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The Great Call-Up: The Guard, the Border, and the Mexican Revolution by Charles H. Harris III, Louis R. Sadler
(review)

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forward for southern progressivism in Texas” and his platform “stood as the strongest statement of progressive ideals to that time” (52). Campbell as governor pushed legislation that regulated the lumber, beef, and oil industries. He opposed legislation that allowed consolidation of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe and some smaller railroads, asserting it would create a monopoly. When the bill passed, Campbell issued a 5,000-word veto message. He also revamped public school funding, championing legislation to allow districts to levy school taxes.

Campbell was a typical Southern Progressive, but he proved more effective than most. He was not proactive on racial issues, holding the standard paternal, if not outright racist, ideals. Nevertheless, he reformed government, education, and industry, and he was truly a trustbuster. More importantly, he did all of that and was a Texan.

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MARK STANLEY

The Great Call-Up: The Guard, the Border, and the Mexican Revolution. By Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2014. Pp. 576. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index.)

In *The Great Call-Up*, the frighteningly prolific Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler chronicle the massive 1916 mobilization of the U.S. National Guard to the border with Mexico in order to protect the United States against possible incursions by Mexican troops during the Mexican Revolution. Harris and Sadler convincingly demonstrate that the National Guard’s mobilization deserves to be understood as an event separate from Gen. John J. Pershing’s better-known Punitive Expedition against Pancho Villa in 1916, perhaps even eclipsing the latter expedition in its significance for U.S. military history.

Harris and Sadler provide what can best be characterized as a painstakingly detailed account of the National Guard’s mobilization, which is bookended by a brief historiographical contextualization and analysis. The authors demonstrate a mastery of the minutiae of military details, and their attention to these details will surely be appreciated by military historians. They also, by arranging their narrative by the geographic locations in which the National Guard’s regiments served, provide some interesting snapshots into the mobilization’s significance for the servicemen and the cities and towns where they found themselves stationed. For instance, the mobilization of the National Guard to Corpus Christi produced an immediate boon to local merchants and businessmen, who would feel the deep pangs of the National Guard’s removal once high command mustered the men out. Furthermore, when guardsmen left Laredo, “some unscrupulous enlisted men ‘sold’ the buildings in their camp to innocent and trust-

ing Hispanics” (263), showing that some of the National Guard were no different than the many civilian Anglo Texas borderlanders who sought to bilk ethnic Mexicans from their material wealth. Furthermore, the authors detail the hardships that the often underfunded, underequipped but generally well-trained National Guard faced in a modernizing armed force caught between nineteenth-century military stylistics and the burgeoning technologies of machine guns, trucks, and automobiles.

Harris and Sadler convincingly demonstrate that the National Guard’s mobilization in 1916 served as an important precursor to preparing the U.S. Army for entry into the Great War. *The Great Call-Up*, however, is not without its flaws. The authors persist with an argument that they first introduced in their previous monograph, *The Plan de San Diego*: Harris and Sadler argue that the famous South Texas revolt of 1915–1916 was a trans-border plot orchestrated by none other than Mexican President Venustiano Carranza *as opposed to* a liberation movement, a contention based on extremely limited and circumstantial historical evidence and for which there is no historiographic support outside of Harris and Sadler’s own work. Furthermore, although the book is undoubtedly well written and the authors’ keen eye for detail is impressive, the narrative, at 454 pages, could have benefited from some significant trimming. Despite these critiques, *The Great Call-Up* offers the first examination of a clearly seminal event in U.S. military history and will undoubtedly be appreciated by historians interested in the Army and the events surrounding the border during the Mexican Revolution.

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The Phantom Killer: Unlocking the Mystery of the Texarkana Serial Murders. By James Presley. (New York: Pegasus Crime, 2014. Pp. 397. Illustrations, notes, bibliography.)

Heinous crimes become the stuff of legend in small cities. And yet, very often, the details become hazy as time goes on. So it is with the 1946 serial killings in the border town of Texarkana, which straddles the state lines of Texas and Arkansas. Historian and Texarkana native James Presley grew up hearing tales of the lovers-lane murders, and in *The Phantom Killer, Unlocking the Mystery of the Texarkana Serial Murders: The Story of a Town in Terror*, he has masterfully gathered the arcane facts surrounding the crimes while preserving the story’s mythic quality.

Presley’s account is rich in detail, bringing the postwar culture of Texarkana back to life. Describing a date between the first two victims, Jimmy Hollis and Mary Jeanne Larey (who both survived), Presley writes:

A trip to the Paramount (theater) was almost a formal event, the men wear-