### A3379

NONSTATISTICAL MANIFESTS AND STATISTICAL INDEX CARDS OF ALIENS ARRIVING AT LAREDO, TEXAS, MAY 1903-NOVEMBER 1929

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#### Introduction

On the 112 rolls of this microfilm publication, A3379, are reproduced over 610,000 nonstatistical manifests and statistical index cards of alien arrivals at Laredo, Texas, May 1903–November 1929. Some U.S. citizens are also included. These records are part of the Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Record Group (RG) 85.

#### BACKGROUND

Early records relating to immigration originated in regional customhouses. The U.S. Customs Service conducted its business by designating collection districts. Each district had a headquarters port with a customhouse and a collector of customs, the chief officer of the district. An act of March 2, 1819 (3 Stat. 489) required the captain or master of a vessel arriving at a port in the United States or any of its territories from a foreign country to submit a list of passengers to the collector of customs. The act also required that the collector submit a quarterly report or abstract, consisting of copies of these passenger lists, to the Secretary of State, who was required to submit such information at each session of Congress. After 1874, collectors forwarded only statistical reports to the Treasury Department. The lists themselves were retained by the collector of customs. Customs records were maintained primarily for statistical purposes.

On August 3, 1882, Congress passed the first Federal law regulating immigration (22 Stat. 214-215); the Secretary of the Treasury had general supervision over it between 1882 and 1891. The Office of Superintendent of Immigration in the Department of the Treasury was established under an act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat. 1085), and was later designated a bureau in 1895 with responsibility for administering the alien contract-labor laws. In 1900 administration of the Chinese exclusion laws was added. Initially the Bureau retained the same administrative structure of ports of entry that the Customs Service had used. By the turn of the century, it began to designate its own immigration districts, the numbers and boundaries of which changed over the years. In 1903 the Bureau became part of the Department of Commerce and Labor; its name was changed to the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization when functions relating to naturalization were added in 1906. In 1933 the functions were transferred to the Department of Labor and became the responsibility of the newly formed Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Under President Roosevelt's Reorganization Plan V of 1940, the INS was moved to the Department of Justice.

Keeping statistics on alien arrivals at U.S. land borders was not required by early immigration acts. Thus, the statistical treatment of Canadian and Mexican border immigrants at times has differed from that of other immigrants. When records of arrivals began to be kept at the Canadian border in 1895 and at the Mexican

border, ca. 1906, immigration authorities found it impractical to collect arrival information on lists as they did for ship passengers. Therefore, separate cards or "card manifests" for each person were used instead. These cards contained the same information as that collected on traditional ship passenger arrival lists, such as full name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, point of arrival in the United States, and final destination.

An act of March 2, 1929 (45 Stat. 1512), which became effective July 1, 1929, and was amended on August 7, 1939 (53 Stat. 1243), allowed a record of lawful arrival—called a record of registry—to be made for certain aliens who had lawfully entered the United States at an earlier time but for whom the INS could find no record of arrival. In particular, if an alien had entered the U.S. before July 1, 1924, resided in the country continuously since that entry, was of good moral character, and was not subject to deportation, he or she could obtain a record of registry by making application to the INS and paying the required fee. The registry program was reauthorized by the Nationality Act of 1940 (54 Stat. 1137) under the name "Lawful Entry." Registry files cover the years 1929 to 1944; Lawful Entry paperwork after April 1, 1944, was placed in an alien's individual "A-File." As of 2003, both Registry/Lawful Entry Files and A-Files remain in the legal custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and researchers interested in examining those records should direct a Freedom of Information Act request to that agency citing the Certificate of Registry number and, if available, a Bureau file number.

#### **IMMIGRATION STATISTICS AND DEFINITIONS**

Beginning in 1895, immigrants who arrived at Canadian seaports with the declared intention of proceeding to the United States by land were recorded and included in immigration statistics. (Some aliens may have chosen this route because of possibly lower fares from Europe to Canada.) All other alien arrivals at U.S. northern and southern land borders were reported beginning in 1906; and reporting was fully established in 1908 under authority of an act of February 20, 1907 (34 Stat. 898). "All other aliens" included Canadians, all aliens arriving at the Mexican border, and any alien resident or nonresident of Canada who had not, at a Canadian seaport, previously declared their intent to proceed to the United States.

Not all aliens entering via the Canadian and Mexican borders were necessarily counted for inclusion in the immigration statistics. Before about 1930, no count was made of residents of Canada, Newfoundland, or Mexico who had lived in those countries for a year or more if they planned to enter the United States for less than six months. However, from about 1930 to 1945, the following classes of aliens entering via the land borders were included in immigration statistics:

(1) Those who had not been in the U.S. within six months, who came to stay more than six months

- (2) Those for whom straight head tax was a prerequisite to admission, or for whom head tax was specially deposited and subsequently converted to a straight head tax account<sup>1</sup>
- (3) Those required by law or regulation to present an immigration visa or reentry permit, and those who surrendered either, regardless of whether they were required by law or regulation to do so
- (4) Those announcing an intention to depart from a seaport in the United States for Hawaii or other insular possession of the U.S. or for a foreign country, except arrivals from Canada intending to return there by water
- (5) Those announcing an intention to depart across the other land boundary.

These classes were revised in 1945 so that the statistics of arriving aliens at land border ports of entry for 1945–52 included arriving aliens who came into the United States for 30 days or more, and returning alien residents who had been out of the country more than 6 months. Arriving aliens who came into the United States for 29 days or less were not counted except for those who were either certified by public health officials, held for a board of special inquiry, excluded and deported, or were individuals in transit who announced an intention to depart across another land boundary or by sea.

From 1953 to at least 1957, all arriving aliens at land border ports of entry were counted for statistical purposes except Canadian citizens and British subjects resident in Canada who were admitted for 6 months or less; Mexican citizens who were admitted for 72 hours or less; and returning U.S. residents who had been out of the country for more than 6 months. Beginning in February 1956, residents returning from stays of less than 6 months in Western Hemisphere countries also were not counted. Because of changed regulations in 1957, returning residents without reentry permits or visas who had been abroad for 1 year or less were not counted.

Summary: Statistical arrivals were immigrants or nonimmigrants who were subject to the head tax and generally not from the Western Hemisphere. By contrast, nonstatistical arrivals were immigrants or nonimmigrants who usually were natives of the Western Hemisphere and not subject to the head tax. Although arrival of the latter was not included in immigration statistics, a record of that arrival may still have been made. It cannot be said with certainty that the definitions of statistical and nonstatistical arrivals were applied uniformly at

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A head tax was required to be paid by persons entering the U.S. who were not citizens of the U.S., the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the Republic of Cuba, or the Republic of Mexico.

any particular port on the Canadian or Mexican borders during the period covered by this microfilm publication.

#### **DEFINITIONS OF IMMIGRANTS AND NONIMMIGRANTS**

Since 1906, arriving aliens have been divided into two classes: (1) immigrants, or those who intended to settle in the U.S.; and (2) nonimmigrants, who were admitted aliens who declared an intention not to settle in the U.S., and all aliens returning to resume domiciles formerly acquired in the U.S. Since 1924, aliens arriving to settle in the U.S. have been further classified as quota or nonquota immigrants. Quota immigrants were those admitted under quotas established for countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Pacific Basin and the colonies, dependencies, and protectorates belonging to those nations. Nonquota immigrants were spouses and unmarried children of U.S. citizens; natives from the independent countries of the Western Hemisphere, their spouses, and unmarried children under 18 years of age; and members of the clergy who entered with their families to carry on their profession. From 1933 to 1952, professors and their spouses and children were also classified as nonquota immigrants. Nonimmigrants were alien residents of the U.S. returning from a temporary visit abroad, or nonresident aliens admitted to the U.S. for a temporary period, such as tourists, students, foreign government officials, those engaged in business, people representing international organizations, the spouses and unmarried children of all these individuals, and agricultural laborers from the West Indies.

For more information about the keeping of immigration statistics and definitions used therein, see *The Statistical History of the United States from Colonial Times to the Present* (Stamford, CT: Fairfield Publishers, Inc., ca. 1965), pp. 48–52. For further information about immigration and naturalization laws prior to 1953, see *Laws Applicable to Immigration and Nationality*, Edwina A. Avery and Catherine R. Gibson, eds., U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1953).

#### **RECORDS DESCRIPTION**

These records include statistical, nonstatistical, permanent, and temporary alien arrivals. Some U.S. citizens are also included. They are arranged alphabetically by surname, then alphabetically by first name. There is some alphabetical disarrangement due to human error.

Double names are filed as if the second part of the double name were not there. For example, "Jimenez De San Miguel, Petra" is found among other persons named "Jimenez, Petra" and Montalvo-Hernandez, Jose" is found among other persons named "Montalvo, Jose." "De la O" is filed under "O" and "Ybarra" is filed under "Ibarra." Spanish surnames containing the letter "s" may be filed as if the letter were "z." For example, persons surnamed Dias might be filed among those named Diaz, Espinosa among Espinoza.

Likewise, variations of given names may be filed together. Female versions of given names (such as Ernesta/Ernestino) may be filed *with or after* male versions (Ernest/Ernesto).

Many rolls begin with "retakes" sections (records refilmed to ensure legibility), as noted in the table of contents.

#### FORMS USED

The manifests consist of several types of Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) forms. Both the front and reverse sides of each card-size form were used. The most common forms are described below.

Form 548 or Form I-448, Manifest or Report of Inspection, is the most common form, and generally includes the person's name, age, sex, marital status, place of birth, physical description, occupation, citizenship ("nationality"), race, ability to read and write and in what language, place of last permanent residence, port and date of arrival, destination, purpose for entering the U.S., intention of becoming a U.S. citizen or of returning to country of previous residence, head tax status, and previous citizenships. It also includes the name and address of the friend or relative whom the alien intended to join, persons accompanying the alien, and the name and address of the alien's nearest relative or friend in the country from which he or she came. If the alien had ever been in the U.S. in the past, the dates and places of such residence or visitation are indicated. Additional information may be recorded if the alien appealed a decision deporting or barring him or her from entering the U.S. Form 548 or I-448 is generally a card manifest. However, during some periods at some ports, the INS used an entire sheet of paper for the Form 548 manifest. Both sizes of manifests generally included the same information. The reverse side of the card manifest Form 548, if filmed, sometimes includes the person's photograph.

Form 502 (unnamed) or Form 1502F (unnamed) was a form intended for use as an index card to ship passenger arrivals, as indicated by its use of the terms, "steamer," "line" (as in steamship line), "Group" number (page number for a ship manifest), and "List" (line number on a ship manifest). This form was adapted to use with land border arrivals. It includes the person's name, age, sex, "steamer" (annotated to indicate name of railroad), "line" (annotated to indicate destination), date and port of arrival, "Group" (Manifest No.), and "List" (changed to indicate Serial No.). The serial number and date of arrival are used to locate a corresponding sheet manifest. The "Group"/Manifest No. can usually be disregarded.

Form 621, Statistical, includes the following information about each alien: name, age, sex, marital status, race, occupation, ability to read and write, last place of residence, future place of residence, name of person he or she plans to join, date and place of admission, physical description, place of birth, citizenship ("nationality"), and names of persons accompanying him or her.

Form 622, Statistical, includes the person's name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, ability to read or write, race, place of last residence, place of future residence, amount of money, manifest number, and physical description. It also includes the names of persons accompanying him or her and the name of the person whom he or she will join in the United States. It may also indicate the date, port, and cause of being debarred from the United States.

**Form 629,** *Nonstatistical*, includes the person's name, age, sex, marital status, race, occupation, ability to read and write, last place of residence, destination, and port and date of admission. It also indicates the names of persons and amount of money he or she was carrying. This index card apparently contains all available entry information.

Form 629A (untitled; some show no number), includes the person's name, age, sex, nationality, race, physical description, last residence, destination, and the date, port, and cause for being debarred from the United States. Cause is often LPC (likely to become a public charge) or no visa.

**Record of Registry** is usually a typewritten card that includes the following information about the alien as of the alien's date of arrival: name; age; occupation; race or people; place of last residence before entry; and date, port, place, and means (ship, railway, etc.) of arrival in the U.S. This form also includes the following information about the alien as of the alien's date of registry: name, age, occupation, physical description, place of residence, and place of birth. It also includes the alien's photograph, date of approval of registry, certificate of registry number, district file number, and bureau file number.

Form Spl. 125, Alien Laborer's Identification Card, includes the date and port of issuance of the card, card number, and the alien's name, age, marital status, height, physical marks, last residence, and whether able to read. It includes his photograph, destination, and employer's name, and this text:

The bearer, a native and citizen of Mexico, has this day been granted the privilege of temporarily entering the United States in accordance with and under the conditions of Department [of Labor] circular of June 12, 1918, as amended.

Form Spl. 222, *Departure*, includes the person's name, age, sex, race, citizenship ("nationality"), occupation, marital status, ability to read or write, country of future permanent residence, country of birth, country where he or she lived before coming to the U.S., date and port of last arrival into the U.S., and town and state of last U.S. residence. If the person was a native born U.S. citizen, the date and place of birth is given. If the person was a naturalized U.S. citizen, the date and place of naturalization is given. The port and date of the person's departure is noted along with the notation "Recorded in sheet \_\_\_, line \_\_\_," which may lead to a related manifest.

Form Spl. 259, "statistical," is an index card that contains each person's name, age, sex, citizenship ("nationality"), race, last place of residence, destination, and port and date of admission. It also indicates a manifest ("list") and line number that corresponds to a "long form" Form 548 (described above). Sometimes, this information was simply typewritten onto a blank card.

Form Spl. 442, *Nonstatistical*, includes the person's name, age, sex, marital status, race, occupation, ability to read and write, place of last permanent residence, destination, and port and date of admission. It also indicates the names of persons and amount of money he or she was carrying. This index card apparently contains all available entry information.

#### **GENERAL REMARKS**

The records were filmed by the INS in 1956–57 and transferred to the National Archives on microfilm. Although some of this film may be difficult to read, it is impossible to correct the situation since the INS destroyed the original records.

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NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL NO.	Contents
1	1	Aakl, Gobran - Aguilar, Zeobio
2	2	Aguilera, Abdon - Alcazas, Wensulao
3	3	Alcorta/Alcorte/Alcorto (etc.), A Alvarado, G.
		Note: The A. Alcorta/Alcorte/Alcorto (etc.) and G. Alvarado sections are both disarranged.
	4	Alvarado, H Amundsen, Bjarne
		Note: The H. Alvarado section is disarranged.
4	5	Aña, Luz - Arredondo, Donato
	6	Arredondo, Ebrija - Arroyo, Justo
5	7	Arroyo, Leandra/Leandro - Ayala, José
	8	Ayala, Josefa - Barajas/Barrajas, Soledad
6	9	Barajas/Barrajas, Tibucia - Bautista, Guadalupe
	10	Bautista, Hector - Berlanga/Berlango, Viviano
7	11	Berman, Amelia - Bosque, Ismael
	12	Bosque, Jesus - Burns, Winifred
8	13	Buroato, Severa - Calderon, Zenon
9	14	Caldillo, Amado - Cancino, Pilar
10	15	Retakes: Caranza/Carranza, A. – Caranza/Carranza, G. Main series: Cansino, Ramona – Cardenas, Donato
11	16	Cardenas, Edmundo - Casares/Cassares/Casarez/Cassarez, Noverto
12	17	Retakes: miscellaneous Main series: Casares/Cassares/Casarez/Cassarez, Odilon – Castillo, José
13	18	Castillo, Juan - Cedillo, Hipolito

NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL NO.	CONTENTS
14	19	Cedillo, Inez - Charles, Zaragoso
15	20	Retakes: miscellaneous Charola, Baldomero – Cobarubio/Cobarrubio (etc.), Hilario
		Note: <i>Cobarubio/Cobarrubio</i> section includes <i>Covarubio/Covarrubio</i> and other similarly spelled surnames.
16	21	Retakes: miscellaneous Cobarubio/Cobarrubio (etc.), Ignacio - Corona, Zenon
		Note: <i>Cobarubio/Cobarrubio</i> section includes <i>Covarubio/Covarrubio</i> and other similarly spelled surnames.
17	22	Coronado, Abel - Cruz, Juan
18	23	Cruz, Juana - Davis, William
		Note: Surnames beginning with <i>Cue</i> are highly disarranged.
19	24	Dawe, Charles - Diaz/Dias, Otilo
20	25	Diaz/Dias, Pablina - Duran, Norberta
21	26	Retakes: miscellaneous Duran, Octaviano – Escamilla/Escamillo, Bruna
22	27	Escamilla/Escamillo, C Espinoza/Espinosa, Trinidad
23	28	Espinoza/Espinosa, Urbana - Fernandez, Carolina/Carlota
		Note 1: Surnames beginning with <i>Farr</i> are often interfiled with <i>Far</i> ; surnames beginning with <i>Ferr</i> are often interfiled with <i>Fer</i> .
		Note 2: Cards after Carolina/Carlota Fernandez are

Ferino/Ferrino.

unreadable due to overexposure; the original INS box label indicates the last card was planned as *Damos* 

NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL NO.	CONTENTS
24	29	Retakes: miscellaneous Ferino/Ferrino, Eduardo - Flores, Doroteo
25	30	Flores, Eduarda/Eduardo - Flores, Sara/Sarah
26	31	Retakes: miscellaneous Flores, Saturnina – Fyson, George
27	32	Retakes: miscellaneous Gaba, Pedro - Gamez, Vicente
28	33	Retakes: miscellaneous Gamez, Victoriana - Garcia, Ernest/Ernesto (males)
29	34	Garcia, Ernestina/Ernestino (females) - Garcia, Juanita
30	35	Garcia, Julia - Garcia, Rodolfo
31	36	Retakes: miscellaneous Garcia, Rodrigo - Garza, Clotilda
32	37	Retakes: miscellaneous Garza, Concepcion - Garza, Julieta
33	38	Retakes: miscellaneous Garza, Justina – Gaytan/Gayetan/Gayetano/Gaitan, Dominga
34	39	Retakes: miscellaneous Gaytan/Gayetan/Gayetano/Gaitan, Eduardo - Gomez, Jorge
35	40	Retakes: miscellaneous Gomez, Jose - Gonzales/Gonzalez, Atanacio
36	41	Gonzales/Gonzalez, Atilana - Gonzales/Gonzalez, Genaro
37	42	Gonzales/Gonzalez, Generoso - Gonzales/Gonzalez, Longina/Longino/Longinos (etc.)
38	43	Gonzales/Gonzalez, Lorenza/Lorenzo – Gonzales/Gonzalez, Refugia/Refugio

NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL No.	Contents
39	44	Gonzales/Gonzalez, Regina - Guajardo, Gustavo
40	45	Guajardo, Heberto - Guerrero, Procopio
41	46	Guerrero, Quintin - Gutierrez, Luz
42	47	Gutierrez, Macario - Hanui, Elias
43	48	Hapner, Ma [Maria] - Hernandez, Fortunato
44	49	Hernandez, Francisco - Hernandez, Pedron
45	50	Hernandez, Perfecto - Hinojosa, Consuelo
46	51	Hinojosa, Coame - Ibarra, Ruperto
47	52	Ibarra, Sabas - Jimenez, Francisco
48	53	Jimenez, Gabino - Kistle, James
49	54	Kitay, Theodore - Lauzier, Alexander
50	55	Lava, Emilio - Leon, Manuela
		Note: Surnames beginning with <i>Lean</i> through surnames beginning with <i>Leaz</i> precede surnames beginning with <i>Leal</i> .
51	56	Leon, Marcelina/Marcelino - Longoria, Guillermo
52	57	Longoria, Herculana - Lopez, Jorge
53	58	Lopez, Jose - Lopez, Zenon
54	59	Lor, Preciliano - Luevano/Luevanos/Luebano, Atilano
55	60	Luevano/Luevanos/Luebano, Carlota - Macias, Ruben
56	61	Macias, Sacramenta - Manrique/Manriques/Manriquez, Oton
57	62	Manrique/Manriques/Manriquez, Pablo - Martinez, Anacleto/Anecleto
		Note 1: Maris filed with Mares

Note 2: Anna Martinez filed with Ana Martinez

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58	63	Martinez, Anastacia - Martinez, Fernando
59	64	Martinez, Fidel - Martinez, Leonzo
60	65	Martinez, Leopoldo - Martinez, Sabino
61	66	Martinez, Sacramento - Medina, Ezequiel/Ezequil/Eziquel
62	67	Medina, Faustino - Mendez, Francisco
63	68	Mendez, Gabina - Merson, Enrique
64	69	Merten, Fred - Mondragon, Luisa
65	70	Mondragon, Magdalena – Mora, Prisiliano
66	71	Mora, Quirino - Moreno, Apolonio
67	72	Moreno, Armandina/Armando - Munguia, Ezequiel
68	73	Munguia, Fidel - Narro, Lydia
69	74	Narro, Mae - Nicoux, Eugenio
70	75	Niebisch, Elsa - Ojeda, Zenon
71	76	Ojendes, Virginia - Ortega, Cutberto
72	77	Ortega, Daniel - Ozuna, Guadalupe
73	78	Ozuna, Herculana - Pardo, Nievas
74	79	Pardo, Otilo - Peña, Margarita
75	80	Peña, Maria - Perez, Ismael
76	81	Perez, Jacinta/Jacinto - Pimentel, Dorotea
77	82	Pimentel, Elena - Puente/Puentes, Olallo
78	83	Puente/Puentes, Pablo - Ramirez, Catarino
79	84	Ramirez, Cayetana - Ramirez, Tomasita

NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL NO.	Contents
80	85	Ramirez, Toribio/Torivia/Torivio - Rasmussen, Johnannes
81	86	Raso, Abraham – Reyes, Humberto
82	87	Reyes, Ignacia - Rios, Doroteo
83	88	Rios, Eduardo - Robledo, Luz
84	89	Robledo, Manuel - Rodriguez, Celso/Selso/Selzo
85	90	Rodriguez, Cenobia - Rodriguez, Jose (part)
86	91	Rodriguez, Jose (part) - Rodriguez, Putimio
87	92	Rodriguez, Quintina - Romero, Juventino
88	93	Romero, Ladislado - Ruelas, Francisco
89	94	Ruelas, Geronimo - Saenz, Dora
90	95	Saenz, Eduardo - Saldana, Avalino
91	96	Saldana, Beatrice - Samano, Vicente
92	97	Samantenger, John - Sanchez, Lucy
93	98	Sanchez, Luis - Santacruz, Narcisa
94	99	Santacruz, Petra - Saxton, Joseph
95	100	Say, Jovita - Serna, Josefina
96	101	Serna, Jovita - Sixtos, Seferina
97	102	Sizumbo, Agapito - Soto, Margarita
98	103	Soto, Maria - Tapia, Trinidad
99	104	Tapia, Urbano - Torres/Torre, Armando
100	105	Torres/Torre, Arnulfo - Torres/Torre, Zenon
101	106	Torrescano, Alberto - Treviño, Jorge

NEW ROLL NO.	OLD INS ROLL NO.	CONTENTS
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104	109	Valdez, Rodolfo - Vargas, Norberto
105	110	Vargas, Octaviano - Vega, Franco
106	111	Vega, Gabino - Vera, Braulio
107	112	Vera, Carlos - Villanueva, Maria
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111	116	Zambrano, O. E Zepeda, Sulema
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