

1796

THE FREE COMPANY OF CATALONIAN VOLUNTEERS

Al Miramontes

Descendant of Sebastian Armas y Lopez, Spanish Artillery de Piquete

(Editor's Note: In the course of researching the historical context of ancestor Sebastian Armas y Lopez, Al Miramontes uncovered the muster lists of the soldiers that were sent by Spain to reinforce the presidial garrisons and their coastal batteries during the late Eighteenth century. Many of those men sent to San Diego served tours of duty at Fort Guijarros. In turn, these artillerists taught their skills to men like Armas y Lopez.)

The Free Company of Catalonian Volunteers, its personnel married, was to go to California as a military contingent. Most of the Catalonians arrived in California in the early part of 1796. Their commander was Lieutenant Colonel Pedro de Alberni. The company included a captain, two lieutenants, and seventy-two men. The troops were assigned to the three presidios of San Diego, Monterey and San Francisco. Lieutenant Colonel Pedro Alberni, Captain of the Catalonian Volunteers, became the commander of San Francisco, where twenty-five of his men were stationed. Lieutenant Font was sent to San Diego with twenty-five men. Sub-Lieutenant Simon Suarez remained at Monterey, with 9 men, and a sergeant and thirteen men being scattered at various duties. The artillery detachment under Sergeant Jose Roen was distributed between the three presidios.

San Francisco

San Diego

ALBERNI, Pedro	Lieut. Colonel	FONT, Jose	Lieut.
TICO, Jose Joaquin	Sargento	INIQUEZ, Juan	Sargento
TICO, Juan	Fambor	VILLABA, Onofre	Cabo 1
RUBIOL, Frandisco	Cabo 1	SARMIENTO, Francisco	Ld 2
GALINDO, Claudio	Obro	HARO, Felipe	Obro
MIRANDA, Jose M.	Cubo 2	CANTSARES, Ant	Soldados
ALARI, Jose	Soldados	PACHECHO, Francisco	Soldados
BARRIENTOS, Jose	Soldados	FERNANDEZ, Victor	Soldados
MARTINEZ, Manuel	Soldados	GUEVARA, Sebastian	Soldados
GALVEZ, Diego	Soldados	ORTEL, Juan	Soldados
PALFOX, Jose	Soldados	TRUJILLO, Jose	Soldados
GOMEZ, Jose A.	Soldados	PADDILLA, Jacinto	Soldados
MURUATO, Jose	Soldados	ROMERO, Rafael	Soldados
MALDONADO, Juan	Soldados	ESCRIBANO, Sebastian	Soldados
MANDOGA, Miguel	Soldados	VELIS, Jose	Soldados
GONZALES, Alejo	Soldados	FRAGOSO, Rafael	Soldados
ACOSTA, Jose	Soldados	PEREZ, Manuel	Soldados
OCEGUERA, Faustino	Soldados	PEREZ, Juan Bautista	Soldados
MARTINEZ, Jose	Soldados	LUGO, Jose	Soldados
VEGA, Jose Mauel	Soldados	VALDES, Francisco	Soldados
GONZALEZ, Jose	Soldados	BACILIO, Antonio	Soldados
ALVAREZ, Juan	Soldados	LLAMAS, Antonio	Soldados
SERRANO, Jose Maria	Soldados	DELGADO, Alonzo	Soldados
ESPINOSA, Jose Pio	Soldados	ORTEGA, Miguel	Soldados
RUELAS, Venancio	Soldados	CARCAMO, Jose	Soldados
MALLEN, Manuel	Soldados	REY, Cristobal	Soldados

Monterey

SUAREZ, Simon	Lieut.
GARCIA, Nicolas	Soldados
LISART, Fadeo	Soldados
REY, Jose	Soldados
ROCHA, Jose	Soldados
PENA, Teodoro	Soldados
MENDISA, Manuel	Soldados
SOBATO, Juan	Soldados
LOZANO, Pedro	Soldados

Various

GUTIERREZ, Francsco	Sargento
MARTINEZ, Jose	Fambor
MARIN, Antonio	Cabot 1
BELLO, Mateo	Ld 2
DUCIL, Sebastian	Soldados
CASASALLAS, Simon	Soldados
CABALLERO, Jose	Soldados
TORRES, Narcisco	Soldados
SERVIN, Jose Isiaro	Soldados
SALAS, Francisco	Soldados
OSIO, Jose Maria	Soldados
QUESADA, Manuel	Soldados
JIMENEZ, Francisco	Soldados
CAMPO, Jose	Soldados

Sources consulted:

Hubert Howe Bancroft, History of California  
 Provincial State Papers, Benicia,  
 Milt. Vol. XXIV  
 Villa de Branciforte Expendiente

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Michael Nabholz  
Membership Chair

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