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Sommario/riassunto	"Makes persuasive case that Jose Maria Tornel y Mendivil, spin-doctor for Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, was an important figure in his own right, both as a politician and a writer. Emphasizes the 'great man' school of history, but forces the reader to conclude that the first political generation of independent Mexico boasted a substantial crew of extraordinary personalities"--Handbook of Latin American Studies, v. 58.