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U. S. Backer **Quits Mexican** Leader's Cause

Rodriguez Told by Borden Gold Shirts March Spells Peril

By LEON PEARSON



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John Borden, wealthy American businessman who was supporting the exiled leader of the Mexican Gold Shirts in his pretentions to Mexico's presidency, has withdrawn that support and urged the leader, Gen. Nicolas Rodrig u e z, to back the principal opposition of the Gold Shirts on Mexico City, a loposition of the Gold Shirts on Mexico City, and the Header, Gen. Andreu Almazan.

This action followed disclosures made in the Time s. Herald that the "peaceful march" of the Gold Shirts on Mexico City, would, if staged at all, be an armed uprising. Borden's interest in the movement promptly cooled, and he has addressed the exiled General Rodriguez, in El Paso, Texas, stating, "I am unwilling to represent a cause which, it now appears, might result in a revolution instead of a peaceful and legal march of protest..."

Bound by Personal Ties

From the first, Borden made no pretentions of intimate knowledge with the Mexican political scene, never having visited Mexico, but he was drawn by personal 'ties to the leader of 'Los Dorados,' whom he had met in Chicago. General Rodriguez came there for treatment of tropical malaria, and Borden, a resident of Chicago and a member of a prominent and wealthy family, took him to the Presbyterian Hospital, and later took him into his own home during a two months' period of convalescence.

He became much impressed with the General's personality, and with his political program, which called for return to an era of good-will with the United States, in reaction from the Cardenas policy.

It was Borden's understanding that General Rodriguez had such strength that the Gold Shirts, 80-000 strong, would rise as a man the moment he crossed the border and stage a peaceful march on Mexico City, establishing the General in the Presidential Palace.

De Avila Less Peaceful

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But the intentions of J. De Avila, Gold Shirt leader in Mexico City, as reported in these columns, were frankly less peaceful. That official stated the followers would be armed and could not be expected not to use their arms "if we are fired upon."

Disclosures of these facts, and the fact that "Los Dorados" does not figure as a major element in the present political struggle—Rodriguez has been absent from Mexico for five years—led Borden to withdraw his support.

In his letter to the general he stated, "Recent developments in Mexico make your proposed peaceful march not only extremely inadvisable from the point of view of the United States, but in my opinion futile from the point of view of your party and yourself.

Returns Commission

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"I am therefore returning to you the authorization empowering me to negotiate political and economic questions for Los Dorados, as I can no longer accept this or any similar commission . . . and I am unwilling to represent a cause which, as it now appears, might result in a revolution instead of a peaceful and legal march of protest against the Communist tendencies of the present Mexican government.

"I wish also to take this opportunity of strongly advising you and the Army throw your support to General Almazan in the coming election."

Borden is a graduate of Yale, class of 1906, a member of Ph Beta Kappa, and is known as an explorer in Alaska and the Arctic He served as commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1917 to 1919.

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