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PASSENGER LISTS OF ALIENS (1927-1939) AND CITIZENS (1933-1939) ARRIVING AT PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

Introduction

On the single roll of this microfilm publication, M1840, are reproduced ship passenger lists for arrivals at Panama City, FL. It includes arrivals of aliens from November 10, 1927, to December 12, 1939, and arrivals of U.S. citizens from September 10, 1933, to December 12, 1939. The captain or master of each vessel, whether of U.S. or foreign registry, submitted these lists to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) or its predecessors at the port of entry, in this case the Port of Panama City, Florida. 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, and, when functions relating to naturalization were added in 1906, its name was changed to the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization. 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, INS was moved to the Department of Justice.

Records Description

The lists reproduced in this microfilm publication are ship passenger manifests which include the names of foreign visitors, immigrants, and some U.S. citizens returning from abroad. They also usually indicate names of vessels, ports of arrival and embarkation, and dates of arrival. The lists normally contain the following information about each passenger: full name; age; sex; marital status; occupation; last residence; port of arrival; final destination in the United States; if the passenger had been in the United States before (if so, when and where); and if the passenger was going to join a relative (if so, the relative's name, address, and relationship). Beginning in 1903, race was included; in 1906, personal description and birthplace; in 1907, the name and address of the alien's nearest relative in the country from which he or she came. The arrival lists consist of a two-page form. Due to the manner in which the records were filmed, the "right" side of the form is located to the left of the "left" side of the form.

These arrival records were filmed in chronological order, except for a few which are out of place. The Table of Contents that follows contains a complete listing of the arrival records in the order in which they were filmed. An INS-created "index" near the beginning of the microfilm lists each alien-carrying vessel and its date of arrival at Panama City. The dates listed usually match those shown on the arrival list. Some of the vessels stopped at other U.S. ports, such as Tampa, FL, or New Orleans, LA, en route to Panama City.

The INS microfilmed these records on November 8, 1946, and subsequently transferred the microfilm to the National Archives. Although material may be difficult to read, it is impossible to correct the situation since the INS eventually destroyed the original records.

CONTENTS

<u>Roll</u>	<u>Date of Arrival; Vessel; Port of Embarkation</u>
1	ALIEN ARRIVALS Nov. 10, 1927; San Andreas; Cayman Brac [Island], B.W.I. June 6, 1928; Ruurlo; Antwerp Jan. 17, 1929; Hagland; Cardiff Dec. 13, 1929; San Andreas; Georgetown, Grand Cayman [Island] Sept. 18, 1932; Antinous; Hamburg July 22, 1933; Wacosta; London Aug. 22, 1933; Antinous; Antwerp Nov. 9, 1933; West Madaket; Antwerp April 12, 1934; City of Alma; London May 10, 1934; Maiden Creek; Manchester June 11, 1934; Afoundria; Liverpool July 25, 1934; Fairport; Ponce, Puerto Rico Aug. 27, 1934; West Hika; Hamburg Aug. 28, 1934; Kenowis; Liverpool/Avonmouth Sept. 9, 1934; Afoundria; Manchester via Glasgow Sept. 27, 1934; Yaka; Le Havre Sept. 29, 1934; Hastings; London Oct. 12, 1934; Kenowis; Manchester Oct. 14, 1934; West Hika; Antwerp Oct. 24, 1934; Afoundria; Avonmouth

Nov. 12 [?], 1934; Maiden Creek; Manchester
Nov. 22, 1934; Hastings; Antwerp
Dec. 9, 1934; West Hika; Antwerp
Jan. 1, 1935; Maiden Creek; Bristol/Avonmouth
Jan. 27, 1935; Afoundria; Liverpool
Mar. 2, 1935; Antinous; Antwerp/Hamburg/Harburg
July 4, 1935; Hastings; Newcastle
Aug. 10, 1935; Afoundria; Manchester via Glasgow
Sept. 9, 1935; Antinous; Antwerp
Nov. 25, 1935; Hastings; Manchester
Dec. 29, 1935; Maiden Creek; Hamburg
Feb. 28, 1936; Kenowis; Antwerp
Mar. 1, 1936; Topeka; Oslo
May 25, 1936; Maiden Creek; London
Mar. 28, 1936 (filmed out of order); Hastings; Bristol/Avonmouth
May 25, 1936; Maiden Creek; Schiedam, Holland
Sept. 9, 1936; Antinous; Glasgow
Sept. 18, 1936; Afoundria; Antwerp
Oct. 11, 1936; Topa Topa; Manchester
Jan. 2, 1937; Hastings; Manchester
April 15, 1937; Hastings; Manchester
June 18, 1937; Topa Topa; Bristol/Avonmouth
Oct. 15, 1937; West Kyska; Glasgow
Oct. 16, 1937; Topa Topa; Antwerp
Oct. 30, 1937; Antinous; Liverpool
Dec. 17, 1937; Antinous; Manchester
May 30, 1938; Warrior; Antwerp
Aug. 1, 1938; Warrior; Antwerp
Sept. 15, 1938; Wacosta; Antwerp
Dec. 23, 1938; Antinous; Bristol/Avonmouth
Feb. 4, 1939; Wacosta; Hamburg
April 13, 1939; Wacosta; Rotterdam
Dec. 12, 1939; Wacosta; Antwerp

CITIZEN ARRIVALS

Sept. 10, 1933; Kenowis; Liverpool via Manchester and Glasgow
May 10, 1934; Maiden Creek; Manchester
Aug. 12, 1934; Hastings; Rotterdam
Sept. 9, 1934; Afoundria; Manchester via Glasgow
Sept. 25, 1934; Maiden Creek; Manchester
Sept. 27, 1934; Yaka; Le Havre
Sept. 29, 1934; Hastings; London
Oct. 12, 1934; Kenowis; Liverpool
Oct. 14, 1934; West Hika; Antwerp
Oct. 24, 1934; Afoundria; Manchester via Avonmouth
Oct. 25, 1934; West Madaket; Rotterdam
Aug. 22, 1933 (filmed out of order); Antinous; Antwerp
Nov. 9, 1933 (filmed out of order); West Madaket; Antwerp

Aug. 27, 1934 (filmed out of order); West Hika; Hamburg
Aug. 28, 1934 (filmed out of order); Kenowis; Liverpool/Avonmouth
Nov. 13, 1934; Maiden Creek; Manchester
Nov. 22, 1934; Hastings; Antwerp
Dec. 9, 1934; West Hika; Antwerp
June 9, 1934; Afoundria; Liverpool
July 25, 1934; Fairport; Ponce, Puerto Rico
April 3, 1935; Kenowis; Cardiff
July 4, 1935; Hastings; Newcastle
July 10, 1935; Kenowis; Glasgow
Aug. 10, 1935; Afoundria; Manchester
Sept. 9, 1935; Antinous; Antwerp
Sept. 10, 1935; Maiden Creek; Manchester
Sept. 24, 1935; Topa Topa; Antwerp
July 29, 1936; Maloa; Belize, British Honduras
Aug. 11, 1936 (filmed out of order); Hastings; Manchester
Aug. 8, 1936; Wacosta; Antwerp
Aug. 26, 1936; Topa Topa; Avonmouth
Sept. 5, 1936; Gateway City; Antwerp via Rotterdam
Sept. 9, 1936; Antinous; Glasgow
Sept. 19, 1936; Maloa; Belize, British Honduras
Sept. 24, 1936; Hastings; Avonmouth
Sept. 30, 1936; West Kyska; Bremen
Oct. 19, 1936; Kenowis; Rotterdam
April 24, 1937; Fairland; Ponce, Puerto Rico
April 30, 1937; Excelsior; Bremen
June 18, 1937 (filmed out of order); Topa Topa; Bristol/Avonmouth
June 13, 1937; West Kyska; Manchester
July 11, 1937; Azalea City; Antwerp
Aug. 12, 1937; West Kyska; Bremen
Oct. 16, 1937; Topa Topa; Antwerp
Oct. 30, 1937; Antinous; Liverpool/Manchester
Nov. 4, 1937; Wacosta; Antwerp
May 30, 1938; Warrior; Antwerp
Sept. 15, 1938; Wacosta; Antwerp
Nov. 15, 1938; Arizpa; Glasgow
Dec. 28, 1938; Azalea City; Rotterdam
Feb. 4, 1939; Wacosta; Antwerp
April 13, 1939; Wacosta; Rotterdam
Sept. 27, 1939; Wacosta; Glasgow
Dec. 12, 1939; Wacosta; Antwerp