

The Quarto-Centennial Celebration

During 1998, New Mexico was celebrating its quarto-centennial – four hundred years of colonization dating from the Entrada by Juan de Oñate in 1598. The Spanish Vice President at that time, a Mr. Alvarez and his wife, came from Spain to attend the ceremonies along with ten reenactors of the Spanish military. I did not go myself but Roberto reported that there were two drummers (tambors), two fifers (pifaneros), two gunners (Mosqueteros), two pikemen (piqueros), and two cavalymen (caballeros). Andrew Garcia also attended in period clothing. Vice President Alvarez gave the City of Santa Fé a reproduction of the flag that Oñate brought with him – on one side was the picture of the Virgin Mary and on the other was the coat of arms of King Phillip II.



Spanish Mosqueteros, front and back.



Piquero in his three-quarter armor.



Dos Mosqueteros.



L-R: Mosquetero, Piquero, Mosquetero, Dignitario (comes equipped with a glass of wine), y Tambor.



Spanish Tambor (drummer, left) and Pifanero (fifer, right), note the flaming cross of Burgundy painted on the drum.