



ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM
INTERVIEW ABSTRACT

CONSULTANT: Lupe Peralta Rivera

DATE OF BIRTH: February 24, 1919 GENDER: Female

DATE(S) OF INTERVIEW: July 28, 2000

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Lordsburg, New Mexico

INTERVIEWER: Molly Pressler

SOURCE OF INTERVIEW: NMF&RHM OTHER _____

TRANSCRIBED: Yes: November 17, 2000

NUMBER OF TAPES: One

ABTRACTOR: Sylvia Wheeler

DATE ABSTRATED: April 27, 2001

QUALITY OF RECORDING (SPECIFY): Good

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Employment as a clerk at Camp Lordsburg during 1944.

DATE RANGE: 1944 - 2000

ABSTRACT (IMPORTANT TOPICS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

TAPE ONE:

Lupe Rivera was a clerk at the prisoner of war (POW) camp near Lordsburg during World War II. The camp first housed Japanese internees, then German POWs. She worked at the camp in 1944. Some POWs did janitorial work in her building. She saw the trucks taking prisoners out to the farms early in the morning and returning them late in the afternoon.

She felt some of the military personnel were very “military” in their approach to her work.

She enjoyed dancing with the American soldiers at the camp mess hall. The camps formed their own bands. Around fifty, or half, of the soldiers attended the dances.

She worked only six months at Camp Lordsburg. After, she became the city secretary for Lordsburg for thirty-eight years.