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PASSENGER LISTS OF VESSELS AND AIRPLANES ARRIVING AT PORT EVERGLADES,  
FLORIDA, FEBRUARY 1932–MAY 1951

Introduction

On the four rolls of this microfilm publication, A3394, are reproduced passenger lists of vessels and airplanes arriving at Port Everglades, Florida, February 15, 1932–May 7, 1951. 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 vessel passenger lists include both alien and citizen arrivals. The ports of departure included the British West Indies (including Jamaica, Bahamas, and Trinidad), Cuba, the Netherlands West Indies (Aruba), Canal Zone, and Honduras. Most were commercial vessels. Included, however, on Rolls 1–3 are U.S. Army Transport ("USAT") vessels carrying British West Indies citizens (primarily Jamaican) imported temporarily as agricultural laborers by the Atlanta, Georgia, branch of the Office of Labor, a component of the War Food Administration.

The airplane manifests include both passengers and crew. The airports of departure included Puerto Rico and Nassau, Bahamas. On many of the lists, the airplane destination was ink-stamped "Fort Lauderdale" over the original typewritten destination, but the INS filed these as arrivals at Port Everglades.

### Forms Used

Passenger names are recorded on a variety of INS forms, the most common of which are described below. Bureau of Customs Form 7507 is also included. There are two types of Form I-466; one provides information about an individual aircraft passenger; the other about all passengers on an aircraft.

**INS Form 500-B, *List or Manifest of Alien Passengers for the U.S. Immigration Officer at Port of Arrival***, are large "sheet manifests" traditionally used by vessel masters to record information about ship passengers in advance of arrival at U.S. ports. Form 500-B includes the date of arrival, full name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, ability to read and write, citizenship ("nationality"), "race or people," town and country of last permanent residence, birthplace, final destination, and whether the individual possesses a ticket to final destination. It also includes the name and address of the friend or relative the alien intends to join. If the alien had ever been in the U.S. in the past, the dates and places of such residence or visitation are indicated. It also includes the alien's height and color of complexion, eyes, and hair. Not all of the above information may be recorded for every alien.

**INS Form 630A or 630B, *List of United States Citizens***, includes each person's name, age, sex, marital status, date and place of birth (if native) or date and court of naturalization (if naturalized), and U.S. address. The person's passport number and date of issuance may be noted in a convenient blank spot on the form.

**INS 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.

**INS Form I-466, *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 number and weight of baggage. Each passenger's weight may be noted in the column headed "nationality, passport, number, and date of issue."

**Customs Form 7507, *General Declaration (Inward/Outward)***, includes the aircraft number, itinerary (intended destination airports and departure dates), and each crew member's name and U.S. passport number. The crew member's age and sex may also be noted.

### General Remarks

The records were filmed by the INS in 1946 and 1957 and transferred to the National Archives (NARA) on 35mm 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. Rolls 1-3 were transferred to NARA both in

acetate negative and in positive format. Unfortunately, the Roll 1 acetate negative had substantially deteriorated and could not be used, so the positive Roll 1 was used. Roll 4 was transferred to NARA solely in positive format. Since Rolls 1 and 4 are reproduced from positives, they may not reproduce as well as could be hoped for from a master negative. The image quality on both the negatives and positives varies considerably.

#### Related Records

Administrative records relating to the temporary importation of Jamaican agricultural workers into the U.S. might be found in Records of the Office of Labor (War Food Administration), RG 224, as well as in Records of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture RG 16. The functions of the War Food Administration (WFA) reverted to the Secretary of Agriculture upon abolishment of the WFA and its components, effective June 30, 1945, by Executive Order 9577.

#### CONTENTS

<u>Roll</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Vol.1-2; Vessels-Aliens and Citizens: Feb. 15, 1932 – Apr. 13, 1945
2	Vol. 3; Vessels-Aliens: May 12-24, 1945 <i>Comment:</i> Consists solely of Jamaican agricultural workers imported temporarily by the War Food Administration, Office of Labor, Atlanta, Georgia, aboard U.S.A.T. <i>General George S. Simonds</i> , on May 12, 18, and 24.
3	Volume 4 Vessels-Aliens: June 5 – Dec. 10, 1945 Vessels-Citizens: Jan. 29, 1940 – Dec. 8, 1945
4	Vessels-Aliens and Citizens: Jan. 4, 1946 – Jan. 9, 1949 (OLD INS Roll 5) Airplanes-Aliens and Citizens, Passengers and Crew: Dec. 27, 1946 – May 7, 1951 (OLD INS Roll 1) <i>Comment:</i> There is minor disarrangement at the end of the roll (April/May 1951).