

forged Barrillas' name and was condemned without trial to be shot. The Spanish minister, resident in Guatemala, interceded with Barrillas, who agreed to spare Sobral's life, but convened a court-martial. This latter body, so it is asserted by friends of Sobral, was entirely composed of men biased against Sobral, and these condemned him to be shot. It is said that just prior to his departure for Quezaltenang, Barrillas ordered several of his soldiers to conduct Sobral to the vaults of the penitentiary and there had him shot.

San Salvador, via La Libertad, August 12.—Provisional President Ezeta has just issued a proclamation to the Salvador troops on the frontier of Guatemala, ordering them to maintain their present position and not to act on the aggressive towards the Guatemalan troops unless attacked by the latter. Ezeta has sent fresh supplies and clothing to the troops on the battlefield and large voluntary subscriptions of money have been poured into the Salvador Treasury. Preparations on a great scale are being made here for the reception of the United States Minister, to take place as soon as the United States Government shall have recognized Ezeta's provisional rule. This latter step on the part of the United States is momentarily expected by all well informed people here.

San Salvador, August 12.—War with Honduras now appears inevitable. The actions of President Bogran have not been satisfactory to provisional President Ezeta of Salvador, and he is irritated beyond measure and may take summary action at any time.

Washington, August 15.—The question now asked here on all sides is how much longer will the government postpone recognition of the existing provisional government of Salvador, nor can anyone understand why it has not been done before this. As a matter of fact, when the State Department received a cablegram from Mizner August 8th announcing that during a battle at the city of San Salvador the forces of the provisional government had seized the United States flag, and immediately instructed Minister Mizner by cable to demand full reparation from the provisional government of Salvador for the insult, that very moment the government of the United States virtually recognized the government of General Ezeta as the legal government of Salvador.

That General Ezeta expects and exacts recognition, without conditions, as an absolutely necessary step before accepting the mediation of the United States on the affair with Guatemala, is evidenced by his utterances reported in dispatches from Salvador August 1st, in which he is reported to have said in a dispatch to Minister Mizner: "If the great republic of which you are a worthy representative desires to recognize my authority as provisional President, such will enable me

to treat with you as an honorable government with a view to arrive at an amicable understanding."

Minister Mizner's further diplomatic moves will be watched here with interest. His conduct so far has not been such as to inspire the belief that he is an expert in diplomacy. However, it is declared at the State Department that there is no truth in the rumor that he is to be recalled or that he has been granted a leave of absence and that Samuel Kimberly, recently appointed secretary of the legation, will supersede him in the management of the present diplomatic difficulties in Central America. The latter has received his instructions and will leave for Central America in September, but he merely goes to assist Mizner and in no sense to replace him.

City of Mexico, via Galveston, Aug. 15.—To add to the horror of war in Central America, smallpox has broken out among the Guatemalan troops on the frontier of Salvador, and the death rate is simply appalling, and the disease has also extended to the City of Guatemala, where it is also causing great mortality among the soldiers and inhabitants alike. Hostilities are suspended, but there is no advancement from Guatemala in the interest of peace, owing to discord among the members of the diplomatic corps, who are trying to mediate the peace. Minister Mizner desires to act alone in this matter and has lost the support of the other ministers resident there. He has not returned from Salvador, where his efforts for peace have proved futile, owing to his manifest partiality for Guatemala. Ezeta has little confidence in him.

It is believed that, with smallpox raging, the war between the two countries will be forced to come to an end, and that peace will be patched up some way. It seems strange that Geronimo Pau here should have received dispatches from President Ezeta, stating that negotiations for peace were going along through the aid of the diplomatic corps in Guatemala, and that the above dispatch should state the contrary. The only explanation which seems plausible is that the above quoted dispatch from Guatemala, referring to Mizner's partiality for Guatemala, must originate with Mexicans, as not one of this nationality has any love for him, and consequently allowance should be made for prejudiced statements.

City of San Salvador, August 16.—In a talk with President Ezeta on the situation of affairs in Central America the President said: "I have nothing to fear in the interior now. The people are unanimous in repelling forcibly all foreign interference with their home business and are perfectly willing to fight out the question with Guatemala. The army on the frontier is fifteen thousand strong, in seven encampments, and is well commanded by Generals Yrugaray, Zepeda, Dillado and other chiefs, Antonio

"The army on the frontier of Honduras numbers 4000 men, commanded by Generals Ferrera, Nuila, Molina and Plaza. The eastern frontier is also protected by 2000 men, under the command of General Moreno. I have no confidence in the peaceful efforts of the diplomatic corps and soon expect a re-opening of hostilities. I know that General Barrillas is gathering troops on the frontier every day and I am also preparing to receive him. My troops are enthusiastic and are desirous to engage in battle.

"General Bogran was helping the Rivas faction in an underhand way and gave an unsatisfactory explanation. He has now thrown aside all disguise and is openly favoring the partisans of Ayala and I will invade Honduras before Guatemala moves. Nicaragua and Costa Rica will not interfere otherwise than diplomatically. The diplomatic corps will only postpone hostilities between Guatemala and this government. Its policy has always been deceitful, and we do not trust them.

"We cannot possibly tell what the results of the war will be. The Guatemalan army is more numerous, but that of Salvador is better disciplined and fights under a conviction that theirs is a right and just cause, and that is really the case. The Rivas rebellion was the result of machination. His defeat and death ruin all the hopes of Ayala.

"Nicaragua's sympathies are in favor of Salvador. Her troops at the Honduras frontier, however, are only for the purpose of observation. Today I asked General Bogran for the last time to decide for peace or war. M. Mizner, the American minister, is personally interested in peace. I will soon organize a cabinet and the moment a treaty of peace is signed I shall convoke a congress."

It is currently reported here today that President Ezeta has said that he will await the opening of peace negotiations three days longer, and then begin active hostilities again if necessary. Minister Mizner and Lieutenant Commander Charles S. Stockton of the *Thetis* have left the city, well satisfied with their reception by the people. Minister Mizner, who came here in the interest of peace between Salvador and Guatemala, has expressed himself as pleased with the results of his visit. It is believed generally that a settlement of the present difficulties will not be long delayed, although President Ezeta does not give much support to this idea.

Minister Mizner was closeted with President Ezeta and members of his provisional cabinet several times during his stay here and there was a feeling that on Minister Mizner's arrival in the capital of Guatemala he will, with the assistance of other ministers, be enabled to present terms of peace to President Barrillas which he will accept. The representatives of Costa Rica and Nicaragua are taking a firm stand in favor of Salvador and are laboring hard in the interests of peace.

The army of Salvador on the frontier of Honduras has recently been