

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CALL: 578-1904

ABE TAPIA FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE-WIDE COMMITTEE

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...I'M HERE TODAY (TONIGHT) TO ANNOUNCE MY CANDIDACY FOR THE OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. I WANT TO GET TO THE POINT OF WHY I AM RUNNING WITH AS FEW WORDS AS POSSIBLE. THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE WANT A CHOICE, THEY NEED A CHOICE AND THEY SHALL HAVE A CHOICE.

A CHOICE BETWEEN THE CRONYISM, THE FAT CAT, THE ONE OF THE BOYS TYPE OF PUBLIC LEADERSHIP SHOWN BY THE INCUMBENT AND THE CHOICE BETWEEN THE STOP-THE-GOVERNMENT, LET'S-GO-BACK TO THE LAST CENTURY LEADERSHIP OF THE REPUBLICAN CHALLENGERS. BUSINESSMEN, ESPECIALLY SMALL BUSINESSMEN, WAGE EARNERS, STUDENTS, LABORERS AND PROFESSIONALS ARE BEING FORCED INTO POVERTY BY THE OPPRESSIVE NATURE OF INFLATION, TAXES, UNEMPLOYMENT. OUR OLDER CITIZENS ARE BEING FORCED OUT OF HOMES THEY PAID FOR YEARS AGO. I SIMPLY ASK, IS THIS FAIR WHILE WE HAVE A THREE BILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS? YOUNG FAMILIES ARE BEING IMPRISONED IN CONCRETE

AND STEEL BECAUSE THEY CANNOT AFFORD TO BUY A DECENT HOME IN WHICH THEY CAN RAISE THEIR CHILDREN. BUREAUCRATS ARE DEMANDING MORE AND MORE MONEY TO RUN AGENCIES WHICH PERFORM LESS AND LESS WORK. THE STATE LEADERSHIP IS TELLING US HOW MUCH THEY HAVE DONE TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESS AS CALIFORNIA LEADS THE NATION IN UNEMPLOYMENT, MAYBE THE INCUMBENT CAN POINT OUT WHAT GAINS WE HAVE MADE. THEY TELL US THAT WE NEED TO MAKE EVEN MORE SACRIFICES WHILE THEY PLAY POLITICS WITH A THREE AND A HALF BILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS.

IT MAY NOT BE THE BEST TIME TO TRY TO REKINDLE THE ENTHUSIASM FOR POLITICS OF THE LAST DECADE BUT I'M GOING TO TRY. IT MAY NOT BE THE BEST TIME TO ASK WEARY AND FRUSTRATED CITIZENS TO PUT THEIR LITTLE REMAINING HOPE IN THE BELIEF THAT THEY CAN AND SHOULD CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINIES, BUT I'M GOING TO TRY.

I AM AN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRAT WHICH MAY SEEM TO BE A CONTRADICTION IN TERMS BUT I AM NOT TIED TO ANY INCUMBENT. I AM NOT TIED TO ANY PARTY MACHINE. I AM NOT TIED TO ANY ADMINISTRATION WHICH FOR ALL OF ITS PIETY STILL DEPENDS ON THE OLD TIME LOBBIES AND POLITICAL HACKS FOR ITS SUPPORT AND FOR ITS PATRONAGE.

I AM OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER THE CORRUPTIVE ELEMENTS WHICH STILL RULE MOST OF SACRAMENTO BUT YOUNG ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT OTHER CALIFORNIANS ARE AS TIRED AS I AM OF THE POWER GAMES THAT HAVE ROBBED EACH OF US OF THE CONTROL OVER OUR LIVES. I STILL BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE CAN CHANNEL THAT SILENT FURY INTO A BROAD AND CONSTRUCTIVE FORCE FOR TAKING CONTROL AGAIN OF GOVERNMENT. OUR FRUSTRATIONS AND CYNICISM WITH POLITICS IS A SKILLFULLY ORCHESTRATED REACTION OF LEADERS WHO ARE BEING ELECTED WITH LESS AND LESS VOTES EVERY FOUR YEARS BECAUSE THEY DEPEND ON OUR FRUSTRATIONS AND WEARINESS TO KEEP US FROM THE POLLS AND FROM THE HALLS WHERE DECISIONS ARE MADE DAILY THAT MAKE US EVEN MORE FRUSTRATED AND WEARY. THE NEW POLITICS OF LIMITS AND HOPELESSNESS HAS GIVEN FEWER AND FEWER MEN MORE AND MORE POWER. THEY HAVE CONVINCED US THAT NOTHING CAN BE DONE SO THAT NOTHING SHALL BE TRIED.

I WILL BE ADDRESSING MYSELF TO SPECIFIC ISSUES OF THIS CAMPAIGN AS I TRAVEL THIS STATE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS...AND RAISING ISSUES THAT WILL BE AVOIDED BY MY OPPONENTS.

I SHALL ASK THE HELP OF ALL CALIFORNIANS, WHETHER THEY SUPPORT ME OR NOT, IN FLUSHING OUT OF THE CAMPAIGN RHETORIC THE POSITIONS OF MY

OPPONENTS TO THE ISSUES I RAISE AND TO THE POSITIONS I SHALL ASSUME. A CYNICAL AND POWERFUL AMERICAN POLITICIAN RECENTLY SAID THAT OUR LOUSY LEADERSHIP CAN BE BLAMED ON THE PEOPLE WHO ELECT LOUSY LEADERS. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT. I THINK THAT WE ELECT LOUSY LEADERS BECAUSE WE HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN MANY LOUSY CANDIDATES MOST OF WHOM RISE TO ELECTIVE PROMINENCE ON THE SLIMY BACKS OF THE TAX AVOIDING LOBBIES AND VESTED INTERESTS WHO HAVE NO LOYALTIES AND WHO HAVE NO REGARD FOR THE ELECTIVE PROCESS.

THE TAX REBELLION, THE EDUCATIONAL CRISIS, THE CRIME EXPLOSION, THE SORRY BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CLIMATE CALL FOR AN END TO THOSE FORCES WHICH SAP OUR ECONOMIC AND MORAL STRENGTH. THERE ARE AND WILL BE COMPLEX ISSUES IN THIS CAMPAIGN. I WILL NOT MAKE THEM MORE COMPLEX BY TRYING TO TELL THE VOTERS THAT THEY ARE NOT SMART ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES.

I WILL ASK ALL CALIFORNIANS, WHETHER THEY SUPPORT ME OR NOT, TO END IN THIS STATE THE POLITICAL WISDOM THAT LEADERS MUST DO THINGS BECAUSE THE VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS ARE NOT BRIGHT ENOUGH TO RUN THEIR OWN LIVES. I WILL TRY TO SHARE WITH THE VOTERS MY CONVICTION THAT THEY ARE WISE

ENOUGH TO CONTROL THEIR GOVERNMENT BECAUSE I BELIEVE THIS CAMPAIGN WILL SHOW THAT THE VOTERS ARE ANGRY ENOUGH.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO NEED SPECIFICS, LET ME RAISE THE ISSUE OF REPRESENTATION IN THIS GREAT STATE. CONGRESS IN ITS WISDOM MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR EIGHTEEN YEAR OLDS TO VOTE...BUT OUR LEADERS HAVE NOT LIFTED A FINGER TO BRING YOUNG PEOPLE CHOICES OR TRAINING IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. THIS IS A SHAM ON YOUNG PEOPLE. I APPEAL TO THE YOUNG VOTER TO TAKE HIS AND HER PLACE IN GOVERNMENT NOW...AFTER ALL, THE WORLD OF TOMORROW IS YOUR WORLD.

RELATED TO UNEMPLOYMENT AND TO THE BUSINESS CLIMATE, I ASK: WHERE WAS THE INCUMBENT WHEN EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO PLACE SUBSTANTIAL PENALTIES ON EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS...I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY PRIVATE EMPLOYER SHOULD BE PUNISHED FOR NOT ACTING AS AN IMMIGRATION AGENT. IT'S GETTING HARDER FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO STAY IN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE WHILE POLITICIANS LET SEVERE PENALTIES FALL ON THE HEADS OF THOSE WHO PROVIDE EIGHTY FIVE PERCENT OF THE JOBS IN CALIFORNIA. ADDITIONALLY, THIS KIND OF TACTICS WOULD FURTHER THE DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS ANYONE WHO LOOKS FOREIGN, WHATEVER THAT MAY BE. IT'S HARD ENOUGH TO GET AND HOLD A JOB FOR MILLIONS OF CALIFORNIANS

WITHOUT WORRYING THAT THEY MAY LOOSE A JOB BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN.

ON THE QUESTION OF TAXES AND TAX REFORM, I AM OPPOSED TO THE JARVIS-GANN INITIATIVE BECAUSE IT GOES TO FAR IN PUNISHING CHILDREN BY REDUCING THIRTY PERCENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL FUNDS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME REDUCING THE LEVEL OF POLICEMENT IN A STATE WHERE CRIME IS EPIDEMIC. WITH THE PROSPECTS OF LAYING OFF THOUSANDS OF TEACHERS AS WELL, WHERE WILL OUR CHILDREN LEARN IF EVEN TODAY ITS HARDER AND HARDER TO PRODUCE STUDENTS WHO CAN READ OR WRITE.

AT THE OTHER EXTREME WE HAVE THE LAST MINUTE BEHR BILL WHICH ATTEMPTS TO HIDE THE LACK OF INITIATIVE AT THE STATE LEVEL FOR EIGHT YEARS BY SOME POORLY THOUGHT OUT TOKENISM TO THE TAXPAYERS OF THIS STATE.

AN IMMEDIATE STATE-WIDE EVALUATION OF ASSESSMENT PRACTICES MUST BE CONDUCTED TO SHOW THE INEQUITABLE METHODS OF OVER ASSESSING THE PRIVATE HOME WHILE LARGE TRACTS OF CORPORATE AND AGRICULTURAL LAND GOES VIRTUALLY UNTAXED.

SECONDLY, AND PROBABLY MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL...LET'S TURN THAT THREE AND ONE-HALF BILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS BACK TO THE PEOPLE IT BELONGS TO...THE TAXPAYER. IT SEEMS SO FRAUDULENT TO PRETEND THAT WE ARE DOING

SOMETHING ABOUT TAXES IF WE ALLOW THE STATE TO HOLD FOR RANSOM THE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SURPLUS THAT SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN OUR POCKETS TO BEGIN WITH.

RELATED TO TAXES IS THE COST OF HOUSING IN THIS STATE. I CALL FOR AN END TO RED-LINING FOR ONCE AND FOR ALL. SECONDLY, HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE BUY HOUSING AND OLDER PERSONS KEEP THEIR HOMES WHEN THE STATE ALLOWS THE MOST CYNICAL SPECULATION ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY? FURTHER, THIS STATE CAN TAKE INITIATIVES TO GUARANTEE LONGER PERIODS OF REPAYMENT FOR HOMES, SAY TO FORTY YEARS, LIKE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ALREADY DOES FOR THIRTY YEARS. I CALL UPON THE PRIVATE MORTGAGE INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS SAVINGS AND LOANS, BANKS AND MORTGAGE LENDERS TO GIVE SERIOUS INITIATIVE TO THE LAST HOPE FOR MANY CALIFORNIANS IN OWNING A ROOF OVER THEIR HEADS-

FINALLY, MY CAMPAIGN IS LAUNCHED IN THE SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY PLEDGED BY ALL MEXICAN AMERICAN LEADERS IN LOS ANGELES RECENTLY. I WILL NOT APOLOGIZE FOR THE FACT THAT I FEEL ASHAMED THAT THE LARGEST ETHNIC GROUP IN CALIFORNIA, THE SPANISH-SPEAKING, IS WITHOUT A SINGLE REPRESENTATIVE IN A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD TO WAIT

UNTIL THEY ARE A MAJORITY TO HAVE EVEN ONE PERSON FROM THEIR GROUP AT THE STATE LEVEL. TO ALL OF THOSE WHO ASK THAT WE WAIT, I'M HERE TO DECLARE THAT WE SHALL NOT WAIT...THE TIME IS NOW, AND PRIOR TO THE NEXT APPORTIONMENT AND CENSUS OF 1980. THIS IS THE TIME FOR THIS STATE TO LIVE UP TO ITS PROMISE OF REPRESENTATION AND NOT TO SETTLE FOR A DENIAL OF A PLACE IN THE SUN FOR NEARLY HALF OF ITS CITIZENS.

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NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I WILL ENTERTAIN YOUR QUESTIONS.

DRAFT 7-26-73 C
Abe Tapia

First of all I guess there's no sense in saying that we are strangers to the problem. ^{LOGAR ESTA PASANDO ES LA MISMA RAZON DONDE QUEDA SIEMPRE LA MISMA RAZON} It's nothing new. Herman is just being the victim as an individual ^{LA MISMA RAZON} because you chose him as the head of a committee. Right now he's being used as a scapegoat by the Mayor. This has been the process on the level of almost any individual you can think of. But, you have to be strong on this whole question of the Ad Hoc Committee. You appointed Herman as the head of the committee. You have to make up your mind to support him, or make up your minds now that you want out. Now I heard brother Luis Natividad say one thing, and I disagree with Luis. He said "my board tells me that I can't proceed until such time as we find accord." Luis had better make up his mind as an individual. The boards don't govern individuals. You're an individual first, and your commitment comes as one thing that you are going to be judged on. I realize that you have programs. I understand the reason why those letters went out with the tone that they did, to guys like Luis and guys that sit on programs; however, he can't excuse the idea of either answering back, whether he wants to or not, by saying my board at the federations that you have over here, is not ready to go ahead and protest that letter from the Mayor. I think your commitment has to be made here tonight, or say for Herman, or say for the committee as a whole, "we want out. we don't want no more." And nobody is going to call you a cop-out, nobody is going to call you anything. Just make up your mind, either you're in as a Chicano group, as he said "let us not fight among ourselves". You mentioned Max Hernandez and Larry Montoya and another guy. ~~They're~~ They're not the problem. Let them be whatever they will be. Zapata, ~~Vila~~ and everybody else, they all had those guys. Always. They were always a problem. ~~They're~~ You're always going to have them. You can't start a battle with those individuals, to try to find whether one Chicano is stronger than the other. And let me say this as a matter of experience. Sometimes in meetings like this you can find yourself very conveniently trying to hit at those three guys. But I might remind you that in some of these same meetings you'll find

the same kind of individuals who later turn out ~~to~~ ^{to} be the real bastards, in the whole question of the struggle. That comes out ~~as a~~ ^{as a} fact ~~that~~ when the real push comes to shove. Those individuals sometimes turn out to be stronger. So I caution you not to ~~x~~ use yourselves, one against the other. Certainly I am fully in support that you should call them in. ~~xxxx~~ Let us find out for ~~xxxxxxx~~ ourselves where they really stand. As I understand it right now, from whatever is going on in San Diego and National City, you have had your problems like any other community. However, call them into the meetings, like you said you were, but don't use that as the main issue. Mayor Pete Wilson acted like a super-pig, a super-white-pig in the answer that he gave to everyone that he wrote a letter to regarding Herman Baca. The vilifications, busting them all the way down. If anybody is on an ego trip, it is Pete Wilson, cause I know a lot about Pete Wilson when he was an assemblyman. If anybody ever stood up before the assembly as an ego tripping assemblyman it was Pete Wilson. So he has no credibility as far as I am concerned. As either a legislator, like he indicated, the elected officials will take care of you. They've always done that--Watergate is a good example. They've always taken care of us in the best method that they could possibly get to. I think if you have to keep on with what you are doing right now, keep on organizing. Forget everything else. Forget the idea of having meetings with the guy--around what? Qualifyin him when ~~his~~ he's trying to get more power or whatever? One thing--you're going to fight the issue of suppression, you're going to fight the police problem, the question of immigration--you guys in San Diego and National City have been doing a job. Don't let them take that away from you. In Los Angeles, in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, they know that you guys are doing some home work here. So don't let that go under merely because some baboso gets up and starts writing letters to confuse the community. I sympathize with Herman in this regard, and I hope he doesn't cave in to anything, with respect to the Ad Hoc Committee. I share a lot of the sentiments that he must feel right now, because I have been a victim of those same circumstances. Particularly when I had hoped for MMAPA support

all over the state or MAPA individuals, GI Forum-----everybody mixed up. But even to the point of ahving the most militant, like I indicated to you, in these particular meetings, they end up being the cop-outs when it comes to the final analysis. If anyone's ever been through scrutiny, through investigations, through everyhting else-- I know what it is to have individuals who later turn right around and document ~~xxxxxx~~everything against you and put it down in writing when the GABACHO says, "you don't really like Herman, do you?" when an answer hasn't even been given. These kinds of things go on daily. Just don't let them get to you. First of all I would suggest to Herman that he ask for a vote of confidence here, and you're the Ad Hoc Committee. If you feel that you ~~have~~ have been put down, I would put that ~~as~~ as a sumder. You have not been put down in any way. First of all the GABACHOS in some areas, and I don't blame every one of them, but those that are in positions of power feel the threat that you Chicanos are putting in this area. That is the only thing that is worrying them---that damned threat that you have on their necks. That you're getting to them in the process of organizing the people, they're waking up, they're not taking the B.S. any more, and they are getting to the point that they are accepting the leadership. And for that reason I say you have to make up your mind--either we support Herman or we don't. And I would say this---because I'm not going to be here, and it's easy to come to a town that's not yours and speak out. But there is one thing that can be said. The committment has got to be made right now. Either you want Herman to proceed in the best method that he can with the best tools that he possibly has at his disposal, or say to him clearly that

MIRA CAMARADA AQUI ESTAMOS, TRABAJO NI TRABAJO NO QUIERO penden la chichi

Goodby, great, whatever. But don't let somebody intimidate the rest of the community because somebody has a job in the government programs or county programs or city programs. Because none of you were born in those jobs. Remember that. Those jobs don't mean anything. And I get by the tone of the letter that they are suggesting that---"luis, or whoever, if you don't cooperate with me now, I don't want to talk to you any longer---I don't need you any further, I'll make you aware of this when you come to me for a nice little letter of recommendation for further funding

and so on". These are the kinds of suggestions that are in the letter. Don't let them B.S. you around that. First of all the need of a community program is here, and you organize for it and you petition the right way for it and you really truly get all the community, you will have the spite of all the Mayor Wilsons or all the other CARRALES, ^{HERMANOS} that might not want to join. And you're never, never going to get all the BATOS to join or ~~all the~~ CARRALES for that matter.

So why expect it. Just make up your mind that you are here, your together, no one is divided, say to yourself from tonight on in we are going to ~~give~~ give Herman a vote of confidence and let him proceed, and let him do what he thinks is best.

At the ~~time~~ time you find that you don't like the order that Herman is carrying--- great. Tell him. But be fair to the guy. Don't let him get burned. Because it's easy to put up the Chicano and use him as a battering ram. It's very, very

simple for a lot of guys to say "yeah, Herman QUE SE JUEGUE AL CABO DEL ESTE ^{DE} POA DELANTE, HAYA DESPUES LO ^{TUOS BASTOS}" That's been an old game. I think we

can do it more respectably among each other. just say let's go, because I think Herman is committed to doing it, and then i think you have found the solution.

If I have to explain it thouroughly, I would rather explain it to Pete Wilson, that S.O.B., about his outright vilifications against Herman. The circumstances that you had with Miller, the D.A., you have the same program all over again. You have those bastards all the time. You're going to have them continuously.

And if you're not afraid of those guy, they know it, they're going to keep after you to ~~try~~ try to divide you, they're going to try to find ways to create a great split in the community, and as I understood the gentlemen here indicated, the organizations are here represented,, and the decisions will be together, remember that. We have those ~~split~~ splits in all kinds of organizations, but this is an issue that the whole community stands pat on. I would suggest that you continue to do the same things you are going from now on in and let him know once and for all that whether he likes it or not, you have elected an individual to represent you, and that is the ~~choice~~ choice you want. If brother Chacon, who is your assemblyman, choosesto go on that side also, let it be known that Herman Baca is the man that

you have asked to represent you. If the other Assemblyman is going to get involved, because I know all these guys, they get involved in a nice little subtle way, just make sure that you say "our representative is this guy. If you want to talk about that issue, go to him". Because it's very easy for them to come to you and say "you know, you're a better guy. You're not like the rest of the guys." You know how that game is played I think you've had enough of that. I want to thank you and I hope Herman gets support from all of you.

March 30, 1978

Herman Baca - Chairman
Committee on Chicano Rights
1837 Highland Avenue
National City, California 92050

Estimado Herman:

The purpose of this letter is to solicit your personal ^{support} as well as the entire membership of the committee on Chicano Rights, for the campaign which I am now waging for the State office of Lt. Governor. As you are aware, I have and continue to be a past supporter of all of your efforts, and not a Johnny come lately. I will continue to support those efforts should your organization chose not to support me. I am committed. It would indeed be a victory for my campaign to have your group supporting my campaign. You might be interested to know that your local assemblyman, Pete Chacon has endorsed my opposition completely ignoring the need to obtain representation for our people at the state level. Other persons whom you might have considered heavy are opting to support the Black legislator, the incumbent, as opposed to my candidacy, on the premise that he is a nice guy, once again completely ignoring the Chicano community's need to have a voice in Sacramento. I will wage a strong campaign for the votes necessary to get me elected. If I should fail to win the support of even my own community, it will not be me the loser, but the Chicano community itself.

For too many years the Chicano community used the excuse that too many candidates filed for the same office thereby making it imposible for them to get representation. Well, that is not the case this time, however our own "Leaders" such as Bert Corona, are now finding new excuses to shove down our community's throat. The Historical Chapter's of the 70's will close with those who fought for representation to the end and with those sellouts that were always speaking with a forked tongue. You yourself have been a victim of this very obnoxious tenor from some of our very own Chicanos. What a waste. Again, to all my friends at CCR, I trust that your committment to correct injustices would include your support for my campaign as I do not wish to take anyone for granted, rest assured that if you should find that it would serve no purpose to help my campaign then you would have at least taken a stand.

ABE Baca
Candidate Lt. Gov.

Feb 28, 2002

Estimado Compadre:

Wishing you and the family the best of health. All is well over here.

I'm sending you a few articles and booklets which portrays some of the activity we have here in N.M. surrounding the Land Grant issues.

I also enclosed a article on the Baca family, I found it interesting, but all in all its written by a "Gringo".

Also this Gilbert Baca who is running for Governor is brother in law to my blood cousin Ramon Lopez. Not much of a chance for him as a Republican, particularly against Bill Richardson, a Democrat.

Olivia Tristani, granddaughter to Deans Clovez, is running against Pete Domenici, Republican U.S. Senator from N.M. Lorenzo Tapia my cousin is serving as Treasurer for the campaign.

I'm starting to accelerate the activity around the Land Grants here ~~in~~ my local area, we will have to wait & see.

Short of that I'm just trying to get by this cold wind here in Rowe.

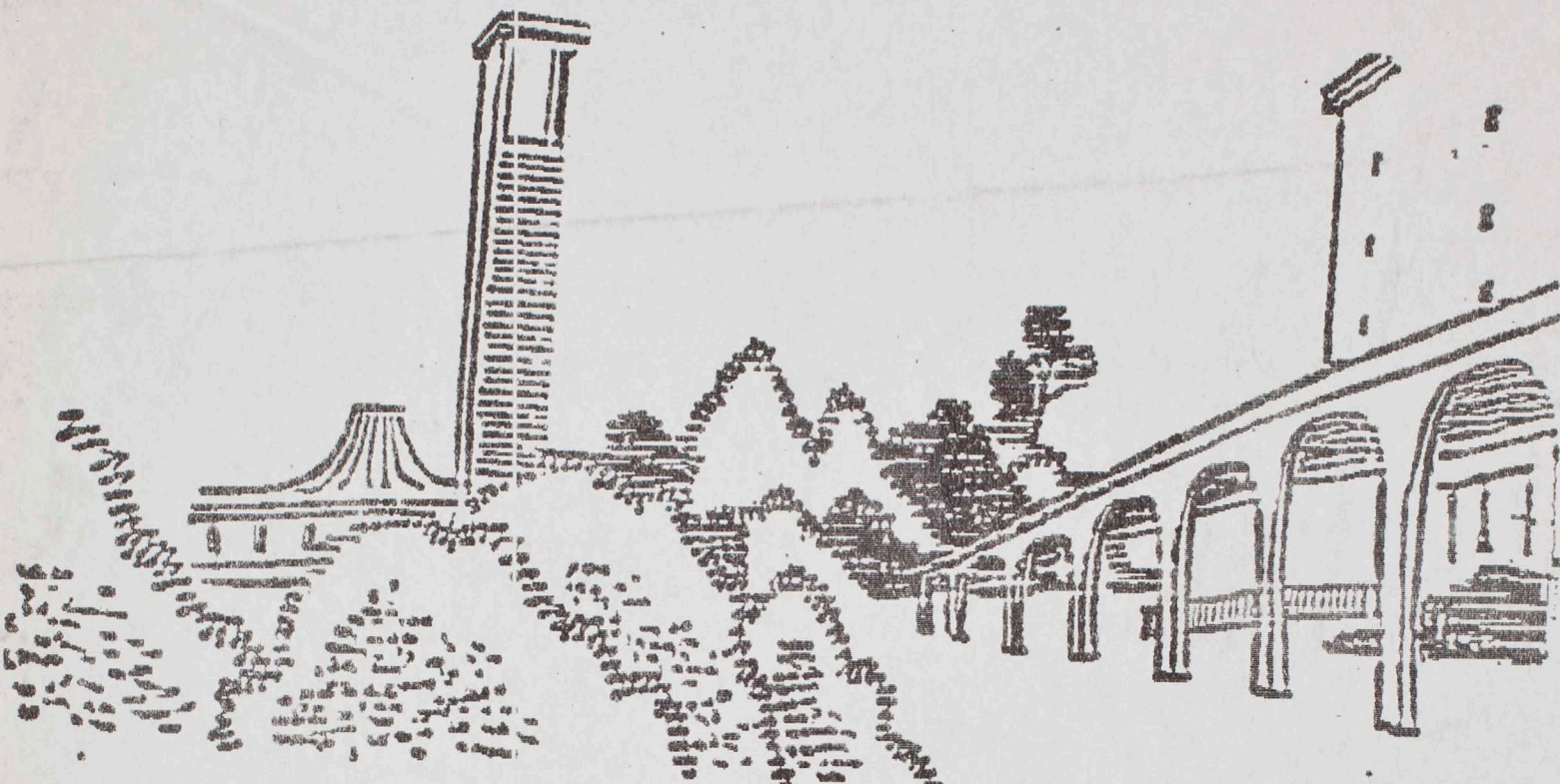
I'm anticipating going to Oakhdale, California in late April as my granddaughter is getting married.

Hope all is well with you and now your new residence. I'm happy for you and your family. Regards & Love to your mom.

Say hi to the vates,

Como sempre
Tu Amigable
Alc

**THE DEPARTMENT OF ETHNIC STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE
FAX: (909) 787-4341**



DATE: 1-8-02

TO: *Hermon B...*

FAX: 619-477-3800

TEL: _____

FROM: *Anna 10*

TEL: _____

COPY TOTAL: 4

COMMENTS:

River, 11:48 AM 1/4/02 -, Article for possible discussio

X-Sender: river@mail.kfmb.com
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 5.1
Date: Fri, 04 Jan 2002 11:48:12 -0800
To: navarro@ucr.acf.ucr.edu
From: River <river@kfmb.com>
Subject: Article for possible discussion

Dear Dr. Navarro,

Below is a copy of the article I discussed with you moments ago. It comes from www.worldnetdaily.com, dateline today.

Rick Roberts, host of The Rick Roberts Show, 760 KFMB, would very much like to discuss it with you on the air this afternoon. If possible, he'd like to talk with you from 4:05 until 4:30.

I will call you at noon to discuss this further.

Respectfully,

River Stillwood
Assistant Producer
The Rick Roberts Show

Is Mexico reconquering
U.S. southwest?
Illegal immigration fueling aims of Hispanic radicals

By Art Moore

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A radical Hispanic movement's dream to retake the southwestern United States is becoming a reality with the aid of Mexican and U.S. policies, according to some immigration watchers.

A massive influx of illegal immigrants is "importing poverty" and growing an ethnic community with greater loyalty to Mexico than the U.S., maintains Gler n Spencer, president of Voices of Citizens Together, a California-based non-profit group.

"Unless this is shut down within two years, I believe that it will be irreversible, and that it will most certainly lead to a breakup of the United States," Spencer told WorldNetDaily. "I don't think there is any doubt about it."

A breakaway of U.S. states is a distinct possibility, according to prominent Chicano activist and University of California at Riverside professor Armando Navarro. In an interview with WorldNetDaily, Navarro would not answer directly whether he shared separatist aspirations, but said that if demographic and social trends continue, secession is inevitable.

"If in 50 years most of our people are subordinated, powerless, exploited and impoverished, then I will say to you that there are all kinds of possibilities for movements to develop like the ones that we've witnessed in the last few years all over the world, from Yugoslavia to Chechnya," Navarro said.

"A secessionist movement is not something that you can put away and say it is never going to happen in the United States," he continued. "Time and history change."

In a 1995 speech to Chicano activists, Navarro said demographic trends are leading to "a transfer of power" to the ethnic Mexican community in the Southwest. He notes that most studies show that within the next 20 to 30 years Latinos will comprise more than 50 percent of the population of California. This fact, and other cultural and social developments, are opening the door for "self-determination" and even "the idea of an Aztlan," he said in his speech.

Aztlan, the mythical birthplace of the Aztecs, is regarded in Chicano folklore as an area that includes California, Arizona,

River, 11:48 AM 1/4/02 -, Article for possible discussio

Nevada, New Mexico and parts of Colorado and Texas. Spencer believes the aim is to create a sovereign state, "Republica del Norte," the Republic of the North, that would combine the American Southwest with the northern Mexican states and eventually merge with Mexico.

"I see that as the overarching goal of the Mexican government and many Mexicans who want self-determination," Spencer said.

'America's Palestinians'

On its website, a group called "La Voz de Aztlan," the Voice of Aztlan, identifies Mexicans in the U.S. as "America's Palestinians." Many Mexicans see themselves as part of a transnational ethnic group known as "La Raza," the race. A May editorial on the website, with a dateline of Los Angeles, Alta California, declares that "both La Raza and the Palestinians have been displaced by invaders that have utilized military means to conquer and occupy our territories."

But the threat of secession is not merely from groups that might be considered on the fringe, Spencer insists, noting the declarations of Mexican leaders, up to the highest office. Former Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo said in a 1997 speech in Chicago to the National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic advocacy group, that he "proudly affirmed that the Mexican nation extends beyond the territory enclosed by its borders and that Mexican migrants are an important - a very important - part of this."

Zedillo said that because of this fact his government proposed a constitutional amendment that allows Mexican citizens to hold dual citizenship. Spencer believes that the objective is to enable Mexicans in the United States to vote in the interest of Mexico.

Ultimately, many Mexicans hope for a "reconquista," a reconquest of territory lost when Mexico signed the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo at the end of the Mexican-American War.

"One could argue that while Mexico lost the war in 1848, it will probably win it in the 21st century, in terms of the numbers," Navarro told WorldNetDaily. "But that is not a reality based on what Mexico does, it's based on what this country does."

Spencer argues that misguided U.S. policies and lax enforcement have allowed a steady stream of 1 million illegal immigrants a year to enter the country. Demographers agree that instead of integrating into a "melting pot," new Hispanic immigrants, both legal and illegal, are building a distinct, politically active community.

The problem is not that they have a voice, Spencer says, but that they increasingly are acting according to the interests of Mexico.

Spencer believes that the Mexican government played an important role in the legal quashing of a 1995 California voter initiative, Proposition 187, that limited taxpayer funds to services for citizens only. After a visit with California Gov. Gray Davis in 1999, former Mexican President Zedillo told reporters that he had a commitment from Davis to ensure that "the catastrophic effects which were foreseen with Proposition 187 several years ago will not come to pass."

Among other signs of Mexican influence on U.S. affairs, Spencer notes that less than two years ago, West Los Angeles businessman Eddie Varon Levy became the first person living abroad to join the Mexican Congress. Varon Levy said one of his goals as a member of the Chamber of Deputies was to establish a special attorney's office to defend immigrants' rights.

Border erasure

The U.S. has tripled its border patrol budget over the past five years, but the flow of immigrants has barely changed. At the same time, Mexican President Vicente Fox has pressed for an eventual erasure of the southern border and encouraged Mexicans who seek work in the U.S.

At a speech one year ago at a border post in Nogales, just south of the Arizona border, Fox said: "We want to salute these heroes, these kids leaving their homes, their communities, leaving with tears in their eyes, saying goodbye to their families, to set out on a difficult, sometimes painful search for a job, an opportunity they can't find at home, their community or their own country."

Under the Fox regime, Mexico has an Office for Mexicans Abroad that provides survival kits for Mexicans who seek to enter

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the U.S. illegally.

Some immigration watchdogs in the U.S. believe, however, that all this does not add up to a desire by the Mexican government to retake the Southwest. Ira Mehlman, spokesman for the Los Angeles office of the Federation for American Immigration Reform, believes statements by Zedillo and Fox indicate "they are looking for some way to gain leverage with regard to American policy."

"They want to create one market where they will be able to send workers here without any restrictions, because it's in their interest to do so," Mehlman said.

The incentive to cross the U.S. border is high. The average illegal worker can make about \$60 a day in the U.S. compared to about \$5 a day in Mexico.

Immigration hurts both countries

But Allan Wall, an American married to a Mexican and a resident south of the border for 10 years, maintains that immigration is not helping Mexico. "I see it having many bad effects where I live," said Wall, Mexico correspondent for Project U.S.A., an immigration reform group in New York. "It's kind of like welfare; it encourages people to use the U.S. as a safety (net) rather than solve the problems in Mexico."

On the U.S. side of the border, Mexican migrant workers are viewed by many lawmakers and officials as an economic boon. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has said that the illegal workers increasingly play an essential "anti-inflationary" role in the U.S. economy.

But Spencer argues that the most recent census confirms that the immigration tide is "importing poverty." Wall agrees that the influx is precipitating a demographic meltdown that could lead to a fracturing of the country. "The United States needs to drastically reduce immigration and go back to an assimilation model, where immigrants learn English and become American; otherwise it will be a disaster," Wall said.

Studies indicate most Americans believe immigration policy is not serving their interests, Mehlman said. "They're upset about it, but still haven't been upset enough to demand that the government change its policies."

Mehlman explained that the impact on the average citizen is not easy to assess. "Even though they are aware that this is not necessarily beneficial, it's hard to convince someone of how much it is costing in social costs, how much it might be costing in lost wages."

Polls show that most Americans want something done about immigration, said Spencer, but are afraid to speak out because they don't want to be labeled as racist, or anti-immigrant. "That's the weapon the other side uses against us," said Spencer, who served among Native Americans for many years. "It is very effective, and they know it, and so they use it at every opportunity."

Wall believes that the "whole discourse on immigration" must be changed. "We have to distinguish between being anti-immigrant and anti-immigration," he said. "Like any other public policy issue, it should be debated. Unfortunately the mainstream press is only giving us one side of the immigration issue."

By STACI MATLOCK
The New Mexican

Half a dozen heirs of Los Trigos Land Grant met Feb. 13 with representatives of the U.S. General Accounting Office at Kristina's Restaurant in Pecos.

The meeting was part of a fact-finding process the GAO is conducting around the state regarding community land grants lost after the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The GAO staff is trying to find out what land local Hispanic heirs claim should have been a part of their ancestors' original land grants and how the property was lost.

"We have until December to finish," said Jeffery D. Malcolm, assistant director of Natural Resources and Environment for the GAO Washington office.

Malcolm said the team of GAO representatives from Washington and Denver are focusing only on community land grants — grants awarded by the Spanish or Mexican governments that included land shared among all the grantees. Out of 295 land grants in New Mexico, 195 are considered community land grants.

Los Trigos Land Grant heirs hope to prove that some

Since the turn of the century, Hispanic land-grant heirs have claimed their land was lost through sleight of hand and outright thievery by wealthy Hispanics and Anglo interlopers.

of the original 12,000-acre grant, part of the Donaciano Vigil Grant, should be returned to them. The grant included parts of what is now Pecos National Historical Park all the way to Glorieta/Rowe Mesa, part of which is now national forest.

Congress ordered the GAO to investigate claims, but to focus only on the areas now considered public lands. Private lands are not part of the investigation.

Abe Tapia, a Rowe native and Los Trigos Land Grant heir who attended the meeting, said afterwards he felt "the whole process is a whitewash."

"This activity placates people," he said.

Tapia, who spent more than two decades working as a federal investigator for the U.S. Postal Service and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, said he does not

believe Congress will honor claims that might mean returning federal land to land-grant heirs.

Tapia said that for people in Rowe, the concern is not just the loss of communal land, but the loss of the right to go to old cemeteries, such as the Rowe Campo Santo and Las Ruidas near the Pecos River. The cemeteries are now surrounded by private land. "A lot of our friends and family are buried there," Tapia said. "We can't go see them."

Rowe residents also decry the loss of traditional rights to fish off a tiny bridge still visible from Rowe that residents say they would like back.

The road to the bridge now crosses private land and the community does not have the right to use it. North of the bridge is the ranch once owned by actress Greer Gar-

son and Buddy Fogelson; part of the ranch was later given to the Pecos National Historical Park and part was sold a couple of years ago to Jane Fonda.

In September, the GAO released the first land grant report to Congress, giving a definition and list of community land grants in New Mexico that existed under the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

The GAO's job is to determine how much acreage was awarded in all the grants, how much was lost and why. "Congress is trying to figure out if there is a problem, how big is the problem and what to do about it," Malcolm said.

The GAO report will include recommendations of what can be done to address complaints from land-grant heirs. It will be up to Congress to decide on a solution. "What to do about the problem is a policy decision," Malcolm said. "Our report is a building block."

Since the turn of the century, Hispanic land-grant heirs have claimed their land was lost through sleight of hand and outright thievery by wealthy Hispanics and Anglo interlopers.

Over the years, land-grant heirs have fought in a variety

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of ways to regain or keep their property. In the 1890s, Congress debated which land grants should be approved and remain with the heirs. A band of mounted land-rights activists called Gorras Blancas (White Hats) appeared in Mora and San Miguel County during this time, fighting to retain control over communal lands.

In the late 1960s, another land-grant activist — Reies Tijerina — gained headlines in Rio Arriba County fighting for the same issue. A billboard for the movement still stands along a highway outside Tierra Amarilla proclaiming *Tierra o Muerte* (land or death).

In the late 1990s, a group of activists formed the New Mexico Land Grant forum to work through Congress for an investigation of claims.

Tapia said he's not advocating Tijerina's approach, but depending on what happens with the GAO report and Congress, land-grant heirs in the area could still choose to fight for their rights in court. Their problem now — as it was back when land grants were first lost — is where to find the cash to pay for legal fees. "If we had pro bono attorneys, we could unravel this quickly," he said.

NEW ENERGY FOR CHANGING TIMES



"My late grandfather, New Mexico's
U.S. Senator Dennis Chavez,
inspired me to enter public service."

U.S. SENATE
GLORIA
TRISTANI



Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate Gloria Tristani is taking on the thirty-year Republican incumbent.

Federal Communications Commissioner, 1997-2001

- Appointed to the FCC by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate.
- Chaired the FCC's V-Chip Task Force to protect children from indecency and violence.
- Fought phone company slamming of consumers and promoted fair competition.
- Championed internet access for schools, libraries, reservations and rural areas, and basic phone service for low-income homes.
- Improved police and emergency communications by providing more radio airspace.
- Set deadlines for technology to pinpoint emergency 911 calls from cell phones.

N.M. State Corporation Commissioner, 1995-1997

First woman elected. Defeated incumbent. A national leader in health care reforms, Tristani required HMOs in N.M. to allow more choice of specialists and pay for more annual screenings. Required hospitals to let new moms stay 48 hours after childbirth.

Education, Honors and Career

- Ruben Salazar Communications Award, National Council of La Raza, 2001
- Edward R. Roybal Outstanding Public Service Award, National Assn. of Latino Elected Officials, 2000
- Harvard's JFK School of Government Program, 1996
- Law degree, U.N.M., 1990, graduating 15th in her class of 106
- Assistant to U. S. Senator Jeff Bingaman, 1983 to 1987

Key Issues

Energy: "Make N.M. a leader in developing new technologies for alternative and renewable energy, conservation, and recovery."

Education: "Federal funds for ongoing school modernization and construction. Smaller classes. Better teacher pay. No vouchers."

Economic Recovery: "Continue health, Medicaid and unemployment benefits for the jobless. Shift tax cuts to middle- and lower-income taxpayers. No wasteful pork or gimmicks."

Health Care: "Prescription drug benefit through Medicare. Affordable health care for hundreds of thousands of uninsured New Mexicans."

Social Security: "A top domestic priority -- everyone has a stake in securing its future."

Terrorism: "Act globally with military force and diplomatic, intelligence, financial, legal and economic tools. Protect constitutional rights and liberties."

Goals for New Mexico: "Move us off the bottom rung in hungry children, income, education, and health care."



U.S. SENATE
**GLORIA
TRISTANI**



Whose land is it?



Staci Matlock/The New Mexican

The U.S. General Accounting office is meeting with land-grant heirs around the state as part of a fact-finding process. In the Pecos area, Los Trigos Land Grant heirs hope to prove that some of the original 12,000-acre grant, part of the Donaciano Vigil Grant, should be returned to them.

September 2001

TREATY OF
GUADALUPE
HIDALGO

Definition and List of
Community Land
Grants in New Mexico

