

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No. 5002/1051

OFFICE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR
EL PASO, TEX.

June 4, 1928.

JUL 13 1928

Commissioner-General of Immigration,
Washington, D. C.

There is attached hereto, in triplicate,
self-explanatory report covering a gun fight,
submitted by Senior Patrol Inspector Shellie
Barnes of Sanderson, Texas, on May 26, 1928.

(Signed) G. C. Willmoth

District Director

MVC
Incl. 30960.

Handwritten signature
2

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No.

Sanderson, Texas,
May 26, 1928.

Chief Patrol Inspector,
U.S. Border Patrol
Marfa, Texas.

The writer wishes to report to you that Wednesday morning, May 23, Capt. Barler of the U.S. Customs and the writer were at La Perrita crossing which is about 45 miles below here on the Rio Grande river. At eleven A.M. we saw a Mexican across the river load up his pack outfit with what we thought was liquor, and after a few minutes this Mexican rode up to the river bank and held a conversation with two men on this side, one a white man and the other a negro.

After the conversation the Mexican got on this horse leading his pack horse which was carrying four sacks and started on up the river.

Capt. Barler and I then went back fully a mile to where our car was and in a round about way went to Cook Canyon crossing about five miles up the river, and there we waited possible half an hour when we saw the same Mexican and his pack outfit coming up the river on the Mexican side, he passed us and stopped about one half mile above the point we were watching from. We then made a run afoot through a canyon and over a mountain to get around the smuggler and his pack outfit.

When we reached the top of the mountain the Mexican had delivered the four sacks to the men on this side who we saw waiting for him and had started back across the river when Capt. Barler yelled for him to come back when he pulled his rifle, which he carried on the left side of his saddle. Capt Barler then pulled his rifle and waived again for him to stop then the Mexican began shooting at us.

We both opened fire on the Mexican knocking his horse down but he got up and carried the Mexican to the other side of the river.

Whether the rider was ever hit or not we do not know as we were shooting about six hundred yards, while the shooting was going on the pack animal ran up in line of fire and was also hit but finally got to the other side.

We then went down to where the liquor had crossed and worked for several hours trying to find the men who received the contraband but they had fled to the hills on horses where we trailed them for several hours but failed to over take them when night came on.

Shellie Barnes
Senior Patrol Inspector