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PASSENGER LISTS OF VESSELS ARRIVING AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, DECEMBER 1926-MARCH 1941

Introduction

On the single roll of this microfilm publication, M1959, are reproduced ship passenger lists for alien, citizen, and crew member arrivals at St. Petersburg, Florida, for the period December 15, 1926, to March 1, 1941. 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

Immigration and Naturalization Service passenger lists include the names of U.S. citizens returning from abroad, foreign visitors, and immigrants. The lists usually also contain names of vessels and shipmasters, ports of arrival and embarkation, dates of arrival, and the following information about each passenger:

full name; age; sex; marital status; occupation; last residence; port of arrival and final destination in the United States; if the passenger had been in the United States before, when, and where; if the passenger were going to join a relative, the relative's name and 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 records were filmed by the INS on November 7, 1946, and later transferred to the National Archives on microfilm. Some of the records may be difficult to read; in particular, the passenger lists for the period January 21, 1939 to March 1, 1941 may be more difficult to read than other records on this roll. It is impossible to correct the situation since the INS destroyed the original records.

Many of the arriving aliens appear to have been Canadians traveling on vacation. There are also Cuban citizens, including teenage Cuban boys who were students at the Florida Military Academy in St. Petersburg. Other alien arrivals include Swedish, British, Irish, Czechoslovakian, Spanish, French, German, and Australian citizens. Some passengers were American citizens returning from vacations or business abroad.

CONTENTS

<u>Roll</u>	<u>Date of Arrival; Vessel; Port of Embarkation</u>
1	Dec. 15, 1926; Anona; Windsor, Ontario, Canada via Toronto, Ontario, Canada
	Mar. 28, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Apr. 4, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Apr. 11, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Apr. 22, 1936; Hybert; Barcelona, Spain (indicates port of arrival as Tampa, Florida)
	May 2, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	May 16, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	May 23, 1936; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 2, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 9, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 16, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 23, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 30, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Feb. 6, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Feb. 12, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Feb. 20, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Feb. 27, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Mar. 6, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Mar. 13, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Mar. 20, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Mar. 27, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Apr. 10, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	May 1, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	May 8, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	May 29, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Dec. 25, 1937; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
	Jan. 1, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba

Jan. 5, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 8, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 15, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 22, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 29, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 5, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 12, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 19, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 26, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 5, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 12, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 19, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 26, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 2, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 8, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 16, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 23, 1938; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 7, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 14, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 21, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 4, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 11, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 18, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 25, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 4, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 11, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 18, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 1, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 8, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
July 8, 1939; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 5, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 9, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 16, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 23, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 1, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 7, 1940; Good News; Miami, FL, via Nassau, Bahamas
Mar. 8, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 15, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 22, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 29, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Apr. 5, 1940; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Jan. 4, 1941; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Feb. 22, 1941; Cuba; Havana, Cuba
Mar. 1, 1941; Cuba; Havana, Cuba