

# **BEFORE WE INVITE 'GUEST WORKERS'**

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## **Body**

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To the Editor:

Slashed Federal social programs will have a particularly severe im-pact on Puerto Rico. According to a news article published on July 25, we can expect a "huge new wave of migration to the mainland" as a result.

B A Rittersporn letter discusses Federal plan to relax immigration policies to allow Mexican "quest workers"; cites need to help Puerto Rican peoplePuerto Rican officials assert that the only safeguard against "possibly hundreds of thousands" of immigrants would be to restore benefit programs.

Meantime, the Congress (Senators Hayakawa, Schmidt and others) and the Reagan Administration are proposing various "quest worker" programs. Many thousands of Mexicans and perhaps others would be imported to work in American factories and farms.

Is there a contradiction? If the workers are genuinely needed - unemployment rates notwithstanding - and the American taxpayer is required to smooth the way for the newcomers, shouldn't we opt to help our fellow nationals from Puerto Rico "to relocate"?

B.A. RITTERSPORN JR., New York, July 30, 1981

## **Classification**

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