

# The Travis Letter

Commandancy of the Alamo  
Bejar, Feby. 24th. 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 under  
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 &  
will no doubt increase to three or  
four thousand in four or five days.  
If this call is neglected, I am deter-  
mined 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 Basset 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 and got into  
the walls 20 or 30 head of Beeves —

*Travis*

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