Bush, Fox Urge Legalization Of Undocumented Immigrants.

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Body

The Toledo Blade (9/7, Mahr) reports, "In one of Toledo's biggest political events ever, <u>President Bush</u> and <u>Mexican President</u> Vicente Fox appealed yesterday for Americans to embrace closer economic ties with <u>Mexico</u> -- a visit that left residents happy for the attention but lukewarm to the message. The visit produced a side show of star-struck citizens and protests as the pair of <u>presidents</u> took their message to a city with a strong Hispanic community, but one with fears that more open borders will suck high-paying jobs to the south. 'I know there are some in this world and our country who want to build walls between <u>Mexico</u> and the United States,' Mr. <u>Bush</u> told the 8,000 people packed into the University of Toledo's Savage Hall. 'I want to remind people, fearful people build walls. Confident people tear them down,' Mr. <u>Bush</u> said to a roar from a crowd that ranged from college students to retirees. . Throughout the day two unions held separate rallies against the expansion of the free- trade policies Mr. <u>Bush</u> is pursuing. And about 75 people at UT protested everything from Mr. <u>Bush</u>'s energy policy to Iraqi trade sanctions. But inside Savage Hall, the crowd's mood at times resembled a fiesta in the 90-minute wait for the <u>presidents</u>' arrival."

The Toledo Blade (9/7, Pakulski) also reports, "President Bush's adversaries in organized labor and the anti-NAFTA movement weren't about to give him a free ride in the second-most unionized city in America. And the flak began on Air Force One, where Toledo Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur issued a challenge to Mr. Bush and Mexican President Vicente Fox and, at one point, sneaked off to tell reporters on the plane how she thought the U.S. leader should be doing things differently. Miss Kaptur, a labor supporter who opposes free trade agreements as set up, was invited late Tuesday to accompany Mr. Bush to Toledo on the presidential aircraft. During a later interview, she talked about the atmosphere on Air Force One. Mr. Bush was 'very gracious and in good humor,' she said. When she presented him a copy of a 31/2 -page letter seeking modification of NAFTA, the President quipped: 'Is this single-spaced? I'll need my glasses and it looks pretty thick.' More seriously during their meeting, Mr. Bush asked: 'Are you asking me to repeal NAFTA?' . Union members traded verbal barbs with pro-Bush demonstrators on South Avenue along the route that he traveled to get to the Aurora Gonzalez Center. And rallying union supporters booed and waved anti-NAFTA signs as the presidential motorcade passed the headquarters of Teamsters Local 20 along the Anthony Wayne Trail. Miss Kaptur met with the two presidents for 20 minutes. But Mr. Bush and Mr. Fox spent half the meeting talking sports, including the UT football team's victory over the University of Minnesota, with Ohio's Republican Congressmen Paul Gillmor and Mike Oxley, she complained."

ABC News (9/6, story 2, Jennings) reported last night, "President Bush and the Mexican President have had another busy day talking to the US about their ideas for immigration reform. Vicente Fox especially wants the US to make it possible for more Mexicans to work here legally. Today he spoke to the Congress. Then the two Presidents went to Ohio." ABC (Moran) added, "After all the policy questions and controversy these two Presidents raised in Washington, the trip here to Toledo was surprisingly emotional. A packed college field house echoed with both fight songs and mariachi music. The crowd of several thousand was made up of college students and migrant workers, white couples and Hispanic families. President Bush spoke directly to the anxieties and prejudices sparked by his immigration discussions with President Fox." Bush was shown saying, "I know there are some in this world and our country who want to build walls between Mexico and the US. I want to remind

people, fearful people build walls. Confident people tear them down." CBS added, "Then a remarkable scene. In a city where the Hispanic population is rapidly rising, <u>President</u> Fox addressed the Mexicans in the audience in alternating Spanish and English, telling the migrants he wanted them, eventually, to come home." Fox was shown saying, "We need you back in <u>Mexico</u>. We will be working to welcome all of you back in <u>Mexico</u>." CBS added, "Earlier in Washington, Fox reminded a joint meeting of <u>Congress</u> of their own immigrant histories." Fox was shown saying, "Many among you have a parent or a grandparent who came into this country as an immigrant from another land." ABC added, "Many of those members of <u>Congress</u> were undoubtedly touched by that personal appeal. It will need more than emotion for these two <u>Presidents</u> to achieve their objectives."

CBS (9/6, story 5, Roberts) reported, "Bush has promised a maximum effort to find a solution to the problem of undocumented workers, illegal border crossings, and so-called 'coyotes,' smugglers who traffic in human cargo, often with deadly results. Today Mr. Bush said it is a complex issue that can't be solved easily or quickly." Bush was shown saying, "We're trying to work through a formula that will not penalize the person who's chosen the legal route, and at the same time recognizes the contribution that the undocumented has made." CBS added, "There is an enormous political component to the state visit, and **President Bush** didn't miss a beat today," touting "his close friendship with Fox before Ohio's growing *America-Mexican* population." *Bush* was shown saying, "Today I bring a special visitor. Un amigo de mio, y tambien, un amigo de los Estados Unidos." CBS added, "Both stand to gain from the relationship. Mr. Bush, by connecting with Hispanic voters crucial to his reelection bid. Fox, through presidential support for his priorities of trade and immigration reform. While Democrats today said they favor a solution to the migration issue by the end of this year, as Fox urged President Bush, they oppose any agreement that gives special status to *Mexican* immigrants. And members of his own party today warned the *President* not to undermine a strong immigration policy just to win votes." Rep. Tom Tancredo was shown saying, "I don't think winning elections is worth weakening our nation's security and prosperity." CBS added, "President Bush favors some sort of guest worker program that might eventually allow illegal immigrants to apply for a green card, but any plan has to go through **Congress**, and right now there are plenty of skeptics on Capitol Hill."

NBC (9/6, story 2, Brokaw) reported last night, "President Bush hit the road today with his amigo Mexican President Vicente Fox. Again, the main topic was immigration policy, whether the US and Mexico can strike a deal by the year's end. And that wasn't the only topic Congress was acting skeptical about today." NBC (Gregory) added, "The two Presidents on the road today in Toledo, Ohio. They came to this industrial city with its growing Hispanic population to highlight the toughest issue between them -- whether and how to grant legal status to 3 million-plus illegal Mexican workers now in the US. The President conceded today he faces stiff opposition to the idea within his own party." Bush was shown saying, "We need to think creatively on a guest worker program. The truth of the matter is, if somebody is willing to do the work in America others are not willing to do, we ought to welcome that person." NBC added, "While President Fox made an even more determined pitch to a joint session of Congress today. Many Republicans remain staunchly opposed because they believe amnesty for undocumented workers rewards lawbreakers. The politics of immigration may prove costly to the President because he's aggressively courting Hispanic voters, and he's made the status of Mexican migrants the cornerstone of his compassionate conservative message."

The Washington Post (9/7, A16, Allen) reports that <u>Bush</u> "did not commit to meeting Fox's demand for action by year's end, a deadline Fox sprang as an unwelcome surprise as he began his three-day state visit Wednesday." <u>Bush</u> "said they had made great progress during their 'ojo a ojo' -- eye to eye -- meetings, which culminated Wednesday night with the administration's first state dinner. 'I hope we can come up with a solution; I want to accommodate my friend,' <u>Bush</u> said, appearing with Fox on the South Lawn of the White House before they flew together to Ohio." The Post adds, "Administration officials said the treatment of undocumented migrants poses the biggest obstacle to a politically viable <u>immigration</u> policy. The officials said they will try to <u>make</u> an amnesty provision more palatable to opponents in <u>Congress</u> by adding requirements that might include English proficiency or the payment of a certain amount of taxes or employment for a specified length of time. A senior administration official said the type of legal status <u>Bush</u> is considering would be likely to allow now-undocumented workers to travel back and forth to <u>Mexico</u>."

The Washington Times (9/7, A1, Sammon) reports, "<u>Bush</u> yesterday said he would ask <u>Congress</u> to legalize <u>Mexican</u> aliens if they would take jobs others pass up and called for the abolition of <u>laws</u> that bar <u>American</u>

companies from employing border-jumpers." Said <u>Bush</u>, "I mean, the truth of the matter is that if somebody is willing to do jobs others in <u>America</u> aren't willing to do, we ought to welcome that person to the country and we ought to <u>make</u> that a legal part of our economy." <u>Bush</u> also said, "We ought not to penalize an employer who's trying to get a job done, who hires somebody who's willing to do that kind of work." The <u>President</u> "said he will try to expedite congressional approval of guest-worker status for illegal Mexicans, although he stopped short of promising to honor Mr. Fox's request for an <u>agreement</u> by the end of the year."

The Los Angeles Times (9/7, Smith, Chen) reports, "Answering a relentless lobbying campaign by <u>Mexican President</u> Vicente Fox, <u>President Bush</u> said Thursday for the first time publicly that he is willing to consider an <u>immigration</u> deal that includes permanent residency for some of the more than 3 million Mexicans living illegally in the United States." <u>Bush</u> "offered his latest thinking on the issue shortly after Fox delivered an emotional appeal to a joint session of <u>Congress</u>, urging US lawmakers to embrace a <u>pact</u> to help such immigrants." <u>Bush</u> "has repeatedly ruled out a blanket amnesty for illegal residents. But on Thursday, he sketched more of the possible content of an <u>immigration</u> proposal that could emerge from negotiations."

The Wall Street Journal (9/7, Cummings King Jr.) reports, "Fox ended his visit with US government leaders with a clear commitment from <u>President Bush</u> to work on reshaping relations between their countries -- even if that means Mr. <u>Bush</u> must square off against his own <u>Congress</u>." <u>Bush</u> "continued to resist embracing Mr. Fox's proposal to produce a final set of recommendations for overhauling <u>immigration laws</u> by year's end. The substantive issues to be worked out -- balanced treatment of legal and illegal <u>Mexican</u> immigrants and matching up a 'willing employer with a willing employee' -- are tough enough, said Mr. <u>Bush</u>. 'But to <u>make</u> matters even more complicated, we've got to work with the <u>Congress</u>,' he said."

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (9/7, McFeatters) reports, "While full amnesty for undocumented Mexicans in the United States is unlikely anytime soon, <u>Bush</u> said some sort of accommodation for <u>Mexican</u> workers should take place. He said he thought that it was fair to let in workers to take jobs that Americans don't want." The Post-Gazette also notes, "The Fox-<u>Bush</u> mutual admiration society is aimed not <u>only</u> at spawning a new post-Cold War era of Western Hemisphere emphasis but also is designed to shore up Fox and <u>Bush</u> politically. The sagging economy is hurting both men, and <u>Bush</u>, with a view to his re-election <u>battle</u> in 2004, wants more support from the Hispanic voter population -- now one out of every eight Americans."

The Dallas Morning News (9/7, Corchado) reports that in Toledo, "<u>Bush</u> noted that Mr. Fox's grandfather was from Cincinnati and that his own grandfather grew up in Columbus. 'I guess you could kind of say we're Ohioans,' Mr. <u>Bush</u> quipped. 'It's kind of hard to tell by our accents." The Morning News also reports that as <u>Bush</u> "spoke, some of the workers called out from the crowd: 'Amnistia.'"

CNN (9/6, Inside Politics, King) reported the visit of <u>Presidents Bush</u> and Fox to Toledo was "a road show with many goals, celebrating diversity for one." But "proving a commitment to work together through difficult issues, another." Toledo's "Hispanic population has grown 50 percent in the last decade and it is a heartland hot spot in the debate over free trade. The two <u>Presidents</u> describe their talks in Washington as productive, but they could not agree on the details or a timetable for major <u>changes</u> in US <u>immigration</u> <u>laws</u> that would benefit <u>Mexico</u> and Mexicans in the United States illegally."

USA Today (9/7, Benedetto) reports, "<u>Bush</u> made two campaign stops in Toledo last year to Al Gore's none. But this Democratic stronghold favored Gore over <u>Bush</u> in the election 55%-42%, a political reality underscored at a union rally here 2 hours before the <u>presidents</u> arrived." USA Today continues, "At the rally, union workers who said they lost their jobs because of plant closings and production shifts to <u>Mexico</u> opposed further expansion of the North <u>American</u> Free Trade <u>Agreement</u>."

Reuters (9/7, Mikkelsen) notes that Toledo "is in the district of a leading critic of US trade ties with <u>Mexico</u>, Democratic U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur."

The New York Times (9/7, A1, Schmitt) reports, "<u>Bush</u> is actively wooing Hispanic voters in preparing for a reelection campaign in 2004. White House political experts have projected that if Mr. <u>Bush</u> wins the same 35 percent of Hispanic voters in his next election as he did in 2000, he will lose by three million votes. Aides say he must capture 40 percent of Hispanics to have a shot at re-election. The new attention being paid to <u>Mexican</u> immigrants represents a sharp departure for both the *American* and *Mexican* governments."

Fox Speech Impresses Most Members Of **Congress**.

The AP (9/6, Gedda) reported, "It was a 'boffo' performance, said Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, among the lawmakers impressed by *Mexican President* Vicente Fox's speech Thursday to a joint meeting of *Congress*." Lott said, "For him to say, 'We are *changing*, this is an opportunity, trust us,' I'm willing to do that." The AP added the "turnout of senators and House members was large. Fox was interrupted by applause 11 times." Sen. Jesse Helms, "the ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was a well known *Mexico*-basher until Fox's election last year." Helms said he "liked what Fox had to say," adding, "It was not *only* well prepared, you could tell he meant it. I think he's a great leader." The AP added House Speaker Dennis Hastert "interviewed by *Mexican* television, said Fox's speech was 'muy excelente' -- very excellent." Hastert said, "Certainly two great nations need to step back, and reassess our policies of the past to build trust." The AP added Sen. Joseph Lieberman, chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, "expressed support for Fox's hope for migration reform." Lieberman said, "The bottom line is the fences are going to go down between these two countries, and it's in the interests of both countries and both peoples that we *make* it work." The AP added Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-CO), "chairman of the congressional *immigration* reform caucus, was unimpressed. He criticized Fox's insistence that undocumented *Mexican* aliens not be treated as lawbreakers but instead be granted legal status."

Reuters (9/6, Boadle) reported that Fox, <u>Mexico</u>'s "first opposition <u>president</u> in seven decades, got a standing ovation from <u>Congress</u> when he said the long unfulfilled dream of democracy in <u>Mexico</u> was now a reality." But he "told US legislators that trust was lacking to move the partnership of the two countries forward in unresolved issues such as migration, drugs and trucking."

The AP (9/6, Gedda) reported <u>Mexican President</u> Vicente Fox "pressed his case for swift <u>immigration</u> overhaul to <u>Congress</u> on Thursday. But <u>President Bush</u> called proposals to grant legal status to Mexicans now in the country illegally 'an incredibly complex issue.'" <u>Bush</u> "suggested it was unlikely that <u>Congress</u> would be able to come up with a plan within a year but said he fully understands Fox's desire to expedite the process." At his news conference, <u>Bush</u> "said that a major obstacle was devising a system that would allow many of the up to 3 million Mexicans now in the United States illegally to gain legal status -- without penalizing those who have already applied for such status though existing channels."

CNN (9/6, Inside Politics, King) reported <u>President</u> Fox "was afforded the rare honor of addressing a joint meeting of <u>Congress</u>. He aimed his appeal at lawmakers who oppose giving legal status to workers who went to the United States illegally."

The Kansas City Star/Knight Ridder (9/7, Thompson, Kuhnhenn) reports, "Fox received an enthusiastic reception, and even smiles and a thumbs-up from a longtime *Mexico* critic, Sen. Jesse Helms, a North Carolina Republican."

The New York Times (9/7, A1, Thompson) reports, "Legislators seemed divided along party lines on Mr. Fox's proposals to expand programs for guest workers and to give legal work status to 3.5 million Mexicans in the United States. Richard A. Gephardt, the House Democratic leader, said that he agreed with Mr. Fox's request for quick action on *immigration* and that he thought that legislation was possible by the end of the year." But "Representative Tom Tancredo, a Colorado Republican who heads the Congressional *Immigration* Reform Caucus, said he opposed any amnesty for illegal immigrants." The Times adds, "Despite the partisan differences, legislators expressed admiration for Mr. Fox and for the ties that he has forged between the two countries that have shared a wall of distrust for much of the last century."

The Washington Post (9/7, A17, Milbank) reports, "Back home, they call him 'El Presidente.' In the United States this week, Vicente Fox seems more like the head of sales for a consumer goods corporation. His employer: *Mexico*. His product: *Immigration*. His assignment: Build the brand." Fox, "it must be said, is a model salesman. Like *Bush*, he arrives early for meetings. Unlike *Bush*, he is frenetic, packing his three-day state visit with events and speeches."

Democrats Pushing **Bush** To Move On **Immigration** Reform.

Reuters (9/6, Smith) reported congressional Democrats "vowed to push for <u>immigration</u> reform that would legalize millions of undocumented workers and urged <u>President Bush</u> to work with them even though he faces opposition within his own party to any amnesty." In a "possible prelude to such action, the Democratic-led Senate late on Thursday approved a temporary measure that would allow immigrants likely to receive resident status -- those with a job offer or a family relationship with a U.S. citizen -- to stay in the United States while they go through the process." The Senate "passed the bill, which would expire by April, on a voice vote just hours after <u>Mexican President</u> Vicente Fox urged <u>Congress</u> to approve broad legislation by the end of this year." Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle said, "This is a significant step toward real <u>immigration</u> reform ... and I'm proud that we were able to reach this <u>agreement</u> during <u>President</u> Fox's visit."

CQ (9/6, Fagan) reported a "narrowly focused <code>immigration</code> bill became the center of difficult negotiations this week before passing the Senate late Thursday, a signal that <code>President Bush</code> faces serious obstacles in winning congressional support for broader <code>immigration</code> legislation." The bill, "passed without opposition, would temporarily reinstate a program, known as 245(i), that allows some illegal immigrants to remain in the United States while their residency applications are processed." Most lawmakers "agreed to extend the program, but disagreed on exactly how long it should remain in effect and who should be eligible for it." Sen. Jon Kyl "blocked the bill this week but later agreed to support it in response to pressure from GOP leaders. Senate Democrats and Republicans then agreed on compromise language that they substituted into the House-passed version of the bill (HR 1885) before the unanimous- consent vote." House GOP leaders "have agreed to go along with the measure the Senate passed Thursday night, Senate aides said." White House officials "spent much of the week lobbying conservative Republicans to allow the measure to pass as a good-faith gesture directed at <code>Mexican President</code> Vicente Fox, who is in Washington this week on a historic state visit." Democrats in <code>Congress</code> "have even more ambitious plans. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy is holding a hearing on <code>Mexican immigration</code> issue on Friday."

CNN (9/6, Inside Politics, Woodruff) interviewed Sen. Edward Kennedy. Asked if the White House is "moving quickly enough on *immigration* reform," Kennedy said, "I think the White House is divided, quite frankly. You hear one story one time and another story at another. I believe that we ought to move ahead."

White House Apologizes For Not Publicizing Fireworks That Followed State Dinner.

ABC News (9/6, story 4, Jennings) reported last night, "The White House has apologized for a fireworks display last night in honor of the <u>Mexican President</u>. The White House didn't tell the public it was going to occur. Many people either fearful or just upset called 911 to complain."

More Commentary.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, asked on MSNBC's "Hardball" (9/6) whether illegal <u>Mexican</u> immigrants should be made "legal" said, "I think the first thing you have to do is understand the basis of their legality and I'm very proud of the <u>President</u>'s heart on this. There are a lot of people that have come to this country with the most sincere purpose looking for work, finding work, doing their best to comply with the <u>law</u> and finding an INS agency that just simply couldn't keep up with them or wouldn't do their job. They <u>may</u> be here technically illegal right now but not through any fault of theirs but the fault of an agency that hasn't functioned properly." Asked whether he was referring to those who illegally cross the US border, Armey replied "No. That is a person that purposely came here evading our <u>law</u> in the process. No. That person should be found and should be sent back. And the <u>President</u> has a great relationship with <u>President</u> Fox and on both sides of the border we're trying to find such people as these, <u>make</u> sure they don't get across the border." When asked what percentage of <u>Mexican</u> immigrants are illegal because of technicalities, Armey said, "The larger percentage are people who came here legally. In so far as we have those that are here in violation of our <u>law</u>, that is also a failure of our own agencies to do their job effectively."

CNN (9/6, Inside Politics, Woodruff) interviewed Gov. Jane Hull (R-AZ). Asked about the pace of <u>immigration</u> reform, Hull said, "I don't think that you can move quickly. I have been in office looking at this issue for four years, and certainly it's an issue that the more you find out, the more problems arise. . I tend to believe that many of the people that live in my state come over, work, and would really like to go home and see their folks. I believe that

certainly that <u>President</u> Fox has made that easier. I think it's very possible and doable, but I believe, like anything, it has to be done with a great deal of public support."

On CNN (9/6, Inside Politics), Tucker Carlson said, "Democrats are naturally for some sort of pretty radical *immigration*. Labor's behind it. The problem, though, *Bush* hasn't explained why ordinary people ought to be for it with the economic downturn looming. And the second problem is if you *make* this apply to *Mexican* immigrants, you're going to have to *make* it apply to all immigrants at some point or else you're going to face charges of favoritism." Time correspondent Margaret Carlson added, "He didn't line up his ducks before announcing the policy.

But the word amnesty hasn't even gone over all that well. This seems like something that was announced to maybe pander to the Hispanic vote without being all the way thought through."

PBS (9/6, Newshour, Suarez) interviewed Reps. Tom Tancredo, Silvestre Reyes, Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and Chris Cannon. Tancredo said, "I have said over and over again that if anybody can prove that there is a significant need for workers in the United States that we do not have here then we can devise a guest worker program that can do two things: Bring workers in and protect their rights so that they won't be exploited as they often are today by people who are trying to get them to work for lower wages and fewer benefits. . If you can come up with a good guest worker program that does those two things. I will be very willing to look at that. . Guest worker programs are quest worker programs; amnesty is amnesty. They should never be connected." Reyes said, "We've got a dilemma where people that entered subsequent to the '86 [aw [granting illegal immigrants amnesty] have been working here, have been paying taxes, are members of our community, and we've got essentially the same situation that we had in 1986." While Reyes said he asked Fox to "make a make it a top priority to find a way to legalize and provide a guest worker program much as Congressman Tancredo is talking about for Mexico." But he added, "There are people living in our country that are doing the kinds of jobs that others won't do.and, therefore, we need to legalize them because in many cases not only are they living, paying taxes, and doing the things that all of us do in our communities, but they've got United States citizen children and they need to have that kind of benefit afforded to them." Cannon said, "The reason we don't talk about amnesty anymore is because actually we are talking about a very different concept. . It's very important, by the way, that if we're dealing with a process that people can go through and pay a penalty and convert from undocumented illegal status to a legal status, that ought to apply to everyone, not just people who are of *Mexican* origin. . I don't know that we can do much by the end of the year, as" President Fox "had hoped." Cannon added the "concept is to have a process whereby people who are here today and who are working that much of our recent growth in this economy has depended upon those many people from many different countries who have come here illegally. So we need to have a process whereby those people can regularize" or be made legal "through a process."

The Wall Street Journal (9/7) editorializes that "we've always tended to look askance at so-called solutions to the illegal immigrant problem, if <u>only</u> because the proposed cures have a way of turning out to be deadlier than the disease. Surely it must be said that of all the parties involved in the illegal <u>immigration</u> mess, the ones responding most rationally to the incentives of what is increasingly becoming one market are those crossing the Rio Grande to work. The good news is that we now have, on both sides of the border, <u>Presidents</u> who understand that."

The Capital Times (9/6) editorialized, "Perhaps <u>President Bush</u> will get the guts to break with congressional Republicans and grant some form of <u>immigration law</u> amnesty to Latinos working in the United States. But until that happens, Latino workers are likely to find that their best protection is a union card."

The Rutland Herald (9/6) wrote in an editorial, "Development is happening in <u>Mexico</u>; the flight of Mexicans to the United States is a sign of the yearning by millions for improved living conditions. The United States ought to be a partner in responsible development, rather than an agent of exploitation. It will be in the interest of both countries for <u>Mexico</u> to offer opportunity within its own borders sufficient to provide a good life for the millions now leaving the countryside and flocking to the cities or for the additional millions streaming north of the border. When that happens, the flow north and south can be as free and open as Fox would like it to be."

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (9/7) editorializes, "The ultimate goal of any White House policy ought to be a North <u>American</u> economic and political alliance similar in scope and ambition to the European Union. Unlike the varied landscapes and cultures of European Union members, the United States, Canada and <u>Mexico</u> already share

a great deal in common, and language is not as great a barrier." <u>President Bush</u>, "for example, is quite comfortable with the blended <u>Mexican-Anglo</u> culture forged in the border states of Texas, California and Arizona."

The Macon Telegraph (9/7) editorializes, "The long terms interests of <u>Mexico</u> and the US favor much closer cooperation, a theme touched on by <u>Bush</u> and Fox in various joint appearances. Yet, it's not entirely clear that a wide open embrace of Mexicans into this country will pay off for the economy as a whole." The Telegraph continues, "It is true that <u>Mexican</u> labor is important to segments of the <u>American</u> economy," but "studies by some conservative groups suggest that issuing an open invitation to illegal Mexicans <u>may</u> actually cost taxpayers up to \$30 million a year." <u>Mexican</u> immigrants, "according to these studies, tend to use a greater level of government entitlement programs than native born Americans."

The Oregonian notes in an editorial, "Fox startled his hosts this week by urging swift action. The <u>Bush</u> administration, by contrast, grows more cautious by the day. Worries in <u>Congress</u> about the economy could fuel anti-immigrant sentiment and kill all reforms." That "would be a mistake. Even during an economic slowdown, the United States depends heavily upon <u>Mexico</u> and other countries for labor -- and, thanks to imbalanced economies and outdated <u>laws</u>, spends \$2 billion a year trying to keep out the workers it needs to come in."

The San Francisco Chronicle (9/7) editorializes, "A proposal to grant some form of amnesty to immigrants from *Mexico* will raise the very legitimate question of whether immigrants from other countries should get equal treatment. They should." In addition, "any guest-worker program would have to be crafted carefully so that it does not become an avenue for second-class treatment of an immigrant workforce." *Congress* "should insist that any limited-stay program must provide immigrant workers with labor rights afforded to all."

The Dallas Morning News (9/7) editorializes, "<u>Bush</u> is right to sympathize with Mr. Fox's vision of a more integrated North <u>American</u> labor market. Whether they come legally or illegally, <u>Mexican</u> workers are responding to the economic reality of a hugely prosperous United States that needs and greatly benefits from their labors. Furthermore, <u>Mexico</u> is a special case by virtue of its long border, successful free-trade relationship and close ties of family, history and culture with the United States."

The South-Florida Sun-Sentinel (9/7) editorializes, "Illegal <u>immigration</u> is a sore point in that partnership. But as the US and <u>Mexican</u> economies become more interrelated, <u>immigration</u> needs to be addressed in a way that helps people on both sides of the border. This is the challenge that remains as Fox goes home."

The Boston Globe (9/7) writes in an editorial that "for the foreseeable future, <u>Mexico</u> will continue to be dependent on the United States as a source of remittances from emigrant workers and as a neighboring economy able to employ millions of <u>Mexican</u> workers at better wages than they can earn at home. This is why Fox wants <u>Bush</u> to regularize the status of illegal <u>Mexican</u> immigrants in the United States, to create a guest-worker program, and to <u>make</u> more permanent US visas available." The Globe concludes, "The timing of Fox's request <u>may</u> be bad for <u>Bush</u>, and it <u>may</u> bring out a certain hostility to expanded <u>immigration</u> among conservatives, but the United States has an enormous stake in the success of the new <u>Mexico</u> that Fox is trying to nurture."

In an editorial this morning (9/7), the Cleveland Plain Dealer writes, "Fox, his eagerness aside, is a refreshing and long-needed <u>change</u> from the corruption that has kept <u>Mexico</u> from realizing the role it could play in this hemisphere and the world. But <u>change</u> -- and trust -- do not come in weeks or months. Fox and <u>Bush</u> have made a good beginning. Now, some patience is required."

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: PROTESTS & DEMONSTRATIONS (90%); LABOR UNIONS (89%); FREE TRADE TREATIES & <u>AGREEMENTS</u> (89%); TALKS & MEETINGS (78%); INTERVIEWS (78%); POLITICS (78%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (73%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (71%); <u>AGREEMENTS</u> (71%); HISPANIC AMERICANS

Bush, Fox Urge Legalization Of Undocumented Immigrants.

(70%); TREATIES & <u>AGREEMENTS</u> (68%); STUDENTS & STUDENT LIFE (68%); TRADE TREATIES & <u>AGREEMENTS</u> (68%); EMBARGOES & SANCTIONS (66%)

Company: TOLEDO BLADE CO (92%); TOLEDO BLADE CO (92%); UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO (83%); UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO (56%)

Organization: UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO (83%); UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO (56%)

Industry: ENERGY & UTILITY REGULATION & POLICY (66%); ENERGY & UTILITY POLICY (66%)

Person: GEORGE W <u>BUSH</u> (89%); VICENTE FOX QUESADA (58%); MARCY KAPTUR (58%)

Geographic: <u>MEXICO</u> (94%); UNITED STATES (94%); NORTH <u>AMERICA</u> (79%)

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