

# Hispanic Heritage Month 2003

## "One Culture, Many Races"

### The Native American/African Peoples of the United States and Caribbean Prior to Spanish Exploration - 1500 B.C. to 1492

Spanish explorers recorded the racial diversity and social organization they found as they explored the Caribbean, Central America and, finally, North America. However, by 1800, many of the tribes listed on the map no longer existed due to disease, war against Spanish rule, or enslavement.



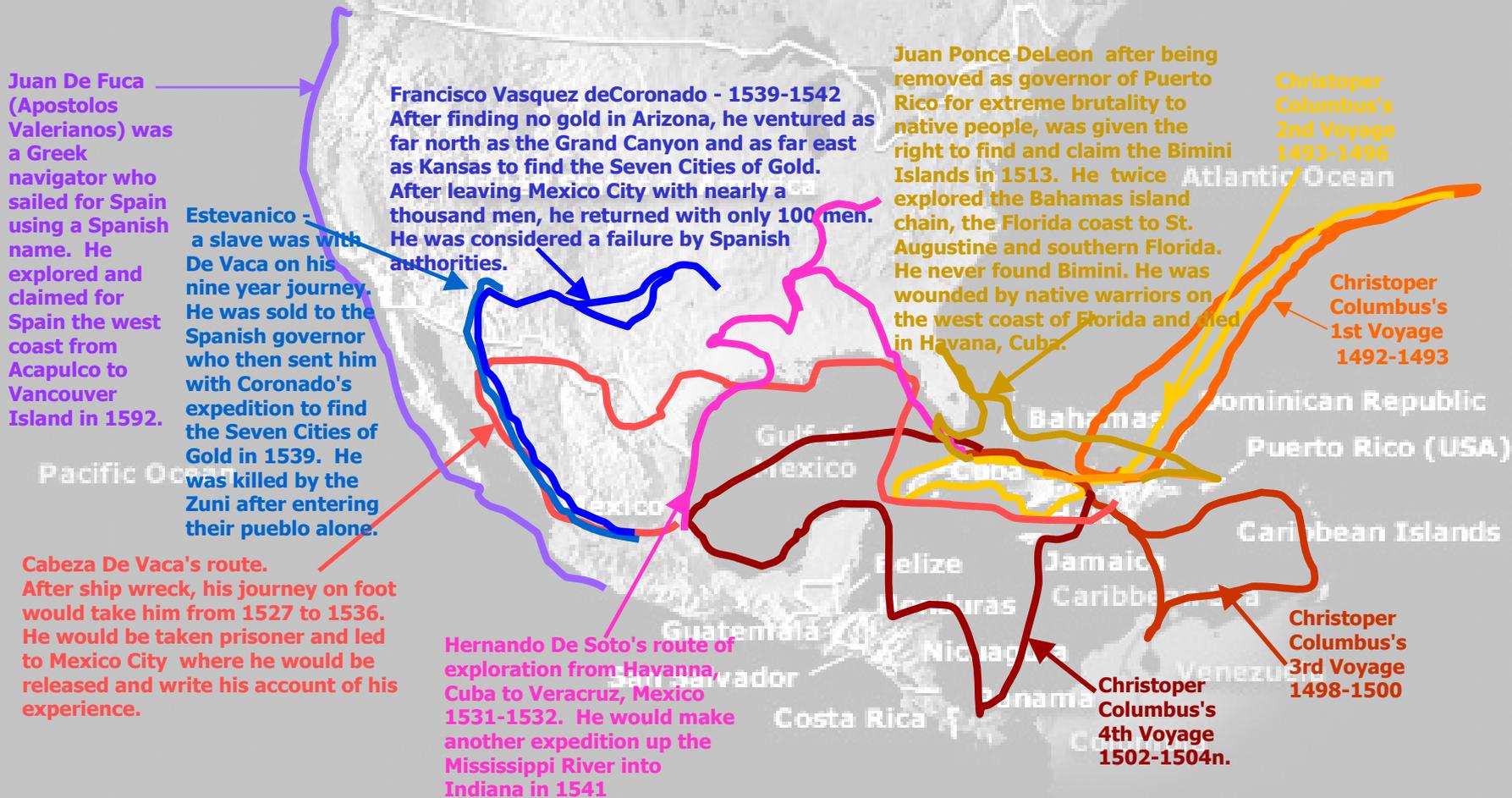
**NOTE: Major tribes listed**

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## "One Culture, Many Races"

### Major Routes of Spanish Exploration & Colonization 1492 through 1800

Spanish explorers went into the North and Central America and the chain of Caribbean islands in search of gold and to acquire property rights to everything that existed within. Although Caribbean and Central American native people initially greeted them, the native people were decimated by diseases brought to the new world for which the Spanish were largely immune. The Spanish also exploited native people by enslaving them. The native people fought enslavement and, by battle and disease, whole populations were destroyed. The Spanish had to fight Native Americans where ever they went and many Spanish explorers would lose their lives in their pursuit of wealth.

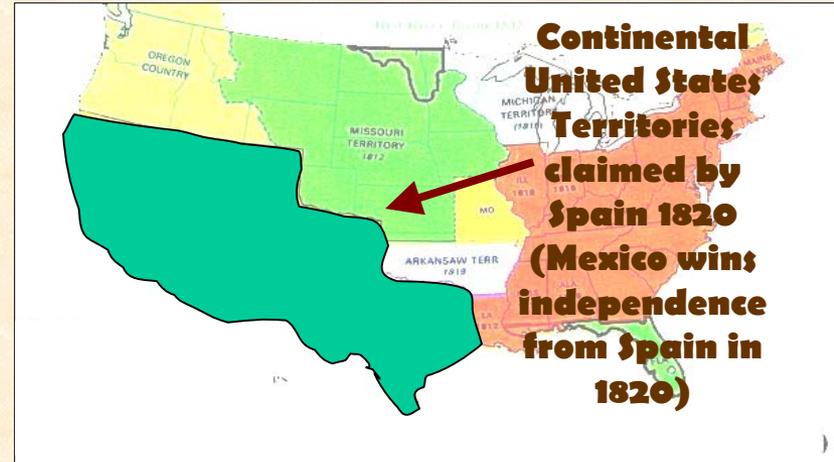
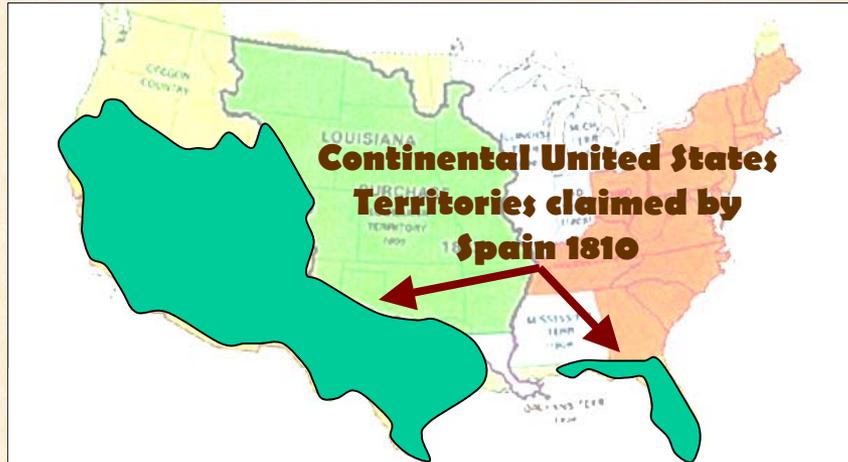


**NOTE:** Major routes of exploration shown. There would be many more by lesser known explorers, either by ship or overland. From the mid-1600s through 1800, Spanish missions and settlements would grow rapidly in coastal areas eventually spreading into the interior while indigenous populations declined or disappeared throughout North and Central America and the Caribbean Islands.

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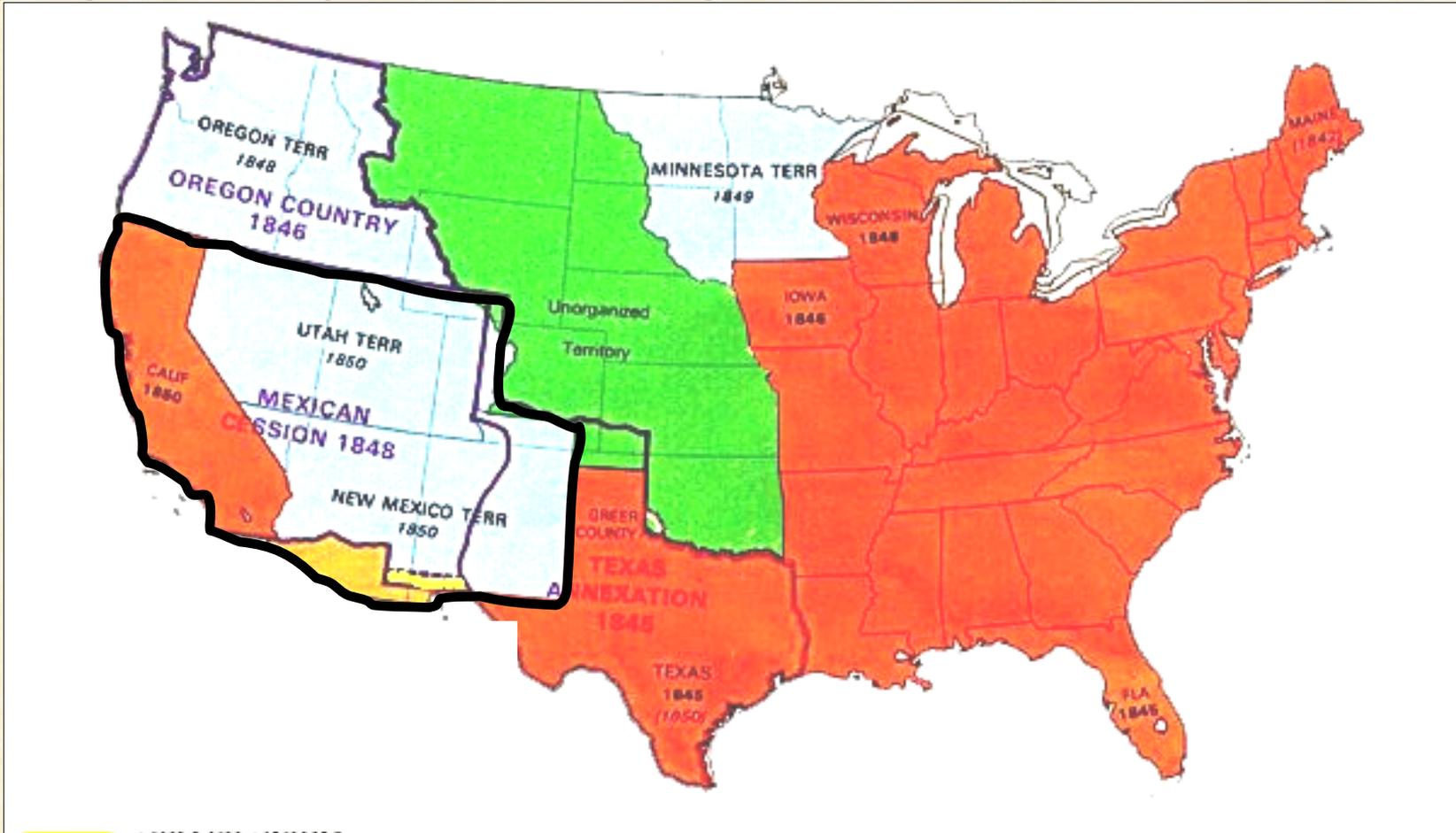
### "The Fading Colonies of Spain in North America"

By 1810, the Spanish colonial presence in North America would retreat in the face of the westward expansion of English-speaking populations from the North and East United States and from Mexican independence won in 1820.



## Hispanic Heritage Month 2003 "The Fading Colonies of Spain in North America"

By the end of 1846, all territories controlled by Mexico\* were ceded to the United States under terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. The southern-most sections of present day Arizona & New Mexico (in yellow) would become part of the United States by 1860.



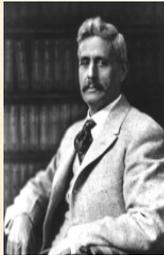
\*Highlighted by bold border. Under terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Texas, California, most of Arizona and New Mexico, parts of Colorado, Utah and Nevada become part of the United States. Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines would not become territories of the United States until settlement of the Spanish/American War by the Treaty of Paris in 1898.

# Hispanic Heritage Month 2003

## Honoring Our Past....."The Struggle For Equality "



*Santiago Iglesias-served two terms in the U. S. House of Representatives as Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico 1932-1939.*



*Octaviano Larrazolo-the first Hispanic person to serve in the U. S. Senate. He was elected to fill the unexpired term of Sen. Andieus A. Jones, New Mexico 1928-1929.*



*Joseph Marion Hernandez-the first Hispanic person to serve in Congress as Delegate from the territory of Florida 1822-1823.*

**As with Asian/Pacific Islander people emigrating to or born in the United States, persons of Spanish and mixed race heritage, from the mid-19th century through the 20th century, would struggle against laws enacted by States or the Federal government against them. Some examples of what Hispanic people would fight against are listed below.**

**After gold was discovered in California, the state enacted the Foreign Miners Tax of 1850 which levied a \$20 per month fee for immigrants to mine. This act included all California-born Mexicans even though the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo granted automatic citizenship to U. S. born Mexicans.**

**U. S. Congress passed the Land Act of 1851 which required holders of Spanish and Mexican Land Grants\* in the United States to prove they held legal title to the land. In California, of the 813 claims filed in Federal courts, 266 were upheld. The other lands were confiscated by the government or by private speculators then re-sold to Angelo settlers.**

**\*Land Grants were typically not large (some as small as 200 acres) however, there were land grants of one million or more acres such as:**

**Florida Spanish Land Grants - From Spanish second period (1748-1821) were mostly 200 acres or more to thousands of Spanish, English, French, Seminoles and former slaves by Spanish provincial governors. These grants were nullified after Florida was annexed by the United States and the land re-sold to white settlers or land speculators by the Federal government. This also precipitated the U. S. versus Seminoles War in 1823.**

**Sonoma Grant - Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, 1823, he and his family founded the town of Sonoma, California**

**Tierra Amarilla Grant - Manuel Martinez, 1832, Chama River Valley, Colorado**

**Sangre de Cristo Land Grant - Charles Beaubien/Guadalupe Miranda, 1843, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado**

**Gervacio Nolan Grant - 1843, St. Charles River Valley/Taos, New Mexico**

**Las Animas Land Grant - Cornelio Vigil/Ceran St. Vrain, 1843, 4 million acres in southern Colorado**

## Hispanic Heritage Month 2003 Honoring Our Past....."The Struggle For Equality"

*Mexican-Americans born in California identified closely with Spanish and Mexican traditions and called themselves CALIFORNIOS.*



*Isadora Pacheco Malarin and Mariano Malarin were leading members of Mexican-American society in California and are representative of people in the communities who campaigned against discriminatory laws and practices made against them whether they were wealthy landowners or immigrant farm laborers. Malarin not only fought to keep both of their families' inherited lands but, as a member of the California State Assembly in 1859 and 1860, was able to have a resolution that official documents be written in both English and Spanish adopted into the state's constitution. He was also the first president of the San Jose Salf Deposit Bank (which, in time, would become Bank of America).*

*The land owned by Isadora's family was passed down through the female line until the last owner, great-granddaughter, Paula Fatjo, willed the property to the state parks system in 1922. It is now known as the Pacheco State Park.*

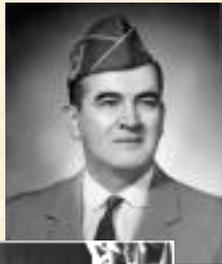
**California's Anti-Vagrancy Act of 1855 (aka, "Greaser Laws) banned Mexican social events such as bullfighting, rodeos, celebration of Mexican Independence Day (Cinco de Mayo). The act negated California's own constitution which required that laws be translated into Spanish.**

**In 1862, the U. S. Congress passed the Homestead Act which allowed settlers to claim "vacant" land. The law required Mexicans and other minorities to prove that they owned the land; the land was not vacant.**

**The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1917 required literacy tests and a "Head Tax" of \$8 for each family member to enter the United States, however, the act was suspended during the WWI and during the Depression Period in the U. S. due to the need for farm and industry laborers and led to the Repatriation Act of 1930 which stipulated that if Mexican persons could not prove their immigration status they were to be deported back to Mexico. Over 400,000 persons were deported from 1930 to 1939 before the act was rescinded.**

# Hispanic Heritage Month 2003

## Surpassing Our Present....."Leaders For Civil Rights and Civil Liberty"



### **Dr. Hector P. Garcia (1914-1996)**

In 1948, Three Rivers Funeral Home refused burial of the remains of Felix Longoria, a World War II veteran. For Dr. Hector P. Garcia this incident was an example of the bigotry and injustice that many Mexican Americans suffered in South Texas and throughout the U.S. He is the founder of the **American G.I. Forum** whose mission is to advance the equal rights of Hispanic servicemen throughout the Armed Services of the United States. He stepped into the national consciousness to fight for the rights of veterans and their families and to inspire Mexican American participation in party politics and against segregation in the post-World War II years.

His pioneering efforts not only resulted in changed laws and practices, but also in a new awareness among Mexican Americans that they could fight for their rights and win. He proved to be a decisive factor in the election of America's first Catholic president, John F. Kennedy. His activism inspired a new generation of social reformers in the barrio and a reluctant acceptance that Mexican Americans were first class citizens. For his work, **he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1984.**



### **Cesar Chavez (1927-1993)**

After eighteen years of working with others on behalf of migrant workers rights, Chavez organized the National Farm Workers Association. His organization joined with other farm worker organizations to become the United Farm Workers. From the 1960s to his death in 1993, Chavez worked tirelessly on behalf of migrant workers throughout the United States as well as civil rights issues, lending his voice and the backing of the farm workers to the efforts of the NAACP and the National Organization of Women. **In 1994 President Clinton posthumously awarded Chavez the Presidential Medal of Freedom**, the nation's highest civilian honor.



## Hispanic Heritage Month 2003

### Surpassing Our Present....."Leaders For Civil Rights and Civil Liberty"



**Dolores C. Huerta** - is the co-founder and Secretary Treasurer of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO (UFW). Huerta is one of the best known women in the American civil rights and labor movement. Huerta has played many key roles in the UFW, including negotiating the first collective bargaining agreement for farm workers, heading the UFW's national grape boycott and directing the UFW's political and lobbying efforts. She is currently participating in the UFW's industry-wide strawberry organizing campaign in California. Huerta's goal has always been to secure fair wages and decent living and working conditions for the most exploited workers in our society. She also works to help elect women to public office and assure that elected officials are responsive to the needs and rights of disadvantaged people. Huerta sits on the board of directors of the Feminist Majority, the California Labor Federation and is one of the vice presidents of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.



**Reies Lopez Tijerina** - Hispanic Americans believed that tens of thousands of acres of land that should have been theirs had been taken by the federal government and set aside for national forests. Reies Lopez Tijerina, a former evangelical minister, became involved in disputes over historical land grants and in 1963 founded militant Alianza Federal de las Mercedes (the Federal Land Grant Alliance). In 1966, he and his followers briefly seized part of the Kit Carson National Forest. Tijerina was not an advocate of social change through non-violence and subsequent civil demonstrations escalated into violence (including an armed raid by the Alianza in June 1967 on a New Mexico county courthouse which ended with a jailer and a state policeman shot and wounded, a reporter and a deputy sheriff taken hostage (they escaped). Tijerina ultimately served prison time for state and federal offenses.



**Mario G. Obledo** - As co-founder and President of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), from 1968 to 1973, and the National Hispanic Bar Association, Mr. Obledo supervised civil rights litigation and the filing of hundreds of lawsuits and administrative complaints.

Obledo joined LULAC in 1955 serving in many leadership positions, culminating with his serving as President of the organization from 1983 to 1985. For his long years of service in civil rights law, he was awarded the **Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998.**

## Hispanic Heritage Month 2003

### Surpassing Our Present....."Leaders For Civil Rights and Civil Liberty"

**Dr. Antonia Pantoja (1922-2002)**-In 1958, she co-founded The Puerto Rican Forum, Inc. which was founded to promote education and establish ways to address the needs of disadvantaged children. In 1961, the organization would become ASPIRA which is dedicated to the education and leadership development of youth in the city of New York. Her work would expand to encompass the areas of social and economic development. In addition to ASPIRA, Dr. Pantoja founded the following organizations:

- Puerto Rican Association for Community Affairs (PRACA) (1953)-a social service institution that is dedicated to work with children in adoption, foster care and bilingual nursery. It also provides services for leadership development and works on women's issues,
- Puerto Rican Forum (1958) - organized to create community development programs, including securing funds and loans to start small business in the community,
- Universidad Boricua, a bilingual university, and the Puerto Rican Research and Resource Center, an organization devoted to the collection of data to create policy in Washington, D. C. (1970), and
- PRODUCIR (1985)-a community organization in Puerto Rico that helped a rural community create cottage industries that generated employment and other services.

For her legendary role in the education and leadership development of Puerto Rican youth in the United States and Puerto Rico, Dr. Pantoja was awarded the **Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1997.**



## Hispanic Heritage Month 2003 "Leading Our Future"



**Cruz Reynoso** - After graduating from UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law in 1958, he began working with labor leader Cesar Chavez to advance the farm workers' movement in California.

In 1982, after six years on the California Court of Appeals, he became the first Latino to serve on the California Supreme Court. He is known internationally for his civil rights advocacy as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

In 1993, the U. S. Senate appointed Reynoso to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights where he now serves as vice chairperson. Now practicing as a private lawyer, he also teaches law at UC Davis and remains one of the most vocal advocates for social conscience and the civil rights of Hispanic Americans. **In 2000, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.**

**Hispanic Heritage Month 2003  
"Leading Our Future"**

**The Congressional Hispanic Caucus**

Hon. Hilda Solis, (D-CA)



Hon. Grace Napolitano,  
(D-CA)



Hon. Joe Baca,  
(D-CA)



Hon. Solomon Ortiz  
(D-TX)



Hon. Jose Serrano,  
(D-NY)



Hon. Ed Pastor, (D-AZ)



Hon. Xavier Becerra  
(D-CA)



Hon. Nydia Velazquez,  
(D-NY)



Hon. Anibal Acevedo-Vila  
(D-PR)



Hon. Ciro Rodriguez, (D-TX)  
Chair

Hon. Robert Underwood  
(D-Guam)



Hon. Charles Gonzalez,  
(D-TX)



Hon. Lucille Roybal-Allard  
(D-CA)



Hon. Robert Menendez  
(D-NJ)



Hon. Ruben Hinojosa,  
(D-TX)



Hon. Luis Gutierrez,  
(D-IL)



Hon. Loretta Sanchez,  
(D-CA)

**Hispanic Heritage Month 2003**  
**Serving Their Country With Distinction and Honor**

**Civil War**

| <b><u>Name</u></b>            | <b><u>Service</u></b> | <b><u>Action</u></b>      | <b><u>Awarded</u></b> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ordinary Seaman Philip Bazaar | U. S. Navy            | Battle of Fort Fisher, NC | 22 June 1865          |
| Corporal Joseph H. DeCastro   | U. S. Army            | Battle of Gettysburg, PA  | 03 July 1863          |
| Ordinary Seaman John Ortega   | U. S. Navy            | Patrol Carolina Waters    | 31 Dec. 1864          |

**Boxer Rebellion, Peking China**

|                      |                    |               |              |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Private France Silva | U. S. Marine Corps | Peking, China | 19 July 1901 |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|

**World War I**

|                              |            |                 |              |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Private David Barkeley Cantu | U. S. Army | Pouilly, France | 09 Nov. 1918 |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|



**Hispanic Heritage Month 2003**  
**Serving Their Country With Distinction and Honor**

**World War II**

| <u>Name</u>                       | <u>Service</u>                | <u>Action</u>                         | <u>Awarded</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| SSG Lucian Adams                  | U. S. Army                    | St. Die, France, 28 Oct. 1944         | 29 March 1945  |
| SSG Rudolph B. Davila             | U. S. Army                    | Artena, Italy, 28 May 1944            | 28 May 1944    |
| SSG Marcario Garcia               | U. S. Army                    | Grosshau, Germany, 27 Nov. 1944       | 01 Sept. 1945  |
| PFC David M. Gonzales*            | U. S. Army                    | Luzon, Philippines, 25 Apr. 1945      | 08 Dec. 1945   |
| PFC Harold Gonsalves*             | U. S. Marine<br>Corps Reserve | Ryukyu Islands, Okinawa, 15 Apr. 1945 | 15 Apr. 1945   |
| PFC Silvestre S. Herrera          | U. S. Army                    | Mertzwiller, France, 15 March 1945    | 05 Sept. 1945  |
| SGT Jose M. Lopez                 | U. S. Army                    | Krinkelt, Belgium, 17 Dec. 1944       | 18 June 1945   |
| Pvt Joe P. Martinez*              | U. S. Army                    | Attu, Aleutian Islands, 26 May 1943   | 27 Oct. 1943   |
| PFC Manuel Perez, Jr.*            | U. S. Army                    | Luzon, Philippines, 13 Feb. 1945      | 27 Dec. 1945   |
| TSG Cleto Rodriguez               | U. S. Army                    | Manila, Philippines, 09 Feb. 1945     | 01 Nov. 1945   |
| PFC Alejandro R. Renteria<br>Ruiz | U. S. Army                    | Ryukyu Islands, Okinawa, 28 Apr. 1945 | 26 June 1946   |
| PFC Jose F. Valdez*               | U. S. Army                    | Rosenkrantz, France, 25 Jan. 1945     | 08 Feb. 1946   |
| SSG Ysmael R. Villegas            | U. S. Army                    | Luzon, Philippines, 20 March 1945     | 19 Oct. 1945   |

\*Awarded Posthumously

**Hispanic Heritage Month 2003**  
**Serving the United States With Distinction and Honor**

**Korean War**

**Action**

Korea

Korea, Hill 749

Songuch-on, Korea

Wontong-ni, Korea

Inchon, Korea

Satre-ri, Korea

Seoul, Korea

Munye-ri, Korea

**Awarded**

05 Sept. 1952

14 Sept. 1951

25 July 1953

21 Apr. 1962

15 Sept. 1950

06 Sept. 1952

26 Sept. 1950

05 Feb. 1952

**Vietnam War**

Phuoc Long Province, Vietnam

Loc Ninh, Vietnam

Da Nang, Vietnam

Que Son Mountains, Vietnam

10 Feb. 1970

02 May 1968

11 Apr. 1970

12 Nov. 1969

\*Awarded Posthumously

**Name**

PFC Fernando Garcia\*

PFC Edward Gomez\*

SSgt. Ambrosio Guillen\*

CPL Rodolfo Hernandez

1stLt Baldomero Lopez\*

CPL Benito Martinez\*

PFC Eugene Obregon\*

SGT Joseph Rodriguez

**Service**

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Army

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Army

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Army

U. S. Army

5th Special Forces Grp

U. S. Marine Corps

U. S. Marine Corps

**Hispanic Heritage Month 2003**  
**Serving the United States With Distinction and Honor**

**Vietnam War**

| <u>Name</u>                  | <u>Service</u>     | <u>Action</u>                       | <u>Awarded</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| SF-4 Daniel Fernandez*       | U. S. Army         | Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province, Vietnam | 18 Feb. 1966   |
| Sgt. Alfredo Gonzalez        | U. S. Marine Corps | Thua Thien, Vietnam                 | 04 Feb. 1968   |
| LCpl Jose Francisco Jimenez* | U. S. Marine Corps | Quang Nam Province, Vietnam         | 28 Aug. 1969   |
| LCpl Miguel Keith*           | U. S. Marine Corps | Quang Ngai Province, Vietnam        | 08 May 1970    |
| PFC Carlos James Lozada*     | U. S. Army         | Dak To, Vietnam                     | 20 Nov. 1967   |
| SF-4 Alfred Rascon           | U. S. Army         | Republic of Vietnam                 | 16 March 1966  |
| SFC Louis R. Rocco           | U. S. Army         | Katum, Vietnam                      | 24 May 1970    |
| CPT Eurepides Rubio*         | U. S. Army         | Tay Ninh Province, Vietnam          | 08 Nov. 1966   |
| SF-4 Hector Santiago-Colon   | U. S. Army         | Quang Tri Province, Vietnam         | 28 June 1968   |
| Capt. Jay R. Vargas          | U. S. Marine Corps | Dai Do, Vietnam                     | 02 May 1968    |
| 1SG Maximo Yabes*            | U. S. Army         | Phu Hoa Dong, Vietnam               | 26 Feb. 1967   |
| CPT Humbert Roque Versace*   | U. S. Army         | An Xuyen Province, Vietnam          | 26 Sept. 1965  |

\*Awarded Posthumously