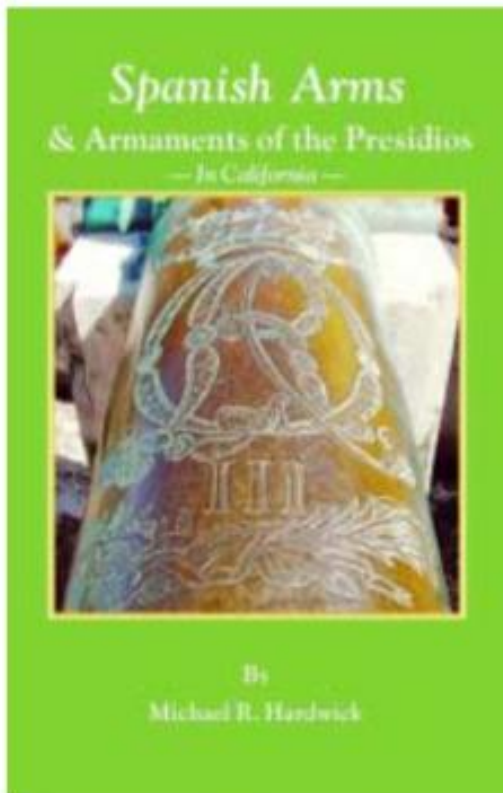


# California History



## Spanish Arms

& Armaments of the Presidios

By

Michael R. Hardwick

A detailed history of the Spanish Arms & Armaments of the Presidios in California.

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During the years 1769 to 1782, four Spanish Presidios were established in what became Alta California. Royal regulations specified the arms and the armament of these presidios. For

the first time, author Michael R. Hardwick uses original and translated records to describe the magnificent armaments and artillery used at the California Presidios.

1816, Jul. 6: In a report from José De la Guerra y Noriega to Governor Solá, Guerra reports on the readiness of his district to operate against pirates. He reports on the state of individuals in the Santa Barbara District with specifics of class and residence, and who are suited to take arms.

He has also sent for cannon from San Buenaventura and La Purísima and from Santa Inés and San Fernando. De la Guerra reports that he needs more people to operate the cannon. He has already brought 3 cannons from San Buenaventura and Santa Inés and the two de á 2 (2 pounders) from San Fernando and La Purísima do not have cannon balls.

Solá recommends the use of bala roja (hot shot) against the pirates. De la Guerra replies that it sounds good but that he has no one who knows how to apply it.

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