

Entering the World Stage

Chapter 7

Wilson and the Mexican Revolution**Section 4****MAIN IDEA**

American intervention in Mexico's revolution caused strained relations between the two neighbors.

**HSS 11.4**

Students trace the rise of the United States to its role as a world power in the twentieth century.

Key Terms and People

Porfirio Díaz dictator of Mexico between 1877 and 1910

Francisco Madero Díaz opponent who became president of Mexico after Díaz's overthrow

Emiliano Zapata rebel leader of an army of mostly Native American peasants

Francisco "Pancho" Villa rebel leader in northern Mexico

Victoriano Huerta military officer who overthrew Madero

Tampico incident arrest of nine American sailors in the port city of Tampico

Battle of Veracruz battle between the U.S. Marines and Mexican civilians for control of the port city of Veracruz

Mexican Revolution uprisings against Díaz's government

John J. Pershing leader of American invasion of Mexico to capture Pancho Villa

Section Summary**DICTATORSHIP SPARKS A REVOLUTION**

Between 1877 and 1910, Mexico was ruled by the dictator **Porfirio Díaz**. Díaz jailed his opponents. He did not permit freedom of the press. He used the army to maintain order. Díaz used money from foreign investors to modernize Mexico. However, the only ones who benefited were the very wealthy. In the 1910 election, **Francisco Madero** ran against Díaz. Madero was a wealthy landowner who supported reforms. Díaz jailed Madero and claimed to have won the election. Uprisings against Díaz started in different parts of Mexico. In the south, **Emiliano Zapata** led an army of mostly Native Americans. In northern Mexico, **Francisco "Pancho" Villa** led a large-scale revolt. In May 1911, Díaz resigned and Madero became president. In 1913 the commander of government forces, **Victoriano Huerta**, overthrew him. Four armies immediately rose up to fight Huerta.

Underline the years when Porfirio Díaz ruled Mexico. How long did he rule?

Who became president after Díaz resigned?

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Section 4

THE UNITED STATES INTERVENES

Many European governments recognized Huerta's government. The United States did not. President Wilson supported Huerta's enemies. On April 9, 1914, nine American sailors were arrested in the city of Tampico. They were quickly released, and Mexico apologized. The United States, however, demanded a 21-gun salute to the American flag. Mexico refused the humiliating demand. Wilson used the **Tampico incident** as an excuse to ask Congress to allow the use of armed force against Mexico. Before Congress agreed, Wilson learned that a German ship with weapons for the Huerta government was headed for Mexico. He ordered the U.S. Navy to seize the port of Veracruz. The U.S. forces stopped the German ship. Huerta's forces had withdrawn from Veracruz. Only civilians and local authorities were left behind. After the **Battle of Veracruz**, the United States took the city. Six months later, Huerta resigned.

How did President Wilson react to Huerta's takeover?

What city did the United States seize?

THE REVOLUTION CONCLUDES

Venustiano Carranza declared himself leader of the revolution in August 1914. By then, the **Mexican Revolution** was a struggle between two groups. One group supported Carranza. The other group supported Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata. The United States recognized Carranza. Villa led troops across the U.S. border on a raid. It was the first armed invasion of the United States since the War of 1812. President Wilson ordered a military expedition into Mexico to capture Villa. General **John J. Pershing** led the expedition. They searched for 11 months but were never able to find him. The Mexicans resented the American presence in their country. In 1917 Wilson withdrew U.S. troops because of the war in Europe. Also in that year, a new Mexican constitution went into effect. It included the ideas of all the revolutionary groups. It protected the liberties and rights of citizens. However, fighting went on until 1920.

Who did the U.S. support in the later years of the Mexican Revolution?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY DO THIS ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Evaluate Do you think the United States was justified in invading Mexico? Write two paragraphs explaining your position.