

Clinton prepares crackdown on smugglers of illegal aliens

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Body

Even as dozens of ships crammed with Chinese sail for U.S. shores, President **Clinton** announced a **crackdown** Friday on organized crime syndicates that have turned "this transport in human cargo and traffic in human misery" into a \$ 3 billion-a-year enterprise.

Calling the smuggling of **illegal aliens** "a shameful practice of unspeakable degradation and unspeakable exploitation," the president said he has brought together 12 federal agencies, the White House Domestic Policy Council and the National Security Council to combat this "major crime problem."

Mr. **Clinton** made the announcement at a ceremony in which he named Doris Meissner, a former Justice Department immigration official, as his choice to head the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The president's plan, much of which must be approved or rejected by Congress, calls for steps to make **smugglers** of **aliens** subject to tough racketeering laws and measures to combat smuggling operations at their source, intercept smuggling ships en route and detain foreigners smuggled into the United States.

Five bills already in Congress include many of the same provisions.

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