Texas Revolution

Web Quest-Primary Sources

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Directions: Answer each questions or prompts in complete sentences. 20 points each

One paragraph per question or prompt. Use a separate sheet if necessary.

Use these websites for this assignment:

<http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/dewitt.htm>

Sons of Dewitt Colony

<http://home.austin.rr.com/rgriffin/texhisdocs.html>

**D. (March 8-May 1836)**

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1. David G. Burnet to Henry Raguet, April 7, 1836. President Burnet calls the "Runaway Scrape" premature, judges the army under Houston to be "in fine condition and high spirits," and calls on eastern Texans to join the fray. Link to document

In this document, Burnet makes an assessment of the army. Was this an accurate assessment? Why or why not?

This was an accurate assessment of the army. They were certainly capable and ready to attack. Also, the Texans were fighting for the creation of their homeland while the Mexicans were fighting for Santa Anna. Therefore, the Texans would pursue their independence with all their hearts and minds and make sure that they didn’t make a single mistake. In battle, the Texans would fight to the death if they had to and would show unparalleled determination as compared to the Mexicans. The only way by which the Texans could have been at a disadvantage other than numbers would be if they got too excited and rushed into battle, as they almost did at San Jacinto. In the end, David G. Burnet’s assessment of the army is correct because they were determined and were led by good leaders, which made them an able fighting force.

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1. Juan N. Seguin. Account of the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. From author's *Personal Memoirs of Juan N. Seguin, from the year 1834 to the Retreat of General Woll from The City of San Antonio 1842* (1842). [It may be necessary to scroll down to the document.] Link to document

Why was this an important dialogue?

This is an important dialogue because it gives a different perspective on the Battle of San Jacinto. Seguin was a Mexican fighting for the Texans, therefore giving a unique perspective that only few can offer. Both the Texans and Mexicans will view each other with strong hate in their respective accounts. However, the Tejanos will take a more moderate approach and will offer a more accurate perspective. This perspective will include not only correct details of the battle, but also an unbiased perspective. Therefore, this is an important dialogue due to the fact that it's a unique perspective offered by Juan Seguin, a Tejano.

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3.

The "public" Treaty of Velasco, May 14, 1836. Santa Anna promises not to take up arms against Texas and to order all Mexican troops to evacuate from Texas. [Link to document](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/republic/velasco-public-1.html)

The "secret" Treaty of Velasco, May 14, 1836. Santa Anna pledges to fulfill stipulations in six articles "so far as concerns himself." Among them are pledges to work to gain the Mexican government's agreement to the independence of Texas and to a boundary between the two nations not to extend beyond the Rio Grande. Link to document

Compare these two treaties. Why was a secret treaty necessary? What possible effect can the secret treaty have in the future?

The secret treaty was more concerned with Santa Anna then it was with Mexico. This is contrary to the setup of the public treaty. The public treaty involved subjects that the Mexican citizens would approve of at the immediate moment. However, the secret treaty involved terms that could damage Santa Anna’s standing among the Mexican citizens and possibly lead to him being overthrown. If he was overthrown, the Texans would also be in peril as a new leader not bound by all the terms in the treaty would arise and possibly attack the Texans. Also, the secret treaty’s terms were supposed to be met after the public treaty’s terms had been met. Another reason for why the secret treaty was necessary was so that Santa Anna could use his power to make people recognize Texas as an independent country. The secret treaty could have made Santa Anna be overthrown. Another result of the secret treaty could have been the Mexican citizens not honoring it as nobody on the Mexican side other than Santa Anna agreed to it. He could have been forced to sign it, for all they knew.