

REFUGIO BILDERRAIN
REAL ESTATE
602. ~~2964 WEST 15TH STREET~~ ^{South} Alvarado
LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Junio 19 | 1920

Señor General Alvaro Obregon
MÉTICO. D. J.

Estimado Señor Mio:

Adjunto recorte y fotografado
del Soldado. W. A. Gardendine.

Me parece interesante.

Sin mas por ahora.

Mande Ud. a su servidor y amigo

Refugio Bilderrain

602 S. Alvarado.

SAYS VILLA SICK, EAGER TO RETIRE



W. A. GARDENHIRE

Soldier of Fortune Declares Bandit Chief Weary, Worn, With Ambitions Gone

Just out of the interior of Mexico after five months spent in the vicinity of Villa's stronghold in the state of Sonora, W. A. Gardenhire, mining engineer and soldier of fortune, is today "back in God's country and glad of it."

A veteran of the world war, Gardenhire, upon discharge from the army, sought further adventure, and with only a Mexican and an Indian guide for companions, invaded the mining districts of the states of Sonora and Chihuahua.

Saved by His Guide

He found conditions there such, however, that he strongly recommends that other Americans do not attempt similar exploits at the present time. On more than one occasion, he states, did he owe his personal safety to the fidelity of his Indian guide and Mexican companion.

Gardenhire states that he has visited and conversed on numerous occasions with Villa in his mountain stronghold, and that from a recent conversation with him he regards the noted bandit leader's exploits as about ended.

"Villa's health is rapidly failing him; he was ill when I last visited him, and said that he only weighed at that time 135 pounds. His appearance would serve to verify it.

Ambition Is Gone

"Apparently his only ambition now is to be left alone in his mountain retreat, for he states that unless some one attempts to molest him he will carry on no further activities in so far as his ambition to control the affairs of the states of Sonora and Chihuahua is concerned."

Gardenhire says that sentiment in both of these states was strongly opposed to Carranza, and that in the town of Los Palomos the natives celebrated the news of Carranza's death with a parade and demonstrations, manifesting great satisfaction in his final extermination.