



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FACT SHEET ON THE BRACERO PROGRAM

4 MILLION MEXICAN WORKERS IMPORTED BETWEEN 1942 -- 1964.

- 1) The inadequate wages, housing, food and protection of rights in violation of the signed agreement between the United States and Mexico.
- 2) The collusion of government agencies and agricultural corporations to prevent enforcement of the signed agreement between Mexico and The Unites States.
- 3) The depression of wages, the increase in poor working conditions and the wrecking of unionizing efforts wherever the program exists.
- 4) The establishment of the practice of Mexican workers paying bribes to officials on both sides of the border to be allowed into the Bracero program.
- 5) The massive violation of the human rights of braceros including beatings,shootings, discrimination, in medical care and separation of families.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

SAN DIEGO, CA.

JUNE 5, 1981

THE CCR, ON BEHALF OF 200 ORGANIZATIONS, SENT A TELEGRAM TO BOTH PRESIDENT JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO AND PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN URGING BOTH PRESIDENTS TO "REFUTE ANY TYPE OF "BRACERO" FOREIGN IMPORTATION PROGRAM AS A SOLUTION TO THE IMMIGRATION PROBLEM" IN THEIR UPCOMING JUNE 8,9, 1981 MEETING.

CCR CHAIRPERSON HERMAN BACA IN THE TELEGRAM STATED "THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT CAN ONLY LEAD TO A SLAVE TYPE SYSTEM FOR THE IMPORTED MEXICAN WORKER AND AN APARTHEID SYSTEM FOR THE 20 MILLION CHICANO/LATINO IN THE U.S." "WE CALL ON BOTH PRESIDENTS TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TURN AWAY FROM THE PROVEN "BANKRUPT" FAILURES OF THE PAST AND INSTEAD SEEK SOLUTIONS TO THE IMMIGRATION PROBLEM ON THE PRINCIPLES OF PROTECTING THE DIGNITY, INTEREST AND THE HUMAN, CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS NOT ONLY OF THE UNDOCUMENTED MEXICAN WORKER, BUT ALSO OF THE 20 MILLION CHICANO/LATINOS."

BACA WHO EMPHASIZED PAST POSITIONS BY OVER 200 CHICANO/MEXICANO ORGANIZATIONS OVER A 10 YEAR PERIOD STATED THAT "ANY TYPE OF BRACERO LABOR IMPORTATION PROGRAM WILL BE OPPOSED TOOTH AND NAIL BY THE CHICANO COMMUNITY".

"WITH OVER 7 MILLION UNEMPLOYED WORKERS IN THE U.S. THE PROPOSAL TO IMPORT FOREIGN WORKERS IS A MASSIVE CONTRADICTION IN U.S. IMMIGRATION POLICY IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS CALL FOR NATIONAL I.D. CARDS, INCREASING THE BORDER PATROL, AND MILITARIZING THE U.S. MEXICAN BORDER.

INSTEAD OF A BRACERO LABOR IMPORTATION PROGRAM BACA RECOMMENDED TO BOTH PRESIDENTS:

1837 Highland Avenue, National City, CA 92050 (714) 474-8195

- 1) TO A OPT THE BILL OF RIGHTS AS A BASIS FOR THE RESOLVEMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE.
- 2) END THE MILITARIZATION/LAW ENFORCEMENT IMMIGRATION POLICY AS A SOLUTION TO THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.
- 3) SET-UP A BI-LATERAL COMMISSION TO STUDY :
 - (a) ECONOMIC DOMINATION OF THE MEXICAN ECONOMY BY U.S. MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS.
 - (b) THE VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN, CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF PERSONS OF MEXICAN/LATIN ANCESTRY.
 - (c) THE CREATION OF A NEW, JUST AND HUMANE IMMIGRATION POLICY TO BENEFIT BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

CONTENT OF TELEGRAM SENT TO
PRESIDENTS REAGAN AND PORTILLO

JUNE 4, 1981

ON THE EVE OF THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO AND PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN ON JUNE 8 and 9, 1981, OUR ORGANIZATION WISHES TO REEMPHASIZE THE POSITIONS TAKEN ON THE ISSUE OF IMMIGRATION BY THE 200 ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ATTENDED THE CHICANO NATIONAL IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE HELD ON MAY 23, 1980 IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, HELD IN CULIACAN MEXICO IN JUNE OF 1980, AND THE FINAL FACT FINDING CHICANO NATIONAL IMMIGRATION TRIBUNAL RECENTLY HELD ON APRIL 11, 1981 IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. WHITE PAPERS ISSUED AT THESE CONFERENCES CATEGORICALLY OPPOSED THE IMPOSITION OF ANY TYPE OF BRACERO-FOREIGN-LABOR-IMPORTATION PROGRAM. THE ENACTMENT OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT CAN ONLY LEAD TO A "SLAVE TYPE PROGRAM" INVOLVING THE MASSIVE VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS OF THE IMPORTED MEXICAN WORKER AND COULD LEAD TO AN APARTHEID SYSTEM FOR THE MORE THAN 20 MILLION CHICANO/LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES.

WHETHER THEY ARE CALLED "GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS, TEMPORARY VISA, OR H-2 WORKER PROGRAM, THESE PROGRAMS WILL DEHUMANIZE, DEGRADE, AND MAKE INDENTURED WORKERS OUT OF MEXICAN CITIZENS AND WILL ALSO CAUSE CHICANOS/LATINOS TO SUFFER THE LOSS OF THEIR CIVIL, CONSTITUTIONAL, OR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE DOCUMENTATION AND POSITION PAPERS FROM THESE CONFERENCES WERE DELIVERED PERSONALLY BY A DELEGATION OF CHICANOS TO PRESIDENT LOPE PORTILLO'S ADMINISTRATION ON APRIL 17, 1981 AND TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ADMINISTRATION ON APRIL 23, 1981.

THIS INFORMATION REPRESENTS THE CULMINATION OF A TEN YEAR EFFORT BY THE CHICANO COMMUNITY TO PROPOSE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO

THE UNSOLVED IMMIGRATION ISSUE. THE CHICANO LEADERSHIP OF THIS COUNTRY WILL BE CAREFULLY OBSERVING AND MONITORING THE RESULTS OF YOUR MEETING.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE WHICH WILL BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF PROTECTING THE DIGNITY, INTEREST AND THE HUMAN , CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS NOT ONLY OF THE UNDOCUMENTED MEXICAN WORKER, BUT ALSO OF THE TWENTY MILLION CHICANO/LATINOS WHO WILL BECOME THE UNWILLING VICTIMS OF SHORT SIGHTED GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES.

THE UNSOLVED IMMIGRATION ISSUE. THE CHICANO LEADERSHIP OF THIS COUNTRY WILL BE CAREFULLY OBSERVING AND MONITORING THE RESULTS OF YOUR MEETING.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE WHICH WILL BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF PROTECTING THE DIGNITY, INTEREST AND THE HUMAN , CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS NOT ONLY OF THE UNDOCUMENTED MEXICAN WORKER, BUT ALSO OF THE TWENTY MILLION CHICANO/LATINOS WHO WILL BECOME THE UNWILLING VICTIMS OF SHORT SIGHTED GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES.

Ex-chief recalls bracero 'slavery'

By GEORGE KUEMPEL
and HOWARD SWINDLE
Staff Writers of The News

AUSTIN — Even at 72, a retired and comfortable Lee G. Williams is haunted by the memories of the bracero program he once ran, a program he says was nothing short of "legalized slavery."

Bracero.

Even the word rankles Williams. And his strong, resonant voice takes on an unexpected bitter tone as he recalls the plight of the 4 million hungry Mexicans who began flooding into the United States in 1942.

Bracero means the "strong-armed ones" in Spanish.

The thought of renewing the program, or revamping it, angers and frightens Williams, who as a U.S. Labor Department executive oversaw the day-to-day operation of the program from 1959 until its demise in 1964. Before that, he served for 20 years as general counsel and director of the Texas Employment Commission.

"I pray they don't reinstate this type program," he said.

"The bracero program was nothing but a way for big corporate farms to get a cheap labor supply from Mexico under government sponsorship," he said.

"It was purely a money-grabbing scheme by the corporate farms and the sugar interests. . . . The whole thing was supposed to be humanistic, but it was far short of what it should have been."

While he admitted the words "legalized slavery" are strong, Williams insisted they are accurate.

"They were so fearful of being away from home and not being able to send money to their families that they felt pretty much in bondage," he said.

A pledge by Gov. Bill Clements shortly after he took office in January 1979 to reinstate "a bracero-type pro-

gram" to deal with the many job-seeking illegal Mexican and other foreign workers in the United States has touched off a new round of debate on the program.

Several Texas congressmen, including Rep. Jim Collins, R-Dallas, and House Majority Leader Jim Wright of Fort Worth, have advocated a return to a similar program.

Bracero.

It was a word Clements was to regret using because it aroused strong emotions among Mexican-Americans and labor and civil rights groups.

Clements now goes to great lengths to avoid the term in discussing his proposals for solving the alien problem.

The governor's plan eliminates the provision in the bracero program that forces laborers to work for a particular employer. Clements proposes the Mexican workers be mobile. If they are mistreated, they simply can quit and try to find other jobs.

Under the bracero program, Mexican workers, unable to find jobs in their own country, were allowed to enter the United States to replace the farmers who had traded their plows for rifles. In return, the Mexicans — most of them illiterate — were to receive a fair wage, decent housing, nutritious food and the protections of the law afforded American citizens.

But it didn't work out that way, Williams recalled last week.

"The braceros were hauled around like cattle in Mexico and treated like prisoners in the United States," he said.

Despite efforts by the U.S. Department of Labor, the big corporate farmers managed to keep bracero wages "unconscionably low," Williams said. And housing and diet requirements were circumvented with acquiescence of the

state agencies responsible for enforcing them.

"The employment service here was notoriously in league with the farmers," he said.

After World War II, a lot of returning GIs abandoned the farms to seek their fortunes in the cities. And the big planters, anxious to retain the ready supply of cheap, willing workers from Mexico, managed to keep the program going until 1964.

In addition to subjecting the Mexican laborers to abuse, the program hurt American workers by depressing wages along the border, Williams said.

"I personally did a wage survey beginning in California at the border to Brownsville," he said, "and I found that wages, not only of agricultural workers but of carpenters, butchers and others, were affected adversely within 200 miles of the Mexican border."

And he said the program resulted in exploitation of the Mexican worker on both sides of the border.

For the Mexican worker to get into the program, he had to pay off officials in his own country, Williams said.

"They (the officials) demanded *morrida* — you know, 'the bite.' " he said. "It was a chain of officials, and the bracero didn't get on that list to the U.S. unless he paid in advance."

Williams, whose job included setting the wages that the Mexicans were to receive — based on the "prevailing" wages of the area in which they were to work — said farmers complained bitterly when wages were set higher than they wanted.

Williams bristles at the contentions of farmers and businessmen who hire illegal aliens today that they have no choice because American workers refuse

to take the dirty, low-paying jobs, especially when it is so easy to get on welfare instead of working.

"They could get someone to work if they would pay a fair wage," Williams said. "When they would come to me and say they couldn't find American workers, I'd say, 'Why don't you offer them some (decent) wages.' And they would say that would put them out of business."

He said he is not the least bit surprised at Clements' proposal to implement a similar plan, although the governor insists it would give the workers better protection.

"The governor of Texas seems to have an affinity for the dollar, too," Williams said.

"Look what (Gov. John) Connally did. It's that attitude toward agriculture labor. It's the same one that (Gov.) Dolph Briscoe had. It's simply: we want to make money, and it looks like we're going to have to do it on low wages."

Williams was referring to Connally's refusal to meet with a delegation walking from the Rio Grande Valley to Austin to protest the plight of migrant farm workers.

And Williams also questions Clements' and the United States' sudden interest in Mexico.

"You know, we never did give a damn about Mexico until they discovered all of that oil there," he said.

Williams said he does not have a solution, but he is confident a program like the bracero program is not the answer.

"I do have one answer: the bracero program is no answer. It would no more stop the flow of illegal aliens than they are presently being stopped."

The Roots of Immigration

A FACT SHEET ON FOREIGN DOMINATION & POVERTY IN MEXICO

- * (•) The transnational corporations, with over \$5 billion invested, control 35% of Mexico's total industrial production and employ 16% of all industrial workers. \$2 billion in profits and payments on royalties, patents and interests were sucked out of Mexico by the transnationals between 1961-71.
- About 3/4 of Mexico's foreign trade is with the U.S. and in 1975 Mexico imported \$4.5 billion more than it exported.
- Chronic unemployment now affects more than 40% of all Mexicans of working age. In Ciudad Juarez, across the river from El Paso, 43% of the 800,000 residents are jobless.
- The Mexican government has sought foreign loans to finance development, which has pushed its foreign debt to a staggering \$28 billion -- nearly \$500 for every man, woman and child in the country.
- (•) Agribusiness corporations like Del Monte and Anderson Clayton have come to dominate Mexican agriculture, fostering a system which produces luxury food items for the U.S. market rather than provide for Mexico's hungry. One half of all the vegetables consumed in the U.S. during winter months come from Mexico, while every day more than 1,000 Mexican children die of malnutrition.
- Largely because of the spread of "modern" agriculture, the number of landless peasants rose from 1.5 million in 1950 to some 5 million today. There are more than 8 million migrant workers constantly on the move in search of temporary jobs, earning an average of \$2.50-\$3.00 per day in the Northwest region.
- Migration of landless campesinos to urban areas adds 1,000 unemployed per day to Mexico City, already with a population of 13 million. It is the most polluted city in the Western Hemisphere and is expected to be the largest by the year 2000.
- * (•) Approximately 3.5 million peasants and fishermen live on less than one peso (five cents) a day, according to a recent study from Mexico. 9.9 million Mexicans eat no meat. 11.1 eat no eggs. 18.3 million consume no milk products. 80 per cent of these families live in rural communities where there is no medical services, electricity or running water.
- Numerous studies have shown that the presence of large foreign corporations and their ties with the Mexican ruling elites has increased the concentration of wealth in fewer and fewer hands. Robert McNamara of the World Bank claims that Mexico's richest 10% now take over 50% of the national wealth, while the poorest 40% have seen their share shrink from 14% to 11% in the past twenty years.
- The average working life of a miner in Mexico is 10 years, due to overwork and black-lung disease, and doctors estimate that every day 4 million Mexican workers are subjected to poisonous fumes in their workplaces.

-NACLA

NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS ON LATIN AMERICA



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE NATIONAL CHICANO IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE

May 24, 1980

BORDER VIOLENCE WORKSHOP

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in calling for the abolishment of the INS/Border Patrol.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in calling for the abolishment of the militarization policy between the U.S./Mexico as a solution to the immigration issue.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in calling for the immediate termination of the policy of incarcerating children and their mothers in federal prisons.
4. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as appointing a representative group of this conference to present the most degrading violations of human rights (i.e. incarceration of children, rape of women, handcuffed individuals shot and killed, etc.) to international Human Rights Organizations (i.e. the United Nations, International Amnesty, Federation fo the Rights of Man, etc.) with the understanding that the long range solutions be in our people's self-determination.
5. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in calling for an end to the racist term of illegal alien.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as supporting the creation of a broad-based coalition to end all residential sweeps.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in support of the Legal Services Corporation and oppose all legislation that discriminates against immigrants and that the Conference oppose the O'Brien amendment.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as opposing any collaboration with the INS/Border Patrol which will result in sweeps being conducted in work places and/or the community.

CHICANO/MEXICANO PERSPECTIVE

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as demanding unconditional residency for all people with all rights and privileges of indigeneous people as provided for in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as abolishing all quotas on immigration from countries where the USA has political, economic, and military domination.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD demanding that Mexican Government support progressive groups in Mexico and Chicano groups in their struggle for Human Rights and demand compliance with the Treaty of Guadalupe of Hidalgo.
4. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as supporting the fact "Que Somos un Pueblo Sin Fronteras," and that the struggle for immigrant rights is part and parcel of the struggle for the Chicano/Mexicano rights to self-determination.
5. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as supporting the Vogue Coach struggle and other similar progressive Union organizing efforts on behalf of undocumented workers.
6. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as calling for the denouncement of U.S. Ambassador, Julian Nava, for his support of the foreign guest worker program and his ignorance on the Immigration Issue.
7. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as developing an informational network and campaign to inform and educate our people of the Immigration Issue.

ECONOMICS, LABOR AND FOREIGN WORKER PROGRAM

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as supporting an Open-Border for immigrant workers and a Closed-Border for Multi-National Corporations.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as supporting the demands presented at the International Immigration Conference in Mexico City held on April 28, 1980.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as opposing all forms of contract labor such as the H-2 Program, Temporary Visa program or foreign guest-worker program.

CULTURAL WORKSHOP

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as recognizing Art and Culture as a link to the Immigration Issue, not just as a form of entertainment.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as acknowledging that culture be used as a weapon for Resistance.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as opposing the commercialism of cultural workers by big business industries such as Coors and Oil Companies.

EDUCATION WORKSHOP

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD to politicize the Chicano community of its civil and educational rights.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as a force to pressure the educational system to be accountable in assuring academic, social and economic competence for all Chicano students.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD to develop an educational system based on democratic, humanistic and social consciousness principles that guarantee the Chicano community the right to social, economic, and political power, as defined by the Chicano community.
4. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD demanding the right to free educational services and benefits that maintain and develop the primary language and culture of the Chicano/Mexicano community in all institutions of society.

CHURCH WORKSHOP

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD AS endorsing the Ecumenical Network that met here to affirm its willingness to continue to meet with and give support to Grass Roots organizations concerned with Immigration efforts.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as endorsing the Ecumenical Network Southwest's meeting in the spring of 1981 to critique the report of the President's Select Commission on Immigration.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD AS endorsing the Ecumenical Network's desire to communicate with Grass Roots organizations to aid them in getting their message to the people.
4. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as endorsing an agreement by the Ecumenical Network that the economic, political and social causes of immigration should be emphasized in education on immigration.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES WORKSHOP

1. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting that all health care and social services facilities must provide their services regardless of citizenship.
2. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting health care and social service benefits should be rendered to the undocumented without immigration las consequences past or present.
3. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting hehceforth, that the medi-cal standard form MC-6 or its equivalent be eliminated. (the MC-6 form is used in our health service system to identify and eliminate health care benefits to the undocumented)
4. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting that the collection of information regarding status and its forwarding to INS or dissemination in violation of the person's right to privacy and due process of law be stopped immediately.
5. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting an immediate creation of an emergency lane at all ports of entry to allow emergency medical treatment.
6. THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD in supporting that all providers of health care and social services have bilingual and bicultural professional staff.

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AND FINALLY THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD as ENDORSING THAT A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN BE UNDERTAKEN TO EDUCATE THE GENERAL POPULATION AND ELECTED OFFICIAIAL REGARDING THE FULL CHARACTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HEALTH NEEDS AND TAX CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS.

IN ADDITION THAT THIS CONFERENCE GO ON RECORD AS ENDORSING, ENCOURAGING, AND SUPPORTING ALL COMMUNITY GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO IMPLEMENT THE STATED GOALS OF THIS CHICANO NATIONAL IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE.

Bill of Rights for the Undocumented Worker

Article I: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to establish legal residency by demonstrating a status as wage earner and taxpayer.

Article II: Every immigrant worker shall have all of the Constitutional Rights guaranteed all persons in the U.S. This right shall include but not be limited to: the right to due process, and the right to be free in their persons and possessions from unreasonable searches and seizures; and such rights shall not be violated by raids in factories, residential areas and in public places and shall be free from deportations and other unconstitutional practices.

Article III: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to be reunited with his or her family in country where he or she is a wage earner.

Article IV: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to legalize and adjust their status within the U.S. without having to return to their country of origin.

Article V: Every immigrant worker shall fully enjoy all the rights guaranteed to citizen workers including socio-economic and labor rights.

Article VI: Every immigrant worker, particularly seasonal workers, shall be provided adequate housing, health and safety provisions.

Article VII: Every immigrant worker shall be guaranteed the same rights enjoyed by U.S. citizens especially the right of access to free and adequate social and health services, child-care, and other similar social benefits.

Article VIII: Every immigrant person shall have the right to quality public education in his or her native language, utilizing English as a second language and shall not be restricted from fully practicing the culture of his or her country of origin.

Article IX: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to receive disability insurance (partial or permanent), workers compensation, retirement and death benefits. In the event of a death, the cost of transporting the deceased to his or her country of origin shall be borne by the employer, and any corresponding benefits shall be delivered to the family of the deceased without regard to their place of residency.

Article X: Every immigrant worker shall have a right to organize and to collective bargaining, including the right to join existing unions or form new ones, for the defense of their labor rights and for the improvement of their wages and living and working conditions.

A) The right to collective bargaining shall include agricultural and public service workers in order to protect their right to organize.

Article XI: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to utilize his native language in all legal proceedings, (i.e., to acquire citizenship, in judicial proceedings, etc.) and in all private or public contract agreements.

Article XII: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to exercise their right to vote in their native country's federal elections. This right should be facilitated through consulates and all other places (union-halls, schools, etc.) designated by competent authorities.

Article XIII: Every immigrant worker shall have the right to vote in local and state elections from the moment of legalizing their immigration status without having to become citizens. The right is based on their status as taxpayers, workers and residents.

International Coordinating Committee

1st International Conference for the Full Rights of Undocumented Workers

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El Mirage, Arizona 85335
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Los Angeles, California 90005
(213) 383-7057

1642 S. Blue Island
Chicago, Illinois 60608
(312) 226-0173

P.O. Box 876
San Juan, Texas 78589
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Carta de Derechos Para Los Trabajadores Indocumentados

Artículo I: Derecho a la residencia legal, demostrando simplemente su calidad de trabajador y contribuyente, para lo que se les otorgará su visa de residente permanente.

Artículo II: Derecho a un procedimiento justo y legal que garantice la inviolabilidad de su domicilio, la privacidad de su persona y otros derechos civiles para el trabajador y su familia, suspendiéndose totalmente las redadas fabriles, domiciliarias y en lugares públicos, así como todo tipo de deportaciones y prácticas anti-constitucionales.

Artículo III: Derecho a la reunificación de las familias para todo trabajador con o sin documentos que así lo desee. Se podrá trasladar al conyuge, hijos y padres sin más trámites que demostrar su calidad de trabajador y contribuyente en la sociedad norteamericana.

Artículo IV: Derecho automático a legalizar su residencia sin tener que regresar a su lugar de origen, como lo exige actualmente la ley de Inmigración de Estados Unidos.

Artículo V: Derecho de gozar plenamente de derechos sindicales, sociales y económicos que disfrutan el resto de los trabajadores ciudadanos.

Artículo VI: Derecho a la vivienda en condiciones de higiene y seguridad adecuadas para todo trabajador cíclico o por obra determinada.

Artículo VII: Derecho a los servicios de salud y atención médica gratuita y adecuada, guarderías y demás beneficios en las mismas condiciones que los recibe cualquier ciudadano norteamericano.

Artículo VIII: Derecho a recibir educación pública adecuada en el idioma materno, utilizando el inglés como segunda lengua y acceso sin restricciones a la cultura de su país de origen.

Artículo IX: Derecho a disfrutar de los seguros de incapacidad (parcial o permanente), por accidente de trabajo, enfermedades profesionales, vejez o muerte. En caso de fallecimiento, los gastos de traslado a su lugar de origen correrán a cargo del patrón, y los beneficios de los seguros correspondientes serán entregados a los familiares no importando su lugar de residencia.

Artículo X: Derecho a la organización sindical, ya sea ingresando a sindicatos ya existentes o formando nuevos, para la defensa de sus derechos laborales y el mejoramiento de sus salarios y sus condiciones de vida y de trabajo.

(A) Derecho de Negociaciones Colectivas para los trabajadores agrícolas y trabajadores públicos para garantizar su derecho a la organización sindical.

Artículo XI: Derecho al uso de la lengua materna en los tribunales cualquiera que sea el carácter de estos, para adquirir la ciudadanía, en procesos judiciales y en todo arreglo contractual público o privado.

Artículo XII: Derecho a que se le otorguen plenas facilidades para el ejercicio del voto en elecciones federales de su país de origen. Este derecho se ejercerá a través de consulados y todo lugar (sindicatos, escuelas, demás) designados por autoridades competentes.

Artículo XIII: Derecho desde el momento de legalizar su residencia y sin necesidad de adquirir la ciudadanía norteamericana de ejercer el voto en las elecciones locales y estatales en Estados Unidos. Este derecho nace de su condición de contribuyente, de trabajador y de residente.

Comisión Internacional Coordinadora

1ra Conferencia Internacional Por Los Derechos Plenos de los Trabajadores Indocumentados





Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FACT SHEET ON IMPORTATION OF TEMPORARY ALIEN AGRICULTURAL
WORKERS UNDER THE H2 PROGRAM

AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE 7.7 MILLION U.S. WORKERS UNEMPLOYED NATIONWIDE
ACCORDING TO BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Section H-2 of the Immigration and Nationality Act allows for the importation of temporary alien workers only "if unemployed persons capable of performing such labor cannot be found in this country." There is no such shortage in this country.

THE H-2 PROGRAM DEPRESSES FARMWORKER WAGES.

U.S. farmworkers cannot negotiate for higher wages where the threat H-2 exists. In fact, if farmworkers ask for merely one cent more than the "prevailing wages" (which is considerably lower in states which use H-2 workers), the Department of Labor can certify that these workers are unavailable for work and bring in H-2 workers to fill these jobs.

H-2 WORKERS HAVE FEW FREEDOMS OR PROTECTION.

H-2 workers may not change employers. If an H-2 worker complains about working conditions he may be sent home, black-listed, and never allowed to work in the U.S. again. Only those H-2 workers who are extraordinarily hard working and complacent will be allowed to return for employment in future years.

EMPLOYERS WHO EMPLOY H-2 WORKERS DO NOT PROVIDE BENEFITS REQUIRED OF
OTHER EMPLOYERS.

Employers of H-2 workers need not contribute toward social security or unemployment insurance. Even U.S. workers who work for H-2 employers become ineligible for unemployment insurance for that period.

GROWERS PREFER THE H-2 SYSTEM BECAUSE IT PROVIDES THEM WITH A CHEAP,
CAPTIVE LABOR FORCE.

For years, growers have used Jamaican workers to cut sugar-cane in Florida and pick apples in New England, Virginia, west Virginia and New York. Growers use a variety of means

(over)

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to circumvent Department of Labor regulations and avoid hiring U.S. workers. Last year, growers refused to hire, or harassed and fired more than 2,000 workers from Puerto Rico, so they could hire H-2 workers.

THE H-2 PROGRAM THREATENS TO EXPAND DRASTICALLY.

Approximately, 15,000 H-2 workers were imported into the U.S. last year. The ^{SELECT Commission on Immigration & Refugee POLICY} ~~Carter~~ Administration has stated that as many ^{from} as 500,000 H-2 workers may be imported in the near future.

Already apple growers from Oregon and Colorado, citrus growers from Arizona, and tomatoe growers form Virginia have attempted to import H-2 workers.

Slightly expanded +

SHOULD BE STREAMLINED IN ORDER

BE THAT WORKERS CAN BE BROUGHT IMPORTED

EASIER