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RELEASE: JUNE 4, 1982

ALIENS, REFUGEES, AND IMMIGRANTS

At least nine million Americans are unemployed. But estimates of the number of illegal aliens in the United States range from 3 million to 12 million, and that number is growing at more than a half million a year.

The competition for jobs is just one of the problems posed by the tremendous influx of aliens into the United States. They also cause problems of welfare costs, social security, medical payments, crime, disease, espionage, and urban conflict.

In recent years, the United States has accepted twice as many immigrants (including refugees) as all the other nations in the world combined. Immigration accounts for almost half of our annual population growth, and about half of them are illegal entrants.

In the lifetime of all living Americans, it has been self-evident that most people in the entire world would like to emigrate to the United States. It is obviously impossible to have an immigration policy based on the desires or needs of people in other countries. At least 14 million people worldwide are designated as "refugees." In Haiti, 70% of the people live at or below an "absolute poverty" level of $140 per year per person. Shall we admit all 3-1/2 million of those poor people?

From 1921 to 1965, the United States had a policy based on allowing a reasonable annual number of immigrants, primarily of persons who were the most assimilable into the American culture. Beginning in the 1950s, the liberal establishment began a powerful propaganda campaign against what they called the "national origins quota system." Congress abolished it in 1965.

After that, legal and illegal immigration grew by leaps and bounds. In 1981, we received 700,000 legal immigrants and refugees. Most immigrants in recent years have come from Asia and Latin America. Demographers predict that California will have a Hispanic majority by 1990. A 1981 Yankelovich opinion survey indicates that 46% of American Hispanics consider themselves "Hispanic first, American second," and only 12% "Americans first, Hispanic second."

Attorney General William French Smith told a Senate Subcommittee on July 30, 1981,

"We have lost control of our borders." He said that illegal aliens are entering our country at the rate of 1.5 million to 2 million every year. Smith also told the Los Angeles World Affairs Council in 1981 that illegal immigration poses a continuing threat of "hostile intelligence" activities in our country. One new worry is Soviet immigration, which has amounted to about 150,000 since 1973.

The worst part of our alien immigration problem was created by the trick Castro played on President Jimmy Carter. According to information supplied to American reporters by a defector from Cuban intelligence, Genaro Perez, Castro deliberately tried to promote destabilization in the United States by releasing a hoard of "refugees" in 1980.

According to Perez, Castro's "Plan Bravo" was designed to "unleash violence in the U.S. -- riots, disturbances, bombings, shootouts, assaults on banks -- in an effort to terrorize the American public and government." "Plan Bravo" involved the "incitement of racial conflict among Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and especially blacks." According to the American Security Council's Washington Report, the CIA warned the Carter Administration about Castro's plan four months before the boat lift began in April 1980.

Carter tried to explain the mass exodus from Cuba in 1980 as people fleeing from Communist persecution to U.S. freedom. Congressman Robert McClory, however, told Congress on June 4, 1980, that "Premier Castro has been enjoying these recent weeks as he has shipped tens of thousands of Cuban undesirables to our shores -- for us to look after." By the end of June 1980, a "Cuban invasion" of 115,000 had landed in Florida, including prostitutes, homosexuals, and people with venereal disease, other communicable diseases, tuberculosis, and mental illness.

One government report indicated that 18,479 of the "refugees" admitted to having criminal records in Cuba. A witness testified before a House Judiciary Subcommittee that 4,000 inmates were released from one Cuban prison, loaded on buses, forced at gunpoint onto waiting boats, and transported to Florida.

Millions of immigrants have come to America in recent years (especially those from Cuba in 1959-60) who appreciate American freedom and have prospered as good citizens. They now share with the rest of us the responsibility to develop a plan to deal with the mistaken policies that have made us a dumping ground for criminals, illegals, espionage agents, and other undesirables.