

# HUERTA LANDS AT N. Y.

## Former Mexican Ruler Swears to Heed U. S. Neutrality.

### GREETED BY THROG AT PIER

#### Ex-Dictator Poses for Photographers, Makes Date With Reporters.

Passed by Immigration Officials as a Transient Alien After Promising Not to Visit Mexico or Cuba—Will Return to Spain After Transacting Personal Business—Agrees to Meet Newspaper Men for Interview Friday Morning.

New York, April 12.—Gen. Victoriano Huerta, former provisional president of Mexico, who for nearly a year has been an exile in Spain, arrived here today on the Spanish steamship Antonio Lopez from Cadiz. Gen. Huerta was passed by United States immigration officials as a transient alien after he had declared under oath that he would do nothing that would in any way involve the neutrality of the United States.

The former president said that he had come to the United States partly for pleasure and partly to attend to some personal business connected with family matters. He swore that he had no intention of going to Mexico or to Cuba. The length of his stay here, he said, was indefinite, but he would return to Spain, possibly sailing from New York early in May.

#### Meets Newspaper Men.

Gen. Huerta was met at quarantine by representatives of the press and by an array of photographers. While submitting to being photographed in every desired pose, he declined to say anything as to his mission, agreeing to meet newspapermen at his hotel here next Friday morning. Regarding this appointment, he said:

"I understand that my presence in this country creates in you the desire to know my views about the affairs of Mexico, and I promise to satisfy your wishes to the best of my ability. \* \* \* I beg you, gentlemen, to remember that no interview with me should be considered as authentic unless it carries my personal signature."

#### Accompanied by Two Friends.

Gen. Huerta was accompanied by Gen. Jose C. Delgado, who has been his private secretary for ten years, and by Abraham Ratner, a personal friend of the general, who declared himself as an American citizen, giving his residence as New York. Mr. Ratner said that he had lived in Mexico at varying intervals for 20 years, and that he left the country for Spain on May 27, 1914. Other passengers on the ship said that while Gen. Huerta was extremely agreeable, he mingled only little with his fellow passengers, keeping with his two companions.

#### Greeted by Mexicans.

There were no Mexicans to meet him at Quarantine. On the pier, however, were gathered a number of men, who have been identified with Mexican affairs, among them being Gen. Quiros, Gen. Orosquito, and Senor Serrada. These men greeted Gen. Huerta affectionately, embracing him and being in turn embraced. As he came down the gangway two Mexicans, standing nearby, lifted their hats and exclaimed "Viva Huerta!"

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Around the pier were gathered several hundred persons, a number of uniformed police officers and plain clothes men being in attendance. No demonstration was made, however, as Gen. Huerta took his departure in a taxicab with his friends.

## May Come to Washington.

Among those at the pier was Capt. George J. Head, of the Texas National Guard, the man who delivered to Gen. Huerta in June, 1913, the ultimatum of Gov. O. B. Colquitt of Texas that if a single Texan was harmed by bullets coming over the border his generals and commanding officers would be held to personal account. Capt. Head said that he was here to meet Gen. Huerta simply as a friend.

Abraham Ratner, who gave his business as importer, said that he had been with Gen. Huerta for several months. He said that the general was in the United States on personal business and that Mexican politics would not enter into it. He added that the general might go to Washington before returning to Spain. Mr. Ratner said that to his knowledge, Gen. Huerta had not seen Gen. Porfirio Diaz when he was abroad.

## "Salutes" American People.

To all appearances, Gen. Huerta has changed but little since he left Mexico. While he is credited with having a fair command of English, what little talking he did was through an interpreter—even to the answering of the questions propounded by the immigration officers.

Through the interpreter he warmly thanked the photographers and reporters for the interest displayed in his arrival. Pressed for an interview, he said:

"It is a pleasure for me to be again in the United States, and it gives me an opportunity to admire once more the greatness of the American people, whom I salute through their press. It is nothing strange that on stepping on United States territory I should consider my first duty to salute this great nation, as many of its citizens have been and are my personal friends."