Panel: “Mexico: Domestic Transformations and International Relations”

Nathan Garstka

Title: “The Zimmerman Telegram”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Richard Weiner
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I am Nathan Garstka, a senior History major at IPFW with a minor in political science. I’ve spent four years at IPFW and plan to graduate in 2016. The area of history I am most interested in is the late Roman Republic and Early Empire. Before college I went to Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School in Woodburn Indiana. At Woodlan I was in the marching band for 6 years, starting in 7th grade. We went to state finals for class D three times out of the four years I was actually in High School. After graduating college I hope to get a decent job that will allow me to travel sporadically.

Abstract

My research paper looks at the Zimmerman telegram and how such a short document was able to help push the United States into World War One, and the ways it affected the Mexican political climate. After a discussion of the Telegram and its author, Aruthur Zimmerman, the paper focuses of the role of the Mexican President Venustanio Carranza, both in dealing with internal challenges to his authority and international intrigue in the aftermath of the decoding and publication of the Zimmerman Telegram. In particular, the paper examines the way Carranza handled the threat of US invasion, while struggling to maintain power.

Bibliography

For primary sources, I was able to access documents, included encoded and decoded materials, from the Library of Congress and the National Archives of Britain.
