Jose Maria BARRON DE RIPPERDA was the Governor of Texas from 1770 to 1779. He was also the military commandant in Texas and was the active commander of the Presidio de Bexar in San Antonio. He prepared a Revista monthly. A Revista is a list of the soldiers at a particular location. RIPPERDA prepared his Revistas more regularly than most military commanders on the Frontier. The Bexar Archives alone contain twenty one of his Revistas from the years 1774 through 1777. This particular Revista is from the Nacogdoches Archives.

The Indians, particularly the Comanches, were very active in Texas during his term of office. RIPPERDA had the Fuerte del Cibolo reconstructed in 1772 and kept it manned to protect the area ranches. Twenty of the soldiers listed in this Revista were detailed to the Fuerte del Cibolo and this was a consistent number while the Fuerte was open. Soldados en la Cavallada refers to those soldiers with the horseherd. Presente means they were present for duty at Bexar. Enfermo means that they were sick. En las Islas refers to a settlement of civilians south of present day San Antonio on the San Antonio River. En la Trinidad refers to the settlement, Trinidad de Salcedo, on the Trinity River. Ynvalido means that the soldier is retired.

RIPPERDA was in office when the Presidio Nuestra Senora del Pilar de los Adaes was closed in 1772. He supervised the closure and the trip back to San Antonio for the soldiers, their families, and other residents in the area.

There are two notes at the end of this Revista. The first concerns the disappearance of the soldier Joseph Antonio SANTA CRUZ. He was carrying a map to another Presidio and was apparently killed by Comanches although his body had not been recovered.

The second note concerns the recruitment of a new soldier, Joseph Francisco DE CASTRO. The new soldier was born at the Presidio de Bexar to Marcos DE CASTRO and Antonia CARBAJAL. Presumably Marcos DE CASTRO was also a soldier. Soldiers were almost always descendants of other soldiers and military families are recognized as a distinct genealogical group because the military units were one large extended family. Joseph Francisco is described as being of good height, 20 years of age, reddish hair and eyebrows, dark eyes, and light complexion.