

## **ETHN 119: Filipino Americans**

**Dr. Sobredo: Terms/concepts**

**Exam 2: SCANTRON #4521**

### **Labor Migration to the United States**

Filipinos came to American when it was at the height of racism

Filipinos as "savages" and "Injuns" and "niggers", social darwinism, eugenics

Filipino families, "war brides," Rufina Clemente Jenkins, Corporal Frank Jenkins, Buffalo Soldier, multilingual family

Model minorities: pensionados/pensionadas, 200 scholars and 8 women, 1903 Pensionado Act, fountain pen boys, best and the brightest, women as healthcare professionals (nurses), men in technical/scientific fields, top universities

Hawaii Sugar Plantations: Albert J. Judd, Ilocos region, Visayan region, sakadas  
Post-World War II labor shortage, more recruits arrive (Ilocos and Visayas)  
Two routes: Hawaii (65%) and Seattle (35%), Stockton farms, Alaska canneries,

### **Carlos Bulosan's America is in the Heart**

Bayambang, Pangasinan, Seattle to Stockton to LA to Alaska migration, "crime to be a Filipino in America," Union/leftist organizer

Perfecto delos Santos, Aklan Province, arrived in Seattle 1929, SS Madison Grant, migrated with Uncle Benny, "split-family" household (Evelyn Nakano-Glenn), worked in agricultural fields (80%), Stockton/Salinas/Monterey, Filipinos as "Nationals," Seattle: King Street, LA: Bunker/Temple, SF: Kearney Street, Stockton: El Dorado Street, Alaska canneries, Thelma Garcia Buchholdt (Alaska Legislature)

Pre-1965 Immigration: Hawaii/plantations, California/farms and Guam/Navy  
Agriculture=the real California gold, Asian Labor: Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos  
Chinese=first labor migrant force, "Cheap and reliable," 1870 wheat market crash and Great Depression, Chinese built levees of Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, Arkansas Act of 1850

### **Filipino Exclusion Law**

Social Darwinism was at its height in America, Great Depression 1929

SOCIAL CONTEXT: social Darwinism, eugenics, nativism, racism, Exeter "race riot" 1929, Watsonville "race riot" 1930, Fermin Tobera shot/killed, Judge Rohrbach

ECONOMIC CONTEXT: Great Depression, Philippines as an economic threat, sugar, copra, protectionism. Filipinos blamed for the economic crisis

Labor unions opposed Filipino immigration, Native Sons of the Golden West

Richard J. Welsh, SF Republican, Golden Gate Bridge, opposed Filipino immigration, 1934 Tydings-McDuffie Act, 1935 Repatriation Act, Philippines = US Commonwealth

## **Filipinos in World War II**

US Commonwealth, US Armed Forces in the Far East, "little Brown Brothers,"  
Corregidor & Bataan, Patricial Todtod & letter writing campaign, changed Selective  
Service Act to allow Filipinos to join military

### **1st and 2nd Filipino Infantry Regiments**

Camp San Luis Obispo: Lt. Col. Robert Offley, Filipinos were granted US citizenship  
1st Infantry: Camp Beale, 2nd Infantry: Camp Cooke  
Older manongs from Mainland vs. younger recruits from Hawaii  
St. Leon Giron: Bayambang, Pangasinan, arrived as 15 years old in US, practices  
Filipino martial arts, joined US Army, reconnaissance, dropped by submarine in the  
Philippines, fought as a commando in WW2

### **Filipino Labor Activism (Alex Fabros article)**

Larry Itliong, Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, Andy Imutan  
1933 Filipino Labor Union, 1938 Filipino Ag. Laborers Association (FALA)  
AWOC (Larry Itliong), Philip Vera Cruz, Pete Velasco  
Context of 1965 Grape Strike: 1964 Civil Rights movement, 1965 Immigration  
Reform Act, 1965 Voting Rights Act, harsh working conditions, Edna Bonacich's  
"split-labor market", Filipinos started the Delano Grape Strike, Huerta convinced  
Chavez to join the strike