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PASSENGER AND CREW LISTS OF VESSELS (FEBRUARY 1929-FEBRUARY 1959)  
AND AIRPLANES (APRIL 1946-FEBRUARY 1959) ARRIVING AT BRIDGEPORT,  
GROTON, HARTFORD, NEW HAVEN, AND NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

### Introduction

On the 13 rolls of this microfilm publication, M1320, are reproduced passenger and crew lists of vessels (February 1929–February 1959) and airplanes (April 1946–February 1959) arriving at Bridgeport, Groton, Hartford, New Haven, and New London, Connecticut. Most of the records are of alien crew members of vessels; however, some alien and U.S. citizen passengers of vessels and airplanes, and some U.S. citizen crew members of airplanes are 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.

## Records Description

The records primarily consist of INS forms 680, I-415, I-416, I-418, I-466, I-467, I-480, and I-489 (described below under “Forms Used”), as well as air passenger manifests on forms created by various airlines, primarily Pan American World Airways and Trans Ocean Airlines. They are arranged chronologically, but some are out of chronological order. A few airplane manifests indicate their arrival or final destination as New York, New York, or Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts. A few vessel manifests indicate arrival in Bridgeport, Greenwich, Norwalk, Norwich, South Norwalk, and other smaller Connecticut ports; a few indicate arrival at Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Massachusetts; New York, New York; or other larger ports.

The records were filmed by the INS in 1944, 1956–1957, and 1959, and transferred to the National Archives on microfilm. Old INS Rolls B-48 through B-51 (shown as rolls 2–3 in the Table of Contents) were transferred as positive microfilm; the remainder was transferred as negative 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.

### Forms Used

INS Form 680 (later known as Form I-480), *List or Manifest of Aliens Employed on the Vessel as Members of Crew*, usually contains the names of vessels and shipmasters, ports of arrival and embarkation, dates of arrival, and the following information about each crew member: full name; position in ship's company; whether able to read; age; sex; race; nationality; height; weight; physical marks or peculiarities. The “race” column indicates the crew member's ethnic background, such as Irish, German, Polish, etc. It also indicates the date and place at which he was engaged for employment and whether he was to be paid off or discharged at the port of arrival. Although the primary purpose of this form was to record pertinent information about aliens, many U.S. citizen crew members are included on these lists. Occasionally, masters of some vessels submitted Canadian Immigration Service Form 200, *Crew List or Manifest of Seamen and Other Persons Employed on the Vessel*, in lieu of INS Form I-480.

Form I-415, *Manifest of In-Bound Passengers (Aliens)*, includes the name of the ship, the port and date of embarkation, the port and date of arrival, and the following information about each alien: name, travel document number, citizenship (“nationality”), number and description of pieces of baggage, and a “column for use of masters, surgeon, and U.S. officials” which may contain the alien’s “A-File” number, the section of the immigration law under which the alien was admitted to the U.S., and the country which issued the alien’s passport and its date of expiration. As of 1999, 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.

Form I-416, *List of In-Bound Passengers (United States Citizens and Nationals)*, includes the name of the ship, the port and date of embarkation, the port and date of arrival, and the following information about each person: U.S. passport number and place of birth, number and description of pieces of baggage, and a “column for use of master, surgeon, and U.S. officers” which is usually blank.

Form I-418, *Passenger List/Crew List (cross out one)*, includes the name of the ship, the port and date of embarkation, the port and date of arrival, and the following information about each person, if applicable: name, citizenship (“nationality”), passport number, crew position, and where the crewman was shipped or engaged. Other remarks or information may also be annotated on the form.

Form I-466, *Information Sheet [concerning passenger arriving on aircraft]*, provides the aircraft number, ports and dates of departure and destination, and the following information about a single passenger: name,

age, gender, marital status, race, citizenship, height, weight, eye color, hair color, complexion, whether able to read, place of embarkation, U.S. destination, name and address of friend or relative in U.S., immigration document number and its date and place of issuance, purpose and intended length of stay in visiting the U.S., amount of money, and when and where the person had visited the U.S. before.

Form I-467, *Air Passenger Manifest*, indicates the name of the airline, aircraft number, trip number, ports and dates of departure and destination, and the following information about each passenger: name, permanent address, ticket number, age, gender, marital status, race, destination, citizenship (“nationality”), number and date of passport, occupation, and weight of baggage.

INS Form I-489, *Statement of Master of Vessel Regarding Changes in Crew Prior to Departure*, sometimes accompanies the Form I-481. This form indicates names and other information of any crewmen who (1) deserted, (2) were discharged, (3) were left in a hospital at the port of arrival, or (4) signed on at the port of arrival.

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<u>Roll</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Vessels: Bridgeport, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Sept. 23, 1929–Mar. 16, 1941 (Old INS Roll No. B-47) Note: The rolls specified as “alien crew” consist entirely of alien crew; other rolls usually contain a mixture of aliens, citizens, crew, and passengers. Airplane manifests may indicate the name of the destination airport instead of the city near which it was located.
	Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport and New Haven (filed at Hartford), Jan. 6, 1944–Jan. 28, 1947 (Old INS Roll No. B-52)
2	Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Groton, Hartford, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Feb. 19, 1929–Jan. 15, 1934 (Old INS Roll No. B-48) Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Jan. 16, 1934–Mar. 13, 1940 (Old INS Roll No. B-49)
3	Vessels: Alien Crew (and a few passengers): Bridgeport and New Haven (filed at Hartford), Mar. 14, 1940–Jan. 26, 1942 (Old INS Roll No. B-50) Vessels: Alien Crew: New Haven (filed at Hartford), Jan. 27, 1942–Nov. 10, 1943 (Old INS Roll No. B-51)
4	Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Feb. 13, 1947–Apr. 27, 1950 (Old INS Roll No. B-53)
5	Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), May 3, 1950–Jan. 30, 1952 (Old INS Roll No. B-54)
6	Vessels: Alien Crew: Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Jan. 31, 1952–Nov. 20, 1953 (Old INS Roll No. B-55)
7	Vessels: Alien Crew: Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Nov. 21, 1953–Nov. 27, 1954 (Old INS Roll No. B-56) Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Aug. 29, 1955–Apr. 19, 1956 (Old INS Roll No. 1) Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, May 12, 1956–Mar. 25, 1957 (Old INS Roll No. 2)
8	Airplanes: Hartford, Apr. 25, 1946–Dec. 20, 1946 (Old INS Roll No. 1) Airplanes: Hartford, Jan. 18, 1947–Nov. 11, 1948 (Old INS Roll No. 2)
9	Airplanes: Hartford, Nov. 12, 1948–Nov. 5, 1954 (Old INS Roll No. 3)
10	Vessels: Alien Crew: Bridgeport, Groton, New Haven, New London (filed at Hartford), July 3, 1946–Nov. 22, 1954 (Old INS Roll No. B-48)

- Vessels and Airplanes: Bridgeport, Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), Aug. 17, 1956–June 29, 1957 (Old INS Roll No. 1)
- 11 Vessels and Airplanes: Bridgeport, Groton, New Haven, and New London (filed at Hartford), July 2, 1957–Feb. 20, 1959 (Old INS Roll No. 2-3)
- 12 Vessels and Airplanes: New Haven, Dec. 8, 1954–Feb. 9, 1956 (Old INS Roll No. 1)  
Vessels and Airplanes: New Haven, Feb. 8, 1956–Oct. 10, 1956 (Old INS Roll No. 2)  
Vessels and Airplanes: New Haven, Oct. 17, 1956 -Mar. 31, 1957 (Old INS Roll No. 3)
- 13 Vessels: New London (Groton), Dec. 3, 1954–Feb. 9, 1956 (Old INS Roll No. 1)  
Vessels: New London (Groton), Feb. 10, 1956-Aug. 29, 1956 (Old INS Roll No. 2)  
Vessels: New London (Groton), Feb. 29, 1956–Mar. 29, 1957 (Old INS Roll No. 3)