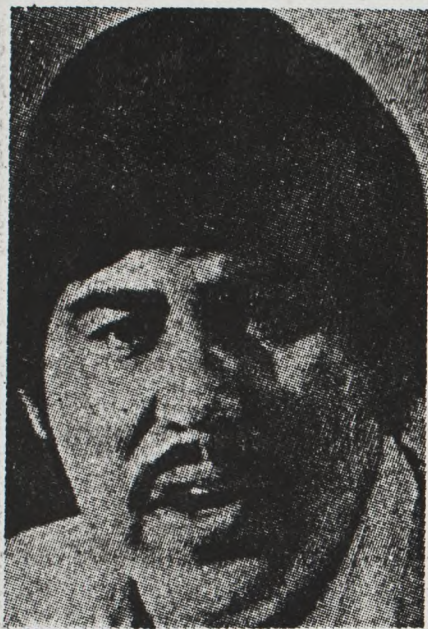


CCR INTERVIEW



HERMAN BACA
Chairperson

"WE ARE AGAINST THE FALSE PROMISE OF AMNESTY"

On August 4th the Carter Administration announced it's long awaited "Comprehensive Immigration Plan."

Reaction by the Chicano community and other Latino communities throughout the U.S. was that the proposed plan had nothing to offer and it should be politically defeated. Because of the numerous request for information by individuals and organizations, it was decided by the CCR membership that our Chairperson, Herman Baca, state our position on the proposals. (Editor)

WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE CARTER IMMIGRATION PLAN?

We feel that it is inhumane, unrealistic, unworkable and unenforceable. In essence a reaction instead of an action. A sham and a shame.

THE LOCAL SAN DIEGO NEWS MEDIA REPORTED ON YOUR MAY TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C. -DOESN'T THE CARTER PROPOSAL CONTAIN SOME OF THE VERY SAME RECOMMENDATIONS YOU MADE IN THE CAPITAL WHEN YOU MET INS COMMISSIONER LEONEL CASTILLO AND ATTORNEY GENERAL BELL?

No. Not in any form that we recognize. What we were recommending then and what they are talking about now are totally different things. We reject and denounce the Carter Plan totally.

BUT, HOW CAN YOU BE AGAINST AMNESTY?

We are not against amnesty, In fact we were one of the first organizations to propose it in the early 70's. What we are against is a false promise of amnesty. It is the Carter Administration which is against total amnesty.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN THE AMNESTY IS A "FALSE PROMISE"?

The Carter proposal does not talk about "amnesty." It outlines an "adjustment of status" for undocumented persons who entered the country before 1970. Such adjustment is not anything new--it already exists in the form on INS statute 8 USC 1254. This statute provides that an alien with seven years of continuous residency and equity (job, property, family, etc) can petition for permanent resident status. Very few will benefit for two reasons. First a 1976 Department of Labor Study found that few of the undocumented apprehended by the Border Patrol or INS have been in the country for longer than two years. Therefore, the vast majority of the undocumented will be unaffected. Second, right now the INS' incompetence and racism has resulted in a seven year waiting period. It will take years before anyone will benefit.

IN REGARDS TO THE EMPLOYER SANCTIONS PROPOSAL--HOW CAN THE CCR OPPOSE PUNISHING EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE AND EXPLOIT UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS?

That's easy. The proposal is

phony as a three dollar bill. We don't oppose punishing employers, we oppose punishing our people. The result of the proposal would be that punishment by discrimination at the hands of employers who will simply refuse to hire any person of Mexican or Latin ancestry. If Carter and Castillo were sincere about penalizing employers they would enforce all existing laws designed to protect workers, laws dealing with wages, health and safety, social security, etc. What Carter is proposing is at best nothing but a slap on the hand of big business.

IF YOU DON'T STOP THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION BY CUTTING OFF THE SOURCE OF JOBS THEN ISN'T THE ONLY RECOURSE TO INCREASE THE BORDER PATROL?

Isn't that rather simplistic. Everyone agrees that the immigration problem is caused by social, economic and political factors. The solution is not to be found in law enforcement. On top of this the Border Patrol has worked with business interests.

AREN'T THE UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN WHO WILL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THE U.S. FOR 5 YEARS RECEIVING A KIND OF AMNESTY?

No! We feel that the cruelest and most contradictory part of the Carter plan is the creation of a "temporary resident alien" status. Individuals who entered the United States between 1970 and 1976 will be allowed to remain and work and required to pay taxes. They will not be allowed to receive the social services they have paid for. They will have no vote and no political voice. This is "taxation without representation." The unhumaneness of this proposal is that it forbids the "temporary resident alien" to be reunited with their families while within the U.S. borders. After five years they will be subject to deportation.

WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT OF CARTER'S ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS PROPOSALS?

The result will be the creation of a captive labor force that will work hard, cheap and scared. It is our feeling that the real motive behind the so-called amnesty program is to entice people without proper documentation to step forward in order that they can be targeted for later deportation proceedings. When these workers are no longer profitable they will be discarded with

minimum effort by the INS.

YOU ATTACKED THE PRESIDIO ACTION AS A RETURN TO A BRACERO PROGRAM. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION DENIES ANY PLANS FOR SUCH A PROGRAM. ISN'T THAT AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC FACTOR?

This raises more questions than answers. We can't even resolve the unemployment problem in this country let alone other countries. The Carter proposal suggest MILLIONS of dollars in foreign aid to these countries to improve their economy, but nothing is mentioned of the BILLIONS of profit monies the Multi-National Corporations are taking out of these same countries.

WHAT ABOUT THE IMMIGRATION POLICY CHANGES BEING PROPOSED?

It has very little to offer in substance. It appears that instead of performing the major surgery which is needed the proposal is applying a band-aid.

WHAT DOES THE CCR PROPOSE?

The CCR proposes the following:

- 1.) A workable and humane amnesty program, with emphasis on family reunification.
- 2.) National Hearings to formulate a just humane immigration policy.
- 3.) An executive order stopping all deportations until Congress has developed through National hearings a comprehensive realistic immigration policy and;

we propose that the Chicano Community organize itself to defeat this dangerous proposal.

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pie que vivir
de rodillas
Zapata**

WHY SHOULD THE CHICANO COMMUNITY BE CONCERNED?

