



American Latino Heritage



JUAN FRANCISCO DE LA BODEGA Y QUADRA

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A Spanish naval officer born in Lima, Peru, this navigator explored the Northwest Coast of North America as far north as present day Alaska. The Spanish sent out several expeditions to the Northwest during this time period. They were eager to reinforce their claim to “all the lands adjoining the Pacific Ocean” in the Treaty of Tordesillas (1493), which was being threatened by British and Russian exploration.