

WHAT U. S. TROOPS MAY ENCOUNTER IN PURSUING VILLA.



Major General Frederick Funston, who is directing the mobilization of and preparations for sending United States troops into Mexico to capture Villa, dead or alive.

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A Problem in Preparedness: If it requires 5,000 regulars to capture 500 Mexican bandits, how many regulars, militiamen and volunteers would be required to capture a trained European army of 200,000 men?



Soldiers of the 4th United States Infantry intrenched in sand hills at La Cocas, Mexico. This photograph reveals the nature of some of the arid, sandy wastes through which United States cavalymen will have to travel in pursuit of Villa and his followers.

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Brigadier General John J. Pershing, who is expected to lead the expedition in the pursuit of Villa. Like General Funston, General Pershing made his reputation in the Philippines.

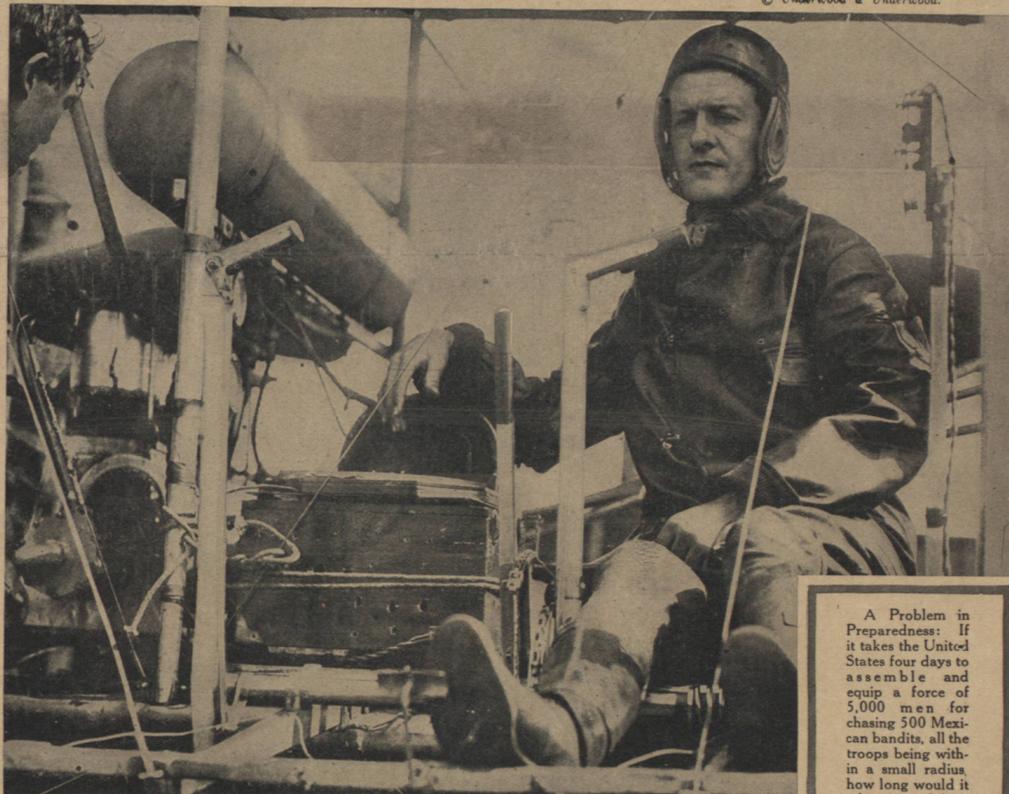
Problems in Preparedness: If the capture of 500 Mexican bandits and the guarding of the United States-Mexican border require all of the regular continental army of the United States except eight regiments, how many regiments would be required to defend the Atlantic and Pacific coasts from two trained European armies, each mustering 200,000 seasoned soldiers?

If the United States needs all but eight regiments of its army to catch Villa and guard its Mexican border, what would it do in case of war with a united Mexico?

Answer — Call on the militia and for volunteers.

How long would it require for city bred guardsmen and volunteers to get hardened and trained to efficiency for the kind of warfare and hardships they would encounter in the deserts and rocky wastes of Mexico?

And what price in sickness and death would be paid for unpreparedness?



Captain Benjamin D. Foulois, who is expected to command the aeroplane unit which will accompany the pursuers of Villa.

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A Problem in Preparedness: If it takes the United States four days to assemble and equip a force of 5,000 men for chasing 500 Mexican bandits, all the troops being within a small radius, how long would it take to mobilize, equip and transport an army sufficient to defend a Pacific or Atlantic coast city from an army of 200,000 trained European soldiers?



This photograph shows a Villa outpost in action against Carranza troops. It represents the manner in which, taking advantage of the rocky and hilly waste, Villa and his men may fight against United States troops.

Greeley Photo Service.



United States infantry scouting in the sand dunes near Vera Cruz. The troops pursuing Villa will meet with similar natural obstacles. How long would the office-soft civilian volunteer or militiaman last in top speed going in such country?

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