



CCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

orig

To:

Nov. 24, 1979

From: CCR

Estimados Amigos Y Amigas,

Enclosed for your information is a press release and mail-gram to Senator Kennedy concerning his visit to San Diego Ca. Also enclosed are various news articles outlining reported political positions on the immigration issue that have been taken by Chicano organizations and Chicano leaders on the upcoming 1980 presidential election. It is our hope that because of the serious impact that the immigration issue is having on the human rights of the undocumented worker and, the civil and constitutional rights of the Chicano/Latino community that we can demand from presidential candidates accountability, and what their positions and proposed solutions are on this issue. We believe that this is the minimum that all Chicano/Latino organizations should request from those candidates who will once again come into our communities seeking our peoples vote.

For any further information feel free to call us.

GRACIAS,

Herman Baca
Chairman



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

Nov. 26, 1979

San Diego Ca.

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

The Committee on Chicano Rights, a San Diego Ca. based organization announced today that it has requested a meeting with Senator Edward Kennedy (see attached mailgram) when he visits San Diego on Nov. 30, 1979 in order to ascertain the Senators position on the following issues;

1. The disposition of the 150 page documented packet which was personally presented to the Senator in Washington D.C. on July 23, 1979. The packet included the denial of human, civil and constitutional rights, and border violence which involve killings, shootings, beatings and sexual assaults against Mexican Nationals and U.S. citizens of Mexican and Latin ancestry, by agents of the I.N.S./Border Patrol.
2. The illegal and unconstitutional I.N.S. sweeps that are victimizing Chicano communities in Ca., especially in Los Angeles and the San Bernardino areas.
3. The failure of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which the Senator is chairperson, to call for congressional hearings to investigate the above and to resolve the Immigration issue.

According to Herman Baca, the spokesperson of the CCR, "The Senators' visit to San Diego, the "hot spot" of the immigration issue, will provide him with a prime opportunity to familiarize his presidential candidacy with the most pressing issue confronting the 20 million persons of Mexican and Latin ancestry in the U.S.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

To:

Nov. 24, 1979

From: CCR

Estimados Amigos Y Amigas,

Enclosed for your information is a press release and mailgram to Senator Kennedy concerning his visit to San Diego Ca. Also enclosed are various news articles outlining reported political positions on the immigration issue that have been taken by Chicano organizations and Chicano leaders on the upcoming 1980 presidential election. It is our hope that because of the serious impact that the immigration issue is having on the human rights of the undocumented worker and, the civil and constitutional rights of the Chicano/Latino community that we can demand from presidential candidates accountability, and what their positions and proposed solutions are on this issue. We believe that this is the minimum that all Chicano/Latino organizations should request from those candidates who will once again come into our communities seeking our peoples vote.

For any further information feel free to call us.

GRACIAS,

Herman Baca
Chairman

Crossing the border

I FIRST MET THE MAN I'll call Rinaldo a little more than a year ago, just before he was deported for the second time. Rinaldo had been pulled over by the Los Angeles police for a run-of-the-mill traffic violation. He'd been hauled in when the arresting officers learned his car had several dozen unpaid parking tickets on it. And once he was at police headquarters, downtown, it didn't take long to establish that Rinaldo was an illegal "alien." From there it was 24 hours in the L.A. city slammer, followed by another 48 or 72 in a work camp in the nearby Santa Clarita Valley, then a bus ride back to Mexico.

And all because Rinaldo was so irresponsible about his driving and his parking tickets. It was ironic, because otherwise Rinaldo didn't have an irresponsible

bone in his body. He originally came north to the United States from his father's poor farm in northern Mexico, because he wanted to do better for himself in life than live in the desert and eat cactus. The farm was big enough to support Rinaldo's father and his younger brother Pancho. But it wasn't big enough to support him too. And unemployment in Mexican cities averages 50 percent of the work force.

So Rinaldo came north and worked where he could, doing whatever work was wanted, mostly working as a carpenter for small building contractors. He made enough to rent an apartment for himself and his wife Luisa, enough to bring his father and brother up from Mexico each winter for three years running, and enough to buy a car. The problems began when he began driving the car.

The first time he was deported, Rinaldo got back by paying \$250 to a guide who makes his living leading il-

legal aliens into the United States through the mountains of Southern California. They have to go without food for three days, and they get pretty dirty, but they don't have any trouble from the border patrol. The terrain's too rough.

The second time he was deported, Rinaldo got back the same way, by paying the guide another \$250. When you think about the improvement living in this country has meant in Rinaldo's life, it's not difficult to understand why he keeps coming back, even at so high a price.

The most reliable current estimates are that more than seven and a half million—probably around ten million—Latin Americans like Rinaldo are now living illegally in the United States. Contrary to popular myth, they pay more in taxes every year than they collect in services from government at all levels, and they work primarily at jobs American citizens refuse to consider: washing cars, cleaning schools and office buildings, washing dishes, keeping other people's houses. Every American taxpayer could save himself a goodly chunk of money and enjoy an improvement in his standard of living if the Immigration and Naturalization Service were abolished tomorrow, and the borders were opened to anyone who wanted to make his home in this country.

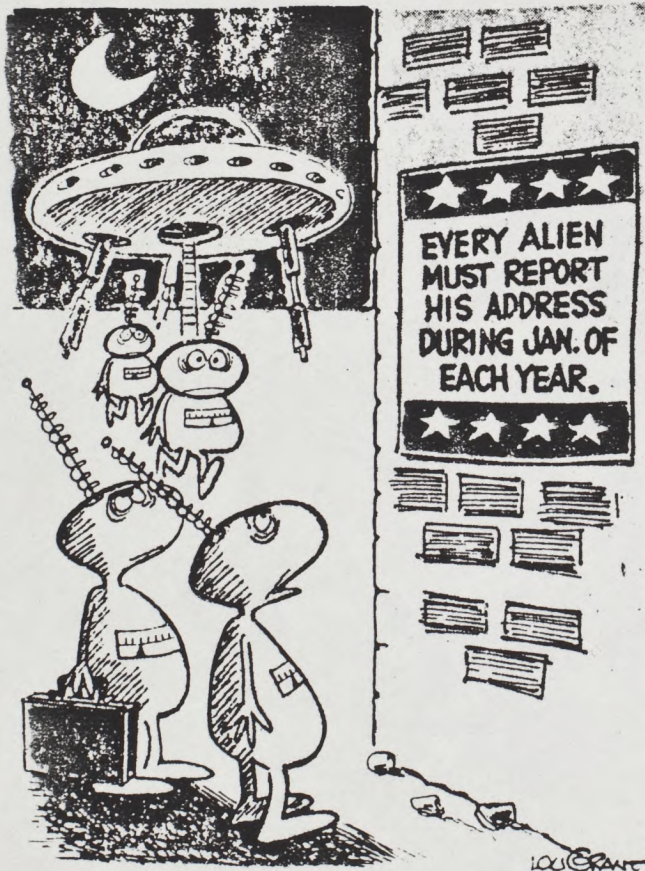
Yet the spending goes on. And the spenders have been meeting with scant argument in recent months when they've proposed that the flow of money be increased. Early in December, INS Commissioner Leonel Castillo asked Congress for new legislation imposing penalties on employers who knowingly hire illegals—and it's a rare thing indeed when new penalties don't create a need for new enforcers and new bureaucratic departments and new equipment and new salaries and new

payrolls and new budgets. More directly to the point was Castillo's proposal a few days later that the INS dispose of two or three million dollars by constructing a couple of six-mile fences along the border, each fence to be 12 feet high on a concrete foundation sunk two feet into the ground to discourage tunnelling. Climbers would be discouraged by a chain link section designed to sway, and by razor-sharp points along the fence's top.

And Castillo isn't the only politician asking for more money to close off immigration from the south. The report of the House Select Committee on Population, released just before Christmas, recommends that the U.S. launch a program of "major economic aid" to Mexico, "to reduce the economic disparity" between the two countries. The panel sees this "disparity" as "a major reason Mexicans come here,"—and so proposes, in effect, to keep them out by having the wealth they're coming after delivered to them before they leave to come after it.

Chances are now good, of course, that the Mexican economy will perk up without such aid, because of the newly discovered oil reserves which may make Mexico a bigger—and richer—oil producer than Saudi Arabia by the 1980s. A Mexican oil boom could make a dramatic dent in the Mexican unemployment problem and make it just as attractive for Mexicans to stay at home as to come to the U.S. Now, they can earn ten times what they can earn at home, by coming to the U.S. and accepting even "menial" jobs.

But even if the oil boom comes sooner than expected, before our "representatives" in Washington can vote to bribe the Mexicans to stay in their own country, it will remain significant that such a ludicrous idea was proposed with no apparent ironic or satirical intent. What the



proposal signifies is nothing less than the real motive behind the move to close down the border—and, for that matter, the reason behind the use of the absurd word “alien” to describe any Spanish speaking North American who has travelled north of the Rio Grande river or the city of Tijuana. That motive is not economic, despite the so-often-repeated arguments about how the evil illegals take jobs and welfare payments from hardworking U.S. citizens. If money *were* the motive for trying to keep the illegals out, there would surely be a groundswell of angry reaction to any proposal that would *pay* them to stay out! No: the illegals are unwanted, and are thought of and treated as “aliens” because, with their dark skins, their definite, well-established culture, and their “foreign” language, they greatly excite the ever-primed-and-ready American capacity for ethnic bigotry. They are hated and feared because they are different.

Yet, ironically enough, they are not aliens in any realistic sense of that word, and their language and culture are not foreign. They and their ancestors have been living and working and travelling in Northern Mexico and the Southwestern United States for centuries. Until the U.S. annexed from Mexico—by conquest—the area we now know as West Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California, it was all one country. As Carey McWilliams puts it in a recent essay in *Politics Today*,

There are no geographic barriers between the United States and Mexico; the land is all of a piece, the border a line on a map. In an arid environment, a river that is as easily forded at certain seasons and places as the Rio Grande is doesn't separate peoples; it draws them together. From Brownsville to El Paso, the twin cities and towns along the river are often linked by one or more bridges. Westward

from El Paso to San Diego, similar twin cities and towns have grown together . . . the Border Patrol did not even exist until 1924. Over the years, generations of the Spanish-speaking—the total would run into the millions—have moved back and forth across the border with little rigamarole or interference.

According to the last census, 24 percent of the people of Los Angeles—this country's third largest city—were Hispanic. It is projected that the next census will raise that proportion to 33 percent. Among the hundreds of thousands of people represented by these statistics are thousands who have lived in Los Angeles since birth, speaking Spanish daily, listening to Spanish radio stations, watching Spanish TV stations, reading Spanish-language newspapers, prac-

ticing the culture their ancestors have practiced in the same city, in the same country, for generations. Are these people speaking a “foreign” language, practicing a “foreign” culture? When they are visited by their cousins who live a hundred miles away, are they being visited by “aliens”?

A few months after my friend Rinaldo came back from his second deportation, he got pulled over for suspicion of drunken driving and got deported again. This time when he sneaked back in, the guide decided not to charge him for the trip through the mountains. Apparently he figured enough was enough. We here at Libertarian Review wonder when the American people are going to decide the same thing.

—JR



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

1979

San Diego Ca.

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

The Committee on Chicano Rights, a San Diego Ca. based organization announced today that it has requested a meeting with Senator Edward Kennedy (see attached mailgram) when he visits San Diego on Nov. 30, 1979 in order to ascertain the Senators position on the following issues;

1. The disposition of the 150 page documented packet which was personally presented to the Senator in Washington D.C. on July 23, 1979. The packet included the denial of human, civil and constitutional rights, and border violence which involve killings, shootings, beatings and sexual assaults against Mexican Nationals and U.S. citizens of Mexican and Latin ancestry, by agents of the I.N.S./Border Patrol.
2. The illegal and unconstitutional I.N.S. sweeps that are victimizing Chicano communities in Ca., especially in Los Angeles and the San Bernardino areas.
3. The failure of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which the Senator is chairperson, to call for congressional hearings to investigate the above and to resolve the Immigration issue.

According to Herman Baca, the spokesperson of the CCR, "The Senators' visit to San Diego, the "hot spot" of the immigration issue, will provide him with a prime opportunity to familiarize his presidential candidacy with the most pressing issue confronting the 20 million persons of Mexican and Latin ancestry in the U.S.

THE CCR TODAY IN SAN DIEGO, CA, ACCUSED SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY OF "RUNNING AWAY" FROM THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE, ~~BY REFUSING TO MEET WITH VARIOUS CHICANO LEADERS IN SAN DIEGO.~~ ^{Local}

THE CCR AND ~~VARIOUS~~ ^{Local OTHER} CHICANO ORGANIZATIONS TWO WEEKS AGO SENT A TELEGRAM TO SENATOR KENNEDY REQUESTING ~~TO MEET WITH THE GROUPS~~ ^{that he} TO DISCUSS VARIOUS IMMIGRATION ISSUES SUCH AS THE VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS AGAINST PERSONS OF MEXICAN ANCESTRY BY AGENTS OF THE BORDER PATROL AND IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, AND THE ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE ALONG THE U.S./ MEXICAN BORDER.

~~THE~~ CHICANO ^{Organizations} COMMUNITY IN SAN DIEGO ^{have} ~~HAS~~ LABORED FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS TO BRING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE IMMIGRATION ^{issue} ~~PROBLEM.~~

SENATOR KENNEDY'S REFUSAL TO MEET WITH THE VARIOUS CHICANO ORGANIZATIONS HAS ANGERED THE CHICANO ^{Org.} COMMUNITY AND ^{has} RAISED ^d SOME SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS SINCERITY AND ^{his} DECISIVENESS TO ~~RESOLVE ISSUES~~ AND PROBLEMS EFFECTING THE CHICANO COMMUNITY.

ACCORDING TO CCR CHAIRMAN ~~ROSE~~ HERMAN BACA, " THE FAILURE OF SENATOR KENNEDY TO MEET AND DISCUSS THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE (immigration) CONFRONTING THE TWENTY MILLION CHICANO/LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES IS A "BLACK EYE" TO HIS CAMPAIGN AND A SETBACK IN HIS EFFORT TO WIN VOTES HERE IN SAN DIEGO AND THROUGHOUT THE ^{U.S.} STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

IT IS ^{Ironical} UNCOMPREHENSIBLE THAT THE SENATOR WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMMIGRATION POLICY OF THIS COUNTRY, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, WHICH IS STUDYING AND EVALUATING EXISTING IMMIGRATION LAWS AND PROCEDURE, AND ^{who} IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THIS COUNTRY ~~COUNTRY~~ COULD POSSIBLY VISIT SAN DIEGO, THE "HOT SPOT" OF THE

^{immigration issue and con}

OF THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE AND NOT CONFRONT THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE,
^{This but} IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE SENATOR "RUNNING AWAY" FROM DIFFICULT
ISSUES WHICH HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR.

~~THE SENATOR~~ SINCE JULY 23, 1979, WHEN THE CCR ALONG WITH OTHER
CHICANO GROUPS FROM SAN DIEGO MET WITH ^{S.H.} HIM AND HIS STAFF ^{to} REQUESTING
CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE, ^{The Senator has cost} ~~HAS~~ CHOSEN TO IGNORE
ANY ACTION ON THIS SERIOUS ISSUE. THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO
RIGHTS IS PUBLICLY CHALLENGING THE SENATOR TO STATE HIS POSITIONS
ON THE FOLLOWING :

- (1) Congressional hearings to end the violations of rights by BOrder Patrol/INS.
- (2) the immigration policy of militarizing of the U.S./Mexico Border.
- (3) Congressional hearings for a new Immigration policy.
- (4) H-2 Bracero Program
- (5) Employer Sanctions
- (6) INS "Sweeps" in Chicano/Latino community, especially in Los Angeles, San Bernardino.
- (7) Construction of the "Carter Curtain".
- (8) Abolishment of Inland bordercheck points.
- (9)

4-000986S323002 11/19/79 ICS IPMRNCZ CSP SDGA
1 7144748195 MGM TDRN NATIONAL CITY CA 11-19 0214A EST

COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS HB
1837 HIGHLAND AVE
NATIONAL CITY CA 92050

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

7144748195 MGM TDRN NATIONAL CITY CA 531 11-19 0214A EST
ZIP
SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY
SENATE OFFICE BLDGS
WASHINGTON DC 20510

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU WILL BE VISITING SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 30TH 1979 FOR A SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT THE LA JOLLA CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. YOUR APPEARANCE IN SAN DIEGO PRESENTS A PRIME OPPORTUNITY FOR A MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS AND OTHER CHICANO POLITICAL LEADERS WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR A JUST AND HUMANE IMMIGRATION POLICY. YOU MAY RECALL SENATOR KENNEDY THAT WE ALONG WITH A GROUP OF CHICANO LEADERS FROM SAN DIEGO VISITED YOUR OFFICES ON JULY 23RD 1979 IN WASHINGTON DC AND AT THAT TIME WE PRESENTED TO YOU PERSONALLY AND TO YOUR STAFF A 150 PAGE DOCUMENTED PACKET OF 25 CASES OF DENIALS OF HUMAN, CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, AND BORDER VIOLENCE WHICH INVOLVED KILLINGS, SHOOTINGS, BEATINGS AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AGAINST MEXICAN NATIONALS, AND US CITIZENS OF MEXICAN AND LATIN ANCESTRY BY AGENTS OF THE INS/BORDER PATROL. AT THAT TIME IT WAS INDICATED BY US THAT THESE WERE BUT A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE BRUTALITY AND VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS THAT WERE BEING CARRIED OUT AGAINST THE CHICANO/LATINO COMMUNITIES BY AGENTS OF INS/BORDER PATROL. OUR UNDERSTANDING OF JULY 23RD MEETING WAS THAT YOU AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WOULD INVESTIGATE THE DOCUMENTED CHARGES WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO YOU AND THE OVER ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE INS/BORDER PATROL THROUGH CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS. SAID HEARING WERE TO HAVE BEEN HELD HERE IN THE SAN YSIDRO/TIJUANA BORDER AREA AND OTHERS EFFECTED BORDER AREAS NATIONALLY. OUR INFORMATION TO THIS DATE INDICATES THAT YOUR OFFICE HAS NOT RESPONDED AND THAT NO SUBSTANTIVE ACTION HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN ON THIS MATTER. THIS GRAVELY CONCERNS US BECAUSE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS OUR ORGANIZATION HAS MADE EVERY SINCERE EFFORT TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS THE

INTOLERABLE IMMIGRATION CONDITIONS WHICH PLAGUE OUR PEOPLE ALL ALONG THE BORDER AND IN ALL AREAS WHERE THE CHICANOS AND LATINOS RESIDE. THE UNDOCUMENTED WORKER ISSUE AND THE CONSTANT ABRIDGEMENT OF OUR PEOPLES CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS BY AGENTS OF THE INS/BORDER PATROL IS THE MOST PRESSING ISSUE CONFRONTING THE MORE THAN 20 MILLION CHICANOS AND LATINOS IN THE US. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS IS REQUESTING AN URGENT MEETING WITH YOU AND YOUR ATTENDING STAFF ON NOVEMBER 30TH 1979 IN ORDER THAT THIS MATTER MAY BE DISCUSSED WITH YOU. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WHICH YOU CHAIR AND YOUR CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT BE INFORMED OF THIS ISSUE. FURTHERMORE, IF THE MEETING IS FINALIZED WE WOULD WISH TO TAKE THAT OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A PROTEST AND AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT ILLEGAL AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL INS SWEEPS WHICH ARE VICTIMIZING CHICANO COMMUNITIES HERE IN CALIFORNIA ESPECIALLY IN THE LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO AREAS. THE TIME OF THE MEETING IS AT YOUR DISCRETION. WE SUGGEST AN HOUR OF YOUR TIME AS MINIMAL ON THIS VERY PRESSING MATTER. PLEASE HAVE A MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF CONTACT MR RALPH INZUNZA AT 474-8195 FOR COORDINATION ON THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY
HERMAN BACA, CHAIRMAN<THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS
1837 HIGHLAND AVE
NATIONAL CITY CA 92050

0221 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

5241 (R1/78)