

*New York Tribune*  
May 19, 1914

***Huerta Doomed; Ex-Minister Flees***

***Dr. Urrutia, Taking Refuge with Funston at Vera Cruz, Tells Tribune Correspondent Mexican Ship of State Is Sinking Already.***

Dr. Aureliano Urrutia, once a close friend of Huerta, arrived in the city today, but apparently is preparing to leave because he is accused when in office of ordering the death of Raphael Villaporya, whose brother is one of the editors of a paper here.

A paper attacking Urrutia was distributed at cafes today, and a crowd gathered beneath his window in the hotel, calling, "Death to Urrutia."

A guard was placed at the entrance and around the hotel, but threats continued that should Urrutia appear he would be killed.

I talked with Senator Urrutia while he and his wife and seven children lunched under a guard of soldiers around the table, while outside was a guard of marines on all the doors and at the nearest street corners. The idea is to show Huerta that even the best friend of Huerta will be protected by our forces against mob violence.

Urrutia told me that for six months the Mexican people have wanted Huerta to resign. Urrutia, six months ago, at the banquet at which Huerta was present, said the sacrifice must be made. The President replied yes, but no need of the sacrifice until the ship of state was sinking. Apparently this speech set the friends of Urrutia there against Urrutia, who was then in the cabinet as Secretary of the Interior, and three days ago he discovered a plot to kill him.

He now believes he is leaving a sinking ship, and asks only to get on board one that will not sink. Asked what arrangements would be agreeable to the majority of intelligent Mexicans, he said an occupation by international police to maintain order and supervise an honest election.

Asked if the demonstration an hour ago against him was personal or political, he answered that it was political—that in office he was forced to give orders against individuals known to him only as political opponents.

He says a week ago it was generally believed in Mexico City that Huerta would be assassinated within a few days. When I asked him if his telling a Yankee correspondent Huerta should resign would not be considered by Huerta an unfriendly act, he said it would.

The general conclusion arrived at by my talk seemed to be that the ship of state is sinking fast, and the wiser ones of the ship's officers are taking to the boats.

(Source: *Chronicling America*: <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030214/1914-05-19/ed-1/seq-1/>)