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AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

MATERIAL CONCERNING IMMIGRATION PROPOSALS
PREPARED FOR JUDICIARY COMMITTEE,
UNITED STATES SENATE

BY

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
THE MEXICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

May, 1978

INTRODUCTION

Because of the nature and importance of the legislation before your Committee the Comite de Servicio de los Amigos, Ignacio Mariscal No. 132, Mexico 1, D.F. -- the Mexican Friends Service Committee -- joins the American Friends Service Committee, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pa. in submitting this material.

Both of our organizations were founded by representatives of the Religious Society of Friends coming from a very broad spectrum within that Society. Our governing boards continue this representation. The purpose of both organizations is to provide an instrument for carrying out in life the principles, testimonies and concerns of Friends (Quakers), particularly as they relate to peace, justice and the relief of human suffering. We do not presume to speak for all Friends.

Mexico. Work in Mexico, involving Friends from both countries under the Service Committee name has been continuous since 1939. From the beginning, attention has been focused upon the people in rural settlements with a view toward helping them analyse their economic and social situation and gain access to the human, technological and economic resources that would enable them to live more securely and contribute more fully to the national well-being.

These communities are characteristic of those from which people in great numbers have been forced by the need to survive to leave and travel to wherever there seems to be a chance to gain an income and provide for their families. Many of them come to the U.S. border; many of them cross it.

U.S.A. Since the early fifties the American Friends Service Committee has worked with seasonal farm workers in the United States in support of their efforts to improve their environment and working conditions, to strengthen the social and economic structure of their home communities, to open up and take advantage of opportunities for alternative ways to live, and in general to gain more control over their destiny. Our involvement started in the great valleys of California and has spread to the Pacific Northwest, the East Coast, Florida and the Midwest, and for more than ten years has been strongly concerned with the lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

A.F.S.C. has participated in the development of self-help housing, rural legal services, consumer-controlled health facilities, cooperative work crews, cooperatives of family farmers, child care centers, training for participation in community organization.

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These experiences in both countries have given rise to compelling awareness that the people of both countries must be involved in solving the problems of poverty and dependence in each country. Early in this decade our two organizations began searching for ways to start facilitating such mutual involvement.

Public alarm in the United States over terms such as "silent invasion", concern about the impact of "runaway shops" and indication in Mexico of serious national economic problems lent urgency to our search.

Since 1973, we have held a series of planning meetings in Philadelphia, Mexico City and in El Paso/Ciudad Juarez. The latter were participated in by representatives of several other concerned Mexican and U.S. organizations. Between meetings there was intervisitation and correspondence. The AFSC and El Comite have now developed a coordinated approach to gathering and exchanging pertinent information and sharing it with people suffering because of the border situation and with organizations concerned to improve the conditions and expectations of life on both sides.

On the United States side a program has started to assist community groups in a few Texas areas to exercise their rights to put forward their local human and community needs as economic planning gets under way, to participate in policy decisions as to such development, and to monitor the use of public development funds.

The Pacific Southwest Regional Office of the AFSC sponsored a series of seminars in Los Angeles from December 8, 1977 through April 7, 1978, on United States/Mexico economic relations. The Austin, Texas Area Office has a similar series now in progress. Governmental officials and scholars from Mexico have shown a keen interest in these meetings and have participated as speakers and discussants; joining recognized social scientists and community leaders from the U.S.A., Ambassadors Patrick J. Lucy of the U.S. and Hugo Margain of Mexico made presentations to the April 7 seminar in Los Angeles. The broadest aspects of immigration policies and practice have figured in all these discussions.

We support the interest of the United States Congress in developing legislation which will contribute to the friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the people of our two countries.

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FOCUS ON MEXICO/U.S. BORDER

El Comite and the A.F.S.C. believe ourselves most qualified to make witness concerning people, situations and events with which we have direct experience. Our testimony thus concentrates on the adjacent borderlands.

Furthermore, the major impact of Senate Bill 2252 would fall upon the people in the borderland areas of Mexico and the United States.

The Comptroller General report of December 2, 1977, to Congress on "Illegal Entry at United States - Mexico Border" states (Page III): "Most illegal aliens apprehended are Mexican -- about 89 percent. The number of illegal Mexican aliens apprehended increased from about 29,700 in fiscal year 1960 to over 680,000 in fiscal year 1975."

The population of border towns in Mexico increased from 1.568 million in 1950 to 2.334 million in 1970 (Dr. Stanley Ross in FOUNDATION NEWS, January/February 1977), and growth is continuing.

People of Mexican descent make up a large proportion of the legally resident population of border states. They have Spanish names and most of them speak Spanish bilingually or principally. Control of movement, employment and other restrictions aimed at border crossers from Mexico impose special requirements for proof of identity upon these legal residents.

Under the headline BORDER PATROL RAIDS VALLEY CLOTHING PLANT, a UPI story tells how the border patrol raided a clothing manufacturing plant, interrogated all 930 workers and arrested 14 of them as illegal aliens. The lawyer for those arrested stated: "All 14 workers who were arrested were American citizens." *The Valley Morning Star, Harlingen, Texas, 5/27/77.*

Another reason for focusing on the border with Mexico is that the Administration envisions making the bulk of expenditures of time, effort and money there to implement the provisions of this legislation and existing statutes.

"After the on-going border enforcement studies have been completed, it is likely that 2000 new enforcement officers will be placed on the border." WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASE, 8/4/77.

In Appendix I of the above Comptroller General's report, Page 75 "MITRE concluded that the technology was available to support an effective detection and intercept system, and that procedural changes will considerably simplify the system complexity with minimum impact on the legal international traveler. The proposed approach including the design and implementation of an intercept system for the Mexican border was estimated to cost about 300 million and take 10 years to implement".

Incomplete Data and Unproved Assumptions. Before moving to specific comment on current immigration proposals we want to express our view that the present proposals are based on incomplete data and unproved assumptions. These assumptions concern the number of people here without papers, the cost to government and private sources, the practicality of a sealed border and the matter of money flow to Mexico. These assumptions have been called into question by competent researchers.

In a press briefing following the White House announcement of Administration immigration proposals, Attorney General Griffen Bell admitted: "We don't know how many people we are dealing with, don't know the costs, ... anything else. It is just something that has never been assessed." (As quoted by Wayne A. Cornelius in a presentation to the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace seminar, 8/10/77.)

Former Immigration Commissioner Leonard F. Chapman, Jr. publicized the issue in READER'S DIGEST, October, 1976 in an article entitled: "Illegal Aliens: Time to Call a Halt!" This article probably is the source for the term "Silent Invasion" so frequently used since.

The accuracy of his statements as to the number of immigrants without papers is open to serious question.

"Many aliens apprehended are repeaters; some have been apprehended as many as 10 times." Comptroller General's Report.

Mr. Vincent P. Barabba of the U.S. Bureau of Census has pointed out: "Many variables, including increased efficiency of the Immigration Service, can affect the number of apprehensions. These variables may have no effect on illegal immigration or may cause an increase or decrease in illegal immigration. "

Yet all the INS estimates on undocumented workers illegally in the U.S. are based on apprehensions, not individuals.

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There has been a great deal of publicity charging that the undocumented workers are a drain on governmental and private resources in the U.S.

Former Commissioner Chapman said: "They are not paying their share of taxes, and often pay none at all. At the same time, they are using public services, educating their children in our schools and often collecting welfare and even unemployment payments". (FOUNDATION NEWS)

These assumptions of negative effect have not been documented. In fact, there is evidence the opposite may be true.

A North and Houston study made for the Labor Dept. and quoted in the Newsletter of the Intercultural Development Research Association, January 1978 reports: "Information on the illegals apprehended indicated that 73% paid federal income taxes, 77% paid social security, and 44% paid some form of hospitalization insurance. In contrast, one-half of 1% received welfare payments, 1% obtained food stamps, 1% participated in U.S. funded job training programs, and 4% collected unemployment insurance. ... only 4.7% of the illegal aliens received free medical attention."

Another area of confusion concerns the contributions which undocumented workers make to public services. It is known that all must pay local sales taxes. Deductions from wages are usually made for Social Security and Income Tax. It is certainly not known how many who pay into Social Security and private health and pension funds ever collect benefits or receive refunds.

There is strong doubt that the border can be sealed.

"The strategy of apprehending illegal entrants at or near the border is far more cost effective than attempting to locate and remove aliens from interior locations. The ultimate solution to the problem of illegal entry is dependent on the establishment of deterrents However, in spite of deterrents, illegal entry across the border will continue as long as the push-pull factors, created by the economic differences between the United States and Mexico, exist." Kevin D. Rooney, Assistant U.S. Attorney General, to Mr Victor Lowe at the General Accounting Office (Page 84 in Appendix IV of the Comptroller General's report).

The Director of an independent Mexican organization who participates in the work of Friends and others at the border has interviewed hundreds of persons at Ciudad Juarez who intend to cross "illegally" into the United States. The overwhelming majority answer his question "Why?" with the responses: "I am hungry. I have to live."

They know how hard it is to get safely into the U.S. and they have heard about the bad things that can happen to them after they are in; but nothing will stop them from trying.

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The extent to which undocumented Mexican workers in the United States drain off dollars to Mexico is also subject to question.

Dr. Jorge Bustamante of El Colegio de Mexico published a study, Espaldas Mojadas ("wetbacks") based in part on interviews with 493 persons held in INS detention centers in El Centro, Cal., El Paso, Tex., and Port Isabel, Tex. Among his findings and conclusions: "... it was found that more than 50% were apprehended without having gained employment in the United States ...that for hundreds of thousands of Mexicans originating in the most economically depressed sector of Mexico, to emigrate to the United States carries the consequence of adding to their poverty." (Emphasis added.)

and

"... we know that 40% of the total who found work and were caught were apprehended within 72 hours of their entrance into the U.S.A., and that more than two-thirds of the total caught were done so inside of the first 30 days after having crossed the border....

"... the data of our investigation also indicates that the greater share of those who obtain work send to Mexico no more than a third of their wages. Taking into account the low level of wages that the immigrants receive and the high cost of living in the United States, the belief that Mexico receives any economic benefit from a more numerous immigration not only appears not to be supported by the data of our investigation but rather that the opposite result apparently occurs. (translation) (Emphasis added.)

Furthermore Dr. Wayne Cornelius has pointed out: Doubling or even tripling the number of border patrolmen, giving them sophisticated electronic detection equipment, helicopters and other kinds of hardware, will not effect the 35-40% of the flow who enter the U.S. legally, on temporary, tourist or student visas, and then overstay their visas to work in the United States. The vast majority of these visa abusers come from countries other than Mexico.

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EFFECT OF PRESENT POLICY AND PRACTICE

Basic U.S. immigration policies in conjunction with economic factors create exploitive situations, increase the migratory pull, add to friction and violence in human relations, and imperil friendly relations in Mexico.

Employment. The U.S./Mexico border situation, including U.S. immigration policies and practices, has contributed not so much to job-stealing perpetrated on U.S. workers by immigrants from Mexico as to making it possible for employers to create jobs at such low wages and poor working conditions as to remove them effectively from U.S. workers.

The cost of living dictates what is an adequate wage. Jobs which do not provide an income that U.S. workers can live on can and do attract workers from Mexico whose subsistence costs are lower. They believe, at least, that they can make enough at less than the U.S. minimum wage by putting up with risk and hardship to send money to the family back home where it will keep them alive. Those who "commute" regularly know the system can work. But such jobs cannot support U.S. residents.

"CRIADA MOJADA" LEAVES 13 CHILDREN TO WORK AS MAID,
Illegal Maids a Way of Life Here (*El Paso Times*,
1/8/78)

"Shortly before 7 a.m. Monday, 35-year-old Maria de los Angeles will kiss her 13 children goodbye, leave her home in Juarez and cross the Santa Fe Bridge into El Paso, where she works as a \$25-a-week live-in maid. ...

"She is only one of perhaps 5,000 illegal aliens who have full-time jobs as domestics in El Paso, according to rough estimates by the Immigration and Naturalization Service....

"Explains Swancutt (Border Patrol Agent): 'I personally view domestics as having only peripheral significance to the overall problem (of illegal aliens). It's questionable that domestics are in fact displacing resident labor, although of course there are some legal residents who would like to have those jobs.'"

"There are probably few who would find Maria de los Angeles' job terribly attractive. For less than \$5 a day plus room and board, she cooks meals, cleans a three-bedroom town house, cares for three children aged five to ten, and does perhaps 40 pounds of laundry per week. She is allowed to return to Juarez every other weekend."

The following are from an interview with Leonel Castillo, Commissioner of I.N.S., published in *The News World*, 1/13/78:

"Q. Do most of the people who enter the United States plan to stay here permanently?

"A. I think the majority of the Mexican nationals are seasonal. The majority of the visa abusers from other countries tend to stay longer periods.

"Q. There's been criticism that because illegal aliens work 'hard and scared' that they tend to undermine wage scales. Do you feel that's correct?

"A. It's partly true. I think it depends on the sector of the economy you're talking about. The foreign national doctors are all very busy and have more work than they can handle, and there are many communities in the United States where there are still no doctors.

"The foreign nationals who work in certain kinds of low-paid menial jobs don't have a whole lot of competition from U.S. citizens. But those in the industrial and manufacturing sector could be having that displacement effect. No one really knows how many are involved.

At Presidio, Tex. in June, 1977, the I.N.S. approved temporary admission of Mexican workers to pick onions at wages and conditions refused by local farmworkers.

"... officials in the Labor Department said that the action would bail out growers who had failed to provide adequate housing for workers, as required by law, and who, up to this year, had been illegally hiring Mexicans at wages far below the United States minimum.

"... the Labor Department earlier ruled that foreign workers could not be certified because the growers did not provide adequate housing. The regional office of the Immigration Service upheld that position.

"A Labor Department official said that the Presidio growers also had balked at paying the Mexicans an hourly wage of \$2.83 an hour, a wage level that the Labor Department has determined would not have an 'adverse effect' on the wage levels of United States citizens."

"The decision (by I.N.S.) to admit the Mexicans seems contrary to the Carter Administrations' proclaimed goal of reducing the flood of alien workers who are taking millions of jobs that would otherwise go to United States citizens. (New York Times, 6/21/77)

The low subsistence wage in Mexico also attracts to that side of the border users who can locate their operations there. This has been true both of agricultural and industrial enterprises headquartered in the United States.

The Texas Observer, 2/3/78 states: "Griffin and Brand, a privately owned corporation reporting \$34 million a year in sales, is representative of the integrated agribusiness firms that dominate Hidalgo County economics. G & B grows, packs, freezes, ships and markets fresh and frozen vegetables under G & B and Trophy labels. In 1970, outside observers speculated that G & B grew 70 percent of its produce in Mexico to avoid labor disputes, but political and economic instability in Mexico and the risk of nationalization have forced G & B and other corporate farming concerns to curtail their expatriate operations and withdraw to safer ground north of the border."

However, *The Monitor of McAllen, Texas, 3/5/78*, in connection with an article over an organized protest by farmers and farmworkers against importing Mexican vegetables, ran a picture of a truckload of onions in sacks carrying the Griffin and Brand TROPHY label and the legend 'Produce of Mexico'.

Mexico's Border Industrialization Program has attracted U.S. firms to build plants for partial assembly of raw material brought in under bond. The assembled units are returned to the U.S. at very low tariff for final assembly. In 1975, there were along the border 399 such plants, called maquiladoras in Mexico, employing 58,352 persons, mostly women. (Translated from *Mercados de Valores, Region Fronteriza Norte: Caracteristicas de las Plantas Maquiladoras. Mexico City, 5/31/76.*)

The existence of those jobs pulls people from the interior of Mexico and helps to account for the aforementioned growth of border towns. Far more people come than there are jobs to fill, which adds to the impetus to cross the border.

Economic Conditions. Economic conditions in Mexico such as devaluation of the peso and a lid on wages drive people to desperate measures, and crossing the border to the U.S. is one that many take.

The Secretary General of the Free Workers Union stated March 19, '78 (*Excelsior, Mexico City*) that more than a million workers lost their jobs in 1977. The Director of the Tamaulipas Labor Federation claimed on February 16, 1978, that the purchasing power of workers had declined 28% during the previous four months. (*EL Manana, Matamoros, 2/17/78*)

UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT AFFECT 56% OF THE COUNTRY'S LABOR FORCE, *El Sol De Mexico, Mexico City, 12/26/77.*

Lic. Clara Jusidman de Bialovtovsky, Director of Employment and Professional Organization of the Labor Department, revealed that for each Mexican who works three do not.

Everyone agreed on the gravity of the problem of gainful occupation in the country. The leaders indicated that in rural areas the minimum wages are inferior and in many cases are not respected.

According to the General Office of Employment and Professional Organization it is imperative to obtain work for 8.5 million persons. Furthermore, even though it is difficult to quantify underemployment, 6.9 million have only occasional work. (Translation)

More U.S. enforcement measures would not affect this push to migration or that of the following situations.

The Director of the Office of Nutrition of the Mexican Social Securities Administration stated March 10, 1978, that 25% of the total population was undernourished and that 50% of the children under 4 years of age are so afflicted. (*Excelsior, Mexico City, 3/10/78*) (Similar report in *New York Times, 3/6/78*)

The rural population has the lowest levels of life of Mexico, 66% of them living in one room, with an average of 5.3 persons in each room; 51% of the population is illiterate, 22.5% are barefoot, 38.5% use "huaraches" and only 39% wear shoes; 64% of the country families receive a salary of less than \$600.00 (pesos) monthly and only 13.5% more than \$1,500.00 (pesos). The average expense per family is \$900.00 (pesos) for which they live in subhuman conditions. (*El Comite de Servicio de los Amigos, 9/5/75.*)

THREE MILLION PEONS OF THE FIELD MAY BECOME FOCUS OF INSTABILITY, Ejido de Michoacan de Ocampo, 1/27/78. (Reported in *Excelsior 2/28/78*)

Amador Hernandez, leader of the National Confederation of Campesinos from 1965 to 1967 said today that... 3 million day laborers may become a focus of political and social instability. He warned that the problem ... is deep and serious because they are given no remunerative work."

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The U.S. Southwest Border Regional Commission was recently established to assist the states and local communities of the borderlands in economic development. Millions of dollars in loans and grants will be directed toward improving the employment situation. They are likely also to increase the drawing power of the border on unemployed citizens of Mexico.

In a hearing before the Joint Economic Committee in 1977, Calvin Blair of the University of Texas said: "On a microeconomic level, pairs of sister cities exist in a kind of economic symbiosis on opposite sides of the... border.... Because of reciprocal influences, each city is larger than could be expected on the basis of geographical setting, natural resources base, or location with respect to its own national markets. The high income in Mexican border cities, relative to the rest of Mexico, serves as a strong attraction to in-migration from areas of lesser economic opportunity."

DEVALUATION OF PESO LEAVES STREETS OF LAREDO DESERTED. An article under this headline describes in some detail how economic interrelationships affect residents. e.g. "Then the peso crashed. Sales dropped 60 to 80 percent and have stayed down for two months.... Some shopkeepers hope to ride out the depression, but several have already closed their doors. *The New York Times*, 12/2/76.

President Carter recognized the powerful influence of Mexico's economy on immigration to the United States when he first released the Administration proposal. And at the Los Angeles seminar sponsored by AFSC April 7, Ambassador Lucy stated the importance of promoting investment in Mexico from private, international and government sources.

It must be noted that past investment has contributed to the poverty of the people who migrate. El Comite de Servicio has observed that the rural sector has been comparatively neglected. Investments in agricultural land have often forced out small holders and created shortages of basic foods in favor of cash export crops from which much of the profits go outside the country.

In framing immigration legislation Congress clearly needs to look into the kind and pattern of investment contemplated as a complementary measure to regulating the flow of persons across the border.

Exploitation. Because immigration to the United States and working here without papers is illegal, the opportunities for extracting money or services from those who try give rise to widespread victimization. The individual may be bled from the time he or she leaves home base to destinations in the U.S. and back again. Those who profit from this traffic depend upon the illegality for their power.

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"The establishment of the Border Patrol in 1924 not only made more visible the border-crosser (wetback) as an individual who violates the law; it also brought changes in the patterns of conduct of illegal immigrants. The freedom of interaction that the illegal immigrant had had before 1924 was considerably reduced. Now, he had to travel, speak and enter into any agreement under the fear of being apprehended or denounced to the Border Patrol.

"The interaction that changed most significantly was that between the migrant worker and his boss. The organization of the Border Patrol brought with it a new factor: the illegal migrant could always be caught and deported to Mexico. The implicit or explicit threat of being denounced by the boss was converted then into a new significant element in the rules for conditions of work. This threat could be used to impose wages and conditions of work that were oppressive. In the search for work the worker could no longer accept or reject freely a given offer; the worker had to consider in every case the possibility of being denounced to the Border Patrol." (Translated from *Espaldas Mojadas* by Dr. Bustamante.)

"... many of the illegal aliens smuggled into the country are being victimized. We found cases where they (smugglers) collect \$400 apiece from aliens who have sold their homes and left their wives to come here. They are dropped here without funds and the smugglers walk off with their money. The aliens have no recourse." Interview with the Brownsville, Texas Border Patrol agent-in-charge published 2/25/78 by *The Valley Morning Star of Harlingen, Texas*.

"The problem is so serious... that last year 7,139 smugglers of illegal workers were arrested in the South Texas zone... they were charging 350 and 500 dollars to cross and give work. In this human traffic were not only men but women.

"Recently... the Border Patrol found a truck where 38 Mexican men had been hidden. When they were taken out, they could not stand and fell to the ground. They were almost asphyxiated.

"As you see, it is business.... There are many persons ... who prefer this situation to legality." *Excelsior, Mexico City, 11/5/74 from Nuevo Laredo*.

All the independent organizations who have contact with undocumented workers have heard complaints that employers often pay them less than resident workers, make pay deductions they do not understand, and sometimes send them away without pay under threat of turning them over to I.N.S. The complaints against labor contractors or crew chiefs -- including exorbitant charges for food, drink and transportation -- are also common.

Some indication that many undocumented workers return empty-handed is the following portion of the above interview that appeared in *Excelsior, Mexico City*.

"In the border zone many expelled Mexicans are not taken to other distant cities but simply left at the boundary line, and they stay in the city or travel to others with consequent problems.

"The mayor of neighboring Monterrey explained that many of the returnees go into the hills where they live precariously and create neighborhoods without service, which aggravates the problems of the city.

"This reporter visited various of these colonies on the slopes of the hills that surround the city of Monterrey, where there are thousands of houses of wood or cardboard but without water, drainage or paving.

"Ernesto Martinez Cortes, originally from Pozos, Guanajuato, explained hesistantly to the reporter how he had been returned three times by the U.S. authorities. the 'migra' (INS) is hard, he said, and declined to say how he had been able to enter the neighboring country."

The aggregate spoils of exploiting workers in an illegal status must run into the millions of dollars annually. The beneficiaries of these spoils have a vested interest in promoting the flow of job-seekers into the United States through extra-legal channels. They could not make so much if it were not illegal.

Relations with Mexico. Mexican citizens who cross the border without papers often suffer dehumanizing experiences. The very effort to survive becomes a criminal act. Yet U.S. citizens are free to cross into Mexico at will without special identification.

TEN DOLLARS FOR EACH ILLEGAL REPORTED (8/13/76 *Excelsior* date lined *El Paso*.)

Within the United States the Border Patrol pays \$10 to any informant who points out illegal (sic) Mexicans... a business which enabled the detention of 6,018 persons - over half of whom were women and children - in the modern camp called "The Big Corral".

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MEXICAN FARM WORKERS NOW CARRYING WEAPONS (A.P. release from San Diego carried by Valley Morning Star.)

"Many Mexican farm workers, whose main worry once was eluding capture while slipping across the border, are carrying weapons and learning karate, authorities say. They attribute it to the slayings of 12 illegal aliens here this year.

"They think everyone is after them says Marina Sanches of the North County Chicano Federation in this border city. They are afraid of everything."

January 12 at Weslaco, Texas the division manager of the U.S. Border Patrol told a Rotary Club audience: "The aliens attempting to travel to the interior in motor vehicles are sometimes placed in great danger by the smugglers... at Mission... a large tank used for transporting diesel fuel was used. ... 22 men had been packed into the closed six-by-eight foot middle compartment, standing in about two inches of diesel fuel. The fuel was left so that the driver could turn on spigot to demonstrate he was carrying diesel when he was stopped at a checkpoint.... The men, who had been picked up at the river, probably would have suffocated if they had been kept in the tank much longer." (Valley Morning Star)

WOULD-BE FARMWORKER ASSASSINATED IN LAREDO. (*El Manana*, Nuevo Laredo, 1/15/78.)

Laredo, Texas January 14 -- City police officers made the macabre discovery of a would-be farmworker, unidentified, brutally assassinated by a well-aimed shot in the upper right chest, which appeared to have smashed the heart. It is said that there are clear indications that the day of the murder he was first tortured presumably to rob him of any valuables.

WETBACKS HUNTED LIKE DUCKS. Two drowned, one wounded and three disappeared in two nights of terror on the banks of the Rio Grande. (Translated from *El Manana*, 1/15/75.)

Under these headlines appear pictures and a story about a smuggler contracting to take a group into the U.S. and how they were attacked by a group of youths when they got across the river.

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Bishop Patrick F. Flores of San Antonio, Texas, submitted a report to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission in February of this year about the climate of fear and suspicion enveloping Mexicans and Mexican-Americans in the United States. His release of the information was covered fully by *Excelsior of Mexico City* whose article was picked up by *El Manana of Nuevo Laredo*, 2/20 and presumably many other local Mexican papers.

REYNALDO MARTINEZ, BRACERO, RETURNS AT LAST TO HIS COUNTRY. (*La Prensa*, 3/13/78, *Mexico City*.)

Reynaldo Martinez, 22, native of Jalpan, Queretaro, immigrated to Phoenix, Arizona, without legal documentation, died "accidentally" at the explosion of diesel fuel and gasoline mixture in a container given to them with which to start fires to warm themselves because, like many other Mexicans, they were living in the shelter of tree without any roof but the sky.

Together with the rough campesinos gathered at the airport to receive him was Marcos Cazares, coordinator of the Information Center for the Betterment and Development of Immigrantes, an organization of the Quakers.

Treatment of Mexican citizens by federal, state and local officials has many times been reported as brutal and callous by persons questioned or apprehended by them and by witnesses.

BORDER PATROLMEN ALLEGE BRUTALITY. Probe under way (*San Antonio Express-News*, 11/27/77).

The article reports former Border Patrolmen alleged they were encouraged to be brutal and that the organization discriminates against Mexican-American patrolmen. The article also states that INS Director Leonel Castillo "has received numerous complaints about possible illegal acts by Border Patrol personnel". The San Antonio area chief said some charges were being investigated but called the allegation "A bunch of malarky."

"Tiburcio Griego Santome of Juarez, Mexico, was shot to death Sunday night in the back seat of the squad car of Glasscock County Sheriff Royce 'Booger' Pruitt... Pruitt's passenger, G.B. Therwanger, a retired deputy sheriff, shot the prisoner after he pulled a knife." *The Del Rio, Texas News-Herald*, 11/8/77 from Garden City.

MEXICANS DO TIME WAITING TO TESTIFY AGAINST SMUGGLERS
(San Diego Newsline, 1/25/78)

The story states that Mexican material witnesses to smuggling charges have been incarcerated for up to a year without being charged with anything. Americans are released within three days. These witnesses are held at the Metropolitan Correction Center, which is a prison. The average stay is said to be 30 days.

"Witnesses testified in federal court Thursday that Border Patrol agent Philip Honderick shot an illegal alien in the hand and knee, hit him on the head with the butt of his pistol and dunked him several times in the Rio Grande." *El Paso Times, 1/13/78.*

Less than a month later, following up the same incident, the *El Paso Herald-Post (2/6/78)* reported: "An illegal alien charged with assaulting a Border Patrol agent near Redford, Texas, was sentenced today by District Judge D.W. Suttle to three years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. The sentence to Trinidad Gardea Valenzuela (the alien described above) was suspended however for five years probation without supervision. Gardea was to be deported back to Mexico immediately as a condition of his probation."

Incidents at or near the border and statements by public figures are arousing public sentiment within each country against the other. Sensational treatment in the media adds to the sense of alarm and distrust.

CLAIM CARTER COMMITS BLACKMAIL WITH THE BRACEROS
(translated) *El Manana, Nuevo Laredo, 2/2/78.*

"ALARMING ACCUSATION" headlines the same paper in an editorial commenting on the claim of Domingo Reyes of the National Anti-Defamation Committee of Mexicans and Chicanos in the United States that the U.S. "gives us treatment as an enemy not a friend" and denouncing the wave of hysteria against undocumented workers. The editorial calls for the U.S. government to answer the accusation or demand a retraction.

Excelsior, 1/21/78 stressed the remarks of Ambassador Margain in an interview: "He rejected the idea that with the exportation of hydrocarbons to the U.S. the country is being sold out, and maintained that the problem of undocumented workers will not be resolved by decree: there must be an attitude of non discrimination against Mexicans by the United States". (Emphasis added.)

Other *Excelsior* articles 1/21, 1/31 and 3/10 quoted the Foreign Minister and four senators that Mexican farm-workers must be treated as human beings, that the U.S. must understand that economic and financial activities may have unfavorable repercussions in Mexico on migration, that undocumented workers are not criminals but ambitious and hard-working, that "all unilateral decisions of a country are unjust", that the U.S. Government is obligated to resolve the problems by mutual agreement with Mexican authorities.

The visit of Vice President Mondale inspired a number of articles, editorials and cartoons on the theme that the United States is trying to bargain farmworkers against gas.

The media in the United States often add to the image of Mexican workers as a threat which requires drastic measures to contain.

ILLEGAL ALIENS SWARM MONGRELIZES OUR STRAIN
Holmes Alexander column in Valley Morning Star, 1/5/77

FLOOD OF ALIENS COMING OUR WAY
William Buckley column in same paper, 11/2/77

HISPANICS EMIGRATING TO STATES IN DROVES
Anthony Harrigan in same paper, 11/27/77

ALIENS ARE NOT OWED EDUCATION, Appeals Court Rules
Del Rio News-Herald, 11/16/77

THE SILENT INVASION
James Reston column New York Times, 5/4/77

200,000 AT TIJUANA WAIT TO BE SMUGGLED INTO U.S. BY DEADLINE, Poor Mexicans Ready to Pay for Bogus Papers before Congress Acts on Carter Amnesty Plan
New York Times, 5/4/77

DOLLAR DRAIN LAID TO ILLEGAL ALIENS ESTIMATED IN BILLIONS ANNUALLY.
New York Times, 5/27/77

'ELECTRONIC BRIDGE' URGED FOR BORDER
San Diego Union, 2/2/78

CHEAP MEXICAN LABOR ATTRACTS U.S. COMPANIES TO THE BORDER
New York Times, 5/13/77

EXPORTING JOBS. U.S. Firms Turn to Mexico in Search of Cheaper Labor.
Washington Post, 10/10/77

COMMENTS ON SB 2252

This legislation provides for changes in Western Hemisphere immigration quotas; makes it easier for immigrants who arrived before January 1, 1970, to adjust to permanent resident status; creates a new 5-year nondeportable status for eligible immigrants arriving between 1970 and January 1, 1977; adds sanctions against employers of undocumented workers and stiffens the criminal penalties for bringing in unauthorized aliens and/or contracting jobs for them.

It appears to us that implementing the provisions of the Bill would give continuation to some of the existing immigration problems, would not address significant human rights issues and might well create serious new problems.

Enforcement as Means of Control. The Administration intends to strengthen enforcement facilities, personnel and operations. Such a continuation and intensifying of existing policy is not likely to be effective and may well cause harm to people in the United States and Mexico, as well as strain relations between the two countries.

The causative factors -- poverty and unemployment in areas where emigration originates and the profit to be made from exploiting desperate people -- are not changed appreciably.

It is clear that current I.N.S. practices are creating fear and resentment in the Latin American community in the United States and particularly among Chicanos. The Annual Report of the United States Civil Rights Commission February 15, 1978, cited this among other issues which are not addressed in the legislation.

Stepped up enforcement and more severe penalties would exacerbate community tension and suspicion unless strong safeguards for due process and the protection of civil rights are embodied in the implementation of new legislation.

The newspaper *Excelsior of Mexico City* has run articles on the meeting first in Phoenix and then in Mexico City of seven Chicano organizations. A major theme of these meetings was unity "to protect and defend ourselves from the persecution which Chicanos and Mexicans whether documented or undocumented suffer in the United States".

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The resentment in Mexico to the attitude of public officials in the U.S. toward Mexicans who enter the United States looking for work has been expressed repeatedly by the President of the Republic down to individual border crossers. This resentment is rubbed raw by both the elaborate systems put into effect to detect and seize Mexicans without papers and by the treatment they often receive from U.S. law enforcement personnel. Some examples of reaction have been cited earlier in this testimony.

Positive I.N.S. Services Need More Support. *The White House Fact Sheet on undocumented aliens of 8/4/77* acknowledged a backlog of 240,000 applications for adjustment of status.

From 200,000 to 300,000 cases were added to this backlog by the Silva decision in a U.S. District Court in Illinois. The Court held that INS had been wrongfully using Western Hemisphere quotas to give to Cuban refugees, and ordered immediate action to process the Western Hemisphere cases affected. Most of them are Mexican.

These facts and the statements of many qualified observers indicate that there are many people now considered illegal aliens who do not realize they are eligible or have been discouraged from inquiring about eligibility for adjustment of status toward residence.

ALIEN RIGHTS COALITION SUES IMMIGRATION SERVICE
Los Angeles (AP) 11/30/77

A coalition of alien rights groups is suing the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service for allegedly violating its own regulations by trying to deport aliens who have a right to be here.

.... "Immigrant applications of close relatives of U.S. citizens are, by law, required to be processed within 10 working days", Aguirre said. "Instead, it is taking the immigration service up to two years because they are spending too much money on law enforcement activities."

An AFSC staff report quotes a person who works in a service center in a border county which deals with immigration problems: "We see more than sixty families per week, and 99% of them have some kind of equity. Most of them don't realize this when they first come to see us, but after we talk to them and ask them about their family and their relatives we discover that they do have equity.... It usually comes to light that a wife or a brother or a child is a U.S. citizen, or we discover that they have been here continuously for seven years.... The people who stay here do so not because of wages; the wages here are low. They stay here primarily because of family ties."

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INS could go a long way toward its data-gathering goal by helping all the undocumented immigrants learn enough about eligibility to apply for adjustment in status whenever they believed they had grounds to do so.

As the Manzo Area Council of Tucson, Arizona, stated in November, 1976, "Because the Immigration and Naturalization Service has earned a 'deport' image rather than an image of 'advise' or 'assist' many persons legitimately fear that if they go to I.N.S. they will be deported rather than helped". The statement goes on to say that 80% of the Mexican nationals in Tucson at that time were believed to be eligible to become legal resident aliens or citizens.

The Manzo Area Council offices were raided by the Border Patrol on April 9, 1976. Four Manzo workers were charged with felony offenses and 150 undocumented aliens were rounded up on the basis of information seized by the Border Patrol. The charges against the Manzo workers were dropped, but the fact that the Government later had to back down does not change the "image".

Very few private agencies now provide counselling services on immigration problems. The Manzo experience and other instances of aggressive surveillance by federal agencies have inhibited both the existing agencies and those considering offering services. They are further inhibited by state laws and municipal ordinances in many areas. We support the subsection of SB 2522 preempting state or local laws of this nature.

Hundreds and perhaps thousands of persons who may or may not have legal status pay often exorbitant fees to lawyers, notaries and other persons. The "services" received range from filling out a change of address card to obtaining a worthless or bogus document. Attorneys have been reported to accept fees -- often in weekly or monthly instalments -- for obtaining residence or work authorization and then do nothing to prosecute the claim or protect the client.

There is a danger that, in the push to build up enforcement at and near the border, expenditures for needed administrative and program services will be slighted -- reinforcing the belief among aliens of uncertain status that INS is primarily a punitive agency. It is noteworthy that Commissioner Castillo has recognized these situations to the extent of beginning a small outreach program.

Employer Discrimination? The effect of making it unlawful for employers to hire non-citizens who do not have proper papers is to require employers to discriminate among applicants on a nationality basis. This makes it much easier for an employer not to hire people who look or sound foreign or who have Spanish names.

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At a minimum it means that any person who falls into one of those categories would face an obstacle to employment that others don't even though he or she is a citizen or a legal alien authorized to work. This obstacle is proof of identity-- and the employer is the judge. No matter what the appeals procedure or anti-discrimination rules might be, one group of the population would have to go through more difficulties to get a job than all others.

Where discrimination exists against people of the Hispanic ethnic group employer sanctions would add to it. Where discrimination is not now so evident, it might well grow as non-Hispanics seek advantage in the job market.

Wherever there is a sizeable immigration from Caribbean countries the Black community would come under the same burden of additional discrimination. Participants in the New York State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission public meeting February 17 and 18, 1978 cited examples of the problems already created by INS surveillance and raids.

A nationality test for eligibility to work would provide another instrument for facilitating divisiveness and unfair practices.

Since it would be impossible to keep tabs on every employer and since the present experience shows that some employers find it very advantageous to hire workers outside the law, the sanctions against employers would not altogether halt employment of undocumented alien workers. Because of the added risk to the employer and the reduced opportunities for the worker, the abuse of such workers who do find employment might become worse.

Dr. Wayne Cornelius in his paper concluded thus: "He will continue to migrate -- legally, if opportunities exist; illegally if they do not. This prediction is based on scores of interviews which I conducted with Mexican workers during the last six months of 1976, in which they were asked specifically whether an employer sanction law -- if passed in the U.S. -- would deter them from going or returning to the U.S."

Protecting Human Rights.

"The wetbacks are throwing American workers out of farm work. American workers refuse to live on charity and want to work in decent conditions ... We are Americans and pay our taxes, we have worked very hard to pay for our little homes and have also paid income taxes for years when we had stable employment. The work has hit bottom in the fruit. It is bad enough to compete with Braceros but the ones we cannot compete with are the wetbacks.... We simply cannot live in the conditions the wetbacks live in... and we simply do not accept work under the conditions that the ranchers make them work in." (Sonoma County fruit picker quoted by Eleanor Hadley, 1956.)

In a nutshell, the above illustrates the situation that needs correcting -- U.S. jobs degraded to below survival level, and "illegal" immigrants forced by fear of deportation to work under inhuman conditions. In not recognizing the internal U.S. practices contributing to immigration problems the legislation is seriously limited. Eliminating the availability of workers powerless to resist exploitation is a long-term, international problem. Setting and maintaining work standards adequate for U.S.A. residents is a reasonable domestic goal. Both undertakings uphold basic human rights. Both merit consideration in designing U.S. immigration policy.

Human rights deserve to be recognized also in the manner of treating people considered to be possible violators of I.N.S. regulations.

We must make a revision of our system of justice and not consider as lawbreakers those who enter a country illegally in search of work. I, as a public servant must see that the law is respected and this year we are deporting more than a million persons. But as a human being I think that there must be some change, we have to look for a solution to this problem." *Leonel Castillo in Excelsior, 11/22/77 (translation).*

In 1974, Bishop Patrick Flores reported that Border Patrol agents were waiting to check people as they left church on Sunday morning. (*Excelsior, Mexico City, 7/8/74*)

"Almost every day the service centers which help people with documentation deal with parents in families who are asked to leave on a voluntary return to Mexico, even though the families may have equity here. Many persons, not aware of their rights before the law, depart voluntarily and are separated from their families (though) the wife and children may be U.S. citizens." *A.F.S.C. staff report 3/78.*

"When aliens are apprehended at the border, federal agents interrogate them without the benefit of an attorney's presence. The interrogation is technically permitted under the guise of an 'administrative hearing'. But the hearing often becomes 'a five hour, physical and psychological molestation session to coerce sworn statements against defendants'." *Federal Defender Senior Trial Attorney Lewis Wenzell in the San Diego Newsline, 1/25/78.*

Protecting Worker Rights.

Espaldas Mojadas reports: Manuel Gamio observed in his investigation of immigration in 1926 that the salaries (in farm work) were \$1.50 to \$2.00 for an eight hour day of work. Saunders and Leonard found in their investigation of 1950 that the average wages in the Lower Rio Grande Valley were \$2.50 for a day of 12 hours of work. This means that 24 years later Mexican farm workers were still getting about the same wages while the prices of farm products had increased 100 percent during the same period.

Because undocumented immigrant workers have no power whatever to negotiate with employers, wages and working conditions scarcely change. Unauthorized aliens are even subject to discriminatory treatment in a work situation with resident workers. This in turn reduces the ability of local people to achieve fair pay and working conditions.

On more than one occasion AFSC staff have observed that workers have been brought across the border to work in fields where U.S. labor organizations were negotiating for a collective bargaining agreement or were on strike. In most of these instances every effort was made to prevent the imported worker from finding out about the labor dispute.

In European countries where large numbers of foreign workers are brought in for limited periods, the citizen workers have tried to make sure that exploitation is prevented. Labor organizations have taken the lead in developing safeguards. Some beginnings along this line have been made in the United States.

"Eliseo Medina, second vicepresident of the United Farm Workers, announced here that in the next two years about two million Mexican farmworkers, mostly undocumented, will have been organized in order to defend their rights before U.S. farmers by means of signing collective contracts.

"Up to now 25,000 undocumented workers have participated in union contracts in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Florida. Union offices exist in New York, Washington, Oregon, Texas and Colorado. ...

"He indicated that with the contract employers are obligated to pay minimum wages of \$2.30 an hour, a medical plan for the worker and his family, six days of paid vacation, retirement pension, unemployment insurance and social security." *Excelsior, Mexico City, 11/7/77 dateline Blythe.* (translation)

Texas Farm Workers, Farm Labor Organizing Committee and others have opened membership also. It seems highly significant that leadership in efforts to integrate undocumented workers and assure them equal rights comes from organizations whose membership hold jobs which have been most affected in the past by imported labor. They have been joined by United Auto Workers, United Electrical Workers, International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, United Mine Workers and National Maritime Union.

This support points to the necessity for developing procedures in all parts of the country to assure that every worker at least collects full wages, receives an accounting for all deductions, participates in fringe benefits and can join labor unions without jeopardizing his or her employment.

Making sure that there are no sub-marginal jobs in the U.S.A. would relieve a great deal of the pulling power presently exerted on Mexican workers by unscrupulous employers.

Amnesty. The five-year amnesty would create a class of uncertain and disadvantaged U.S. residents.

The legislation before this Committee provides that individuals will get work authorization when they register with I.N.S. but will be denied access to federal social services. Individuals would not be entitled to bring members of their families into the United States.

The president's message August 4, 1977, states that this proposal is primarily a means of gaining reliable data about undocumented aliens in the U.S. since the end of 1969 in order to decide what to do with them now.

Amnesty provisions are expected to induce undocumented aliens to come forward in large enough numbers so that INS can make an accurate estimate of how many are presently in the country illegally, together with additional data on employment, length of stay, etc.

Our experience in communities along the border and elsewhere indicates that this is not likely. Individuals who are not sure of their residence status or that of family members now tend to avoid contact with any kind of official. Under proposed regulations they would have to submit themselves voluntarily to investigation before knowing whether they are eligible and in most cases without understanding the rules. To a great many the risk would appear greater than the possible benefit.

The legislation also requires that those who might be eligible have to register within a year of the effective date of the law. This poses some hard questions for the individual.

Employers or labor contractors presently controlling their employment may well discourage individuals from registering. The wages and hours regulations are even now supposed to protect all workers regardless of citizenship. The process of registering might well call attention to violations by the employer or contractor.

Numerous sources indicate that a great many persons frequently cross from Mexico for short periods and return whether apprehended or not. In border twin-cities domestic servants are often regular commuters. Registering for amnesty might jeopardize a personally advantageous situation.

While temporary residence status would remove part of the burden of fear now suffered by undocumented aliens, serious disadvantages would remain. The duration of stay restriction and denial of access to federal assistance programs would leave open the likelihood of differential treatment in housing, employment, public education and health services. This in turn might well heighten tendencies to discriminate against all people of Mexican descent.

The *White House* release of 8/4/77 refers to strengthening enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the activities of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission. But it would appear that a new category of workers would add heavily not only to the volume of the work of those agencies but to its complexity.

The uncertainty as to what would happen in 5 years or less could weigh heavily on a family. Under current regulations one of the real difficulties in getting residence is proof that the family or individual will not become a "public charge".

"The HEW, Department of Labor, and Community Service Administration guidelines are sometimes used as the guide to check whether a person will get labor certification. By using these guidelines or ones which are similarly high, the I.N.S. can effectively discriminate against the regularization of status of an alien with a large family who is working at minimum wage. According to these guidelines a family of six would need an income of \$7,770, and a family of ten would need \$11,000 in the border County of Hidalgo in Texas. A man working at minimum wage full time would probably earn less than \$5,550 per year, making labor certification impossible for persons with large families. The Mexicanos applying for regularization of status tend to have large families; very few of them earn more than ten cents above the minimum wage." *AFSC staff report 3/78.*

Will this barrier to the poor remain?

Eliminating the Exploiters. It is good to see the provision in this legislation to concentrate criminal penalties on those who make a business of recruiting, transporting and delivering undocumented workers to places of employment; and on those who pay contractors for such services. This traffic has been a significant factor in maintaining the flow of illegal immigration into the United States. There are severe problems, however, in effectively stopping it.

"In recent years, the smugglers' fees for assisted border crossings have ranged from about \$150 to \$250 per alien. There are reports that since the Administration's policy was announced, their price in some areas has jumped to \$300 to \$400. Those who feel compelled to immigrate illegally will become more dependent on the professional smuggling operations, and they will be paying a higher price for their services.... Going to the U.S. will simply represent a greater financial sacrifice for them." *Wayne Cornelius report to Carnegie Foundation seminar.*

Cornelius points out also that to break up the smuggling rings will require enforcement operations in Mexico as well as the United States. This could prove to be a difficult and delicate task. (See also the Comptroller General's report.)

Dr Bustamante's studies based on personal experience as well as verified statistical data have led him to conclude: "The demand for manual labor by immigrants coming from Mexico bears a direct ratio to the degree of exploitability of the Mexican manual worker".

In other words, illegality and its attendant vulnerability increase demand for foreign workers.

Allegations are made that I.N.S. has used its present enforcement powers selectively. Their officers and the Border Patrol are accused of looking the other way when powerful growers and ranchers bring in undocumented workers. Conversely, charges of harboring and transporting aliens are claimed to have been used sometimes to harrass and intimidate defenders of civil rights and those who speak for social change in the borderlands.

INS IS ACCUSED OF RACIST POLICIES (*San Antonio Express, 8/1/76.*) This is a report on protest demonstrations against the arrests of Ignacio Perez and Mario Cantu for alleged violations. "It's always Chicanos and Mexicanos who are stopped and questioned about their papers"... "This is all part of an Anglo conspiracy of fear. They want to weaken and divide the Chicano movement." Both of the arrested men have been active in defending rights of Chicanos and Mexicans.

"A tearful Delia Gonzalez left the U.S. Courthouse Monday to return to Del Rio after a federal jury acquitted her of charges of encouraging Mexican nationals to enter the United States illegally... Her husband, Del Rio City Councilman Mike Gonzalez, said the verdict was a victory for truth and the law. Her husband, who was the target of an unsuccessful recall effort in 1977 said 'We have a lot of friends but we also have a lot of enemies. Our enemies are very vindictive'... Gonzalez said the couple's enemies have attacked them 'because we have always fought for equal protection under the constitution for all people'." *San Antonio Express, 2/14/78.*

Clearly, the traffic in human beings across the border and related abuses will not be entirely stopped until the practice is no longer profitable to recruiters and transporters or those who hire them. Meanwhile, it is important that the law be fairly administered.

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SUGGESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

Simple answers to the large problems have not presented themselves to us in the more than thirty years of our involvement, nor in the more recent times of intense public interest. We do not offer specific amendments or alternatives to the legislation you are considering.

What seems overwhelmingly important is that you come to know the human situations in all their proportions and aspects; and the interplay of economic and political forces -- national and international -- which affect and are affected by U.S. immigration policies and practices; and that you consider them in the action you take.

A carefully weighed decision in this matter, in our opinion, is more important than a speedy one.

There may well be temptation to seek quick answers to complex problems. One such could be a return to the notion of contract labor, as in the "bracero program" which operated from the early 40's into the 60's. The adverse effects of that program were widespread on both sides of the border and are evident still. The organization of U.S. farmworkers was set back at least 20 years. Essential elements of rural development in Mexico were neglected or delayed.

To assist you in the process of sound deliberation we suggest the following:

Hold regional hearings in the borderlands.

Invite qualified comment from Mexico as to the probable effects of the legislation in Mexico.

Consult other Congressional Committees concerned with employment security, overseas investment, and international cooperation.

Study the impact on immigration problems of the plans of the U.S. Southwest Border Regional Commission and the Mexican National Commission for the Development of the Border Areas and Free Zone.

The American Friends Service Committee and El Comite de Servicio de los Amigos appreciate this opportunity to share perspectives and comment growing out of our experience.

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