MEXICAN AMERICAN HISTORY COLLECTION

ALMEDINA, Jim O.H. 1117

See TORRES, Mario

ALVAREZ, Manuel (1942-) O.H. 279 Interviewer: Elsie Sotomayor Date: June 13, 1971 Status: Edited, 19 pp., (Spanish) Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min (Spanish)

An account of the experiences of a Mexican mojado in entering the United States and living here as regards the language barrier, employment and discrimination.

CABRALES, Socorro (1946-) O.H. 605 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: May 24, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 25 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

A discussion of education in Mexico, feelings toward the Indians and fieldwork in California including the braceros and immigration to the United States.

CASTANEDA, Francisco (1924-) O.H. 1301 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 22, 1976 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min. (Spanish)

Maternal uncle of interviewer describes the family experiences of repatriation; his trip by train to Gomez Palacio, Durango in 1935; difficulties in school because at the fourth grade level he did not read in Spanish; loss of family home and financial security during Depression; experiences of living in Mexico and return to the United States of sister Emilia and himself.

CASTANEDA de VALENCIANA, Emilia (1926-)
O.H. 700
Interviewer: Christine Valenciana
Date: February 24 and March 9, 1972
Status: Completed 1982, 76 pp., index, photos
Tape length: 5 hrs. 30 min.

Thoughts on the lives and problems of Mexican Americans living in the Los Angeles area and in Mexico during the 1930s. Memories of welfare, racial attitudes, and the mobility of Mexican Americans between Mexico and the United States. Narrator was part of a mass movement of Mexican Nationals and Americans of Mexican descent during the 1930s.

CASTRO, Eddie (1928-)	
O.H. 2143	
Interviewer:	Robin Rodarte and Richard Gutierrez
Date:	October 28, 1974
Status:	Transcribed, 12 pp.
Tape length:	2 hrs. 45 min.

Raised in the Mexican-American district called La Jolla colony in the city of Placentia, California, the interviewee recalls his education there, childhood experiences, and racial discrimination encountered in that community.

CASTRO, Pedro G. (1899-) O.H. 736 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: April 2, 1971 Status: Edited, 33 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Description of life in Chihuahua, Mexico during the revolution; the problems and successes of Mexican immigrants living and working in California.

de LEON, Rudy (ca. 1926-) O.H. 103 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 16, 1969 Status: Final typed, 9 pp. Tape length: 30 min. A police lieutenant, serving as a community relations officer at the Hollenbeck Station in East Los Angeles, discusses briefly the relationship of the police and the Brown Berets.

de URIARTE, William A. (ca. 1910-) O.H. 1296 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: June 12, 1972 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 3 hrs.

A narrative of Mexico City describes his school days during the revolution and the demands of his father to learn both Spanish and English; school days in New York in the 1920s; movement of the family from Mexico to New York and to South America because his father was a chief accountant for Standard Oil and Atlantic Richfield. Explains the reason for the revolution; his joining Pancho Villa; twenty-five years of change in Mexico including the need for roads, communication, conveniences, and industry; dual citizenship and immigration.

DIAZ, Lupe (ca. 1929-) and Ofelia (n.d.) O.H. 111 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 27, 1969 Status: Final typed/approved, 27 pp. Tape length: 60 min

Recollections of specific demonstrations of discrimination and prejudice shown toward Mexican Americans in Victorville, California as compared to their area of Garden Grove, California. Includes comments on militancy.

DURAN, Burt (n.d.) O.H. 610 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 10, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 20 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

Observations on school segregation and financial discrimination toward Mexican-American youth in Orange County, California recalled by a jeweler and Little League organizer.

ESCALANTE, Alicia (ca. 1923-) O.H. 73* Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: November 13 and December 9, 1968 Status: Transcribed, 47 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

The chairman of the East Los Angeles Welfare Rights Organization and mother of five, two of whom are Brown Berets, tells about that organization and how it has influenced her children.

ESCALANTE, Evelyn and Hinojosa, Alex (ca. 1953-) O.H. 110 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 27, 1969 Status: Edited, 44 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs.

Two Mexican-American high school students discuss living in the barrio, discrimination, and prejudice. Includes brown culture and militancy among the Mexican Americans in Orange County, California.

ESQUEDA, Alfred (n.d.) O.H. 612 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 28, 1970 Status: Transcribed, 23 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

An account of life in the Mexican-American community including descriptions of conditions in the migrant labor camps and the agricultural workers' strike of 1936.

FALLIS, Stella (ca. 1947-)
O.H. 96
Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr.
Date: January 13, 1969
Status: Final typed, 10 pp.
Tape length: 30 min.

A student of Anglo-Saxon descent majoring in Spanish discusses impressions of Mexican-American poverty, militancy, and general life-style. FORD, John Anson (1883-1983) O.H. 759 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: September 4, 1971 Status: Edited, 23 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

A former member of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors discusses the repatriation program of Mexican nationals and Mexican Americans during the Depression days of the 1930s; attitudes of the supervisors toward repatriation, employment, and financial problems during the 1930s; police activities and the Zoot Suit Riots.

GARCIA, Gonzalo B. (1933-) O.H. 604 Interviewer: Beverly J. Gallagher Date: March 21, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 36 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

A firsthand account of Mexican-American family seasonal farm labor from 1939 to 1949. Observations about the Bracero Program and Cesar Chavez. Father was foreman of worker unit for six years.

GODINEZ, Hector (1924-) O.H. 2144 Interviewer: Amalia Gonzales Date: October 24, 1974 Status: Completed 1975, 4 pp. Tape length: 30 min. Bound in Harvest, 1975, xiii, 381 pp.

A native Californian and the first Mexican-American to work in the Santa Ana, California, Post Office became postmaster in 1960 by appointment from President John F. Kennedy. He describes childhood experiences of growing up in that community's Mexican-American barrio called Delhi, service in the U.S. Army during World War II, and his determination to join the United States Postal Service in the face of racial discrimination.

GOMEZ, Pascual (1907-)O.H. 2145Interviewer:Maria Gutierrez and Glenn FordDate:February 11, 1975Status:Completed 1975, 5 pp. (English summary); 24 pp.Tape length:60 mm. (Spanish)Bound in Harvest, 1975, xiii, 381 pp.

Recollections of the harsh conditions of his childhood after his father's death in 1915 while serving in the Mexican national army, discrimination against blacks and Mexicans in Texas and California in the years prior to World War II, his decision to enter the U.S. Army, and his subsequent immigration troubles with American authorities after living in Mexico for more than one year after his naturalization.

GONZALES, Esther (1929-) O.H. 115a Interviewer: Sharlene Van Brunt Date: January 22, 1969 Status: Transcribed, 36 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 45 min.

Detailed description of various self-help projects of the ethnic community of Atwood, California. Narrator is the mother of eight children and a daughter of one of the first settlers in the area. Active in various groups such as League of United Latin American Citizens and Community Action Council

GONZALES, Ester (1929-) O.H. 115b Interviewer: Kim Stewart Date: June 14, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 23 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

The director of the Adult Education Program at the Atwood Community Center, gives a description of Atwood, California with emphasis on that community's self-help projects.

GUILIN, Manuel (1914-) O.H. 606 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: May 16, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 32 pp. Tape length: 60 min

An account of living conditions on the United States-Mexican border, life in Mexico, and adjustment to life in the United States after immigration.

HINOJOSA, Alex O.H. 110

See ESCALANTE, Evelyn

HUNTER, Allen A. (1902-) O.H. 744 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 22, 1971 Status: Final typed, 26 pp. Tape length: 30 min

A minister relates sociological factors of Mexican repatriation from Los Angeles in the 1930s, labor strikes, American Civil Liberties Union, Bromley Oxton, John Anson and the power of the Los Angeles Times.

JARA, Maggie (ca. 1911-) O.H. 628 Interviewer: Pam Phillips Date: June 12, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 17 pp. Tape length: 45 min.

Proprietor of the 301 Café gives her recollections of running a boardinghouse in Placentia, California in the 1940s and its evolution into a restaurant.

JEFFERSON, María Bustos (1913-) O.H. 1300 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: September 11, 1971 Status: Edited, 48 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min. A native of San Nicholas Ybarra Jalisco, Mexico recalls her parents "temporary visit" to the United States in 1916, which was believed to be for six months but continued until her first return trip in 1947; family background; attitudes and memories toward Mexican-American repatriation and deportation. Interviewee assisted many who returned to Mexico during the repatriation of the 1930s and collected food and clothing for Mexican residents.

KELLY, Arletta (1896-)
O.H. 48b
Interviewer: Fred Zuniga
Date: Not recorded
Status: Transcribed, 36 pp.
Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.
See also Arletta Kelly, O.H. 48a, Community History Collection (Fullerton)

Recollections of the Mexican barrios on and near the Bastanchury ranch property including teaching at Pomona Camp; Americanization program for Mexican mothers during the 1920s. Family background included.

LANDEROS, Carmen (1906-) O.H. 745 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 7, 1971 Status: Edited, 14 pp. Tape length: 40 min.

Discussion of Mexican immigration during the Depression including financial situation of Mexican community. Description of El Repatriador, and the 1951 search for legal Mexican residents.

LANDEROS, Jose (1903-) O.H. 746 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 7, 1971 Status: Edited, 12 pp. Tape length: 40 min.

Employment and naturalization of Mexican Americans before and during World War II, living conditions, repatriation, and attitudes are described.

LESPRON, Carlos O.H. 104

See NATIVIDAD, Albert

LOMELI, Antonio Mendez (ca. 1910-) O.H. 1297 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 24, 1972 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 2 hrs. (Spanish)

A native of Michoacan, Mexico discusses the political reasons for coming to the United States in 1938, exploitation of repatriados during the 1930s, progressive nature of repatriados involved in agrarian projects in Mexico and resistance of traditionalists, problems of Mexican nationals in Southern California prior to World War II, and corruption in distribution of United States funds and Mexican land to repatriates. Comments on "Pachuco Riot" and other incidents of violence in southern California during the 1930s and 1940s, the newspaper La Opinion, and United States immigration policies.

LOPEZ, Gloria (ca. 1920-) O.H. 589 Interviewer: George S. Maisch Date: May 5, 1971 Status: Edited/approved, 17 pp. Tape length: 50 min.

Movements and organizations within the Mexican-American communities of Orange County, California by the community organizer and former executive director of the Independencia Community Center in Anaheim, California.

LOPEZ, Joseph (n.d.) O.H. 473 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 14, 1970 Status: Transcribed, 37 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 35 min.

A Mexican-American businessman sent to the state penitentiary recalls living and working in the Chicano community, being in prison, then in college at California State University, Fullerton.

LOPEZ, Mr. And Mrs. Joseph (ca. 1938-) O.H. 97 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 10, 1969 Status: Transcribed, 31 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs.

An account of Mrs. Lopez' birth and childhood in Mexico and a comparison between her outlook and upbringing to that of her husband who was born and raised in the East Los Angeles Mexican-American ghetto.

MC CLAIN, George (ca. 1920-) and Connie (n.d.) O.H. 476 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: April 20, 1970 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 3 hrs.

Co-workers of the Fullerton El Burrito recount experiences in Orange County, California Mexican-American communities, such as employment, education, business opportunities, language problems, changes in attitude of Chicano and Anglo society.

MAGANA, Leonel P. (1911-) O.H. 661 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: May 24, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 47 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs. 40 min.

A biographical description of the life and work of a Mexican immigrant from Sonora, Michoacan living in Placentia (at the time of the interview), California includes comments about living in other southern California towns and a vivid account of the Orange County flood.

MARTINEZ de BENITEZ, Hortencia (1926-)
O.H. 1298
Interviewer: Christine Valenciana
Date: December 20, 1972

Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 40 min. (Spanish)

A citizen of the United States, born in California, discusses her parents' motivation toward her relocation in Mexico during the Great Depression, the decision to remain in Mexico instead of the United States, and the initial struggles of the family residing in Mexico.

MENDOZA, Samuel (1939-) O.H. 1138 Interviewer: Eleanor Flores Date: April 21 and 27, 1972 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 6 hrs.

A young resident of Placentia, California born in El Paso, Texas of teenage parents describes his boyhood experiences and treatment toward the Mexican population in Texas, the segregated schools and barrios; Los Angeles schools, gangs, and gang-related experiences; drug use, and involvement in the League of United Latin American Citizens.

MUNATONES, Antonia (1907-) O.H. 748 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 4, 1971 Status: Edited, 16 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs. (Spanish and English)

A native of Lerdo, Mexico recalls experiences in the East Los Angeles ghetto from shortly after the Mexican revolution in the early 1900s and during the Depression until the present.

MUNATONES, Carlos (1906-) O.H. 749 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 4, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 48 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs.

A native of the state of Zacatecaz, Mexico, who came to the United States in 1917, recalls the family's financial situation during the Depression; reasons for not having to be repatriate in the 1930s; immigration raids and prejudices toward the Mexican community in Los Angeles. Narrator is a half brother to Julian Nava.

NATIVIDAD, Albert; Lespron, Carlos; Valle, David O.H. 104 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 16, 1969 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min

The commanding officer, a captain, and two officers at the Central Los Angeles jail discuss militancy in East Los Angeles.

NAVA, Julian (1927-) O.H. 750 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: July 28, 1971 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 45 min.

Repatriation of Mexico nationals and Mexican Americans living in the Los Angeles area during the 1930s, including family problems during the Depression; ethnic community of East Los Angeles and racial prejudices during the 1920s and 1930s.

NAVARES, Lupe (1907-) O.H. 751 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 21, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 43 pp. (Spanish) Tape length: 2 hrs. (Spanish)

A witness to the repatriation of Mexican nationals describes the movement of the repatriados into Mexico from San Diego via the Mexican ship El Progreso; the canning industry in San Diego during the Depression; migration to San Diego; and sentiment of the Mexican community toward repatriation.

NEGRETE, Arthur (n.d.) O.H. 611 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 12, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 31 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

Observations on the attitudes and life-style of Mexican Americans and their reactions to Anglos.

NORIEGA, Felicitas (1920-) O.H. 607 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: May 16, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 36 pp. Tape length: 60 min.

A portrayal of the conditions in Mexico of a mojado family and problems in immigrating to the United States. Living and working in the United States, including theBracero Program.

OROZCO, Joseph G. (1912-) O.H. 608 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: April 5 and 17, 1971 Status: Transcribed, 59 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs. 30 min.

Impressions of life and travels in Mexico and in the United States after his family's immigration; Mexican holidays; family customs; and information about historical locations in Mexico.

ORTEGA, Waldo (n. d.) O.H. 474 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: August 10, 1970 Status: Final typed, 21 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs.

A Mexican-American businessman relates his experiences with discrimination, discusses the Bracero Program, and deals with the Mexican stereotype.

PENALOSA, Fernado (ca. 1926-) O.H. 82 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date:December 11, 1968Status:Final typed/approved, 30 pp.Tape length:1 hr. 30 min.

An educator of Mexican-American heritage details his educational background in Mexico and the United States. Narrator currently with the California State College System at San Bernardino (at time of interview). Views toward the militant actions of some Mexican Americans, such as Brown Berets, are outlined.

PERAZA, Albert R. (ca. 1930-) O.H. 1116 Interviewer: George S. Maisch Date: May 17, 1971 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 55 min.

A former teacher working as an elementary school counselor discusses many of the problems confronting the Mexican American or Latin child attending the public school; use of the George Washington School in Anaheim, California as a center for Mexican Americans; and his ideas for making Mexican Americans aware of their culture.

Jane Mueller
November 22, 1974
Not transcribed
50 min.

An instructor of bilingual education at California State University, Fullerton, relates the origins, customs, and protocol of traditional Mexican folk dancing, and the methods for integrating dances in elementary school.

PONCE, Edmund M. (1936-) O.H. 1139 Interviewer: Eleanor Flores Date: March 23, 1972 Status: Final typed, 17 pp. Tape length: 60 min. A native born, city clerk of Placentia, California and counselor with the Orange County Probation Department describes his early schooling, employment problems, various organizations related to Mexican American communities, such a LULAC, the League of United Latin American Citizens.

RAMOS, Carlos (1930-) O.H. 108 Interviewer: Antonio Valle, Jr. Date: January 24, 1969 Status: Transcribed, 33 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 25 min.

A retired United States Army lieutenant colonel who served as a Neighborhood Youth Corps administrator gives insights into the differences between the Mexican American and the Anglo in present society with regards to education and religion. Comments on Brown Berets.

RANGEL, Albert H. (ca. 1925-) O.H. 182 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: April 22, 1970 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Mexican-American businessman, recalls picking citrus, going to barber school on the G. I. bill, bracero programs, labor unions, discrimination, attitudes, and delinquency in the barrio.

SAMBRANO, Lorraine (ca. 1948-) O.H. 613 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 21, 1970 Status: Transcribed, 15 pp. Tape length: 30 min.

A young Mexican American discusses her beliefs in the types of education and employment ethnic groups may achieve, discrimination, and family roles.

SANCHEZ, Herbert (1921-) O.H. 752 Interviewer:Christine ValencianaDate:August 29, 1971Status:Transcribed, 8 pp. (Spanish and English)Tape length:15 min. (Spanish and English)

A brief discussion of Mexican-American immigration and emigration. Explanation of the differences between repatriado and deportado. Father was forcibly repatriated to Mexico in 1933.

SOUTHARD, Theresa Martinez (ca. 1925-) O.H. 753 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: September 1, 1971 Status: Edited, 40 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Recollections of the migration of parents from Durango, Mexico to the United States; reason for the family repatriating back to Mexico in 1931; hardships and adjustments to life in Mexico; reentering the United States in 1951 and problems involved because of Mexican born children; the Mexican community of Casa Blanco, Riverside.

THOMSON, Rex (1894-) O.H. 1299 Interviewer: Christine Valenciana Date: August 4, 1976 Status: Not transcribed Tape length: 4 hrs.

Longtime Superintendent of Charities for Los Angeles County explains his philosophy regarding the 1930s repatriation of over 30,000 families, of working on relief, and the poor farm. Served as "undersheriff" for Los Angeles County during the 1950s. Comments on the Depression, the mestizo class and other problems in Mexico, his many tours of Mexico, his family, and his general philosophy of living.

TORRES, Mario (n.d.) and Almedina, Jim (n.d.)O.H.1117Interviewer:George S. MaischDate:May 19, 1971Status:Not transcribedTape length:2 hrs. 10 min.

The director and assistant director of the Anaheim Independencia Community Center discuss the "Chicano Movement," and the La Raza Unida Party. Torres, originally from Texas, discusses the pressure and problems with wetbacks and the Bracero Program in Texas, the hacienda system of agriculture, and the Mexican revolution. Almedina, a Puerto Rican from the garment industry in New York City comments on the problems of the Mexican American in New York. Interview includes problems of medical care, welfare, schools, awareness and change for the Mexican American.

VALLE, Antonio (ca. 1943-) O.H. 83 Interviewer: Sharlene Van Brunt Date: December 17, 1968 Status: Edited/approved, 37 pp. Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

A future secondary schoolteacher describes work in tutorial program, a branch of the Community Action Council assisting children in disadvantaged areas, primarily in the Atwood area; goals and problems encountered in working with the Mexican American community.

VALLE, David O.H. 104

See NATIVIDAD, Albert

VARGAS, Jose D. (n.d.) O.H. 2146 Interviewer: Lisa Clifton Date: October 30, 1974 Status: Completed 1975, 21 pp. Tape length: 60 min. Bound in Harvest, 1975, xiii, 381 pp.

Police officer working in Stanton, California, recalls his childhood in Mexico, several attempts to enter the United States illegally, and first jobs in Orange County, California. Comments on his decision to become a police officer, undercover work for the Los Angeles Police Department, his pride in becoming an American citizen, and the marital difficulties encountered after becoming a policeman.

VARGAS, Virginia (1921-) O.H. 588 Interviewer: George S. Maisch Date: April 27, 1971 Status: Edited, 29 pp. Tape length: 53 min.

A description of different forms of Mexican-American activity within the community of Anaheim, California including the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Neighborhood Outreach Project, Los Caballeros, and El Barrio Unido.

VASQUEZ, Chaio (n.d.) O.H. 609 Interviewer: Ronald Banderas Date: May 17, 1970 Status: Edited, 43 pp. Tape length: 2 hrs.

A description of the life of a Mexican American in the Orange County, California citrus industry. Includes experiences in the United States Army and working for the city of Fullerton.

VEGA, Enrique (1918-)
O.H. 1295
Interviewer: Christine Valenciana
Date: September 3, 1972
Status: Not transcribed
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min. (Some Spanish)

A native of Mexico relates his memories of the family's immigration to the United States about 1922. Discusses schooling in Boyle Heights, odd jobs in agriculture, his "career" as a gardener, repatriation, deportation, labor conditions, and discrimination.

VENEGAS, Joe M. (1914-) O.H. 515 Interviewer: A. Dean Tatom Date: March 24, 1971 Status: Final typed, 17 pp. Tape length: 60 min. An account of Mexican migration to the United States and problems encountered at the border. Includes comments on working conditions, wages, and housing.

VILLA, Ray (1919-1983) O.H. 113 Interviewer: Sharlene Van Brunt Date: January 21, 1969 Status: Final typed, 39 pp. Tape length: 3 hrs. 30 min.

Mexican-American businessman discusses federal and private self-help organizations to aid Spanish speaking people procure education, employment, self-sufficiency, and other community action groups interested in assisting the Mexican American. Member and leader of Santa Ana Council of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Related material:

WHEELER, Mary Lou. "Enforced Relocation and Mexican Americans: A Study of the Effects of Enforced Relocation on the Life Conditions and Morale of a Group of Mexican American People." Master's thesis, California State University, Fullerton, 1973.