

5 Facts of 5 Historical Events in Taos

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New Mexico History Period 3

1 The Attack on Columbus

1. The Attack on Columbus wasn't against Christopher Columbus, as you may think, but on the town of Columbus, New Mexico.
2. This attack was initiated by [Pancho Villa](#) because of his grudge at the fact of Carranza's quick surrender of, what is now, New Mexico to the United States.
3. Another inspiration for this attack was a burning of around 20 Mexicans after their arrest; which happened just two days before.
4. The attack occurred at 4:45AM on March 9, 1916; Pancho Villa didn't even participate in the attack, he stayed on the Mexican side of the border.
5. Pancho's men retreated with several wounded a few hours later; rather objectively pointless.

2 New Mexico and World War I

1. The United States entered World War I started on April 2, 1917.
2. The reason for the United States' entry into the war was because of a German sinking of a British ship with American civilians in it.
3. A third of New Mexican soldiers volunteered for the war.
4. The involvement of New Mexico on the war was attributed to Pancho Villa, and his raid on Columbus, New Mexico; which provided the U.S. military with experience.
5. It was a New Mexican that lead the first American night reconnaissance mission.

3 The Spanish Flu in New Mexico

1. The Spanish flu started immediately following the end of World War I, in 1918.
2. Fifteen thousand New Mexicans were affected by the Spanish flu, and over a thousand died from it.
3. During the Spanish flu, New Mexico didn't have a Department of Health.
4. The Native Americans in New Mexico were especially affected by the flue.
5. After the Spanish flu, a Department of Health was initialized.

Sources

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3. <https://www.abqjournal.com/1091131/forgotten-sacrifice-historians-aim-to-keep-memory-of-world-war-i-alive.html>
4. <https://newmexicohistory.org/2013/11/02/influenza-epidemic-in-new-mexico-1918/>