

Texas Faces Foreign Challenges

Section 2



MAIN IDEAS

1. President Lamar hoped to add Santa Fe to Texas.
2. The Mexican army raided several targets in Texas.
3. Mexico finally recognized the Texas Republic in 1845.

Key Terms and People

Santa Fe expedition an expedition launched by President Lamar to create a trade route between Texas and Santa Fe

Edwin W Moore Texas Navy officer sent by Lamar to the Yucatán coast to help rebels

Mary Maverick San Antonio resident whose diary is a source of information about Texas life

Jack Coffee Hays volunteer Texas Ranger who forced General Woll to retreat to Mexico

Archives War conflict that arose when Austin residents opposed the transfer of government archives to Washington-on-the-Brazos in 1842

Mier expedition invasion of Mier, Mexico led by Colonel William S. Fisher

Section Summary

THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION

President Lamar wanted to secure the land east of the Rio Grande and gain access to the trade moving along the Santa Fe Trail. In June 1841 Lamar launched the **Santa Fe expedition**—an expedition of about 320 people to Santa Fe to take control of the region. When the Texans reached New Mexico, they were captured by Mexican troops and marched 1,200 miles to Mexico City, where they were imprisoned. The expedition was a failure and set the stage for years of conflict between Texas and Mexico.

What was the purpose of the Santa Fe expedition?

THE TEXAS NAVY

In spite of the expedition's failure, Lamar continued his campaign against Mexico. He sent the Texas Navy, under **Edwin W. Moore**, to the Yucatán coast to help rebels who were fighting against the Mexican government. The rebels paid Texas \$8,000 a month for the use of the navy. When Sam Houston began his second term as president in 1841, he ordered the navy to return home.

THE ARCHIVES WAR

In September 1842, General Adrián Woll and 1,400 soldiers captured San Antonio. Resident **Mary Maverick** described the morning invasion in her diary, a major source of information about Texas life at the time. Ranger **Jack Coffee Hays** and his volunteer force met Woll and forced him to retreat. Fearing an attack on Austin, President Houston ordered the government archives to be moved to Washington-on-the-Brazos. Afraid their city would no longer be the capital, Austin residents opposed the move. They fired at officials who were loading documents onto wagons. This conflict—the **Archives War**—ended with the documents back in Austin.

Why were Austin citizens upset at Houston's orders to move the archives?

THE MIER EXPEDITION

In November President Houston ordered General Alexander Somervell to the Rio Grande to recapture prisoners taken by General Woll. When Somervell reached the Rio Grande, he realized that he did not have enough supplies or troops. He ordered his troops home, but about 300 of them disobeyed orders. Led by Colonel William S. Fisher and known as the **Mier expedition**, the Texans entered the Mexican town of Mier and demanded supplies. Confronted by Mexican soldiers, the Texans surrendered.

Peace was slowly restored between Texas and Mexico. In 1845 a British diplomat presented a document to Mexican officials. If the Mexican government formally acknowledged the Republic of Texas, Texas would not join the United States. By the time Mexico agreed to recognize Texas independence, however, it was too late. The Texans had decided in favor of annexation.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Evaluating What factors eventually led to Mexico recognizing Texas independence?

Section 2, *continued*

Santa Fe expedition	Edwin W. Moore	Mary Maverick
Jack Coffee Hays	Archives war	Mier expedition

DIRECTIONS On the line provided before each statement, write **T** if a statement is true and **F** if a statement is false. If the statement is false, rewrite the sentence to make a true statement.

_____ 1. Led by Colonel William S. Fisher, the Mier expedition led to a defeat for Texas at the hands of the Mexican troops.

_____ 2. Jack Coffee Hays led the Texas Navy in 1841.

_____ 3. Mary Maverick's diary described life in Austin in the 1800s.

_____ 4. The Santa Fe expedition was a success.

_____ 5. The Archives War was a conflict that took place in Austin in 1842.

_____ 6. Edwin W. Moore defeated General Woll in 1842.
