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## INDEX AND MANIFESTS OF ALIEN ARRIVALS AT NOGALES, ARIZONA, 1905-1952

### Introduction

On the 74 rolls of this microfilm publication, M1769, are reproduced over 455,000 manifests and related index cards of permanent and temporary alien arrivals at Nogales, AZ, July 5, 1905-52. A few U.S. citizen arrivals are also included. The records are arranged in four separate series: (1) index to statistical manifests interfiled with nonstatistical manifests, ca. 1905-ca. 1926; (2) statistical manifests, July 5, 1905-Oct. 1924; (3) aliens admitted for permanent residence and applications for resident alien border crossing identification cards, July 1924-52; and (4) aliens admitted for temporary visits, 1927-52. 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 collectors 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), which remained under the general supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury 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); the Office was later designated the Bureau of Immigration 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. 1903, 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.

### Immigration Statistics and Definitions

Beginning in 1895, immigrants who arrived at Canadian seaports with the declared intention of proceeding to the United States were recorded and included in immigration statistics. Other alien arrivals at land borders began to be reported in 1906, and reporting was fully established in 1908 under authority of an act of February 20, 1907 (34 Stat. 898).

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 6 months. From about 1930 to 1945, however, the following classes of aliens entering via the land borders were included in immigration statistics:

- (1) Those who had not been in the United States within 6 months, who came to stay more than 6 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;
- (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; and
- (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 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 regulation changes 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 immigrant 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 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 United States; and (2) nonimmigrants, who were admitted aliens who declared an intention *not* to settle in the United States, and all aliens returning to resume domiciles formerly acquired in the United States. Since 1924 aliens arriving to settle in the United States 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 United States returning from a temporary visit abroad, or nonresident aliens admitted to the United States 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 the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service's *Laws Applicable to Immigration and Nationality*, edited by Edwina A. Avery and Catherine R. Gibson (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1953).

#### Records Description

The arrivals included in this microfilm publication include permanent, temporary, statistical, and nonstatistical arrivals. They are arranged by record series. Series 1, 3, and 4 are arranged alphabetically by surname, thereunder alphabetically by first name. 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." 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, and those surnamed Espinosa might be filed among those named Espinoza.

Series 2 is arranged chronologically, then by manifest number, as further described in the Contents section.

All rolls--except 32, 36, and 41--begin with "retakes" sections (records refilmed to ensure legibility). Rolls 1-6, 8-11, 13, 15-16, 18, 37, 43-44, 46, 51, and 55-56 begin with lengthy retakes sections.

#### Series 1: Index to Statistical Manifests Interfiled with Nonstatistical Manifests, ca. 1905--ca. 1926

This series actually consists of five interfiled subseries, each of which uses different kinds of card records:

Subseries 1, *Index to Statistical Sheet Manifests, July 5, 1905–Oct. 1924*, consists of three kinds of statistical index cards: INS Forms 621, Spl. 259, and an unnumbered and untitled statistical card (all described under “Forms Used”). These cards provide a “manifest number,” which is the “serial number” located in the upper right corner of the form (to the right of the person's sex on Spl. 259 and the unnumbered/untitled form). The researcher should use the date of arrival and serial number to locate the person's arrival in Series 2 (described below).

Subseries 2, *Temporary Arrivals, ca. 1905–ca. 1926*, consists of “nonstatistical” cards, INS Forms 629 and Spl. 442 (described under “Forms Used”). These cards contain all available arrival information, except that agricultural laborers may also have an identification card, as described below.

Subseries 3, *Agricultural Laborers, 1917–20*, consists of INS Form Spl. 125, *Alien Laborer's Identification Card*, and an unnumbered form titled *Alien Agricultural Laborer's Identification Card* (described under “Forms Used”). Some of these aliens may also have a “nonstatistical” card.

Subseries 4, *Border Crossing Identification Cards*, consists of Form P(A), *Alien's Application for Border Permit Card*, and Form H(A), *Application for Citizen's Identity Card* (described under “Forms Used”). These forms, used by persons who frequently crossed the border, probably sped up the INS inspection process.

Subseries 5, *U.S. Citizen Arrivals*, records a small number of U.S. citizen arrivals. In most cases, the person had been born in the United States but had lived abroad for a number of years.

#### Series 2: Statistical Manifests, July 5, 1905–Oct. 1924

This series consists of sheet manifests, INS Form 548 (described under “Forms Used”). A single sheet of paper is used for each alien's arrival. These records are arranged chronologically by date and then numerically by manifest (“serial”) number. The arrangement is imperfect; see the Table of Contents for further details. The researcher should first locate the month and year of arrival and then locate the manifest number in the upper right corner. This series is indexed by Series 1 (described above).

#### Series 3: Aliens Admitted for Permanent Residence and Applications for Resident Alien's Border Crossing Identification Cards, July 1924–52

This series consists of INS Forms 548, I-448, and I-189 (all described under “Forms Used”).

#### Series 4: Aliens Admitted for Temporary Visits, 1927–52.

This series consists of INS Forms 548, 694a, I-94, and I-448 (all described under “Forms Used”). These cards are often annotated with the length of time for which the alien was granted admission to the United States.

#### Forms Used

**Form 548 or Form I-448, *Manifest***, 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 United States, 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 United States 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 United States. Form 548 or I-448 is generally a card manifest. During some periods at some ports, however, 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. The manifest number ("serial number"), which is either handwritten or mechanically stamped, is annotated near the upper right corner of the form.

**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 may indicate a manifest ("list") and line number at the bottom; however, the true manifest ("serial") number is usually located to the right of (or near) the person's sex. Researchers should use the date of arrival, along with the serial number to the right of the person's sex, to locate the corresponding "long form" Form 548 (described above). The unnamed/unnumbered statistical form used in Series 1 is nearly identical to this form.

**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. Some statistical cards, however, merely list the alien's name, age, sex, citizenship ("nationality"), race, place of last residence, destination, and date and place of admission to the United States.

**Form Spl. 442 or 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 accompanying him or her. This index card apparently contains all available entry information.

**Form 694a, Record of Alien Admitted as Visitor,** includes the person's name, home address, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, occupation, citizenship ("nationality"), race, color of hair and eyes, height, names and ages of accompanying children under age 16, length of time admitted, signature, and date and place of admission to the United States. The reverse side indicates the date and port of departure.

**Form I-94, Record of Alien Admitted for Temporary Stay,** includes the person's name, home address, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, occupation, citizenship ("nationality"), race, visible distinctive marks, color of hair and eyes, height, name and address of nearest relative at home, date and place of admission to the United States, date of previous entry into the United States, name and address of the friend or relative whom the alien intended to join, purpose and length of intended stay in the United States, identification of the alien's travel documents, and whether the alien was accompanied by an alien child under age 14. The "manifest number" is handwritten or mechanically stamped in the upper right corner; it is not the "T" number in the upper right corner.

**Form I-189, Application for Resident Alien's Border Crossing Identification Card,** includes the person's name, permanent U.S. address, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, occupation, ability to read and write, citizenship ("nationality"), physical description, and the date, place, and means of lawful entry into the United States for permanent residence. It also includes the alien's signature and fingerprint. Also

included are the border crossing identification card number and its date of issuance.

**Form I-190, *Application for Nonresident Alien's Border Crossing Identification Card***, includes the person's name, address, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, occupation, ability to read and write, nationality, weight, visible distinctive marks, and purpose for coming to the United States. It also includes the color of the person's complexion, eyes, and hair, as well as the alien's signature and fingerprint. The number, date of issuance, and issuing authority of the alien's foreign passport or other identification card are noted. Also included are the border crossing identification card number and its date of issuance.

**Form H(A), *Application for Citizen's Identity Card***, includes the date and port of issuance of the card, card number, and the citizen's name, birthplace, permanent residence, business address, age, physical description, signature, and photograph.

**Form P(A), *Application for Border Permit Card***, includes the date and port of issuance of the card, card number, and the alien's name, citizenship, birthplace, permanent residence, business address, age, marital status, occupation, sex, height, weight, eye color, hair color, physical marks, ability to read, signature, and photograph.

**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 also includes his or her photograph and destination, including employer, such as "Arizona Cotton Growers Assn., Tempe, Arizona." It also includes 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.

***Alien Agricultural Laborer's Identification Card***, an unnumbered form, includes the date and port of issuance of the card and the alien's name, height, physical peculiarities, and photograph. The alien's employer's name is often annotated on the reverse side. The card includes this text on the front side:

The bearer [name], a citizen of [Mexico], has this day been granted the privilege of temporarily entering the United States, solely for the purpose of engaging in agricultural pursuits, pursuant to the authority contained in and under the conditions prescribed by U.S. Department of Labor circular, dated Washington, D.C., May 23rd, 1917.

It also includes this text on the reverse side:

The alien to whom this card is issued must not engage in any other than agricultural pursuits; engagement in labor of any other character will render him liable to deportation. This privilege is granted and accepted with the understanding that in consideration of the alien's entry under the suspension of certain requirements of the Immigration Act, said privilege may be revoked at any time within the discretion of the Secretary of Labor, and the recipient of the privilege returned to the country whence he came.

#### General Remarks

The records were filmed by the INS in August-October 1956 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.

The roll list included in this descriptive pamphlet corrects minor errors found on the roll list reproduced on the microfilm.

## CONTENTS

<u>Roll</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Series 1: Index to Statistical Manifests Interfiled with Nonstatistical Manifests, ca. 1905-ca. 1926 Aasuscheidt, Richard-Araiza, Maria (part) (Old INS Roll 1)
2	Araiza, Maria (part) – Bojorfuez, Ramona/Romona (part) (Old INS Roll 2)
3	Bojorfuez, Ramona/Romona (part) – Castillo, Teodoro (Old INS Roll 3)
4	Castillo, Teodoro – Covarrubias, Aurelio (part) (Old INS Roll 4)
5	Covarrubias, Aurelio (part) – Escobosa, Rafaela (Old INS Roll 5)
6	Escobosa, Ramon – Fregosa, Florencia (part) (Old INS Roll 6)
7	Fregosa, Florencia (part) – Gonzales/Gonzalez, Francisco (part) (Old INS Roll 7)
8	Long retakes section: miscellaneous (Old INS Roll 8) Ibarra, Adolfo-Ibarra, Josita Gonzales/Gonzalez, Francisco (part)-Ibarra, Jesus (Cards after Jesus Ibarra are unreadable, too dark due to overexposure; see retakes section.)
9	Long retakes section: miscellaneous (Old INS Roll 9) Loo, Lin-Lopez, Adolfo (part) Ibarra, Juan-Loo, Poy (Cards after Poy Loo are unreadable, too dark due to overexposure; see retakes section.)
10	Lopez, Adolfo (part)-Martinez, Cipriano (Old INS Roll 10)
11	Martinez, Cirilo-Monteverde, Aurelio (Old INS Roll 11)
12	Monteverde, Beatrice-Obregon, Alejandro (Old INS Roll 12)
13	Obregon, Alfredo-Perez, Guadalupe (part) (Old INS Roll 13)
14	Perez, Guadalupe (part)-Reyna, Francisco (Old INS Roll 14)
15	Reyna, Gilberto-Ruelas, Cirilo (Old INS Roll 15)
16	Ruelas, Concepcion-Serrano, José (part) (Old INS Roll 16)
17	Serrano, José (part)-Unger, Carlos (part) (Old INS Roll 17)
18	Unger, Carlos (part)-Villa, Francisco (Old INS Roll 18)
19	Villa, Gerardo-Zurita, Manuel (Old INS Roll 19)
20	Series 2: Statistical Manifests, July 5, 1905-June 1924 July 5, 1905-May 1, 1908; 1-1682 (Old INS Roll 20) Undated; 1683-1690 June 1, 1908-April 17, 1909; 5-116
21	April 16, 1909; 115 (Old INS Roll 21) April 19, 1909; 121, 119 April 21, 1909; 123, 122 April 27, 1909; 124-125 April 28, 1909; 127, 128, 126 May 1, 1909-June 30, 1909; 129-203

July 1, 1909-June 30, 1910; 1-1214  
 July 1, 1910-Oct. 12, 1910; 1-675  
 22 Oct. 13, 1910-June 30, 1911; 676-2113 (Old INS Roll 22)  
 July 1, 1911-Jan. 18, 1912; 1-1241  
 23 Jan. 18, 1912-Feb. 28, 1912; 1242-1481 (Old INS Roll 23)  
 Nov. 27, 1909-June 30, 1910; 1-601  
 July 1, 1910-June 30, 1911; 1-2029  
 July 1, 1911-Oct. 21, 1911; 1-809  
 24 Oct. 21, 1911-Mar. 21, 1912; 810-1683 (Old INS Roll 24)  
 Mar. 26-27, 1912; 1730-1748  
 Mar. 21, 1912-June 29, 1912; 1679-2740  
 July 1, 1912-Nov. 19, 1912; 1-1950  
 25 Nov. 19, 1912-June 30, 1913; 1951-3256 (Old INS Roll 25)  
 July 2, 1913-June 29, 1914; 1-1616  
 July 1, 1914-July 31, 1914; 1-220  
 26 Aug. 1, 1914-June 29, 1915; 221-2403 (Old INS Roll 26)  
 July 1, 1915-Jan. 3, 1916; 1-1416  
 27 Jan. 4, 1916-June 24, 1916; 1417-2944 (Old INS Roll 27)  
 July 2, 1916-Oct. 15, 1916; 1-1640  
 28 Oct. 15, 1916-June 30, 1917; 1641-4212 (Old INS Roll 28)  
 July 1, 1917-Sept. 13, 1917; 1-1000  
 29 Sept. 13, 1917-June 29, 1918; 1001-3401 (Old INS Roll 29)  
 July 1, 1918-Aug. 16, 1918; 1-326  
 Aug. 16, 1918; two unnumbered manifests  
 30 Aug. 16, 1918; four unnumbered manifests (Old INS Roll 30)  
 Aug. 17, 1918-June 30, 1919; 327-3035  
 July 1, 1919-July 15, 1919; 1-277  
 July 15, 1919; nine unnumbered manifests  
 31 July 15, 1919-Dec. 8, 1919; 278-2867 (Old INS Roll 31)  
 32 Dec. 8, 1919-June 22, 1920; 2868-6144 (Old INS Roll 32)  
 33 June 22, 1920-June 30, 1920; 6145-6368 (Old INS Roll 33)  
 June 30, 1920; four unnumbered manifests  
 June 26, 1920; three unnumbered manifests  
 June 21, 1920; one unnumbered manifest  
 June 29, 1920; one unnumbered manifest  
 June 17, 1920; one unnumbered manifest  
 June 24, 1920; one unnumbered manifest  
 June 17, 1920; one unnumbered manifest  
 July 1, 1920-Nov. 26, 1920; 1-2479  
 34 Nov. 26, 1920-June 29, 1921; 2480-4508 (Old INS Roll 34)  
 June 29, 1921; five unnumbered manifests  
 June 30, 1921; two unnumbered manifests  
 July 1, 1921-Nov. 14, 1921; 1-1014  
 35 Nov. 14, 1921-June 30, 1922; 1015-2912 (Old INS Roll 35)  
 June 30, 1922; two unnumbered manifests  
 July 1, 1922-Aug. 23, 1922; 1-676  
 36 Aug. 23, 1922-Jan 17, 1923; 677-4066 (Old INS Roll 36)  
 Jan. 17, 1923; two unnumbered manifests  
 37 Long retakes section: miscellaneous (Old INS Roll 37)



- May 14, 1923-May 15, 1923; 6726-6771  
 Jan. 17, 1923-May 14, 1923; 4067-6725 (Manifests after 6725 are unreadable,  
 too dark due to overexposure; see retakes section.)
- 38 May 15, 1923-June 21 [30], 1923; 6772-8263 (Old INS Roll 38)  
 July 1, 1923-Aug. 15, 1923; 1-1665
- 39 Aug. 16, 1923-Oct. 15, 1923; 1666-4592 (Old INS Roll 39)
- 40 Oct. 15, 1923-Feb. 23, 1924; 4593-7816 (Old INS Roll 40)
- 41 Feb. 23, 1924-Mar. 20, 1924; 7817-8595 (Old INS Roll 41)  
 Mar. 24, 1924-Apr. 20, 1924; 9460-9541  
 Apr. 30, 1924; 9791  
 May 6, 1924; 9901-9902  
 May 20, 1924; 10259-10363  
 May 20, 1924-June 30, 1924; 11005-11075  
 July 20, 1924; 186-272  
 Aug. 2, 1924-Aug. 20, 1924; 663-731  
 Sept. 21, 1924; 1146-1214  
 Oct. 20, 1924; 5168-5187; 5458-5460

Series 3: Aliens Admitted for Permanent Residence and Applications for Resident Alien's  
 Border Crossing Identification Cards, July 1924-52

- Retakes (Old INS Roll 42)  
 Aasgaard, Olar-Apodaca, Froilan
- 42 Apodaca, Froylan-Camacho, Antonia (Old INS Roll 43)
- 43 Long retakes section: miscellaneous (Old INS Roll 44)  
 Cornejo, Alfonso-Corona, Isabel  
 Camacho, Armando-Cornejo, Anita (Most cards after Anita Cornejo are  
 unreadable, too dark due to overexposure; see retakes section.)
- 44 Corona, Isaac-Estrada, Zeferino (Old INS Roll 45)
- 45 Estrate, Palagia (Mary)-Geourgouses, Konstantine (Old INS Roll 46)
- 46 Gerakos, Juan-Huerta, Clementina (Old INS Roll 47)
- 47 Huerta, Czarina-Lopez, José (part) (Old INS Roll 48)
- 48 Lopez, José (part)-Miller, Carlos (Old INS Roll 49)
- 49 Miller, Delia-Orona, Ladislao (Old INS Roll 50)
- 50 Oropeza, Balerio-Ramirez, Ramona (part) (Old INS Roll 51)
- 51 Ramirez, Ramona (part)-Ruiz, Alejandro (Old INS Roll 52)
- 52 Ruiz, Alfredo-Tonella, Leonides (part) (Old INS Roll 53)
- 53 Tonella, Leonides (part)-Villasenor, Maria (part) (Old INS Roll 54)
- 54 Villasenor, Maria (part)-Zwikel, Helen (Old INS Roll 55)

- 55 Series 4: Aliens Admitted for Temporary Visits, 1927-52  
 Abad, Carlos-Arreola/Arriola, Amadeo (Old INS Roll 1)
- 56 Arreola/Arriola, Apolinar-Barker, Ramona (Old INS Roll 2)
- 57 Barlow, Dolores-Cano, Maria (part) (Old INS Roll 3)
- 58 Cano, Maria (part)-Cisneros, Roberto (Old INS Roll 4)
- 59 Cisneros, Sabino-Diaz, Plutarco (Old INS Roll 5)
- 60 Diaz, Ponciano-Espinosa/Espinoza, Ricardo (part) (Old INS Roll 6)
- 61 Espinosa/Espinoza, Ricardo (part)-Garcia, Eloisa (part) (Old INS Roll 7)
- 62 Garcia, Eloisa (part)-Gonzales/Gonzalez, Maria (part) (Old INS Roll 8)
- 63 Gonzales/Gonzalez, Maria (part)-Ibarra, Raul (part) (Old INS Roll 9)
- 64 Ibarra, Raul (part)-Lopez, Celia (Old INS Roll 10)
- 65 Lopez, Celida-Martinez, Ernesto (part) (Old INS Roll 11)

66 Martinez, Ernesto (part)-Miranda, Arturo (Old INS Roll 12)  
67 Miranda, Augusto-Nava, Rafael (Old INS Roll 13)  
68 Nava, Refugio-Palafox, Jesus (Old INS Roll 14)  
69 Palafox, José-Ramiriz, José (part) (Old INS Roll 15)  
70 Ramiriz, José (part)-Rodriguez, José (part) (Old INS Roll 16)  
71 Rodriguez, José (part)-Salazar, Josefa (part) (Old INS Roll 17)  
72 Salazar, Josefa (part)-Suarez, Miguel (part) (Old INS Roll 18)  
73 Suarez, Miguel (part)-Vargas, Enriqu  (part) (Old INS Roll 19)  
74 Vargas, Enriqu  (part)-Zamora, Jos  (part) (Old INS Roll 20)  
Retakes (Old INS Roll 21)  
Zamora, Jos  (part) – Zyranoff, Frans