivas se repetian a la vez que la accion estava en su mayor fuerze ; y puedo asegurar a V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) que ha sido una de las mas renidas de ntra. Republica : Mi tropa tenia el mayor entusiasmo y desde aquella hora ya no huvo el menor intermedio en los fueos ; Como que los enemigos se ha llavan con 4 pzãs. (*piezas*) de cañon su fuego era demaciado vibo y la G.ta (*Goleta*) estava parapetada con tercios de Algod.n : Mi cañon no dejo de contestarles, mas como yo habia prebisto los tiradores que son \_\_\_\_\_ los Rifles y carabinas lo tenia a barbeta p.a (*para*) que de algun modo se cubriesen los artilleros ; y en un lado del fuerte tenia un cañonsito de 4 onzas que casual.te (*casualmente*) estava colocado al frente del parapeto de los decidentes. En toda la noche solo tube dos heridos y algunos con\_\_, pero luego que comenzo aclarar, tanto mis tropas como los enemigos dirigian major sus fuegos; ha este tiempo mande que el Ten.te (*Teniente*) Moret que se hallava en el fozo entrance al fuerte, lebante en Puente y cargue toda la fuerza sobre la trichera : La audacia de los enemigos, a pesar de su muchedumbre, biendo que un punado de homb.s (*hombres*) les hacian un fuego tan sostenido solo pudo resistir hasta las 9 de la manana a cuya hora huyeron presipitados; mi tropa se reanimo haun que solo eran quince hombres los que podian hacer fuego tanto por la inactividad de los fuciles como por la falta de piedras de chispa pues la mayor fuerza se hall ava solo con balloneta armada aguardando el as alto que intentaban, para lo que tenian prevenido los mismos Tablones que amas de la fuerza ...

// p. 5 (Roll 151, frame 222b)

... y favor les Serbian (*servian*) de parapet y los habian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_ con este fin : al momento de su retirada \_\_\_\_\_ pesar de los fuegos de Artill.a (*Artilleria*) mandados de la G.ta (*Goleta*), hice salir una guerilla que les \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ parapetos y trageron al fuerte 19 carabinas , 16 Pistolas, frascos de polbora (*pόlvora*) balas y estoques y algunas achas, dandome parte que estavan once muertos que del mismo fuerte se divisaban : Mande suspender los fuegos tanto de fusil como de cañon, sin embargo que los enemigos con ambas armas nos lo hacian desde la G.ta (*Goleta*) y A este tiempo se solto un fuerte aguacero q.e (*que*) algo nos perjudico = Viendo aquellos que no les correspondia cesaron su fuego y solo tiraban de cuando en cuando a los sentinelas pero sin eccsito. Al momento di una racion de Aguard.te y me dieron parte q.e (*que*) de la Goleta echaban algunos cadaberes a la agua I dispuse desde luego que se trapeasen los fusiles y q.e (*que*) de las carabinas que se habian recojido de los enemigos se les pusiesen piedras de chispa y me volvi a encontrar con 40 fusiles utiles ; dispuse tamb.n (*tambien*) curas a mis herid.s (*heridas*) q.e (*que*) eran 19 de los cuales 9 estavan de gravedad y los 10 restantes haunque inutiles p.r (*para*) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ los balazos en las manos y brazos, solo corrian riesgo no teniendo medicinas ni facultative que los curace y 5 muertos que tenia al momento fueron en terrad.s siendo entre ellos un Alemanllamado Generique q.e (*que*) como presidario trabajava en el fuerte y amas se enterraron un poco despues dos soldad.s (*soldados*) que pore star espirantes no los numeré entre los heridos cuya sepul- ...

// p. 6 (Roll 151, frame 223a)

... tura se hizo a las inmediacion.s (*inmediaciones*) del fuerte ; reconoci el parque y solo tenia 400 cartuchos p.a (*para*) los 40 soldad.s (*soldados*) utiles y 14 tiros de cañon los que complete a 20 con los frascos de polbora (*pόlvora*) y con las balas q.e (*que*) del mismo enemigo se recojieron ; ningun tiro tenia p.a (*para*) el pedrero pero de la misma polbora (*pόlvora*) quedo probisto (provisto) con 40 asi mande a la vez a mi tropa con decirles que haun unas utilez eran las balloneta en el fuerte pues que ya los habiamos heho correr. En este estado permanecim.s (*permanecimos*) y despues de haver comido la tropa que estava bastante fatigada por haver sostenido un largo y vivo fuego en el que se tiraron por una pequena fuerza 4,600 tiros de fucil, 96 con el cañon de a ocho, y setenta y seis con el pedrero de cuatro onzas. Se díspuso p.a (*para*) sufrir un nuebo (*nuevo*) golpe al tiempo que con en anteojo se bió que una columna como de 150 homb.s (*hombres*) de caball.a (*caballeria*) se avansava (*avanzaba*) aréa al fuerte, pero a distancia de media mila acharon pie a tierra; y yo buscando el modo de sacar partido de los enemig.s (*enemigos*) en veneficio de mis herid.s (*heridos*) y de mi tropa fatigada pues la accion habia durado p.r (*para*) el espacio de 19 horas sin intermicion mande poner una bandera blanca y al momento me contestaron con otra comensando a salir hombres armad.s (*armadas*) de la Goleta como en numero de 150; mande tam.n (*tambien*) al Ten. (*Teniente*) ciuadadano Juan Moret que les dijese que solo habia puesto aquella senal con el objeto de que biniesen a lebantar sus cadavers y en-...

*// p. 7 (Roll 151, frame 223b)*

... tonces el Gefe principal de ellos q.e (*que*) lo era el Alcalde de Brazoria D. (*Don*) Juan Austin me mando suplicar que deseaba ablar con migo al momento Sali y me fui entre ellos nos abrasamos y abrace a muchos amigos que no crei se encontrasen alli por ser hombres bien colocad.s (*colocados*) en esta colonia ; brindamos reunidos, pero nos respetamos nuestras opinions ; me dijeron q.e (*que*) estavan agradecid.s (*agradecidos*) por la generosidad que husaba ; y entonces les dije que si ellos lo eran me mandesen a Brazoria mis heridos p.a (*para*) que se les pusiese un facultative q.e (*que*) los asistieze y que todo se satisfaria cuando me biniese numerio ; al momento accedieron gustosos, y desde luego dispuse sacarlos del fuerte a una de las dos casas q.e (*que*) habia dejado sin quemar; y vino uno des sus facultativos a ofrecerme sus servicios alabando en general el valor de los mejicanos y diciendome q.e (*que*) afuerzade que los habia batido no tenia un enemigo entre los Americanos, pues todos me cumplimentaban a porfoa. = Me quisieron per suadir a que me adiriese al plan del Grãl (*General*) Santa Anna y que todos se pondrian a mis ordines : les dije q.e (*que*) no hablasemos mas sobre este asunto, y q.e (*que*) yo estab bien persuadido de que ni aun ellos q.e (*que*) me lo proponian estava en sus intereses, pues solo el hecho de Anahuac les asia tomar ag.l (*aquel*) ...

*// p. 8 (Roll 151, frame 224a)*

... partido contrario a su opinion como antes habia observado ; me preguntaron q.e (*que*) si ausiliaria al Sor. (*Señor*) Davis ; les dije que era de mi dever y q.e (*que*) luego q.e (*que*) saliesen de Brazoria p.a (*para*) Anahuac caeria yo sobre aquel punto ; me preguntaron tambien que si era verdad abia ausiliado a dh.o (*derecho*) Sr. ; Les dije que si : con tropa y municiones y repusieron q.e (*que*) por que habian sabido esto se propusieron atacarme, pero que de poniendo las armas y entregando el fuerte me ausilarian con cuanto yo quisiese ; Les conteste q.e (*que*) dejaria el fuerte ya que dependia de ellos mi subsistencia pero saldría con los honores de la Guerra es desir, con armas, munisiones y equipo a si de ofiales como de tropas ; y me dijeron q.e (*que*)a todo accederían hasta darme un buque p.a (*para*) que mar chase o que me fuse a Brazoria y se me darian ausilios ; les conteste q.e (*que*) sin armas ni municiones jamas lo aria, pues debia ser con todos los honores de la Guerra, y sino que propusiesen la hora para romper las hostilidades. Despues de largos debates quedamos en plazados para el dia veinte y ocho a las diez de la manana, marchando inmediamente el Ciud.o (*Ciudadano)* Alcalde a dar ct. de todo a la junta indicada: nos retiramos y al otro dia como a las ocho llego otro alcalde y me dijo q.e (*que*) ni la junta ni la Division combenia en q.e (*que*) quedasemos armados : les conteste que de otra suerte no accederia, pues tenia hombres, armas ...

*// p. 9 (Roll 151, frame 224b)*

... municiones y balloneta con que sostenarme; que en tal virtud me retiraba y que lla no tenia mas q.e (*que*) hablar; que aguardaba lo que resolbiesen y que solo encargaba mis heridos : me aseguraron q.e (*que*) estos tendrian la major assistencia y hospitalidad. = Luego que entre en el fuerte empese a disponerme p.a (*para*) Nuevo ataque, asi mande a mis balientes soldados : coma a las oraciones de la noche teniendo ya el puente lebantado, se a sercaron dos boltos, se les dio el quien viveal q.e (*que*) contestaron suplicando saliese yo a hablarles pues uno era D. (*Don*) Juan Austin y el otro un miembro de la junta; Sali en efecto y me dijeron que todo estava corriente, y que p.r (*para*) la manana ariamos los combenios. = El dia sitado como a las siete de la manana comisione a los ciudadanos oficiales Ten.te (*Teniente*) Juan Moret y Sub Ten.te (*Teniente*) Jose M.a Rincon, los cuales con mis instrucciones hicieron el combenio q.e (*que*) bera V.D. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) por la copia que respetuosam.te (*respetuosamente*) le acompana Como la Goleta Brazoria en que tenian su bacteria quedo initilizada por mi cañon cobinieron reponerla para que yo marchase a Matam.rs (*Matamoros*) si no se conseguia la Elizabet q.e (*que*) se hallaba Rio arriba y al momento q.e (*que*) la desocuparon poniendo a bordo de la M.a Josefa todos sus pertrechos de Guerra y artille.a (*artilleria*) cuyo abiso me dieron a las once del dia, hice poner abordo de la espresada Brazoria todos los equipages familias y algunos viveres forme, mi tropa, mande armar ...

*// p. 10 (Roll 151, frame 225a)*

... balloneta y al frente de 170 homb.s (*hombres*) que estaban formados Sali del fuerte batiendo marcha hasta el buque donde me hayo a esta fha. (*fecha*), aguardando su recomposicion o la venida de la Elizabet. = Tanto los oficiales q.e (*que*) me acompanaban q.e (*que*) fueron, los ciudadanos Ten.te (*Teniente*) Juan Moret Comand.te (*Comandante*) del piquete del 11mo Batall.n, Subten.te (*Subteniente*) Jose M.a Rincon, Comand.te (*Comandante*) del piquet del 12mo, y mi Ayudan.te (*Ayundante*) Subten.te (*Subteniente*) Manl. (*Manuel*) Pintado como asi mismo la tropase portaron con el mayor valor y no tengo que particularizar a ninguno, pues aun los heridos interin podian manejar sus fusiles lo hisieron llenos de entusiasmo. A la consideracion de V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) dejo la justa recomendacion de esta corta secion pues V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) major que ningun otro sabra pesar el merito a que se a hecho acredora ; Esperando tendra V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) muy presente a las viudas de los soldados que murieron con tanto denuedo cuyos nombres en primera oportunidad abisare a V.D. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*). = Segun las noticias perdida de diez y siete muertos y cuarenta y dos heridos = Por mi parte aseguro a V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) q.e (*que*) solo las criticas y apuradas circunstancias en q.e (*que*) me he bisto, tanto p.r (*para*) la falta de municiones, como p.r (*para*) la remota esperanza de recibir ausilios a causa de la muy larga distancia que de este punto hay a los de done me podian venirme han obligado a entrar ...

*// p. 11 (Roll 151, frame 225b)*

... en combenio con los disidentes ; y a V.d. suplico que tomando en consideracion la comprometida situacion en q.e (*que*) me vi tenga la dignacion a conserber asi a mi el faborable consepto que siempre le e merecido y jamas des mentire = Reitero a V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) las mas sinceras protestas de mi subordinacion y respeto.

Y lo insert a V.d. (*Vuestra merced = Usted*) p.a (*para*) su conocimiento protestandole mi consideracion y aprecio.

Dios y Libertad a bordo de la Goleta Brazoria en la boca del rio Brãz.

1. de Julio de 1832.

Domingo de Ugartechea

Sr. Coron.l D. Ant.o Losua (*Señor Coronel Don Antonio Elosúa*)

Comand.te Princip.l (Comandante Principal) del

estad de Coahuila y Tejas

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With this date, I address the following to the Most Excellent Sir General of these States (via) the following port.

Most Excellent Sir = On the 23rd of last month, around four in the afternoon four individuals were observed approaching, carrying a white flag. When they were replied to in kind, they drew closer to the fort. I asked them what was the object of their mission, and they replied that they were members of the Convention which had been organized at Brazoria. You see, that entire district, and many others from the Austin Colony had sided with the Plan of Veracruz, headed by General Santa Anna, and these emissaries from said Convention had been delegated by their superiors to invite me to join their party.

I of course declined their proposal, and I tried to point out to them that their aggression against the government at the military point of Anahuac was what was forcing them to side with the Plan, thinking that in so doing they were protecting their affairs. However (I suggested), that if they gave up their demands, I was sure that the Supreme Government would grant them amnesty, while if they persisted to oppose, their affairs would be in jeopardy. They replied that they did not wish to fight against me, although they certainly had the strength and force to do so. They told that since I insisted on not joining them, to at least allow them to go through in the schooner ***Brazoria***, which was within sight. I answered them by saying that I was aware that the schooner was armed with four pieces, and that it was also carrying a large crowd determined to go to Anahuac. They told me that it was \_\_\_\_\_\_, and that they only wanted ...

*// p.2*

... to engage Mr. Bradburn in battle and that if I refused to let me through, they had orders to ask for my surrender.

At this I retorted with all the strength required of my rank, position, and duty as a Mexican Officer, who is not easily intimidated. With this, the emissaries were dismissed.

Around midnight of the same night, it was observed by one of my guards, that a sizeable force was approaching on the Brazoria road, and they fired a shot. Immediately, I ordered two cannon shots in their direction. It was enough to force them back.

Next day, the 24th, around eleven, a force of about 150 men on horseback was observed coming toward the fort, and while still a long distance away, they maneuvered their horses to and fro. I chose not to fire cannon; because I could not afford to waste our gunpowder. It was in short supply. They drew back about half and hour later.

On the morning of the 25th the schooner was moved in closer. By land, about one-and-a-half miles away, a crowd of about 200 or 250 mounted men doing guard duty were visible from about a rifle shot away from us.

Before dark, my own guerrillas went out on their daily, routine field inspection. The sighted enemy fell back. By dark, my own guerrillas returned, and immediately my guards scudded into the darkness. About half-hour later the group I stationed by the river, reported that the schooner was approaching at full sail. At the same time, my guards stationed at sea-side reported hearing the sound of troops marching on foot.

Instantly, I ordered cannon to fire on the schooner, whose sails were visible, in spite of the pitch black darkness of the night. Naturally ...

*// p. 3*

... the schooner returned our fire. I then ordered Citizen Lt. Jian Moret to take twenty men with him down to the base of the ditch at the base of the fort with orders to fire on the enemy if they came near enough. Meanwhile, the rest of the force was \_\_\_\_\_\_ from within the fort. Actually, the first cannon shots that broke were the enemy’s, protected as they were by the long and extensive stockade that covers the beach, about fifty steps from our spot. My troops responded with the greatest courage. I was aware that the enemy’s fire was not equal to its strength. I considered as many avenues available to my limited troops, which consisted of sixty-four infantrymen, and nine artillerymen.

The noise caused by the enemy’s cannon fire, which they were firing intermittently, plus the noise from our own cannon as well as from our carbines and rifles made it impossible for my sentinels to hear the enemy’s movements. The enemy, protected by the darkness of the night, was able to create a stockade sixteen paces from the fort by digging ditches in the sand. After covering the whole front with this stockade, one of my sentinels observed a large group moving stealthily, as dawn came, but he could not make out what they were carrying. I immediately opened fire in the direction of all the activity. Of course the schooner moored on the river at about two hundred paces from the fort.

From the fort, we returned the schooner’s fire, and managed to cause greater harm to the enemy behind the stockade, which I estimated to be about 150 strong. My men valiantly returned their fire, sustaining it without the least bit of pause. The enemy hollered from their trenches Long Live Santa Anna! My troops replied ...

*// p. 4*

... hollering Long Live the Mexican Republic, Its Constitution and Laws, and Long Live the Supreme Government. I ordered reveille to be played. The hollering of the troops continued as the battle raged at its peak. I can assure Your Lordship that this battle has been the most hard fought of our Republic. From that moment on, my troop’s enthusiasm never faltered, nor was there a pause in the shooting.

The enemy had four pieces of cannon, whose fire was strong and incessant. The schooner had been draped in cotton canvas for protection. My cannon never failed to return their fire; and as I had foreseen, I had the rifle and carbine men on the barbette so that in some way they could cover the artillerymen. On one of the sides of the fort, I had a small cannon of four ounces, which, incidentally, was right in front of the dissident’s stockade.

I suffered only two casualties through the night. There were a few \_\_\_\_\_\_. However, once daylight broke, both sides were better able to aim their fire. At this point, I ordered Lt. Moret, who had been in the trenches beside the fort, to re-enter the fort. I lifted the bridge, and then concentrated all my forces on the (enemy’s) trenches.

The enemy, who greatly outnumbered us, was amazed to see a handful of men maintain such a prolonged attack. The enemy was able to hold out until nine in the morning, at which time they ran away hastily.

My troops regained their enthusiasm. There were only fifteen men who could fire guns due in part to faulty guns, and in part to the lack of spark. Most of my troops were armed only with bayonets. They prepared themselves for the assault which was sure to come, by preventing the same Planks which of the force ...

*// p. 5*

... and also which served as a parapet, and they had used for that end.

At the moment of the enemy’s retreat, and in spite of the barrage from the schooner, I ordered a guerrilla group to go out \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ stockade and they brought back to the fort 19 carbines, sixteen guns, powder flasks, bullets and swords as well as a few hatchets. When they returned, they reported there were eleven dead, visible to us from the fort. I ordered the rifle and cannon firing to stop, but the enemy continued firing on us with both kinds of artillery. At this moment, a rain storm broke out, causing us some damage. When the enemy saw we were not returning their fire, they stopped shooting, except for an occasional unsuccessful pot-shot at our guards.

I immediately ordered a round of whiskey to be passed among my soldiers. A report came in that dead bodies were being thrown overboard from the schooner. I disposed that the rifles be mopped, and that the enemy’s carbines which my men had picked up and brought back with them, be equipped with flint. As a result I now had forty working rifles. I also disposed my nineteen wounded to be tended. Of the nineteen, nine were seriously wounded. The other ten, although they sustained only wounds on their hands and arms, were nevertheless at risk, because we neither had medicines nor a doctor to care for their injuries. We buried five dead, among who was a German by the name of Heinrich, who had been a prison laborer working at the fort. We later also buried two more soldiers that because they are aspirants they are not numbered among the wounded whose burial ...

*// p. 6*

... was made in the immediate vicinity of the fort. I inspected the grounds and only had 400 cartridges for the 40 useful soldiers, and 14 cannonballs which was completed to 20 with the gunpowder flasks and with the bullets we collected from the same enemy. We had no shot for the swivel gun but of the same gunpowder was provided with 40, so send at the same time to my troop that even some useful bayonets in the fort, and that we had already made the enemy run.

In this state we remained and, after having eaten, the troop that was quite fatigued after having sustained a long and lively fire in which a small force had shot 4,600 rifle shots, 96 with the cannon of eight, and seventy-six with the (*this phrase is absent in the typescript of the Guerra translation*) four-ounce swivel gun. Disposed to withstand a new blow, while in the telescope it was found that a column of about 150 cavalrymen was advancing to the area of the fort, but dismounted about a half mile away. I was trying by some means, to obtain respite from the enemy for my wounded and my exhausted troops who had battled without rest for nineteen hours. I had a white flag raised, and immediately we were replied in kind. Armed men were seen coming out on the deck of the schooner, that numbered 150. I ordered Lt. Citizen Juan Moret to go tell them that I had only raised the white flag to give them the opportunity to come pick up their dead and ...

*// p. 7*

... then the principal leader who was the Mayor of Brazoria, Don John Austin, sent word that he wished to speak to me immediately. I went out among them and we embraced. I embraced many friends whom I never dreamed would be present because of their high position in the Colony. We toasted together, but respected our respective opinions.

Immediately and happily they agreed. I ordered that my wounded be taken out from the fort, and placed in one of the two houses that I had left unburned. One of their doctors came to me, and offered his services, the whole praising the courage of the Mexicans and telling me that in spite of having engaged in battle against them, I did not have one single enemy among the Americans, and that they all thought highly of me.

They then tried to persuade me to go over to General Santa Anna’s side, and that they would all of them pledge their loyalty to my command. I asked them not to touch that subject, and that I was convinced that they were not serving their best interest, even as they entreated me to join their side. I felt that it was their actions at Anahuac that was forcing them to think that they had to side with that ...

*// p. 8*

... party, contrary to their opinions, an observation that I had already expressed to them. They asked me if I would assist Mr. Davis (Bradburn). I told them it was my duty, and that as soon as I learned they had left Brazoria for Anahuac that I would descend on that point.

Was it true also that I had aided said gentlemen, they asked. I replied that it was true. I had helped with troops, and with ammunition. It was knowledge of this, that prompted them to attack me, they said, but if I was willing to lay aside my arms and surrender the fort, they would be willing to cooperate with any of my requests. I said I would leave the fort because my subsistence and fate was now in their hands, but that I insisted on leaving with the honors of war, that is, with arms, munition, equipment and officers as in full troop assemblage.

They agreed to it all, what is more, they offered to provide me with a ship that would take us to Brazoria where our needs could be tended to. I said, that only if my conditions of leaving with arms and munition were met, otherwise I would never leave. My departure would take place only if I could leave with all the honors of war, and if those conditions were not agreeable, then all that would be left to do would be to set the hour at which to renew the hostilities.

After much deliberation, we agreed to meet again on the 28th at ten in the morning. The citizen mayor left immediately to render his report to the aforementioned Convention. We then left. The following day, around the eight, another mayor arrived, and told me that neither the Convention nor its Division agreed to the terms of allowing us to remain armed. I answered that there was no way for me to agree either. I still had arms, ...

*// p. 9*

... munitions and bayonets with which to do battle, and by virtue of these results, I would take my leave with nothing more to discuss. I added that I would await their decision, and pleaded only for the safety of my wounded. They assured me that these would have the best of care and attention.

As soon as I was back in the fort I began to prepare for a new siege, and so ordered my valiant soldiers. Later that night, around prayer time, and after already raising the bridge, two shadows drew near. We spoke the “Who Goes There?” They answered with a request to see me. One of them was Mr. John Austin, and the other was a member of the Convention. I went out to meet them, and was brought up to date. In the morning, I was told, we were to meet and discuss a settlement.

On the appointed day, around seven in the morning, I commissioned citizen officers Lt. Juan Moret and Sub-Lt. Jose Maria Rincon who with my instructions conducted and carried out the settlement, as is obvious to Your Lordship from the accompanying copy.

Since the schooner ***Brazoria***, where they had their artillery, had been rendered useless by my cannon, they agreed to repair it so that I could go to Matamoros. As soon as they unloaded, and in case they would not be able to acquire the ***Elizabeth***, which was just up the river, they put all their equipment and supplies on board the ***Maria Josefa***. The moment they informed me, at eleven that morning, I gave orders to have all our belongings, families, and some provisions loaded on board the aforementioned ***Brazoria***.

I gathered my troops, and ordered them to fix ...

*// p. 10*

... bayonets and before one-hundred-and-seventy men who were formed, I left the fort beating a march toward the ship where, to this date, I find myself, waiting for its repair or for the arrival of the ***Elizabeth***.

The officers who accompanied me were citizens Lt. Juan Moret, Commander of the 11th Battalion Picket, Sub-Lt. Jose Maria Rincon, Commander of the 12th Battalion Picket, and my aide Sub-Lt. Manuel Pintado, as well as the entire troop, who demonstrated the greatest valor. I will not make distinctions among them because even the wounded occasionally took up arms when they were able to.

I leave, to Your Lordship, judgement of this short session; because no one better than Your Lordship can weigh the merit it deserves. I am hoping that Your Lordship will be mindful of the widows of the soldiers who died so courageously, and whose names I will forward to Your Lordship at the first opportunity.

According to the news I have been able to gather, the enemy suffered seventeen dead, and forty-two wounded. As for myself, I wish to assure Your Lordship that it was due only to the difficult circumstances in which I found myself, partly caused by the shortage of ammunition, as well as by the absence of hope receiving help from anyone due to the very long distance between this point and the next which could possibly render me assistance, that I entered ...

*// p. 11*

... into agreement with those dissidents.

I beg of Your Lordship that He take into consideration the compromising situation in which I found myself, and that He not deny me his favor. (A favor) of which I have proven deserving, and which I will never dishonor. I re-affirm my most sincere loyalty and respect, for Your Lordship.

Submitted herewith for His information re-affirming my thoughts and affection.

God and Liberty aboard the schooner Brazoria at the mouth of the Brazos River

1st of July of 1832

Domingo de Ugartechea

*To*: Sir Colonel Don Antonio Elosúa

Principal Commander of the

state of Coahuila and Texas

***Note:*** *If readers have suggestions for improvement of the transcription or translation, please feel free to contact the first-listed transcriber above.*

***Note****: Another (English-language) version of this letter appears in the Lamar Papers, Vol. I, pp 132-136 (as Document #148); it has several factual differences, perhaps suggesting it was a different draft.*