

The Mayan Diaspora: Guatemalan Roots New American Lives. Edited by James Loucky and Marilyn M. Moors Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2000. 263 pp. Maps, illustrations, tables, notes, bibliography and index. \$22.95.

The authors James Loucky and Marilyn Moors have compiled a series of excellent articles richly detailing the tragic Guatemalan Mayan refugee experience in the post-1980 period. Based mainly on ethnographic and survey data

types and hatred as central issues. The Indians feared that Americans wanted to destroy them either by starvation or through military force. Area settlers, Indian office personnel, and soldiers all feared a coming war. Newspaper reporters receive particularly harsh assessment because often they spread wild rumors rather than the actual facts of the situation. The author's views come through clearly as he ties the first person accounts into a readable and interesting narrative. Yet, at times he presents individuals in several different guises. Early in the narrative Gen. Nelson Miles is depicted as playing on public fears in order to inflate military appropriations. Then, he is accused of amassing unneeded troops in the region, when, in fact, they were ordered there by his superiors. Still later, however, Miles is characterized as the voice of restraint.

In general, the book presents a careful and thorough analysis of the December 1890 battle/massacre. The author traces the actions of individuals and groups with the honest, brave, incompetent, and venal all receiving their due. A clear chronology of events and extensive annotations help to clarify events. Except for the strange omission of Ray and DeMallie's work on the Sioux religion and the Ghost Dance, all of the significant scholarship has been consulted. Even without that, Coleman has done a fine job with the project. He succeeds in engaging the reader in the personalities and events of the story. Any thoughtful person is likely to be angered, disgusted, or ashamed by this narrative.

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