

11-8-2008

Interview No. 1598

Felipe Pavon Munoz

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/interviews>



Part of the [Labor History Commons](#), and the [Oral History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Interview with Felipe Pavon Munoz by Alma Carrillo, 2008, "Interview No. 1598," Institute of Oral History, University of Texas at El Paso.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Institute of Oral History at DigitalCommons@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Combined Interviews by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

Interviewee: Felipe Pavon Muñoz

Interviewer: Alma Carrillo

Project: Bracero Oral History Project

Location: n/a

Date of Interview: November 8, 2008

Terms of Use: Unrestricted

Transcript No.: 1598

Transcriber / Summary: Mayra L. Avila

Felipe Pavon Muñoz was born in Zacatelco, Mexico in 1919, he is the youngest of six children; at the age of eleven he was orphaned; he attended elementary school where he learned to read and write; at a young age he began helping his brother in the farm, eventually he began working in factories, where he was not paid enough; in 1942 he saw a newspaper announcing the hiring of Mexican men, he explains in detail the negotiations that occurred between the United States and Mexico; he recalls braceros arriving to the national stadium in Mexico City; in 1944 he registered as a bracero; he details his physical examination, explaining that it consisted of a rectal exam, lice check, fumigation, a shower, blood work, and a detail inspection of their entire naked body; he remembers that once in the United States braceros were lined up and distributed out without knowledge of where they were going; he describes living in a wooden apartment with three other men, paying \$1.50 for his meals, and the manager taking them to town to shop and to Salinas, CA., for dances; he points out reuniting with other braceros and hearing about their negative experiences, explaining that they were unaware that they had rights; in California he recalls picking beans, onions, apricot, and lettuce; he sent his brother money; he details being injured as a bracero and being given medical aid; he recalls that three hundred braceros worked in picking corn; he recalls meeting his wife in 1949 and marrying a year later, having ten children; he explains that he felt bad that many men sold their farms or took loans in order to become braceros and were rejected; he explains that being away from his family was difficult; he details the activities and progress of his children; he points out that they were paid in cash and the ten percent was deducted, he never received his ten percent and is currently attempting to recover it; he details the struggle and process he is undergoing attempting to recover his ten percent.

Length of interview 98 minutes

Length of Transcript n/a