

Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Inc

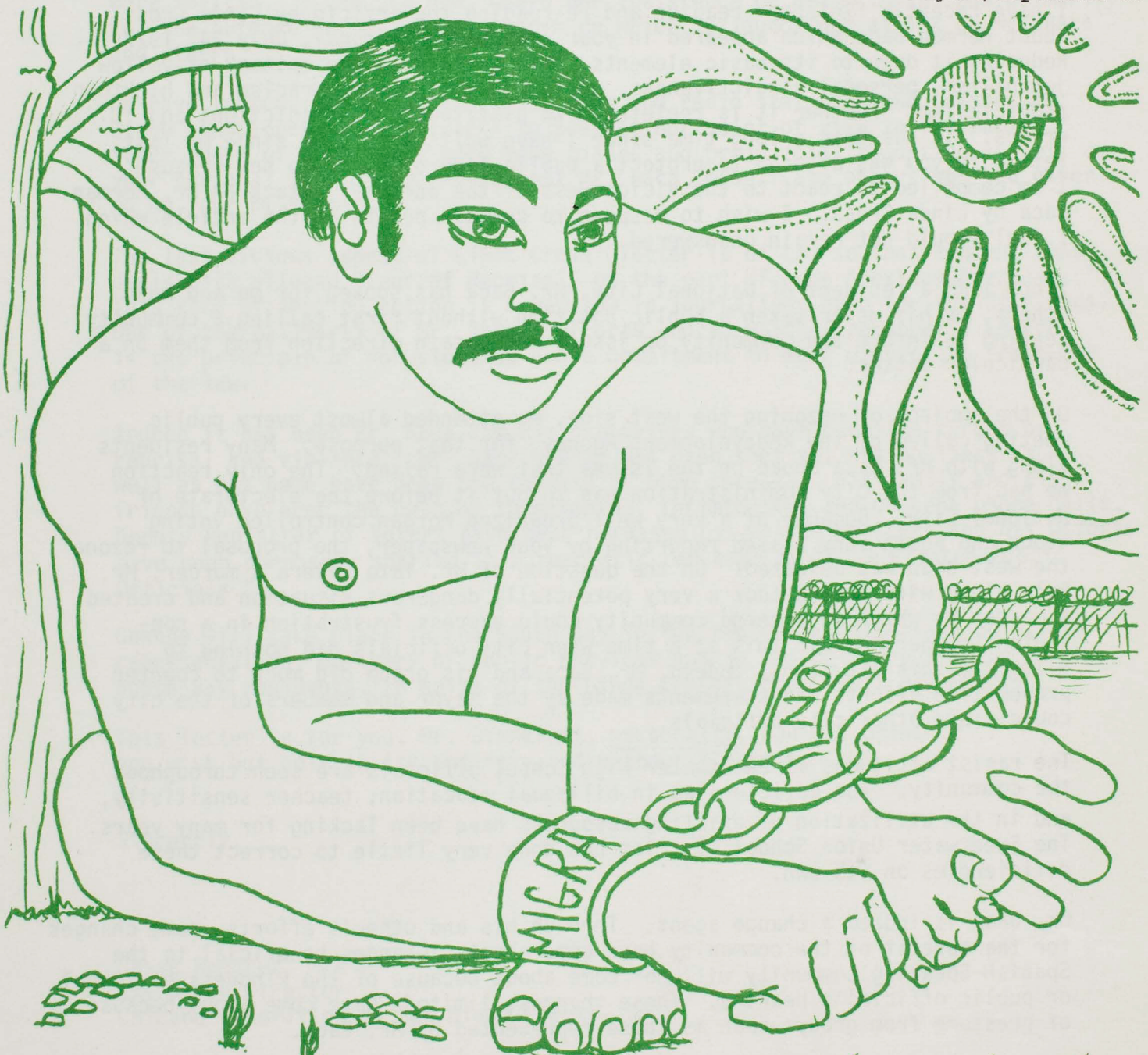


# Newsletter

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Volume VII No. 7

August/September-1977



*por Tomás Castañeda Coyote*



(Editor's Note: This letter was sent to Lowell Blankfort - Star News in Chula Vista. To this date, there has been no reply nor has it been printed in the Star News.)

Mr. Lowell Blankfort  
Star News - Chula Vista  
835 Third Avenue  
Chula Vista, California 92011

Dear Mr. Blankfort,

I have recently finished reading and re-reading the article by Linda Cross about Herman Baca which appeared in your newspaper, Thursday, July 24, 1977. Reducing it down to its basic elements, this article is the epitomy of yellow journalism, personal vindictiveness, professional jealousy, racism and hicktown provincialism: Further it is repleted with platitudes; contradictions and errors. It has been a long time since I have written to you; since my last letter to you was altered to protect a public figure. I do so now because I am compelled to react to the viciousness of the personal attack on Mr. Herman Baca by Linda Cross. I wish to respond to certain points in the article which I feel should not remain unanswered.

Since I am a resident of National City, Mr. Baca has spoken for me and many others, he has never taken a public position without first calling a community meeting to inform the community on issues and obtain direction from them on a particular matter.

On the subject of rezoning the west side, we attended almost every public meeting called by the Redevelopment Agency, for that purpose. Many residents along with Mr. Baca spoke on the issues that were raised. The only reaction we had from the City Administration was to put it before the electorate of National City. Because of a very well organized Morgan controlled voting block and again very biased reporting by your newspaper, the proposal to rezone the west side was defeated. On the question of Mr. Tato Rivera's murder; Mr. Baca along with others took a very potentially dangerous situation and created a manner by which an angered community could express frustration in a non-violent manner, he did this at a time when city officials did nothing to alleviate this situation; indeed, Mr. Baca and his group did much to counter provocative efforts and statements made by the mayor and members of the city council and other city officials.

The racist attitudes of Sweetwater High School officials are seen throughout the community. The deficiencies in bilingual education; teacher sensitivity, and in the utilization of existing resources have been lacking for many years. The Sweetwater Union School District has done very little to correct these deficiencies on its own.

Mr. Baca is indeed a change agent. Through his and other's efforts, some changes for the benefit of the community have come about. Changes beneficial to the Spanish Speaking community will not come about because of the kindness of school or public official's heart's. These changes, limited, have come about because of pressure from groups such as those represented by Mr. Baca.

*Continued on page 3.*

*Continued from page 2.*

I see Linda Cross' article as a reprisal against Mr. Baca because she could not mold him into the image that she had created for him. The audacity of Linda Cross' assumption is that the South Bay is her exclusive journalistic domain and that all others, out of towners, are somehow trespassers; it is vindictive and a sophomoric view of the world of journalism, and somehow transcends the concept of constitutional guarantees of a free press. Ms. Cross apparently is still wearing her hicktown blinders which prevent her from seeing that San Diego is to the east and south of National City as well as to the north. Further, that a source of news is a source of news, whether it be in National City or in any part of the county. As for the "Circus", Mr. Baca staged, I can't see how Ms. Cross could project herself as a casual, detached observer, since she was the only one who begged Mr. Baca for permission to be there, while the rest were invited. I can see now, where her insistence on being there, was primarily for the purpose of having a platform on which to launch her attack on Mr. Baca and others.

We have indeed, turned to the television and radio stations, and to the San Diego newspapers in our efforts to present our point of view to the public. After years of experience with your biased and prejudicial reporting as well as your personal vindictiveness against Mr. Baca, myself and others who had given up on your newspaper.

The last vicious aspect of Linda Cross' letter is of course that segment that deals with alleged "Fear of Reprisal" on the part of some "Mexican-Americans." This kind of implied action is a new low in journalism, even for the Star News. One of the hallmarks of Mr. Baca's efforts and to which I personally adhere, is the principle of non-violence and a commitment to work within the framework of the law.

Indeed it has been Mr. Baca and his supporters who have been the target of reprisal and violence. Mr. Baca's home has been shot at; his business as well as his home have been the targets of bomb threats. His family and his friends have been the butt of threatening, intimidating and obscene phone calls. Deputy Registrar of Voters have been harassed by police officers and his efforts have been purposely snarled in bureacratic red tape by "Duly Elected Public Officials."

Change will take place in the South Bay in the fields of education, political representation, delivery of public services and in the delivery of news to the South Bay residents, in spite of the Linda Crosses and Lowell Blankforts

This letter is for you, Mr. Blankfort, personally, you may print it if you wish but only in its entirety and without alteration.

Sincerely,

Jesse Ramirez, MPA  
Executive Director  
Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Inc.,

"... el Presidente Carter,  
por ésta accion está cre-  
ando in incontolable  
'monsturo Frankenstein'..."



INMIGRACION...  
HERMAN BACA Y JESSE RAMIREZ  
CRITICAN EL PLAN DEL  
PRESIDENTE CARTER

Nosotros como representantes del Comité sobre los Derechos Chicanos, y la Federación Chicana, expresamos nuestra opinión de que la solución ofrecida por el Presidente Carter, llamado "Solución comprensiva de los Extranjeros" es en su mayor parte inhumana, privada de realismo, e imposible de ejecutarla y ponerla en vigor. Opinamos que el Presidente Carter, por ésta acción está creando un incontrollable "monstruo Frankenstein" con su desesperada tentativa de reponer a la histeria de las masas, creadas por el Comisionado anterior y ciertos otros grupos investidos.

Creemos que lo que propone el Presidente Carter es solo una tentativa muy débil lanzada en la oscuridad para una solución, porque hasta la fecha no hay evidencia impugnable sobre la cantidad de "extranjeros ilegales", el número de empleos que se suponen son adquiridos por dichos "ilegales" privando de estos empleos a los ciudadanos de EE. UU., ni de la cantidad de dinero utilizado para los servicios sociales a los "extranjeros ilegales". La "amnestia" propuesta antes de 1970, en nuestra opinión, es realmente nada más que una "farsa" por las siguientes razones:

- 1.) Hay una ley existente que especifica que un extranjero con siete años de residencia continua, y la equidad correspondiente, puede solicitar su clasificación como "residente legal permanente".
- 2) El Estudio Lytton de 1976 comprobó que muy pocas de las personas aprehendidas por el Servicio de Inmigración habían estado en el país más de dos años. Así es que el llamado "programa de amnestia" afectaría solamente a un pequeño porcentaje de trabajadores sin documentación ("ilegales").
- 3.) La burocracia insolvente "Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización" (INS) tiene una cola de espera a quien servir, debido a su incompetencia, y su actitud racista. No hay razón para creer de que el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS) pueda cargar con este trabajo adicional, que la proposición causaría.
- 4.) Debido a las razones mencionadas más arriba, creemos que el motivo real tras la "amnestia" es para seducir a los "ilegales" a presentarse para ser identificados, para ser sometidos a los procedimientos de deportación más tarde.

*Se Continura en pagina 8.*

SWEETWATER DISTRICT LAWSUIT

By:

Mike Castro, Comm. on Chicano Rights

A Coalition of Chicano and Black organizations will be filing a lawsuit against the Sweetwater Union High School District in either Federal or State Court.

The Coalition consists of the Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc., United California Mexican-American Political Association, N.I.A., Black Federation, Chicano Federation, Spanish Speaking Political Association, G.I. Forum, MECHA San Diego State University, Chicano Park Steering Committee, La Raza Lawyers Association, Pinto Union of San Diego, IMAGE, Chicano Democratic Caucus, CASA Justicia, and the Legal Aide Society of San Diego.

This action came about due to the recent meetings with school officials and Palmer Jackson, a representative from the Office of Civil Rights. The meetings stemmed from charges that the school district is failing to provide adequate educational opportunities for Black and Chicano students.

The present minority student population is quickly approaching 50% (12,109), yet the school district employs only 102 minority teachers out of 1,018.

The initial meeting with the District Superintendent Earl Denton proved fruitless in that by his own admission, "I had to deal with questions in the abstract and could not give concrete solutions."

During the meeting such things were discussed as desegregation, bilingual education, affirmative action, and the removal of a Cinco de Mayo display by Sweetwater High School Principal William Darton.

A meeting was also requested with Jackson when it was learned that the Office of Civil Rights would be investigating the school district. This meeting also proved fruitless as it was discovered the Civil Rights office would not be conducting a full-fledged investigation but rather an investigation to determine if the district is deliberately segregating students racially and ethnically. Jackson said he could not give out any information on concerning the investigation. Jackson's reply was

"I'm not your investigator". He suggested to the coalition and organizations that they obtain information by way of the freedom of Information Act.

Among charges of failure to implement a workable affirmative action plan, violation of students consitutional rights including equal protection and due process, inadequate assessment process for identifying non or limited-English speaking national-origin minority students, the district is also accused of deliberately failing to apply for Emergency School Assistance Act Funds (ESAA) which provide bilingual and special counseling programs to assist students relocated as part of a desegregation effort.

This resulted in the loss of \$600,000 for the school district and consequently a better quality of education for minority students.

CHICANO FEDERATION NEWSLETTER STAFF:



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*The Newsletter is a Revenue Sharing funded project. The opinions expressed within are those of the individual writers and agencies as indicated.*

# LOS DE EDAD DORADA (de OTAY) ¡ABREN SUS PUERTAS!

## OTAY SENIOR CITIZENS "OPEN THEIR DOORS"

The Otay Senior Citizens opened their center August 4 with an appreciation luncheon and ceremony.

Approximately 200 Senior Citizens and friends were present on a warm, sunny afternoon to enjoy the music of Los Alacranes Mojados.

"It went great," said Maria Elena Quintero, Director of the Center. "We had visitors from the County and the Seniors were very happy."

The live music by Los Alacranes brought the Senior Citizens to their feet and Mrs. Quintero said they "loved the music."

Over-all, Mrs. Quintero said the event was a success and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

The Senior Citizens Center, located on 3278 Main St., Chula Vista provides many services to the elderly, according to Mrs. Quintero.

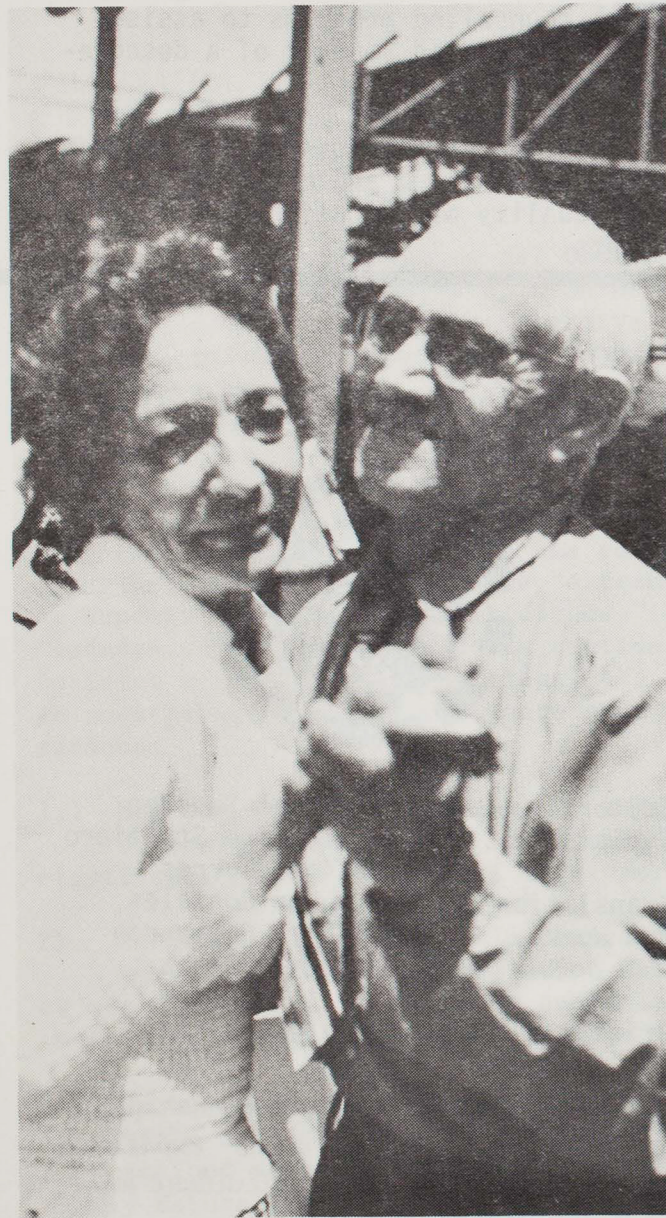
Besides the recreational activities such as ceramics, arts and crafts and bingo, the Center helps Seniors with counseling (family, marriage, financial problems), informational and referral services and legal assistance.

The Center holds English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and offers interpreters and translation services to them.

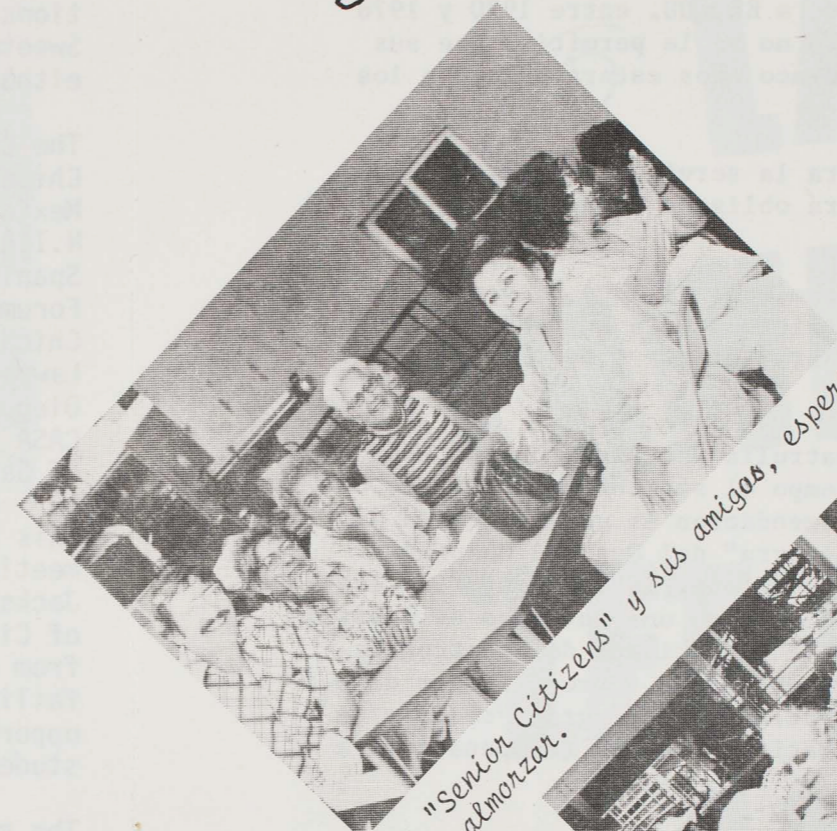
Mrs. Quintero says that Seniors from the Center visit other Seniors who stay in convalescent homes and hospitals.

"One of the most important services we offer is the informational session, where Seniors can ask questions about social security, welfare or legal aid," she said.

The Center's most recent accomplishment was the purchase of a 1977 Dodge Van thru the County under the Chicano Federation Revenue Sharing Funds. The 15 passenger, air-conditioned, C.B. radio equipped van will be used for escort and transportation purposes.



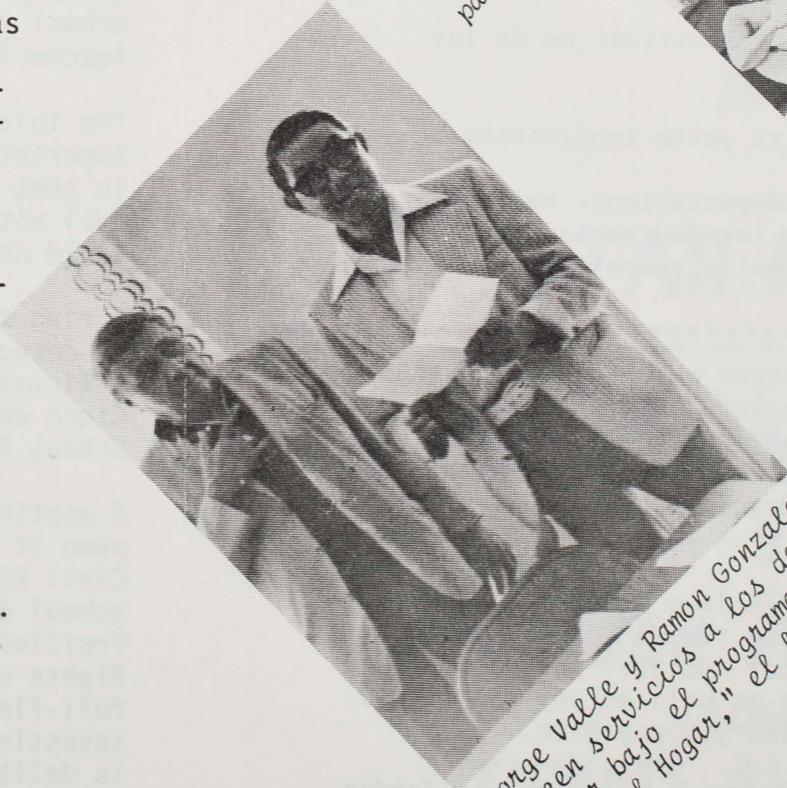
LOS DE LA EDAD DORADA DE OTAY, NO SE SIENTEN TAN VIEJOS!



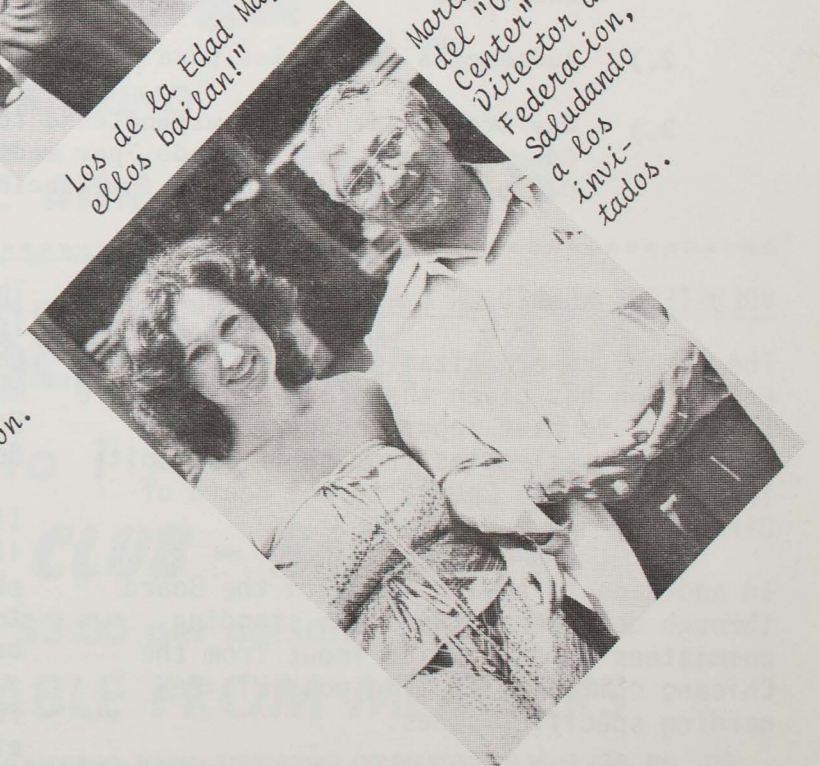
Los "Senior Citizens" y sus amigos, esperan para almorzar.



Los de la Edad Mayor: "Cuando hay musica, ellos bailan!"



George Valle y Ramon Gonzalez proveen servicios a los de edad mayor bajo el programa "Ayuda en el Hogar," el la Federacion.



Maria Elena Quintero, Directora del "Otay Senior Citizens Center" y Jesse Ramirez, Director de la Federacion de la Saludando a los invitados.

Se continura de pagina 4

La falsa promesa del programa de amnestia es cruel, pero la propuesta de establecer un estado (status) de "residente temporal" es todavia mas inhumano. El trabajador sin documentacion("ilegal") que entró a EE. UU. entre 1970 y 1976 será permitido rabajar, pagar sus impuestos, pero no se le permitirá que sus familiares mas cercanos se le unan, y despues de cinco años estará sujeto a los procedimientos de deportacion.

Esta proposicion no es mas que una legislacion para la servitud, que creará una clase social de "siervos" (untouchables) que estará obligada a pagar impuestos sin representacion.

La proposicion seria una violacion directa de la enmienda #14 que provee una garantia a toda persona en los EE. UU., igual proteccion bajo la ley. Esencialmente la proposicion viola a aquellos que quieren trabajar y premia a aquellos que no quieren.

Con referencia al aumento de 2,000 oficiales de patrulla para la frontera, es evidentemente lo mas definitivo, pero al mismo tiempo el segmento mas peligroso de la oferta o recomendacion de Carter. Esta recomendacion es una regresion de la Administracion de Carter a los "ejercicios de guerra" del General Chapman. En la superficie esto parecera ser un esfuerzo para detener la "corriente" de las entradas ilegales, pero en realidad nosotros lo vemos como una invasion de nuestra comunidad, que inevitablemente causara el aumento de violaciones de nuestros derechos humanos constitucionales. Tenemos la creencia, basada sobre origenes de buena tinta de que ya se han hecho planes para la reactivacion del gran "rodeo y deportacion" de la decada de los 1950, llamado "operation wetback" (campana contra ilegales.)

En conclusion, nuestra organizacion propone las siguientes soluciones alternativas:

- 1.) Un programa de amnestia factible, con enfasis a la unificacion de las familias.
- 2.) Audiencias <sup>publicas</sup> nacionales para formular una poliza justa inmigracion humanitaria.
- 3.) Una Orden Ejecutiva, suspendiendo todas las deportaciones hasta que el Congreso haya desarrollado, per mediacion de las Audiencias Publicas Nacionales, un sistema de inmigracion comprensiva y realistica.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON C/F COMMITTEES

The latest re-organization by the Chicano Federation has given the grass-roots people the right to have input and direction by electing delegates from their communities of San Diego County to the Board of Directors.

In addition to having input to the Board through delegates, there are standing committees through which input from the Chicano community is also possible regarding specific issues.

The committees which deal with these issues are in Education, Cultural Arts, Law and Justice, Communications, Employment Resources, Housing, Health, Women, Economic Development and Juvenile Justice.

If you would like to work on any committee please submit your name, address, phone number and area you would like to work in as well as any experience or expertise you may have.

For any questions contact Luis Zardeneta at 236-1228.

\*\*\*\*\*

CAR



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Sr. Lowell Blankfort  
 Star News - Chula Vista  
 835 Third Ave.  
 Chula Vista, Ca. 92011

(Nota del Editor: Esta carta fue enviada a Lowell Blankfort de "Star News" de Chula Vista. Hasta la fecha no hemos recibido contestacion algun, ni ha sido publicada en "Star news."

Querido Sr. Blankfort:

Recientemente he acabado de leer y "re-leer" el articulo de Linda Cross sobre Herman Baca el cual se Publicó en su periodico el Jueves, Julio 24, 1977. Reduciéndolo a sus elementos mas básicos, éste articulo es epitomo del periodismo oblicuo, personalidades vengativas, celos profesionales, racismo y provincialismo de puebluchos; y ademas está repleta de perogrulladas; contradicciones y errores. He pasado largo tiempo que no le he escrito; mi ultima carta fué alterada para proteger a un personaje publico. Ahora no lo hago porque me veo forzado a reaccionar en contra del ataque vicioso, maligno y rencoroso, dirigido al Sr. Herman Baca por Linda Cross. Quiero responder ciertos puntos del articulo los cuales no creo deberan pasar sin ser contestados.

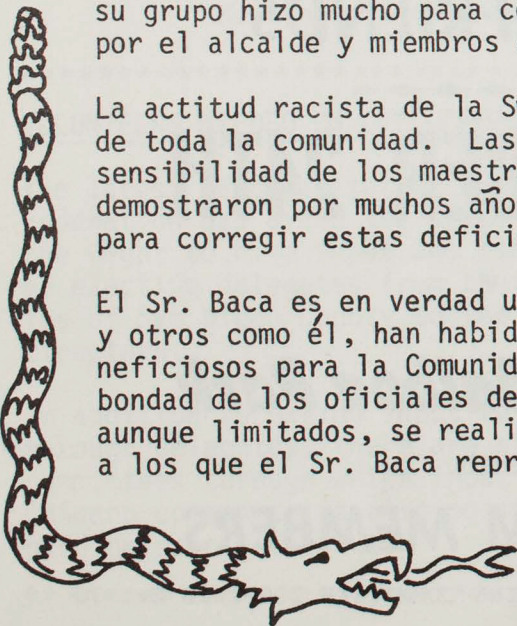
Como soy residente de National City, el Sr. Baca ha hablado por mí y por muchas otras personas, y el nunca ha asumido ninguna actitud publica sin antes haber convocado una junta de la comunidad para informarles sobre las cuestiones y actividades, y obtener sus opiniones y direccion sobre los asuntos.

Nosotros estuvimos presentes a casi todas las juntas concernientes a la zonificacion del lado este, convocadas por la Agencia de Desarrollo, (Redevelopment Agency). Muchos residentes asi como el Sr. Baca hablaron sobre los varios problemas. La unica reaccion que tuvimos de parte de la Administracion de la Ciudad fue la de someter dichos problemas a los electores de National City. Debido a la "buena" organizacion del control de votos por Morgan, y la informacion oblicua de su periodico, la proposicion para una nueva zonificacion del lado este (West side) fue derrotada. Sobre la cuestion del asesinato del Sr. Tato Rivera el Sr. Baca asi como otras personas asumieron una situacion potencialmente muy peligrosa pero presentaron un frente por el cual una, comunidad enfadada, pudiera expresar su desengaño de una manera no violenta. El hizo esto en un tiempo en que los oficiales de la ciudad no hicieron nada para aliviar la situacion. Es más, el Sr. Baca y su grupo hizo mucho para contrarestar esfuerzos y alegaciones provocativas hechas por el alcalde y miembros del concilio y otros oficiales.

La actitud racista de la Sweetwater High School y sus oficiales se notan atraves de toda la comunidad. Las deficiencias en la educacion bilingue; la ausencia de sensibilidad de los maestros, y la poca utilizacion de los recursos existentes se demostraron por muchos años. La Sweetwater High School District ha hecho muy poco para corregir estas deficiencias.

El Sr. Baca es en verdad un agente de "cambio y mejores". Debido a sus esfuerzos y otros como él, han habido cambios beneficiosos para la comunidad. Cambios beneficiosos para la Comunidad de habla Hispana, no vendran por los esfuerzos ni bondad de los oficiales de las escuelas ni de los de la ciudad. Aquellos cambios aunque limitados, se realizaron gracias a la presion y insistencia de grupos iguales a los que el Sr. Baca representa.

Se continura en pagina 11.



Yo veo el articulo de Linda Cross como una represalia contra el Sr. Baca, por no haber podido moldearle a la imagen que ella habia creado para el. La audacidad de la presuncion de Linda Cross es que el distrito South Bay es exclusivamente su dominio periodistico, y que cualquier persona extraña, es un transgresor; es vengativa, y demuestra un punto de vista estudiantil, del mundo periodistico, y sobrepas el concepto de las garantias constitucionales de la prensa libre. Linda Cross aparentemente todavia está usando las "viseras" de pueblucho que la impide ver que San Diego colinda con National City en el Este, el Sur y tambien en el Norte. Además, el origen de noticias deben ser respetadas, ya sean de National City ó de cualquier otra parte del condado. Sobre el "circo" espectacular de que se le acusa al Sr. Baca, no comprendo cómo la Srita. Cross se considera ser una obserbadora imparcial, cuando ella fue la unica que tuvo que rogar del Sr. Baca el permiso para estar presente, cuando todo el resto habian sido invitados. Ahora veo que su insistencia en estar presente, fue primordialmente para tener una plataforma desde la cual lanzar sus ataques contra el Sr. Baca y otros.

Verdaderamente; acudimos a las diseminadoras de Radio y Television, y a los periodicos de San Diego, con nuestros esfuerzos de presentar nuestro punto de vista al publico. Despues de años de haber sufrido por sus informes periodisticos perjudicales y oblicuos ademas de su sentimiento vengativo contra el Sr. Baca, yo y otros conmigo hemos dejado de contar con su periodico.

El ultimo aspecto vil de la carta de Linda Cross, es naturalmente aquella parte que trata de alegaciones de "Miedo de Represalia" de parte de algunos Mexicanos Americanos. Esta clase de supuesta accion, es una bajeza del periodismo, aun para el Star News. Una de las distinciones sobresalientes de los esfuerzos del Sr. Baca, a lo cual you me adhero es el de evitar la violencia, y la dedicacion al trabajo dentro de los confines de la ley.

Interesantemente, fueron el Sr. Baca y sus sostenedores quienes han sido victimas de represalias y violencias. La residencia del Sr. Baca ha sido la meta de varios disparos; su negocio y su cas han sido amenazados con emplosiones de bombas. Su familia y amigos han sufrido amenazas telefonicas con palabras insultantes y obscenas. El delegado registrador de votos ha sido hostigado por la policia, y sus esfuerzos han sido enredados aproposito por "Oficiales elegidos por el Publico."

Cambios se realizaran en South Bay, en los ramos de educación (ensenanza), representacion politica, ejecucion de servicios publicos, y la propagación de noticias a los residentes de South Bay, a pesar de los Linda Crosses y Lowell Blankforts.

Esta carta es personalmente para usted Sr. Blankfort, puede usted publicarlo si lo desea, pero solamente en su entereza y sin ninguna alteracion.

Sinceramente,

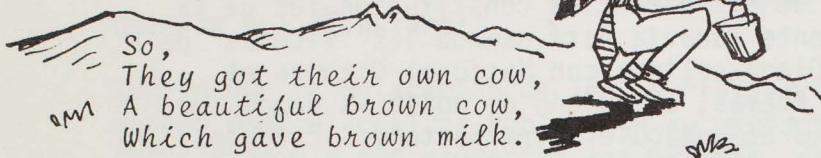
Jesse Ramirez, MPA  
Director Ejecutivo,  
Federacion Chicana del Condado de San Diego, Inc.  
(Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Inc.)



EL INDIO Y LA BROWN COW

The brown tribe had no cow,  
The white tribe had a white cow,  
and it gave white milk.

They gave the brown tribe  
White milk,  
The browns stayed brown  
And acted brown,  
And got sick.

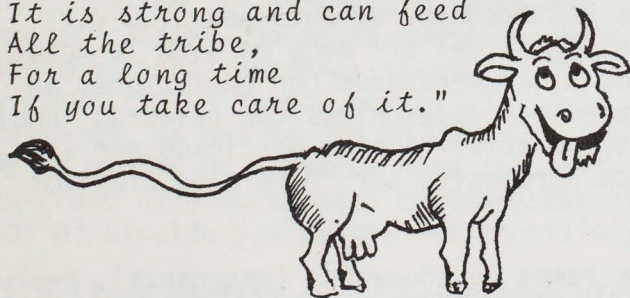


So,  
They got their own cow,  
A beautiful brown cow,  
Which gave brown milk.

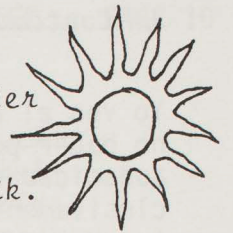
The brown tribe grew strong  
On the brown milk from the  
Brown cow.  
And the tribe told the Indio  
"Take care of the cow,"  
And he did,  
And the cow grew stronger  
And the tribe grew stronger.

The tribe got a beautiful house  
For the cow,  
And a nice yard,  
Full of rocks,  
Under a bridge.

And the Indio left the  
Brown cow in it's new  
House and said to  
The tribe:  
"Here is your cow  
It is strong and can feed  
All the tribe,  
For a long time  
If you take care of it."



And many who  
Had left the tribe  
Returned;  
To wash the white powder  
From their faces  
And  
To drink the brown milk.



But they and many others  
Rode the brown cow,  
Because it was strong.  
And it could take them places.  
So they rode it,  
And rode it,  
But did not feed it.

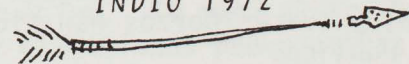
So the cow grew tired  
And those who had  
Been left to take care  
Of the brown cow,  
Neglected it.

And the cow grew weak,  
And then a herd of calves came,  
Each demanding its own Chiche,  
And fighting the tribe  
Over the brown cow,  
And its milk.

And the calves were  
Really coyetes,  
Who were milking  
The cow dry.

Now the cow is sick;  
And tired;  
And the brown tribe is troubled;  
And the Indio says;  
"How now brown cow?"

INDIO 1972



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