



Name: _____

Pd: _____

TURTLE BAYOU RESOLUTIONS

(resolution is a formal statement of a decision, opinion, or course of action by an official group)

Angry Texans camped near Turtle Bayou in June 1832, trying to figure out how to gain the release of William Barret Travis and Patrick Jack, who had been arrested in Anahuac by Mexican post commander Juan David Bradburn.

Lawyer Travis had gotten into trouble with Bradburn when he represented a Texas slave owner seeking runaway property in Texas. Bradburn at first denied the slaves were there, later admitted they were, but that he would not release them without proof of ownership. The man engaged Travis to represent him while he went home for proof. Bradburn ordered Travis' arrest when he tricked Bradburn into thinking that the man had returned in the middle of the night with an army. When Mexican soldiers arrested Travis, his partner objected so strenuously that he was arrested, too. Then Bradburn announced the men would be sent under escort to Mexico for trial.

Other Americans gathered at Turtle Bayou, near Anahuac, to plan how to prevent Travis and Jack from military trial. While there, they adopted the Turtle Bayou Resolutions as a statement about why they were defying the government.

In the resolutions, the colonists pledged their continued loyalty to the Mexican government. They also stated their support for Santa Anna, who had gained control of the Mexican government. Many Texans were in favor of his leadership at first because they believed he supported states' rights instead of a strong national government.

The settlers hoped that these actions would show the Mexican government they did not want trouble.

1. How did William B. Travis get into trouble?
2. What did the Turtle Bayou Resolution oppose?
3. What are the two proposals the colonists pledged?
4. Why did the settlers approve of Santa Anna's leadership?
5. What did the settlers hope this resolution would show Mexico?