

April 17, 1955

Arriba Arrives

In his first major league at bat, Pittsburgh Pirates rookie right fielder Roberto "Arriba" Clemente gets the first of his 3,000 career hits when he singles off of Brooklyn Dodgers left hander Johnny Podres on a 0-1 pitch in the first inning of the opening game of a doubleheader between the two teams.

Two pitches later Clemente will score the game's first run on Frank Thomas' triple to right field ... the 12-time all-star and future Hall of Famer will finish his major league debut with one hit in four at bats and two putouts in the field ... despite yielding two first inning runs, Podres, backed by home runs by Duke Snider and Roy Campanella, settles down and pitches a six-hit complete game in a 10-3 win before 20,499 at Pittsburgh's Forbes Field.

In the second game, Clemente collects two hits in four at bats off of right-hander Clem Labine including a double and a run scored in a 3-2 Dodger win ... Clemente will begin his career with collecting at least one hit in 17 of his first 19 games ... the Carolina, Puerto Rico native will finish his rookie season hitting .255 with five home runs and 47 RBIs.

April 17, 1955 Roberto Clemente's Major League Debut

BROOKLYN		FIRST GAME				PITTSBURGH				
	ab.	h.	r.	e.		ab.	h.	r.	e.	a.
Gilliam.2b	3	0	3	5	E.Smith.cf	4	0	6	0	0
Reese.ss	5	2	1	2	E.Freeze.2b	3	0	4	0	0
Snider.cf	4	2	3	0	Roberts.2b	2	0	0	2	0
Hodges.lb	4	2	1	0	Clemente.rf	4	1	2	0	0
Amoros.lf	4	1	0	0	Thomas.lf	4	1	3	0	0
Furillo.rf	4	1	3	0	Gordon.3b	4	0	1	0	0
Robinson.3b	4	2	1	6	Ward.lb	4	1	7	1	0
Campanella.c	5	3	2	1	Shepard.c	3	2	2	3	0
Podres.p	5	2	0	0	Groat.ss	4	1	1	2	0
					Thies.p	0	0	0	0	0
					King.p	0	0	1	1	0
					R.Smith.w5	0	0	0	0	0
					Zowman.p	0	0	0	0	0
					G.Freeze.b6	1	0	0	0	0
					Law.p	0	0	0	1	0
					Cole.b9	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	15	27	14	Totals	34	6	27	10	
Brooklyn					011	400	301	-10	
Pittsburgh					200	001	000	-7	

R-Gilliam, Reese, Snider, Hodges, Amoros, Robinson, Campanella 3, Podres, Clemente, Thomas, Ward, E-Reese, E. Freeze, Amoros, REI-Thomas, Robinson, Hodges, Snider 2, Shepard, Campanella 3, Podres. (Gordon scored on Reese's error); Podres scored on a passed ball; Campanella scored on E. Freeze error). 2B-Hodges, Furillo, Reese 2, Campanella, 2, Podres, Ward. 3B-Thomas, HR-Snider, Campanella, SB-Shepard, S-Gilliam, SF-Robinson, Hodges, DP-Robinson, Gilliam and Hodges; Law, Shepard and Ward. Left-Brooklyn 8, Pittsburgh 8, SO-Podres 3, BS-Podres 3, Thies 3, HO-Thies 5 in 3½, King 2 in 1½, Law 7 in 3, Bowman 1 in 1, E-ER-Podres 3-2, Thies 5-2, King 1-0, Bowman 0-0, Law 4-4, HBP-By Thies (Amoros), by Podres (E. Smith), PB-Shepard, W-Podres (1-0), L-Thies, U-Englen, Pinelli, Rebeck, Gorman, T-2-27.