

SOLVING THE MEXICAN BORDER PROBLEM

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Admittedly, solving the illegal alien/invaser problem along the US-Mexico border is a major problem. Unfortunately, none of the “solutions” being proposed at the moment, or during the past decade or more, whether Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, Dick Durbin or Sean Hannity or President Trump, will solve the problem. Attempting to build a wall all along the hundreds of miles of the Mexican border, while a nice thought, is ludicrous – talk about your bridge to nowhere! This does not mean that we should give up and do nothing but let us first understand the problem and then address the issues appropriately and sensibly. My greatest fear in what I just said is that we as a nation have neither the willingness to truly define the problems nor the political intestinal fortitude to address them once we grasp the true nature of the problems and ascertain what are viable and reasonable solutions – as provided below.

Before I continue, let me say that I, like most others who are concerned about our porous southern border, take no issue with legal immigrants, or foreign workers and visitors to the U.S. who enter legally. Immigrants to this country have brought great wealth into the U.S. in terms of intellectual capital, industriousness, and other similar assets. Normally, they truly realize the freedoms available in this country to pursue one’s goals and dreams, to achieve and be successful. Like many, I favor an extensive review of our immigration laws and policies to make them as amiable and amenable as possible to those desiring to legally immigrate to the U.S. Of course, any review must well consider our nation’s ability to assimilate a greater number of immigrants into our society and our economy, but pending that, I favor allowing more people to legally immigrate here and/or obtain work visas. Also, it should be noted that within this paper, I have carefully avoided calling the illegal aliens crossing our borders and invading our land, “immigrants.” They are not “illegal immigrants”, they are illegal aliens! We should not confuse those who choose to legally immigrate to this country, i.e. legally take up

permanent residence here and make this country their home, including adopting and adapting to our language and lifestyles, and those that invade our borders illegally.

Most U.S. citizens understand the problem to a degree. We all understand that there are millions of illegal aliens currently living and working in the U.S. It is beyond the scope of this paper to address the socio-economic issues this poses and the financial drain this causes on our school systems, our welfare system, our medical community, and the like. But, we should still consider these issues and their impact. Consider for example the current extreme shortage of nurses in this country; how many are “consumed” treating illegal aliens? And, how often and to what extent is our shortage of doctors and nurses exacerbated by treating strange and/or difficult to treat diseases being transported across our border? Some are saying that if we do not hire illegals, that the price of goods, particularly fruits and vegetables, will rise dramatically. The best rebuttal I have heard to that is that they are already costing us. It is just in indirect costs such as those noted above rather than in direct costs at the grocery store, and these indirect costs are much more than any savings at the grocery store.

Regarding building the wall, it will NOT be effective unless something similar to the regimens described herein is implemented; however, if they are implemented there will be no need for a wall, i.e. the wall is a useless but expensive façade.

With respect to the U.S - Mexican border issues, defining the problems and providing the solutions are both complex. While I am not able to totally address every issue in this treatise, I have tried to provide sufficient information to establish a reasonable alternative to building that expensive edifice all along the border.

Below is a synoptic overview of my positions on the issues followed by more detailed explanations of my perspectives in the subsequent pages.

The problems, as addressed in greater detail in the pages to follow, are in essence:

- Ø The wall will cost U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars to merely provide a semblance of security but will not solve the problem

- Ø Maintaining the wall will continue to cost U.S. taxpayers additional billions of dollars every year to retain this appearance of security, and the more sophisticated the systems incorporated into the wall, the higher the cost of the required maintenance
- Ø Training maintenance technicians will be expensive IF we can even find the needed personnel given the current shortage of maintainers for U.S. defense weapons systems – F-35s, F-22s, etc.
- Ø Building the wall means confiscating thousands of acres of private land
- Ø Stopping additional illegal aliens attempting to cross our border each day does not solve the problem of the 11-12 million illegal aliens already in this country
- Ø It does nothing to resolve the attitude of the elitists in Mexico towards their own people and their desire to see the poor to remain poor
- Ø The desire of Mexico's elitist government to export its excess poor to the U.S. in order to solve their own welfare issues

The solutions, as also addressed in greater detail below, are:

- Ø We should not pass any legislation that will potentially reward illegals by providing any hope of future citizenship
- Ø We need to change our laws restricting citizenship via natural birth to only those who are born on U.S. soil to persons here legally
- Ø We must have a fair, equitable, and user-friendly "worker visa" program applicable to those from foreign nations that wish to work in the U.S. for a period of time
- Ø While I am not thrilled with a national I.D. system, it is probably necessary in some form, and in fact we already have the basis for it through the current States' driver's license programs
- Ø We need to crack down on companies that knowingly hire illegal aliens, but, we cannot do that unless we first solve the identification and registration issues.

That was the easy part; now comes the difficult part:

- Ø We must get tough with Mexico and various Central American countries and put an end to the corrupt Government practices in countries that prevents, or otherwise severely restricts, citizens of those countries from creating wealth for them from within
- Ø We need to forcibly create a more rational trade agreement whereby U.S. companies and citizens are permitted and encouraged to build factories, farms, and other commercial and industrial endeavors in Mexico and even various Central American countries that will provide good paying jobs for the Hispanic people in their own countries
- Ø We should encourage franchising, such as fast food restaurants and the like, in Mexico and Central America whereby the businesses are owned/franchised by the ordinary citizens of those countries, thereby allowing them to create their own internal wealth
- Ø We must treat anyone crossing the border illegally as a foreign invader and be willing to shoot-to-kill anyone who does not obey orders to halt and be detained!!

As previously stated in my opening paragraph, my greatest fear is that we do not have the national resolve or intestinal fortitude to do what it takes to solve the problems. Defining the problems and determining the solutions as addressed in more detail below, are of little benefit if we do not have the will to act upon the solutions in total. Building the wall is the coward's way out that will end up being nothing more than an expensive failure.

Defining the Problem

Proposals to physically stop/restrict the flow of illegals via a wall will be expensive as well as futile

In facing the facts, we next need to realize that the proposed wall, intended to physically stop the flow of illegal aliens from crossing our southern border, may make us feel safer but in

reality, will not truly cause more than a nominal reduction in the number of illegals that cross the border each day, week, or month.

The current wall built between southern California and Mexico is being touted as a major success in halting the flow of illegal aliens from Mexico, thus eliciting support in some sectors for building a wall along the entire border. One reason for the wall's current success, if there truly is any, is that it is easier for the illegals, and those who assist them, to go elsewhere along the border than to go over it. After all, in the whole scheme of things, the wall is not that long. And, U.S. border agents openly admit that on foggy nights, when the lights cannot light up the wall along its entire length, illegals with ladders on each side of the wall, traverse it in droves. Oh, by the way, if one intends to build a wall along the entire border, it must be well lit as well as constantly patrolled, almost the same as if it was not there. Thus, if one thinks that a wall will reduce the number of border agents needed to patrol the border or truly significantly impede the flow of illegals across the border, it will not.

Consider the following. In 2006 (before my first writing of this treatise), according to a presentation I attended given by a U.S. border patrol agent, the border patrol owned one Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) that patrolled the border at various times. That UAV could do nothing more than take pictures of the border and send images back to a border patrol station for further action by individual agents. It was admitted by the border patrol agent that those on the Mexican side assisting the illegals in crossing the border have spotters in the hills on the Mexican side, looking down on the airport where the UAV is based, and every time it takes off, they report its time, direction, etc. to assist the illegals in not being spotted crossing the border. The border patrol may currently employ additional UAV's but I doubt they provide any real additional capability to the border patrol or enhanced border security.

Even when the border patrol does spot a group of illegal aliens crossing the border, there is little they can do. While the border patrol is armed, they are not allowed to use their firearms unless fired upon or otherwise have their lives endangered. The most they are allowed to do is physically restrain an illegal in order to arrest him and return him to Mexico.

Most people do not realize the magnitude of the nightly problem regarding the crossing of the

border by illegals. Until one sees the hundreds and thousands of illegals crossing our U.S. border each night wherein from the UAV it looks like an ant colony of people flooding the border, it is hard to conceive that which the border patrol is truly contending. Because the border patrol will not shoot anyone except in self-defense, and the Mexicans know that, and further, because the illegals know there is no punishment for getting caught other than to be detained momentarily and subsequently returned to Mexico to be released to try again, there is no fear of retribution on the illegals' part. It is obvious from videos that I have seen that the illegals do not fear the border patrol. Time and again, I witnessed 2 or 3 border agents up against tens or hundreds of illegals. The illegals scattered in all directions while continuing across the border even as the border patrol captured/detained 2 or 3 of the illegals to be returned to their home country.

Besides the initial cost of the wall to the U.S. Taxpayers, estimated currently to be at least \$15 billion (and, NO, I don't believe Mexico will foot the bill), there are some other aspects of building a wall all along the border that I find most reprehensible:

1. The initial cost is only the beginning. Long-term, the ongoing costs to maintain the wall will make the initial cost seem miniscule. President Trump indicated that the wall will have a plethora of electronic sensors and other sophisticated devices and systems. The more sophisticated the systems, the higher the cost of maintaining those systems, and the higher the skill levels needed by maintenance personnel. From where are those highly skilled maintainers going to come? The Air Force is currently in need of several thousand additional maintainers to service the new F-35s, KC-46s, and other new aircraft entering the field while keeping the old aircraft flying under ever increasing mission requirements. There is not an unlimited supply of maintainers capable of servicing these sophisticated weapons and other systems such as will be needed by the wall.
2. Second, is the fact that thousands of acres of what is currently private land will have to be confiscated by our federal government on which to build the wall and provide access thereto.

3. Consider that walls are built to keep people in as well as others out. Just ask the people of East and West Germany as well as any prison.

Stopping illegals from crossing the border does not address the problem of those 11-12 million illegal aliens already in this country.

We know that there are already 11-12 million illegal aliens (and closer to 20 million by some estimates), mostly Mexican, that currently reside in this country. These are the ones too many people are attempting to persuade our Government and us, that they are such a benefit to the U.S. economy that we should reward them for their illegal invasion of our sovereign nation with some special route to citizenship (sometimes referred to as amnesty) that places them ahead of those seeking legal immigration. We cannot reward those here illegally with any special opportunity for citizenship if in fact we should ever allow them citizenship at all.

Mexico's elitists and their government that supports exporting its citizens to the U.S.

First and foremost, a major problem is that the Mexican government supports exporting its citizens to the U.S. It has been well documented that Mexico is an elitist society wherein the wealthy elite there do not want the poor people in that country to have the opportunity to become wealthy and thereby infringe upon their elite status and lifestyle. The elitists need a certain population of poor people to serve their needs. And, they do not wish to see the wages or economic status of the poor improve as this, in their view, would dilute their personal wealth as well as their economic, socio and political status and advantages. There are similar issues with respect to some Central American countries as well.

Mexico's elitists support exporting its poor to the U.S. to solve its potential welfare problem

The further problem in Mexico and various Central American countries is that they have too many poor people, many more than the elitists require to serve their needs. This leaves them with a welfare problem, one that the elitists do not wish to support. What is the solution to Mexico's welfare problem? Export the excess labor across the border. Thus, the

elitists who control the government of Mexico or similar Central American countries have been able to manipulate their governments to assist their poor in being exported to the United States. If you think this is not the case, consider the following:

- Ø The Mexican federal government has done virtually nothing to stop illegals from crossing the border into the United States, nor are they going to do so.
- Ø Unlike Cuba (or other such countries), where those fleeing that country live in fear of being caught and returned because they know they will be imprisoned, abused, or worse for attempting to escape, in Mexico, illegals who are returned by U.S. border agents to Mexican authorities are summarily released to attempt to once again cross the border. There are numerous examples of illegal aliens being caught and returned to Mexico, only to be caught in the U.S. again within days.

Consider that the total population of Mexico is currently between 120-125 million people against the U.S.'s citizen population that is approaching 330 million. Now, consider that it is estimated that there are 11-12 million illegal aliens, mostly Mexican (currently 1/10 of Mexico's present population), in the U.S. and one begins to realize that Mexico is solving its welfare state quite nicely by exporting its poor to the rich United States with three times the population to support its welfare system. And, the U.S. has more well-to-do people and companies per capita to support its welfare system than Mexico has. Also, as has been well documented by others, despite the lower costs for fruits and vegetables at the grocery stores, our citizens are being considerably taxed, financially, by the illegals here upon whom we, corporately and individually, maintain an overly compassionate and benevolent outlook.

So, what do we do to resolve the problem? We can solve the problem much quicker at much lower cost than building a wall, but we must have the national resolve and fortitude to do so. As noted earlier, the wall will not be effective without implementing solutions similar to what I am proposing herein, and if these solutions are implemented, we will NOT need the wall.

The solution to the problem

1. Do **not** give illegals any hope of future citizenship

While we need to ensure our laws for legal immigration are as workable and friendly as feasible, at the same time we should **not** pass any legislation that will potentially reward illegals by providing any hope of future citizenship, but we should pass legislation that if they are caught here illegally, their names and I.D information will be registered in the INS database such that **they will never be allowed citizenship.**

2. Change our laws regarding citizenship via natural birth to only those born to parents legally in this country

We need to change our laws restricting citizenship via natural birth to only those who are born on U.S. soil to persons here legally (whether already a citizen or here as a legally registered alien). A person born on U.S. soil, but born to parents, one or both, who are here illegally should **not** be granted U.S. citizenship. This law needs to be retroactive to at least the year 2000 if not before, such as 1990 or 1995. I would also be very cautious about any visa program allowing pregnant woman access to the U.S. We must stop the flow of “anchor babies.”

3. Create a fair, equitable, user-friendly worker visa program

We must have a fair, equitable, and user-friendly “worker visa” program applicable to anyone from various foreign nations that wishes to work in the U.S. for a period of time and fills a needed avocation. It needs to be set up so that these guest workers can be tracked as to their whereabouts and activities during their entire stay. I.e., they would have an INS agent with whom they must be in contact on a weekly or at least a monthly basis and they must be where they say they are going to be. This can still provide them with tremendous freedom of movement and activities in the U.S. It will not prevent them from traveling around the

country; they just need to inform their monitoring agent as to where they are going, when, and for what purpose. If they are then found to be elsewhere or engaged in some unapproved activity, they should be immediately deported. Also, we all need to realize that they do not have the freedoms of our own citizens and should be restricted from such activities as protest movements or other acts deemed detrimental to U.S. interests by foreign entities.

4. Create a National I.D. system

While I am not thrilled with a national I.D. system, it is probably necessary in some form. We already have a national database of citizens called Social Security. (Even though the original Social Security Act promised unequivocally that the numbering system would never be used for anything other than the Social Security program, we are way beyond that now.) Everyone who wishes to have a job in this country should be required to show some official form of government sponsored photo I.D. that is tied to one's federal identification / Social Security number. Consider that one cannot open a bank account without a federal I.D. number, thus there are other things from obtaining a driver's license to receiving medical assistance to registering for school to whatever, that should not be allowed unless one is properly registered with an approved federal I.D. (I detest my own suggestion but do not see any other way around this one for the now.) This could and should also be used in conjunction with public voting such that only properly registered citizens of the U.S. may vote in our governments' elections.

5. Crack down on companies that knowingly hire illegals

We need to crack down on companies that knowingly hire illegal aliens. But, we cannot do that unless we first solve the identification and registration issues. Currently, there too many "paper mills" operating on both sides of the border, providing illegals with all kinds of identification papers from fake birth certificates to driver's licenses to social security cards. Employers, especially small to medium size businesses who hire the bulk of illegal aliens currently, just are not equipped to thoroughly check out whether or not a document is forged

or legitimate. And this is over and above those states who are now issuing drivers licenses to illegals. (That one I do not understand at all!) Thus, we must have some “foolproof” (I put foolproof in quotes because I am not sure anything is totally foolproof) form of identification for citizens and legal aliens alike. Then, any company or individual who hires anyone who does not have a proper federally approved I.D. card should be prosecuted if caught. (I say “federally approved” because I do think the states can accomplish this in conjunction with their state driver’s license bureaus via better coordination with the INS. It will mean that they will need to create an I.D. card for those who do not have a driver’s license but many states are doing that already.) Certainly, the E-verify system provides a major step in the right direction.

That was the easy part, now comes the tough part!!

6. Get tough with Mexico to create more rational trade agreements

We must get tough with Mexico and most likely certain other Central American Governments. We must put an end to Government practices in Mexico and elsewhere that prevents, or otherwise severely restricts, citizens of these countries from creating wealth for themselves from within.

To accomplish this, our government must create more rational trade agreements whereby U.S. companies and citizens are permitted and encouraged to build factories, farms, and other commercial and industrial endeavors in Mexico that will provide good paying jobs for the Mexican people in Mexico. We should encourage franchising, such as fast food restaurants and the like, whereby the businesses are owned/franchised by ordinary citizens of those countries who are then allowed to keep the profits from their industriousness. There could be farm cooperatives whereby citizens of those countries own the land and establish cooperatives with U.S. agricultural producers to grow and market various food products. But, we must have the support and full cooperation of those Governments to accomplish this. It would also be most beneficial to have the cooperation and support of our allies around the

world. While their full and open support would be most helpful, we must not be dissuaded from what we must do to effect our own national security. We certainly have a better chance of obtaining this kind of cooperation with the Mexican Government than getting it to provide the funding for building, much less maintaining, the wall.

7. The really tough part for some – be willing to shoot-to-kill

We must be willing to shoot-to-kill anyone crossing the border illegally who does not obey orders to halt and be detained!! Once detained, they should be treated as criminals and placed in a U.S. database before being incarcerated and/or deported. Those who attempt to enter the U.S. illegally should be treated as invaders against a sovereign nation and should never be allowed U.S. citizenship. (At the same time, if we have more jobs created in Mexico and Central America that truly benefit the citizens of those countries financially and creates real wealth for them therein, there should be fewer that desire to enter this country illegally and fewer that would ultimately seek U.S. citizenship.) Regarding “shoot-to-kill,” there is no intent in this to engage in wanton mass shootings or any such irresponsible behavior. However, without the threat being real, as already presented above and demonstrated by those continuing to cross our borders with no fear of real retribution, the invasion of our sovereign nations by foreigners will continue unabated. I liken it to a child misbehaving in a supermarket and the mother instructs the child to behave or he will be punished when his father gets home. The child continues misbehaving unabated because he knows nothing is going to happen to him once he gets home. It happens all the time along the border and in the supermarkets.

In addition, it would be much easier and more cost effective to encourage owners of private land along the border, whose land will otherwise be partially confiscated to build the wall, to protect their property from foreign invaders (i.e. illegal aliens, not the misnomer “illegal immigrant”) in cooperation with the Border Patrol and local law enforcement. Yes, that means that it may involve them shooting someone on occasion! But they have an unalienable

right to protect their lives and property and must be accorded that Constitutionally protected right by the Federal Government and the courts.

8. Provide a reasonable transition period for those illegals currently residing and working in the U.S. to return to their home country

We must also provide a reasonable transition period for all illegal aliens to leave our country and return to their own country. After this short transition period, any illegal alien that is caught in this country will be treated as a criminal invader and should never being allowed U.S. citizenship.

While this proposal may sound harsh in some respects, it is fair and equitable in that it protects U.S. interests regarding our borders against future potential invaders. At the same time, it provides economic opportunity for the Mexican people and those of various Central American countries. It is my view that if U.S. based companies are given a fair and reasonable opportunity to expand and create businesses in Mexico and possibly Central America to the benefit of the American people there will be a stampede of businesses expanding (as opposed to moving out of the U.S. for cheaper labor and other costs of doing business) into Mexico and Central America. And, as the standard of living for the people of those countries rises, they will purchase more goods and services resulting in an even larger economic boon for both sides of the border.