

To The People of Texas and
All Americans In The World --
February 24, 1836

Fellow citizens & compatriots --



I am beseiged, by a thousand or more
of the Mexicans under Santa Anna -- I have
sustained a continual Bombardment & cannonade for 24 hours &
have not lost a man -- The enemy has demanded a surrender at
discretion, otherwise, the garrison are to be put to the sword, if the
fort is taken -- I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, &
our flag still waves proudly from the walls -- I shall never surrender
or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, &
every thing dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with
all dispatch -- The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily & will no
doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this
call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as
possible & die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his own
honor & that of his country --

VICTORY OR DEATH

William Barret Travis
Lt. Col. Comdt.

P.S. The Lord is on our side -- When the enemy appeared in sight we
had not three bushels of corn -- We have since found in deserted
houses 80 or 90 bushels & got into the walls 20 or 30 head of
Beeves --

Travis