



FIGURE 10.5. Indigenous provinces in El Salvador around 1500. (Adapted from Fowler 1989:140–141, figure 5, with additional information from Lehman 1920:719, with modifications by the author.)

concerning the permanent indigenous resistance and upheaval against Spanish conquistadors and their allies sustained in Honduras already taking place in 1532. In fact, this state of things continued without a definite Spanish intervention until 1536. This would be the year in which El Asistente or Ocotepeque became the first town in Honduras under colonial governance—a Chontal-Chortí town already under Nahua-Pipil influence (Lehmann, in Girard 1949:7); maybe the same reason Spaniards called it “the adjutant.” From here, one can trace the path of destruction followed by Hispanic-Mexican troops into Lenca territory, this time without retreat.

The particularity of these assault troops was their multiethnic composition. This was an army minimally composed of Spanish soldiers and outnumbered by an infantry and logistics provided by hundreds of *indios amigos* coming from faraway places such as Chalco-Tlamanalco or Texcoco (Oudijk and Restall 2008:133; Torres 2011:129). The great majority were simply identified as Tlaxcalteca or Mexica (Lenkersdorf, in Oudijk and Restall 2008:135), and even a small number as Zapoteca (Matthew 2010:127).