

AROUND THE NATION;

Border Patrol at Tijuana Catches 49,599 Aliens

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Body

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SAN DIEGO, April 2 (AP) - After calling in reinforcements in March, the **Border Patrol** set a one-month record of **49,599** apprehensions of undocumented **aliens** in its busiest corridor.

On Friday Gene Smithburg, assistant chief **patrol** officer, compared the March total with the 45,036 arrests in April 1978. More than 100 **Border Patrol** agents were rushed to San Diego in early March when apprehensions in the **Tijuana** zone rose 49 percent over a year ago. The increase in **border** traffic has been attributed to Mexico's economy and the lure of jobs in California.

Because of the action by 569 agents along a 12-mile stretch here, other areas are seeing an increase in traffic, Mr. Smithburg said.

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