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La Prensa San Diego



for our dignity & honor we raise our voice

por nuestra dignidad y honor alzamos nuestra voz

Vol. III No. 5

1950 Fifth Ave — San Diego, Ca. 92101

February 2,

15¢

Chicanos/Latinos Discontent Manifest

Chamber Pushes For "Breceros"

(Editors Note: The following proclamation was issued by Herman Baca, Chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights. The proclamation is in support of Border March which will take place Feb. 11, 12 Noon, at the San Ysidro Border Crossing.)



Herman Baca
Committee on
Chicano Rights

The San Diego Chamber of Commerce has urged President Carter to discuss border manufacturing plants and traffic delays at the San Ysidro crossing when he meets with Mexican President Lopez Portillo next month.

The two Presidents will meet in Mexico City Feb. 14-16.

As the ninth largest city in the United States, San Diego has an important stake in U.S.-Mexico border matters, the Chamber said this week in a letter to President Carter in which four agenda items were suggested.

Chamber President Carleton Lichty urged Carter to support increased emphasis by both governments on the Border Industrialization Program (BIP) under which twin U.S.-Mexico plants are established along the border, providing jobs for Mexican workers.

The Chamber also asked the President to discuss:

**The "explosive" Mexican population, 42 per cent of which is age 16 or under, and the importance of creating jobs for these youths.

**A possible "guest worker" program, under which Mexicans could be brought into the U.S. for temporary jobs when legal resident workers are not available.

**Excessive delays at the San Ysidro border gate and the need to speed up inspections there.

Lichty congratulated the President and wished him success in the talks with the Mexican leader.



San Diego, CA...117 years ago in Puebla, Mexico, our people raised their voices against tyranny, against oppression and in the process expressed their deep seated desired for freedom and dignity. Today it is significant that Pope John Paul II has chosen Puebla as the historical site for his first visitation with the Latin American Bishops.

Today, in 1979, we also raise our voices in a new cry of outrage because of the immigration issue and call for a national pretest march against the new tyranny of the spirit, the oppression of our civil rights and the degradation that is being perpetrated daily against Americas 16 million Chicanos/Latinos. San Ysidro, to la raza, is rapidly becoming the Puebla of the 70's.

We have implored, petitioned and requested that our government not construct the proposed curtain of hatred between Mexico and the U.S., between Anglo-Americans and Chicanos/Latinos. Our national organizations, in concert with our national leaders, have attempted to make government understand the offensive nature of this fence. To America's Chicano & Latinos, it represents a monument of failure, to the intolerable racism existent within our country. There is no further recourse. We have tried but found all doors to reason locked.

We have spoken eloquently before every tribunal...and found disdain.

We have sent our most respected leaders to speak for us...and they have been turned off.

We have trod the path of reason...and found fences blocking our way. We have no recourse but to bring our message to the people of the

United States and Mexico...in the only way left...on the streets!

"Gente del pueblo Mexicano, del pueblo Latino, del pueblo Chicano, our leaders have tried for the last few years to bring solutions to our problems with dignity, respect and honor to our people. Our leaders have sought to use the avenues of reason to resolve the manifold problems that confront our people and have found those avenues closed. We ask our people to now raise their voices, as they did in Puebla so long ago.

We ask that they raise their voices once again to the heavens against the tyranny, oppression, loss of individual freedom and dignity that is now being occasioned against la raza by the immigration issue. Let us raise our voices, from the most humble individual to the highest of our leaders, in justifiable outrage, at the continued insistence of the Carter administration to construct the Carter Curtain. A fence which will stop nothing and stand as a constant reminder of Americas insensitivity to its largest growing

minority...the Chicano Latino.

Let us raise our voices, in opposition to the continued treatment of the Mexican and American border as a "Militarized no mans land" rather than as a boundry between brothers.

Let us raise our voices against the continued massive civil, constitutional, and human rights violations which continue to be perpetrated against the Chicano/Latino population by the border patrol.

Our government has left us no alternative but to march. Let our feet send a resounding message to Lopez Portillo and to Jimmie Carter...that the Sleeping Giant sleeps no more.

Rather than Carter's Fence and a continued militarization of the border, we seek a social, economic & humane approach to the human problems that confront the two nations.

Rather than an immigration policy which plants the future seeds of hatred and antagonism and fear, let us work for a policy of mutual reciprocity.

Rather than the continued maintenance of a border patrol which can only justify its existence through terror,

oppression and denial of human and civil rights, let us seek instead to place along our borders representatives of a just government which exists to facilitate the policies of our government rather than continue a reign of terror, corruption and brutality.

Our people have been ignored in the councils of government which have proposed the current policies and prepared the accords for President Carter to discuss with President Portillo. Let us make it clear that our peoples dignity, honor and pride will not be sacrificed upon a barrel of oil or the almighty dollar.

Instead of confrontations, we propose that national hearings be held in every single city with a Chicano/Latino population of significant size. In this manner, those who most stand to be affected by future immigration policy may have a say in determining their future.

Instead of constructing a barbaric fence, we ask that those funds be used to establish a just, fair & humane immigration policy and to eliminate the administrative incompetence

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Discontent With Carter Fence Mounts

drive," stated Gus Chavez.

"The official launching will take place at the Hilton Hotel, Hawaiian Room, commencing at 6:00pm this Friday, Feb. 2, 1979. We are inviting all those interested in helping us launch this worthwhile effort to join with us," said Jim Estrada.

Appearing along with Mario Obledo will be Al Zapanta, Assistant to Lt. Mike Curb and Willie Velasquez, Director of the Southwest Voter Registration Project. A no host bar will be available.

rampant throughout the INS.

Instead of pseudo paramilitary policemen manning border patrol stations or policy making offices of the INS, we ask that professionally competent administrators be hired and utilized. Vietnam has demonstrated the stupidity of General Chapman type policies which currently hold sway within the INS. Military have been trained to kill not preserve life.

Finally, as American citizens, we ask that Congress

enjoin our President from creating international policy, adhoc, without the advice, and consent of Congress... for President Carter to consider the establishment of treaties with Mexico when his congress is so totally uninformed of the ramifications, problems or impact, constitutes an act of political expediency rather than of reasoned policy making.

Today we make our stand in San Ysidro and raise our voices to the world community to hear.