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FILED FOR RECORD
at 12:00 o'clock P M
APR 22 2025
BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.
by

Proclamation in Honor of the "Victory or Death" Letter by William B. Travis

WHEREAS, on February 24, 1836, Lieutenant Colonel William Barret Travis, commander of the Texian forces at the Alamo, penned a letter addressed "To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World," appealing for aid in the defense of liberty against overwhelming odds;

WHEREAS, this letter, now known as the "Victory or Death" letter, was a powerful declaration of courage, resolve, and sacrifice, written amidst a siege by the Mexican army led by General Santa Anna;

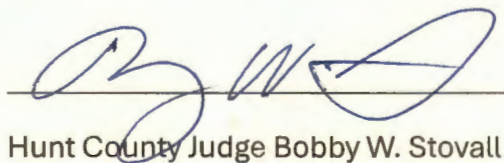
WHEREAS, Travis's words, "I shall never surrender or retreat... Victory or Death," have endured as a timeless symbol of defiance in the face of tyranny and an unwavering commitment to the cause of freedom;

WHEREAS, the Battle of the Alamo, though a military defeat, became a rallying cry for Texian independence and a cornerstone of Texas and American identity, rooted in valor, determination, and the pursuit of liberty;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we commemorate the legacy of the "Victory or Death" letter and honor the memory of William B. Travis and the brave defenders of the Alamo who stood resolute in defense of their principles;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ideals of courage, sacrifice, and freedom expressed in the letter continue to inspire present and future generations to uphold the values of justice, unity, and liberty for all.

Adopted this day, the 22nd of April, 2025.


Hunt County Judge Bobby W. Stovall

Attest: 
Hunt County Clerk Becky Landrum



LETTER FROM THE ALAMO.

COMMANDANCY OF THE ALAMO-

BEXAR, FEBY. 24 TH 1836-

TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS & ALL AMERICANS IN THE WORLD--

FELLOW CITIZENS & COMPATRIOTS

I AM BESIEGED, BY A THOUSAND OR MORE OF THE MEXICANS AND 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 & EVERYTHING DEAR TO THE AMERICAN CHARACTER TO COME TO OUR AID, WITH ALL DISPATCH - THE ENEMY IS RECEIVING REINFORCEMENTS DAILY AND 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

ALAMO LETTER SOCIETY CO-CHAIRS: LEE WILLIAM MCNUTT III, ROSSER COKE NEWTON SR.
NUECES COUNTY: HARRY LEE CHESTER JR., NORMA LINDA REYNA, VERONICA ROSE MORENO

Small Description Plaque

Victory or Death – Alamo Letter

February 23, 1836, was the first day of the 13-day siege of the Alamo. On that day, the 26-year-old Alamo Commander, Lt. Col William Barrett Travis of South Carolina, had only 157 men under his command. He was surrounded by thousands of Mexican soldiers commanded by Mexican President Antonio López de Santa Anna. The next day, February 24, 1836, he wrote the 220-word Alamo letter addressed *"To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World"*. This letter, a pleading for reinforcements, became known as the *"Victory or Death"* letter. It is one of the most notable pieces of literature in the English language. It was heroically carried through the Mexican lines by Capt. Albert Martin.

Dedicated on April 12, 2024



ALAMO LETTER SOCIETY

Dedicated To
José Antonio Navarro and Juan Seguín

alamoletter.com



Our Mission

To educate current and future Texans about their forefathers' armed struggle for Freedom and Liberty through the placement of a large bronze plaque containing Col. William Barrett Travis's Alamo "**Victory or Death**" letter, in all 254 Texas Courthouses. To honor the two leading Tejanos of the Texas Revolution, Jose Antonio Navarro and Juan Seguín. The goal of the Alamo Letter Society is ambitious and unprecedented. The goal is to gift a 3 feet by 2 feet, 203-pound bronze plaque, of the famous letter to each of the 254 courthouses in the state of Texas. Each plaque will serve as an enduring symbol to future generations of Texans of their forefathers' fight for liberty, freedom, and the armed resistance to oppression.

The "**Victory or Death**" letter was written on Feb. 24, 1836, and heroically dispatched through the Mexican Army to General Sam Houston by Captain Albert Martin. Only 220 words long, many Texans and other Freedom-loving people around the world hold it in the same high esteem as the U.S. Constitution and the Magna Carta.

Social Media



Letter History

February 23, 1836, was the first day of the 13-day siege of the Alamo. On that day, the 26-year-old Alamo Commander, Lt. Col William Barrett Travis of South Carolina, had only 157 men under his command. He was surrounded by thousands of Mexican soldiers commanded by Mexican President Antonio López de Santa Anna.

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The Travis letter to Texas President Sam Houston brought results, but not enough to turn the tide. At dawn on March 1, 1836, Capt. Albert Martin, with 32 men (himself included) from Gonzales passed the lines of the Mexican Army and entered the walls of the Alamo, never more to leave them.

These 32 citizen soldiers were Texas men, husbands and fathers, owning their own homes and guns, voluntarily organized and trained, determined to change the government that ruled over them. They passed through the lines of an enemy of four thousand to six thousand strong, to join 157 of their countrymen and neighbors, in a fortress doomed to destruction.

Does American history, or any history, ancient or modern, furnish a parallel to such heroism? The Travis letter motivated these men to willingly enter the beleaguered walls of the Alamo, to swell the number of determined citizen soldiers who resolved "never to surrender or retreat."

ALAMO ★ LETTER
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LETTER FROM THE ALAMO
 COMMANDANCY OF THE ALAMO
 TEXAS, FEB. 24TH 1836
 TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS & ALL AMERICANS IN THE WORLD.

I AM DELIVERED BY A THUNDERBOLT ON THE MOUNTAIN
 AND SANTA ANTONIO HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE ENEMY
 I CAN REMAIN FOR 24 HOURS AND HAVE NOT LEFT A MAN THE ENEMY
 HAS REMAINED A SILENT SPECTATOR AT THE FALLING OF THE ALAMO
 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 & EVERYTHING DEAR TO THE AMERICAN CHARACTER TO
 COME TO OUR AID WITH ALL ORUTION - THE ENEMY IS BE-
 LIEVING REINFORCEMENTS DAILY AND WILL NO DOUBT INCREASE
 TO THREE OR FOUR THOUSAND IN A FEW DAYS
 IF THIS CALL IS NOT ANSWERED I AM DESTINED TO DESTROY MY-
 SELF AS LONG AS POSSIBLE & BE LIKE A GIGANT WHO NEVER
 FLOUNTS WRET IS BORN TO HIS OWN RUIN & THAT OF HIS
 COUNTRY VICTORY OR DEATH

WILLIAM BARDET TRAVIS
 (2 ALL LOWER)

C. A. THE LORD IS ON OUR SIDE - WHEN THE FORT IS TAKEN
 SHOW ME THAT NOT THREE BARRICADES OF GUNS - WE HAVE SHOT
 FORTS IN DESTROYED HOUSES OR BY BULLETS & LAY THEM AT
 WALLS TO BE READ OF BY ALL

TRAVIS
 ALAMO LETTER SOCIETY CO. CHAIRMAN: LEO WILLIAM BARDET TRAVIS
 WILCOX COUNTY: HARRY LEO TRAVIS JR. HARRIS COUNTY: LEO TRAVIS JR. HARRIS COUNTY: LEO TRAVIS JR.

VICTORY OR DEATH
 1836
ALAMO LETTER SOCIETY
 I SHALL NEVER SURRENDER OR RETREAT

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Dedication Dates

All dedications are at the courthouses in each county.

1. Ellis County 3:00 pm **Friday, February 23, 2024**. County Chair: Judge Todd Little
2. Rockwall County 10:00 am **Saturday, February 24, 2024**. County Chair: Mr. Lorne Liechty
3. Nueces County **Thursday, March 28, 2024**. County Chair: Harry Chester
4. Van Zandt County **Friday, April 12th**. County Chair: Dwayne "Doc" Collins
5. Hood County **Friday, April 20th**. County Chair: Judge Ron Massingill
6. Reeves County **Friday, June 28th**. County Chair: Judge Leo Hung
7. Gillespie County **Thursday, July 4th**. County Chair: Ms. Lee Spencer White

