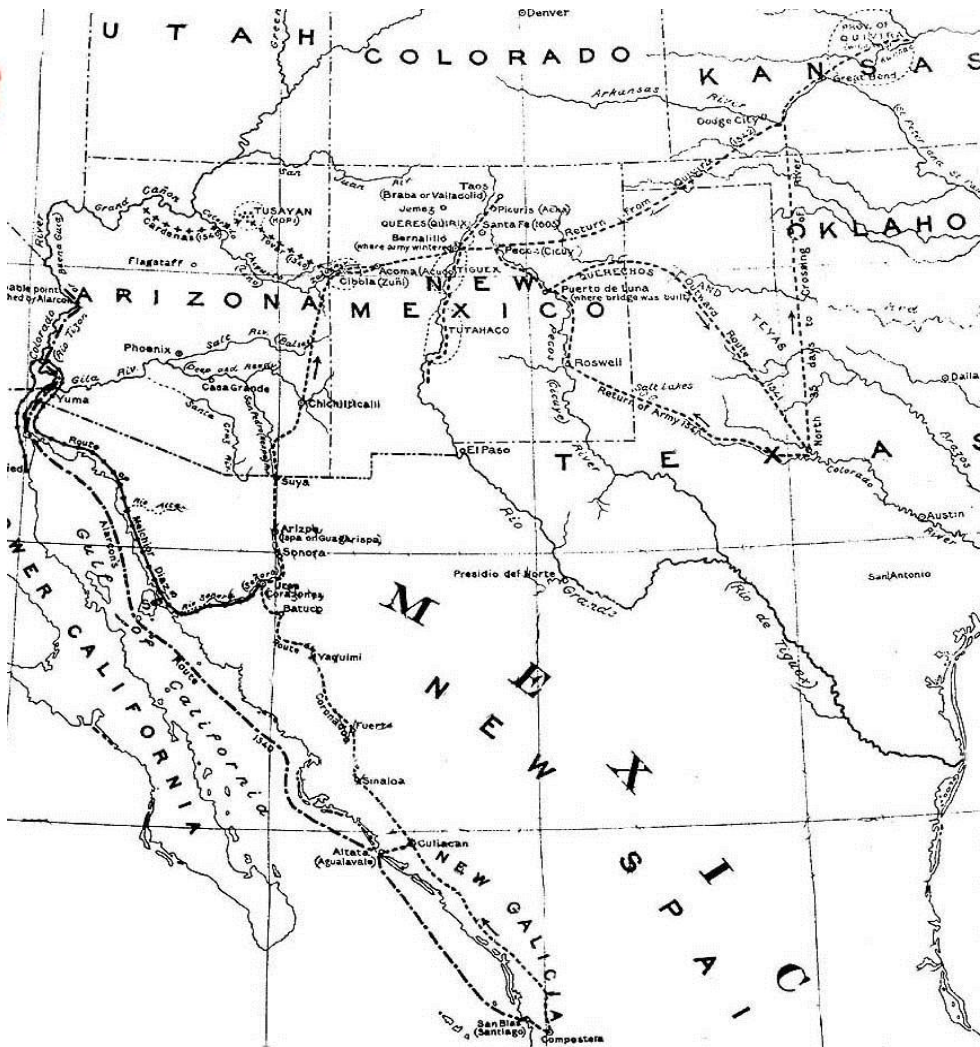




The PORTAL to TEXAS HISTORY

Embark on a Voyage of Discovery

<http://texashistory.unt.edu>



From Fredrick W. Hodge's *Spanish Explorers in the Southern United States 1528-1543*

Primary Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



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From Cornille
Wytfliet's map
*Hispania
Nova*
1597

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



Conquistador General

From Justin Winsor's
*Narrative and Critical
History of America,
Vol. 2*

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



SPANISH INFANTRY
REAL ARMERIA, MADRID
15TH-16TH C.

Spanish
Conquistador
courtesy of
Dr. Richard B. McCaslin



THE JOURNEY OF CORONADO

WHILE the army was resting in this ravine, as we have related, a tempest came up one afternoon with a very high wind and hail, and in a very short space of time a great quantity of hailstones, as big as bowls, or bigger, fell as thick as raindrops, so that in places they covered the ground two or three spans or more deep. And one hit the horse—or I should say, there was not a horse that did not break away, except two or three which the negroes protected by holding large sea nets over them, with the helmets and shields which all the rest wore; and some of them dashed up on to the sides of the ravine so that they got them down with great difficulty. If this had struck them while they were upon the plain, the army would have been in great danger of being left without its horses, as there were many which they were not able to cover. The hail broke many tents, and battered many helmets, and wounded many of the horses, and broke all the crockery of the army, and the gourds, which was no small

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loss, because they do not have any crockery in this region. They do not make gourds, nor sow corn, nor eat bread, but instead raw meat—or only half cooked—and fruit.

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From Pedro Castañeda's
*The Journey of
Coronado,
1540-1542*

translated by
George Parker Winship

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



View of the Great Plains



Courtesy photographer - Barney Fitzpatrick

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Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



THE JOURNEY OF CORONADO

It is worth noting that the country there is so level that at midday, after one has wandered about in one direction and another in pursuit of game, the only thing to do is to stay near the game quietly until sunset, so as to see where it goes down, and even then they have to be men who are practiced to do it. Those who are not, had to trust themselves to others.

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Up to this point they had made thirty-seven days' marches, traveling 6 or 7 leagues a day. It had been the duty of one man to measure and count his steps. They found that it was 250 leagues to the settlements.

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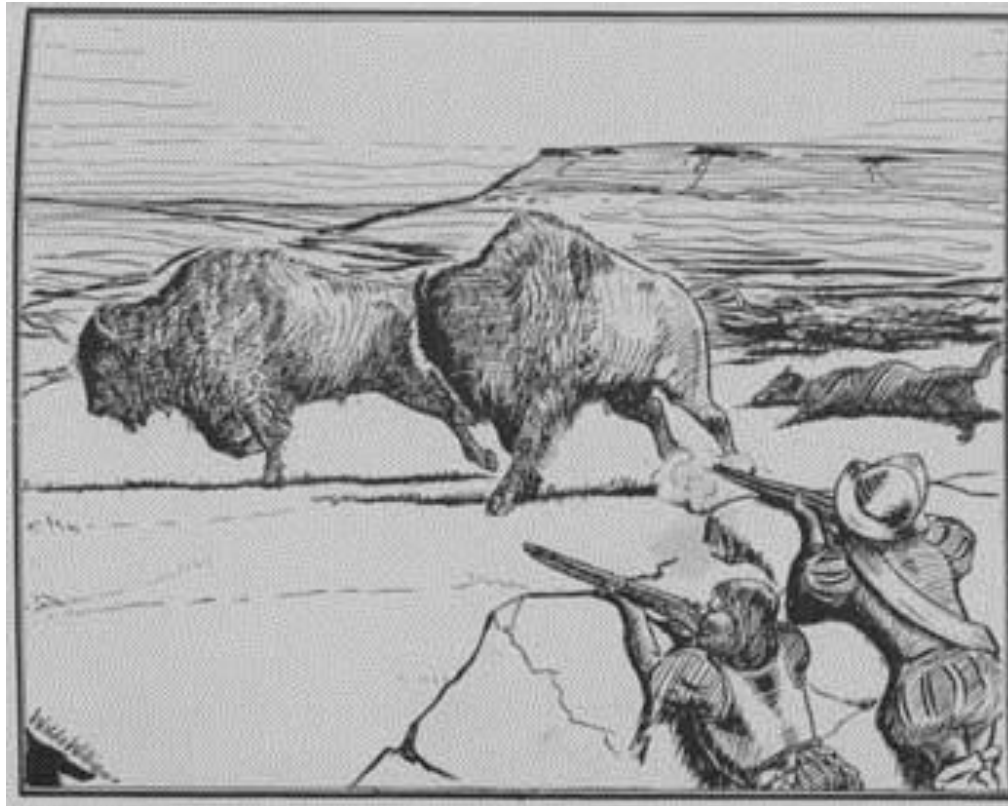
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Primary
Source
Adventures:
Coronado:
Misfortune's
Explorer



From Carlyle Graham
Raht's

*The Romance of
Davis Mountains
and Big Bend
Country*

drawings by Waldo Williams



THE JOURNEY OF CORONADO

The general followed his guides until he reached Quivira, which took forty-eight days' marching, on account of the great detour they had made toward Florida. He was received peacefully on account of the guides whom he had. They asked the Turk why he had lied and had guided them so far out of their way. He said that his country was in that direction and that, besides this, the people at Cicuye had asked him to lead them off on to the plains and lose them, so that the horses would die when their provisions gave out, and they would be so weak

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From Pedro Castañeda's
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THE JOURNEY OF CORONADO

if they ever returned that they would be killed without any trouble, and thus they could take revenge for what had been done to them. This was the reason why he had led them astray, supposing that they did not know how to hunt or to live without corn, while as for the gold, he did not know where there was any of it. He said this like one who had given up hope and who found that he was being persecuted, since they had begun to believe Ysopete, who had guided them better than he had, and fearing lest those who were there might give some advice by which some harm would come to him. They garroted him, which pleased Ysopete very much, because he had always said that Ysopete was a rascal and that he did not know what he was talking about and had always hindered his talking with anybody. Neither gold nor silver nor any trace of either was found among these people.

From Pedro Castañeda's
*The Journey of
Coronado,
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