

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes. The flag is waving, and the colors are vibrant. The text is centered over the flag.

**HISPANIC PATRIOTS  
AMERICAN REVOLUTION -  
WORLD WAR II**

# KING CARLOS III KING OF SPAIN



# SPAIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

1776 – 1779 Secretly loaned \$300,000 to the Continental Congress through agent Oliver Pollock, spied on the British for the Colonists and gave refuge to the rebels.

June 21, 1779 Declared war against England:

*“Royal Proclamation of His Majesty (Carlos III) in which He Manifests the Just Motives for His Royal Resolution of 21<sup>st</sup> of June of this Year (1779) Authorizing his American Vassals to Seek Amends by Way of Reprisals and Hostilities, on Land and Sea, Against The Subjects of the King of Great Britain.”*

August 26, 1781 – Provided \$1,000,000 silver pesos to the Continental Congress to help seal the victory at Yorktown on October 19, 1781

# GENERAL BERNARDO de GALVEZ GOVERNOR OF SPANISH LOUISIANA





# GENERAL BERNARDO de GALVEZ AMERICAN REVOLUTION HERO

Led 7,000 man army composed of Spaniards, Mexicans, Cubans and other Hispanics capturing British forts on the Mississippi River and Florida coast.

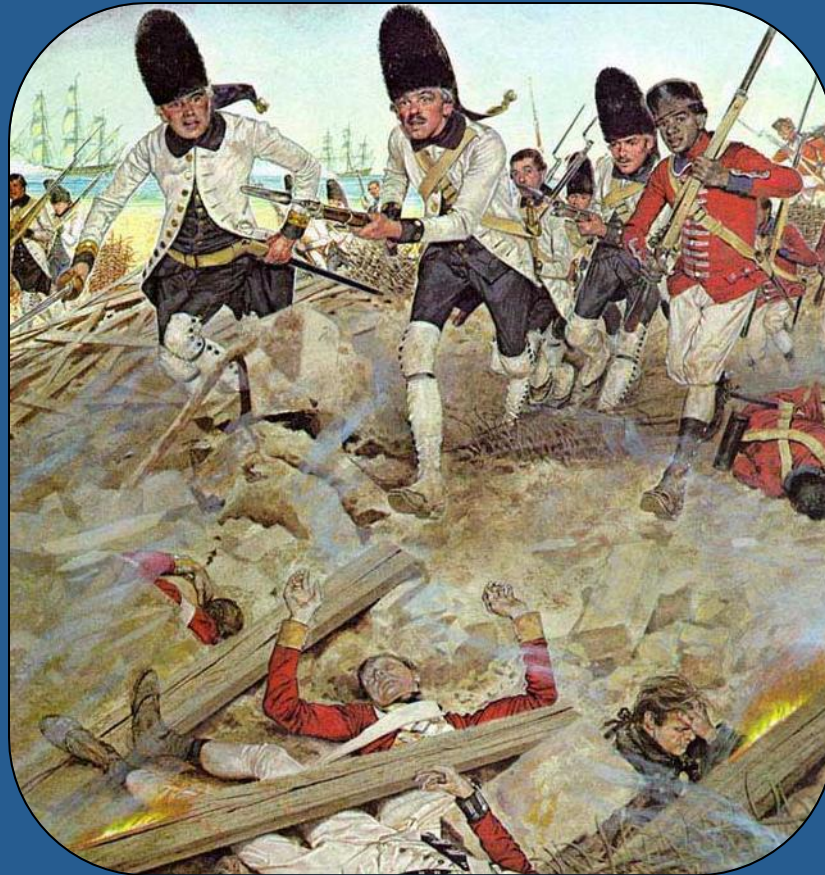
Baton Rouge, Louisiana – October, 1779

Mobile, Alabama – March, 1780 (21-day siege)

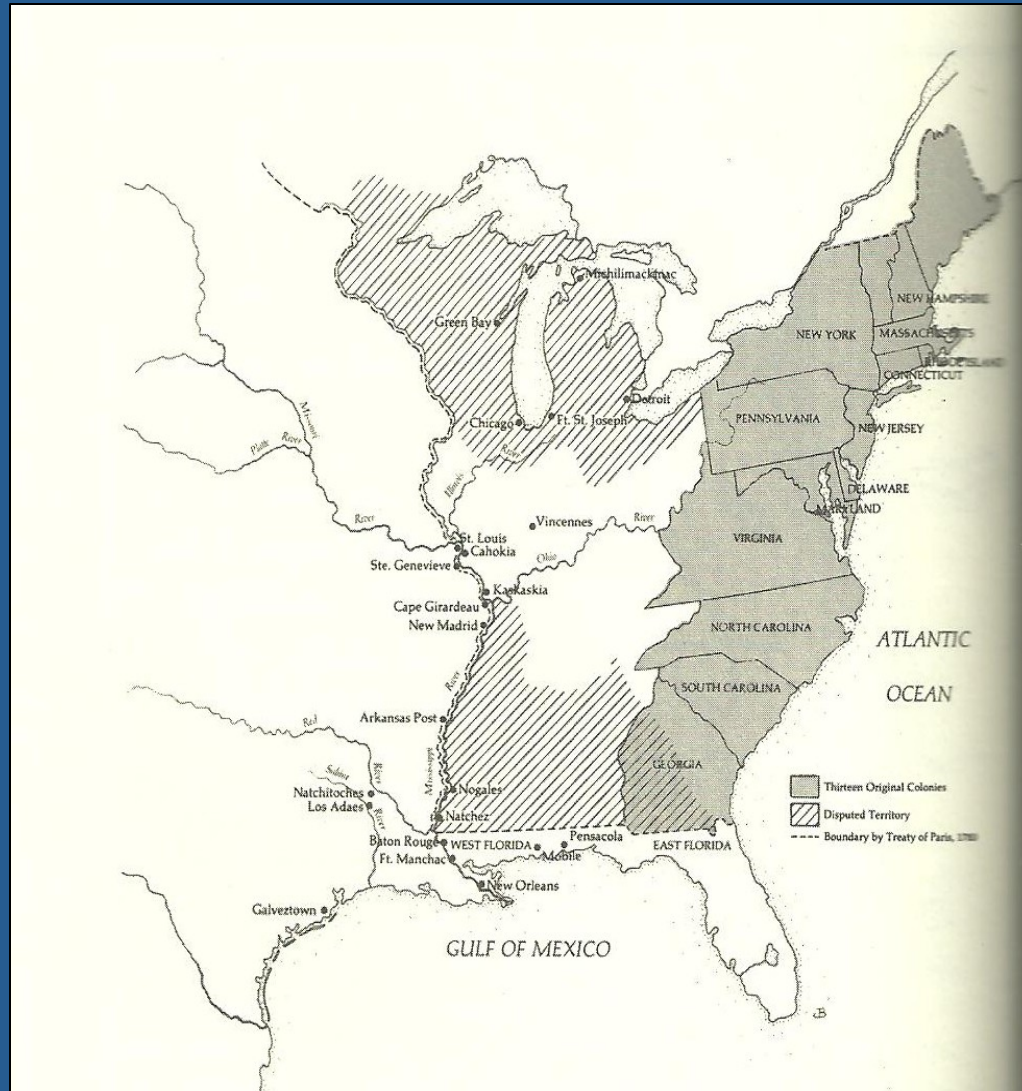
Fort St. Joseph, Michigan – February, 1781

Pensacola, Florida – May, 1781 (61-day siege)

# GENERAL GALVEZ'S TROOPS ATTACK BRITISH AT PENSACOLA



# MISSISSIPPI RIVER - 1777



# GENERAL BERNARDO de GALVEZ



This stamp was issued in 1980 on the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Mobile



# ADMIRAL DAVID G. FARRAGUT CIVIL WAR HERO



# ADMIRAL DAVID G. FARRAGUT

1862 – President Abraham Lincoln named Farragut our nation's first Admiral of the U.S. Navy

1864 – Battle of Mobile

*“DAMN THE TORPEDOES!  
FULL SPEED AHEAD!”*

1810-1870 – Served in the active duty of the U.S. Navy

# CAPTAIN MAXIMILIANO LUNA SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR HERO



# CAPTAIN MAXIMILIANO LUNA

Native son of a New Mexico pioneer family that settled there in the 1700s.

Graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Helped Colonel Teddy Roosevelt organize Rough Riders from New Mexico and fought at San Juan Hill in Puerto Rico in 1898.



# PVT REMIGIO FLORES WORLD WAR I “DOUGHBOY”



**Certificate of Baptism**

+

**St. James Church**  
Gonzales, Texas

**This is to Certify**  
The Baptismal Register records the following:

That \_\_\_\_\_ REMIGIO FLORES \_\_\_\_\_  
Child of \_\_\_\_\_ INDALESIO FLORES \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ NICOLASA SAN MIGUEL DE FLORES \_\_\_\_\_  
born in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ GONZALES, \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ TEXAS  
on the \_\_\_\_\_ 6th \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ DECEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ 1897 and  
was \_\_\_\_\_ **Baptized** \_\_\_\_\_  
on the \_\_\_\_\_ 15th \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ JANUARY \_\_\_\_\_ 1898

According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church  
by the Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ Lig. Darsche \_\_\_\_\_  
the Sponsors being \_\_\_\_\_ PABLO VILLAREAL \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

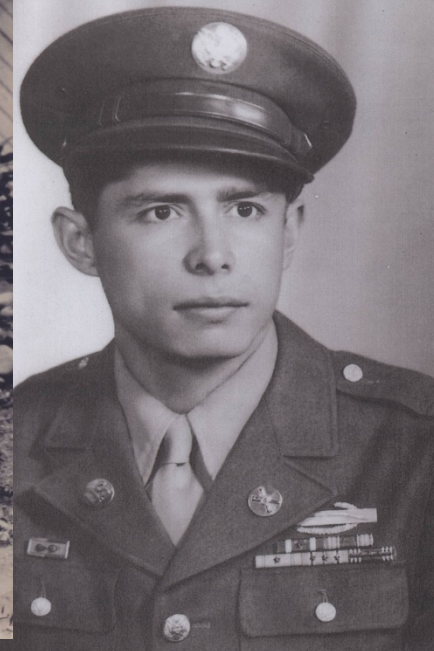
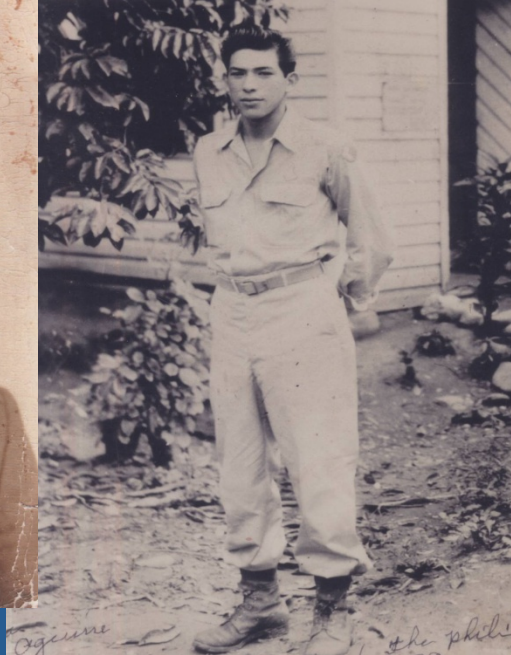
Dated \_\_\_\_\_ 24 October 1961 \_\_\_\_\_  
Vol. I \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ 38 \_\_\_\_\_  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ 376 \_\_\_\_\_

*Peter J. Roerocks*  
PETER J ROEROCKS MSF Par

THEY

PROVED THEIR

VALOR IN WW II

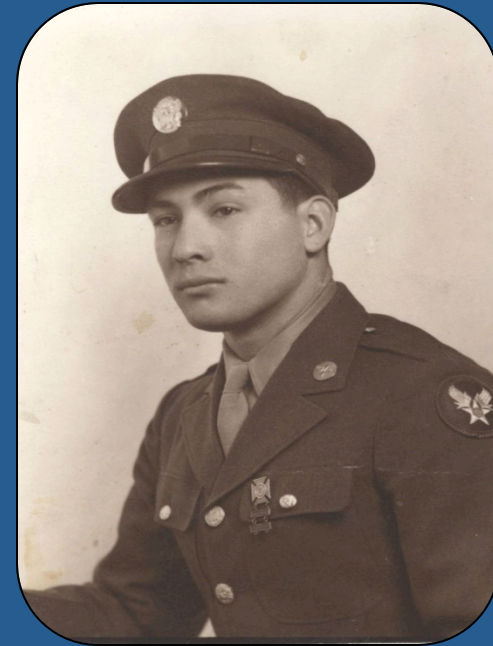






# T/5 ALFRED V. AGUIRRE

- BORN IN PLACENTIA, CA ON JULY 22, 1920
- U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
- COMPANY B  
1901<sup>st</sup> AVIATION ENGINEER BN
- BATTLE OF OKINAWA
- BRONZE STAR, ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL, WW II VICTORY MEDAL
- CAREER: BRICK MASON & PLACENTIA CITY COUNCILMAN
- 2 BROTHERS IN WW II: RICHARD V. AGUIRRE & JOE V. AGUIRRE



# JULIA PEREZ AGUIRRE



“ROSIE THE RIVETER”  
DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT  
LONG BEACH, CA





# LT COL HENRY CERVANTES

- BORN IN FRESNO, CA ON OCTOBER 10, 1923
- U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
- 100<sup>th</sup> BOMB GROUP, 40<sup>TH</sup> BOMB WING, 8<sup>th</sup> AIR FORCE
- B-17 PILOT
- 26 MISSIONS OVER GERMANY
- AIRMAN'S MEDAL, 4 AIR MEDALS, ETO
- JET TEST PILOT
- CAREER: U.S.A.F. – 22 YRS.
- 1 BROTHER IN WW II:  
GUS CERVANTES





# PFC GUY GABALDON

- BORN IN LOS ANGELES, CA IN 1926
- U.S. MARINE CORPS
- 2<sup>nd</sup> MARINE DIVISION
- BATTLE OF SAIPAN
- NAVY CROSS, PURPLE HEART
- SINGLE-HANDEDLY CAPTURED OVER 1,000 JAPANESE SOLDIERS
- “HELL TO ETERNITY” MOVIE ON HIS EXPLOITS
- CAREER: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSMAN





# PFC EUTIQUIO G. MARTINEZ

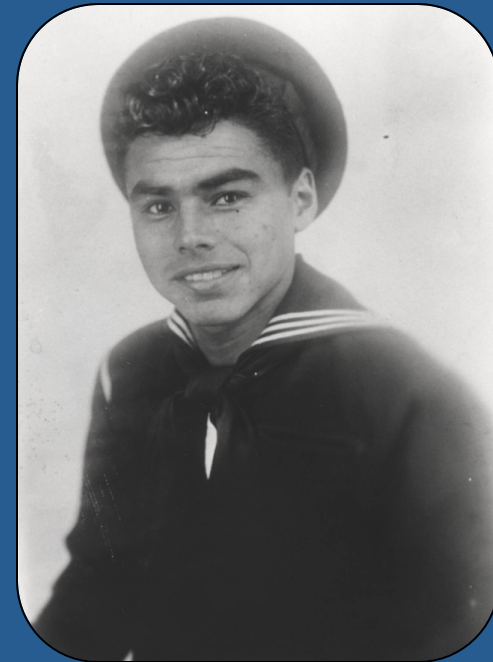
- BORN IN SANTA ROSALIA, B.C., MEXICO ON MARCH 14, 1917
- U.S. ARMY
- 381<sup>st</sup> REGIMENT, H COMPANY  
96<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION
- BATTLE OF OKINAWA
- PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION,  
ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN  
MEDAL, WW II VICTORY MEDAL
- CAREER: FARM FOREMAN;  
CUSTODIAN
- 3 BROTHERS IN WW II:  
AUGUSTINE GARCIA, VICTOR &  
TADEO ALVAREZ





# Bkr3 SALVADOR V. MALDONADO

- BORN IN CHANDLER, AZ  
ON JUNE 13, 1922
- U.S. NAVY
- U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS SURVIVOR
- BATTLES OF BOUGANVILLE,  
ALEUTIANS, GILBERT ISLANDS,  
MARIANAS, TINIAN, WESTERN  
CAROLINES & OKINAWA
- PURPLE HEART, WW II VICTORY  
MEDAL, ASIATIC-PACIFIC  
CAMPAIGN MEDAL
- CAREER: ALCOA; SAFEWAY; B OF A
- 1 BROTHER IN WW II:  
PETER MALDONADO





# THE 8 NEVAREZ BROTHERS OF LOS ANGELES, CA

FRANCISCO  
U.S. NAVY

SAMUEL  
U.S. MARINES

DANIEL  
U.S. NAVY

GILBERTO  
U.S. NAVY

\*ENCARNACION  
U.S. NAVY

MANUEL  
U.S. NAVY

FELIX  
U.S. NAVY

EZEKIEL  
U.S. MARINES

\* ENCARNACION KILLED IN ACTION ON U.S.S. ALBACORE SUBMARINE 11/7/44





# SGT JESS SAMANIEGO

- BORN IN RAY, AZ ON APRIL 15, 1925
- U.S. ARMY
- 505 PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM  
82<sup>nd</sup> AIRBORNE
- “PATHFINDER” - NORMANDY
- FRANCE, HOLLAND, BATTLE OF THE BULGE & GERMANY
- BRONZE STAR, PURPLE HEART, GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL
- CAREER: OWNED MEAT MARKETS & MORTGAGE FINANCING





Century of Valor – World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War

**WORLD WAR II  
1940-1945**

“The southwestern states gave their full complement, among them thousands of their Spanish speaking sons.”

*Spanish Speaking Americans: In the War*  
Office of Inter-American Affairs  
Washington, 1944

Determining the level of Hispanic participation in World War II can be a daunting task as Hispanics were classified as Caucasian. Only the 15<sup>th</sup> Census of the United States reported a 1,422,533 “Mexican” population for the 1930’s. However, according to the 16<sup>th</sup> Census of the United States, Population Volume II, page 9, “Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who were not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race were returned as white in 1940.” In 1940, Hispanics, mostly Mexican American, accounted for 3 million or approximately 2% of the U.S. population.

The table below gives an example of official reports with limited data on Hispanic participation. Note that with the exception of accounting for Puerto Rican troops from a U.S. territory, there is no break-down of Mexican American or Hispanic participation. This group is therefore counted under the category of “White”.

		<b>Accumulative to June 30, 1944</b>	<b>July-Dec. 1944</b>	<b>Jan.-June 1945</b>	<b>July-Dec. 1945</b>	<b>Accumulative to Dec. 31, 1945</b>
All Races	Number	7,041,087	393,392	518,127	272,747	8,225,353
	Percent	100	100	100	100	100
White	Number	6,139,589	348,060	457,460	236,675	7,181,784
	Percent	87.2	88.5	88.3	86.7	87.3
Negro	Number	797,444	30,882	46,123	27,447	901,896
	Percent	11.3	7.8	8.9	10.1	11.0
Japanese	Number	11,260	3,483	2,933	2,404	20,080
	Percent	0.2	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.1
Puerto Rican	Number	32,344	8,109	8,005	2,980	51,438
	Percent	0.5	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.6
Others	Number	60,450	2,858	3,606	3,241	70,155
	Percent	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.9

Selective Service and Victory: the 4th report of the Director of Selective Service, 1944-1945, with a Supplement for 1946-1947.

It is estimated that 16 million men and women served during World War II. It is approximated that 500,000 men and women of Hispanic heritage served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Approximately 1,500 Hispanic women served during World War II.

During World War II there were a total of 406,000 reported fatalities. Many United States minorities served in World War II and suffered casualties. There were about 400,000 women who served in U.S. military worldwide during World War II and an approximately 543 of these women died in the line of duty.

Century of Valor – World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War

	KIA	MIA	POW	Non-Battle Casualties	Source
African Americans	710 (Army)  1248 (Navy)	206 (Army)  note 1	56 (Army)  note 1	44 (Army)  note 1	African American Troops in WWII Alexander M. M. Bielakowski, Raffaele Ruggeri Osprey Pub Co, 2007  History of the Medical Department in World War II The Statistics of Diseases and Injuries, US GPO 1950
American Indians	383  45 (Navy)	  note 1	  note 1	  note 1	Indians in the War Julian H. Steward, 1945  History of the Medical Department in World War II The Statistics of Diseases and Injuries, US GPO 1950
Japanese Americans	680 (Army)  8	67 (Army)	  note 1	  note 1	100th/442 <sup>nd</sup> Regimental Statistics  Military Intelligence Service Statistics

*note 1: Information not available at this time.*

Century of Valor – World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War

Based on present research, the table below is a break-down of Latino casualties.

Table VII. Summary of Hispanic Casualties to Date

<b>Died - overall</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,831</b>
	Killed in Action	5,224
	Died of Wounds	642
	Died of Injuries	17
	Died non-Battle	1,682
	Died – presumed Killed in Action	21
	Died – cause unspecified	5
	Buried at Sea	84
	Finding of Death	253
	Missing in Action – presumed dead	1,532
	Prisoners of War – died	364
	U.S. Civilians–died overseas [KIA]	5
	U.S. Civilians–died overseas [POW]	2
<b>Missing in Action - overall</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,532</b>
	Missing in Action [undetermined status]	705
<b>Remains Status (Missing)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>827</b>
	Killed in Action – remains recovered	n/a
	Killed in Action – remains not recovered	n/a
	Missing in Action – remains recovered	4
	Missing in Action – remains not recovered	823
	Died of Wounds – remains not recovered	n/a
	Prisoners of War – killed in action – remains not recovered	n/a
	Prisoners of War – presumed dead – remains not recovered	n/a
<b>Prisoners of War - overall</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,561</b>
	Prisoner of War [undetermined status]	44
	Prisoner of War – reported [possible MIA]	4
	Prisoner of War – Died in Ship Sinking	70
	Prisoners of War – E/DSS/SWE	50
	Prisoners of War – died	244
	Prisoner of War - released	2,061
	Prisoner of war - U.S. Civilians	88
<b>Wounded – limited data **</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>n/a</b>
	Wounded in Action	3,313
<b>Overall Casualties identified to date</b>		<b>15,705</b>

\* E/DSS/SWE - Executed, Died of Ship's Sinking, or Shot While Escaping.

\*\* Only limited data is accessible to determine the reasonable number of overall Hispanic wounded. These figures have been compiled from divisional or regimental histories.

Table VIII. Summary of Latin American Casualties attached to the U.S. Armed Forces to Date

Latin American Countries	
	<b>890</b>
Brazil	514
Mexico	7
Puerto Rico	369

Table IX. Summary of World War II Hispanic Casualties by Branch of Service to Date

	Killed (Died)	Missing (Presumed Dead)	Prisoner of War	Wounded **
<b>Army</b>	7,127	723	2,380	1913
Army	3,783	540	2,034	-
Ground Forces				
Army Air Forces	384	184	346	-
undetermined Army component	2,960	-	8	-
Navy	710	298	36	491
Marines	355	30	15	900
Coast Guard	12	22	n/a	n/a
Merchant Marine	78	459	48	n/a
U.S. Naval Armed Guard	10	n/a	n/a	9
Civilian	7	n/a	88	n/a

Century of Valor – World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War

Table XI. Summary of World War II Medals awarded to Hispanics to Date

Overall Award and Decorations Count	18,555
Medal of Honor	12
Navy Cross	19
Distinguished Service Cross	126
Distinguished Flying Cross	74
Legion of Merit [1]	45
Silver Star	1409
Bronze Star	2807
Air Medal	773
Soldiers Medal	47
Purple Heart [2]	12,058
Combat Infantry Badge	768
Expert Infantry Badge	1
Combat Medic Badge	174
Medic Badge	2
Good Conduct Medal	57
Bronze Service Arrowhead	55
Army Commendation Medal	1
Navy and Marine Corps Medal	5
Army Commendation Ribbon	19
Navy Commendation Ribbon	11
Mariners Medal	2
Certificate of Merit	8
Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct	17
Presidential Unit Citation	3
Division Citation	1
Division Letter of Commendation	10
Medal of Freedom	11
Civilian Service Award	2
Asian Pacific Campaign Star	1
Belgium Awards	29
British Award	2
Chinese Order of Ynu-Hui	1
Chinese Cloud and Banner Medal	1
Dutch Award	1
French Croix de Guerre	4
Russian Decoration	2

Table XII. Summary of awards of the Legion of Merit awarded to Latin American Allies

Country	LOM Award
<b>Total</b>	<b>249</b>
Argentina	8
Brazil	87
Chile	26
Colombia	9
Costa Rica	1
Cuba	7
Ecuador	10
Guatemala	4
Honduras	1
Mexico	35
Panama	8
Paraguay	3
Peru	26
Portugal	10
Uruguay	12
Venezuela	2

Note [1]: See Table: Summary of awards of the Legion of Merit awarded to Latin American Allies.

Note [2]: This figure does not account for all wounded or injured in action personnel, there are still many records to account for to evaluate a comprehensive summary.

In general, the Purple Heart is awarded to any member of an Armed Force or any civilian national of the United States who, while serving under competent authority in any capacity with one of the U.S. Armed Services after 5 April 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded.

**Latin American attachments to U.S. Armed Forces**

Mexico: 201<sup>st</sup> Fighter Squadron (Philippines, South Pacific Theater)

Brazil: Fighter Squadrons 345<sup>th</sup>, 346<sup>th</sup>, and 347<sup>th</sup> (Mediterranean Theater)  
Brazilian Expeditionary Force (Infantry, Mediterranean Theater)

Puerto Rico: 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (European Theater)

Citation: This information may only be used for educational purposes and cited as researched by Rogelio C. Rodríguez. © 2000: Century of Valor: Hispanics in the United States Armed Forces, Last Updated 1/10/11



# VETERANS & CITIZENS OF PLACENTIA



This organization comprised of returning WW II veterans stopped the segregation of Mexican American children in the public schools of Placentia, CA in 1950.