

Menudazo Tiene Exito

Aun que la temperatura lle- go a 105 grados, personas sa- lieron a celebrar el Menudazo este pasado fin de semana.

El sabado llegaron a compe- tir equipos de Softball y log- raron jugar hasta las 11 de la noche y empesando a las 8 de la mañana.

El domingo cinco grupos musicales entretener al publi- co mientras jugaban volley- ball y herraduras.

El publico se encontro con la musica de Selena interpretada por Pilar Lopez de Lubbock acompañada por Johnny G. y El Momento. Ella interpreto las canciones Piri-Piri-Pom-



Pom de Selena y varias can- ciones originales que se estan planiando grabar en el cerca- no futuro.

El equipo de Budweiser log- ro ganar primer lugar en la

clase C de el softball con Gil Construction, los ganadores de el año pasado ganando se- gundo. El equipo de Miller Lite gano tercero y el equipo de los Gopher ganaron cuarto.

La la clase recreacional el equipo Texas gano primer lugar despues de perder un juego temprano y despues tener que jugar 5 juegos para lle- gar hasta el campeonato.

El Editor y Lubbock Centro Aztlan le da las gracias a to- das las personas quien partici- paron y especialmente a Max y Janie Hernandez, Alex y Cindy Gomez, George y Jesse Vega, Ernest, Ernie y Michael Macias, Donald Wilson, Joe Black, Bob Craig, Joe Adam Riojas y su novia Molly, Zenaida y Amalia Agüero, Olga Riojas Agüero y cantidades de otras personas.

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1977

"El respeto al
derecho ajeno
es la paz"
Lic. Benito Juarez



EL EDITOR

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Lubbock, Texas

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Plans are going fast and furious to determine what is to become of Reese Air Force Base and how Lubbock and the South Plains will use the facilities.

This week Lubbock's powers- that be named "THE TASK FORCE" that will supervise and strategize what will hap- pen.

And as we would expect, all the members except for one are white males. Very notice- able with the naming of the Task Force is that there were no Hispanics named. Even more noticeable is the fact that no Native Americans were name even though they might have first option on the property.

Of course it comes as no surprise since Lubbock's powers that be are noted for ignoring not only Hispanics but women when naming persons to important posi- tions.

The reuse of Reese is very important to Lubbock and the South Plains and is more im- portant to 24% of Lubbock's population and possibly up to 35% of the South Plains popu- lation that is Hispanic.

It ceases to amaze me, but comes to no surprise that those persons responsible for naming the Task Force would ignore us.

We understand and com- mend the Lubbock City Coun- cil for naming T.J. Patter- son, who is the senior minor- ity on the Council, to the Task Force. But we do not under- stand and condemn the County Commissioners who did not name Gilbert Flores, who has been on the Court for almost 4 years, and instead opted to name a Commission- er who has been on the Court for less than 2 years.

Perhaps some of the blame can be placed on Flores for failing to show the leader- ship to gain the confidence or have influence to convince his fellow Commissioners to name him.

It's time for Lubbock's His- panic leadership to take pen in hand, telephone in hand, faxes or e-mail in hand and perhaps sword in hand to correct the fact that we have been ignored, neglect- ed, forgotten and whatever other word can be used to make this statement redun- dant in order to bring our point across.

If not..... we can forever hold our peace.

Hispanic Publishers Unveils Hispanic Profile

U.S. Latino Population Expected to Exceed 31 Million by Year 2000

WASHINGTON - The Na- tional Association of His- panic Publications is issu- ing a new profile of Latinos that the Census Bureau had planned to drop for lack of money.

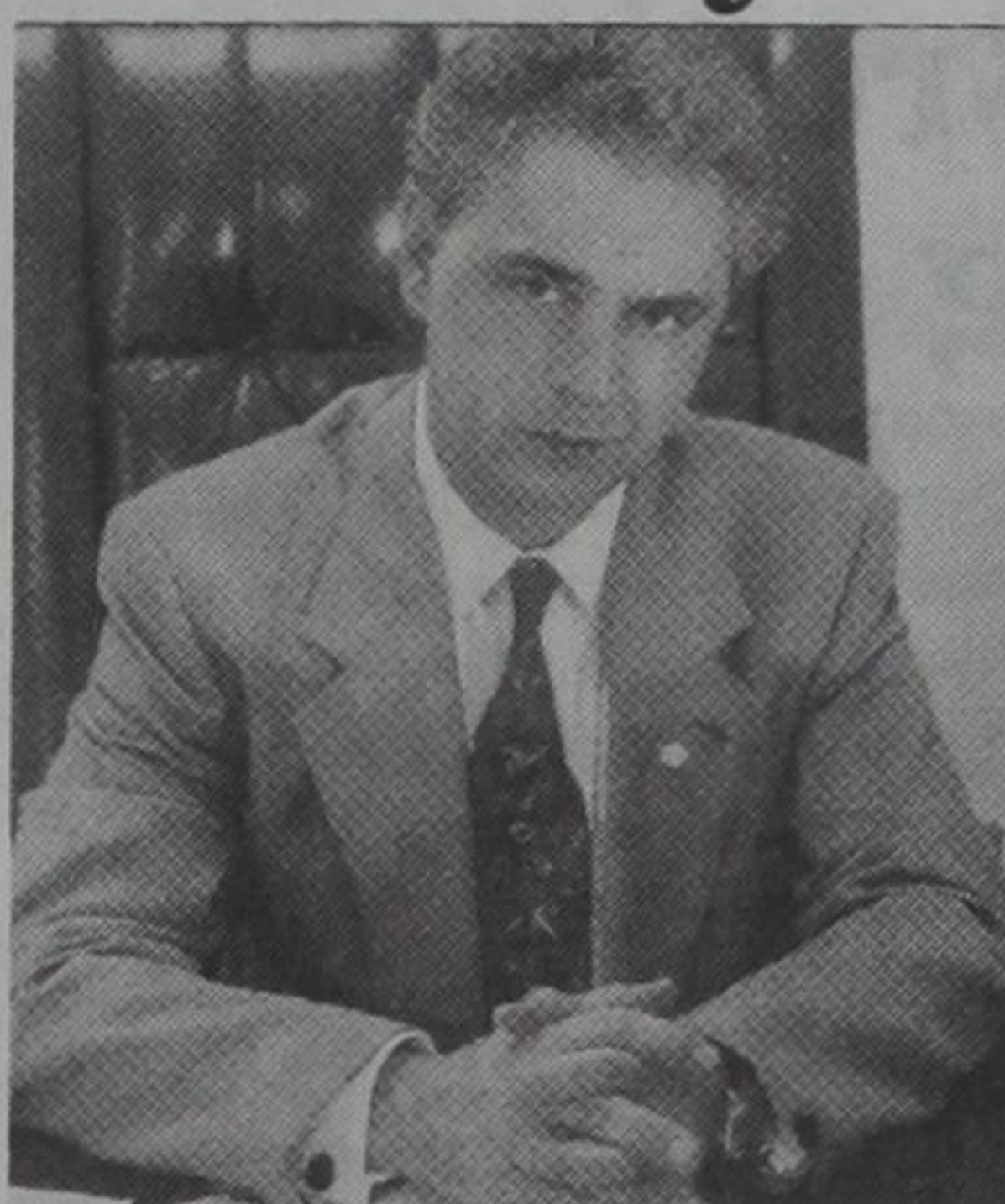
"These days the Spanish community has so many problems ... we need the numbers more than ever," said Luis Rossi, president of the Association.

"Hispanics-Latinos: Di- verse People in a Multicul- tural Society," compiled by Census Bureau statisti- cians to update the agen- cy's previous reports on the Hispanic community, was released at a news confer- ence Wednesday.

Rossi said that the pub- lishers stepped in to raise \$150,000 for graphics, printing and distribution of the report when they learned that a financial shortage would prevent printing the study. Census officials said they will still make detailed data availa- ble electronically.

Because many Hispanics lack extended education they tend to have lower pay- ing, less stable jobs, he said. So when problems oc- cur in the economy His- panics are the first to feel the impact and the last to join in the recovery.

For example, from 1989 to 1990 unemployment edged up from 5.2 percent to 5.3



Luis Rossi, presidente de la Asocia- cion de Publicadores Hispanos dio saber a la prensa esta semana que ellos revelaron un estudio concen- trado en estadísticas sobre los his- panos de los Estados Unidos.

El estudio originalmente seria publicado por el Departamento de Censo pero fue cancelado por razones de el cortado en financia.

El estudio revelo que para entrar al proximo siglo, Hispanos conta- ran con mas de 31 millones de gente. Actualmente Hispanos com- ponen 27 millones de personas. El reporte da varias otras estadísticas

percent for non-Hispanics while the Hispanic rate jumped from 7.8 percent to 8.2 percent.

The non-Hispanic rate peaked at 7.5 percent in 1992 and then started down, while Hispanic un- employment, 11.3 percent in 1992, continued to climb to 11.9 percent the next year before beginning to fall, the report shows.

Other findings of the pro-

file:
- The Latino population is estimated at about 27 million and is expected to rise to 31 million by the turn of the century. By 2050 one American in five could be of Hispanic background.

- People of Mexican origin make up 64 percent of the current Latino population, followed by Central and South Americans, 14 percent, Puerto Ricans, 10 percent and Cubans, 4 percent.

- About 53 percent of His- pan- ics had completed high school as of 1994, compared to 83 percent of non- Latinos.

- Hispanic men were more likely to be in the labor force than non-Hispanics, 78 percent to 73 percent. But the reverse was true for women. Some 52 percent of Latino women were in the paid labor force compared to 59 percent of non- Latino women.

- Latinos spend more on food and clothing than non- Hispanics but less on transportation, health care and entertainment.

Note: Copies of the report can be obtained from the National Association of Hispanic Publications, 202-776-0556.

El Editor-Lubbock and Per- mian Basin are members of the Association.

News Briefs

\$100M in Cooling Aid to 19 States

AP reports the Clinton administration is making \$100 million in emergency cooling funds available to help low- income families pay their energy bills. The money would go to 19 states, with Illinois receiving the most, \$15.7 million. The announcement came on the day that Congress gave final passage to a spending cuts bill that would trim \$300 million from the very program Clinton tapped - the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Victor Zonana, a spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services, which administers the program, said that Clinton was able to draw on an existing emergency account in the program that was not directly affected by the cuts.

The states would decide how to use the money. Some of it could be used to help low-income people defray large utility bills. Asked how the federal funds would help those who could not afford air conditioning, Zonana said: "It's up to the states, but the states at their discretion can distribute fans or even air conditioners."

A breakdown of how the funds will be distributed: Connecticut, \$1.02 million; Illinois, \$15.72 million; Indiana, \$5.74 million; Iowa, \$4.61 million; Kentucky, \$5.4 million; Mas- sachusetts, \$2.31 million; Michigan, \$10.81 million; Minnesota, \$5.04 million; Missouri, \$7.18 million; Nebras- ka, \$2.71 million; New Hampshire \$310,000; New York, \$11.54 million; North Dakota, \$580,000; Ohio \$10.24 million; Pennsylvania, \$7.41 million; Rhode Island, \$450,000; South Dakota, \$970,000; Vermont, \$250,000; Wisconsin, \$7.71 mil- lion.

Clinton Challenges GOP Budget Priorities

The New York Times reports that President Clinton ac- cused Republicans of abandoning necessary government programs for the "luxuries" of carrying out large tax cuts and balancing the budget in seven years.

The Times says that the White House fears a budget fight in September and October that could shut down the govern- ment. With that confrontation looming, the president began his campaign to convince Americans that his budget priori- ties are more reasonable than those of Congress. The new federal fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

Clinton said the Republicans were cutting too deeply into areas valued by most Americans, including Medicare, stu- dent loans, and enforcement of environmental laws. The president said the country could not afford to make the kinds of program cuts needed to carry out the Republican plan to erase the deficit by 2002 and provide \$245 billion in tax cuts.

Clinton plans to speak out against the Republican program during a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of Medi- care, Wednesday. White House officials said they would follow the president's speech with three or four budget- related events a week over the next two to three weeks. Bud- get Director Alice Rivlin said, "We're hoping to get the country to start listening, which is important to get the kind of compromise we want with the Republicans on the Hill."

Lobbying by Nonprofits Restricted

Reuters reports that the House Appropriations Committee voted Monday to cut off federal grants to nonprofit groups that spend more than 5 percent of their funds on lobbying. The cut off would hit charities, universities, advocacy groups and others who receive the \$40 billion Washington gives out each year. Democrats called it a violation of the constitutional right of free speech.

Republican Whip Tom Delay of Texas said, "We knew that appropriations' bills were going to have to carry the load for many of the things we want to change in this House. This is one of them."

The panel also approved the spending cuts for next year's health, education and labor programs in a \$60.7 billion ap- propriation bill that Democrats vowed to fight on the House floor. The bill ends 171 education and jobs programs, reduc- es federal aid to education by 18 percent and cuts 24 percent from jobs programs. It will end the summer jobs for youth program. Democrats estimate that 45,000 preschool children will not be served by Headstart schools and the Healthy Start program to cut infant mortality will be cut in half.

Flagstar, NCLR Sign Economic Pac

DALLAS... -Flagstar Com- panies, Inc., one of the nation's largest restaurant com- panies, and the Hispanic As- sociation on Corporate Re- sponsibility (HACR) today signed an agreement aimed at enhancing economic oppor- tunities for Hispanic Ameri- cans through the year 2000.

The "Joint Resolution of Shared Values and Common Goals" was signed during a ceremony at the National Council of La Raza's (NCLR) annual conference in Dallas. HACR is a coalition of the nation's eight largest Hispanic organizations. The coalition includes NCLR, the nation's largest constituency-based Hispanic organization.

Flagstar owns and operates the Denny's, El Pollo Loco and Quincy's Family Steak- house restaurant chains and is the largest franchisee of Hardee's.

"Since the customer base at



DALLAS, TX. The Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerces held their 20th annual convention in Dal- las this past week. Governor George Bush Jr. was one of the featured speakers at the convention along with Dr. Herminio Blanco, Mexico's Secretary of Commerce. The association, TAMACC, consists of 22 Hispanic chambers of commerce from all parts of the state. In picture Governor George Bush Jr. visits with Joe H. Morin, Paula Montoya and Dr. Jim Rodriguez.

Una Alternativa Al Hermano Mayor y a la Sensacion

Por Raúl Yzaguirre

Mi familia ha vivido en lo que ahora son los Estados Unidos durante 17 generaciones consecutivas; seis generaciones de Yzaguirres han sido ciudadanos estadounidenses por nacimiento. He tenido el privilegio, durante los 20 últimos años, de servir a mi país y a mi comunidad como dirigente de una organización prominente de los derechos civiles. Me he reunido con presidentes, he cenado con miembros del gabinete y senadores, y he partido el pan con los capitanes de industria.

Y no obstante, como la de cada uno de mis antecesores, mi situación de ciudadano estadounidense es puesta en tela de juicio casi a diario. Cada vez que alguien pronuncia mal mi nombre (reconocidamente inusitado), o pregunta cuándo vine a este país, cuestiona mi nacionalidad o hasta me "elogia" por mi dominio del inglés, experimento "la sensación". Encuentro difícil explicarla a los que no la han tenido -- una combinación de enojo y desilusión, temor y humillación, tristeza y lamentación.

Todas las generaciones de Yzaguirres han conocido "la sensación".

Mi tatarabuelo la conoció; él llegó a ser ciudadano de los Estados Unidos mediante la conquista, y vio cómo se pasaban por alto sus antiguos derechos de propiedad, garantizados anteriormente por la Constitución de México, y su nuevo derecho a votar, garantizado por la Constitución de los Estados Unidos.

Mi abuelo la conoció, cuando en el decenio de 1920 evitó por poco un linchamiento por un delito que él no cometió, y después en el decenio de 1930, cuando se escapó de la deportación debido a su origen mexicano.

Mi padre la conoció, aunque él fué uno de los "afortunados" que escapó de las "repatriaciones" en masa en el decenio de 1950.

Yo la conocí aún de joven, cuando se me aconsejó que llevara una tarjeta de identidad en todo momento "para mi propia protección", para probar que yo era "americano".

Toda mi carrera profesional

retleja una tentativa de asegurar que mis hijos y mis nietos no tengan que experimentar "la sensación". Sin embargo hoy, en el decenio de 1990, los Estados Unidos se balancean al borde de institucionalizarla. Un deseo bien motivado de encontrar una solución simple al problema de la inmigración ilegal, combinado con el atractivo seductor de la nueva tecnología, ha llevado a los pedidos de nuevos cursos de acción amplios que exijan que todos los residentes de los Estados Unidos sean aprobados por una computadora del gobierno antes de que se les permita trabajar.

Este no es un debate nuevo. El Consejo Nacional de La Raza ha puesto en juicio la sabiduría de tales planes durante dos decenios.

Pero la histeria contra los inmigrantes en este país ha subido a niveles que están en paralelo con los de los decenios de 1930 y 1950, cuando millares de ciudadanos y no ciudadanos por igual fueron lo suficientemente desafortunados como para ser "repatriados" a México, un país en el que muchos nunca habían puesto el pie.

En medio de esta histeria, los hechos desenterrados de

nuestra investigación y los argumentos que brotan de nuestros análisis han sido padados por alto, y nuestros motivos desafiados por algunos.

A medida que el debate adelanta, estos nuevos planes de verificación al estilo del "Hermano Mayor" quedarán expuestos como inexactos, ineficaces, discriminatorios, costosos y sujetos al abuso.

Bajo este sistema, aquellos que tengan la desgracia de que sus nombres sean deletreados incorrectamente en los registros de las computadoras, o de que sus expedientes sean confundidos con los de otras personas, perderán las oportunidades de empleo.

¿Quién de entre nosotros no ha visto asignársele deudas que no eran nuestras, por parte de la computadora de una oficina de crédito, o que nuestros expedientes hayan sido "perdidos" por una dependencia del gobierno, o hasta se nos ha dicho que, hasta donde la computadora sabía, ya no estábamos más vivos?

¿Quién de entre nosotros no teme la revelación injustificada de información sensible o personal por una red impresionante de bases informativas inter-conectadas? La revelación pública que surge

de estos planes de verificación ilustrará gráficamente para todos "la sensación" que otros latinos y yo conocemos tan bien.

Creo que tales planes serán rechazados.

La cuestión del control de la inmigración es asunto serio. Merece un análisis cuidadoso y una consideración profunda. No merece una "bala mágica" simplista y peligrosamente defectuosa que distraiga la atención y los recursos de las alternativas menos intrusas, menos peligrosas, menos discriminatorias, menos costosas y en última instancia más eficaces.

(Raúl Yzaguirre es el presidente del Consejo Nacional de La Raza.)

Para obtener un ejemplar del informe del Consejo Nacional de La Raza, titulado "Apresurándose Hacia el 'Hermano Mayor': La Comprobación por Computadoras, las Tarjetas de Identificación Nacionales y el Control de la Inmigración", envíe \$15 a NCLR Publications, 1111 19th St. NW., Suite 1000, Washington, DC. 20036. Teléfono: (202) 785-1670.

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El Editor
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Moving Beyond Big Brother and The Feeling

By Raúl Yzaguirre

My family has lived in what is now the United States for 17 consecutive generations; six generations of Yzaguirres have been United States citizens by birth.

I have been privileged for the past 20 years to serve my country and my community as the head of a prominent civil rights organization. I have met with presidents, cabinet members and senators, and have broken bread with captains of industry.

And yet, like that of each of my forebears, my status as a U.S. citizen is questioned on an almost daily basis. Every time someone mispronounces my (admittedly unusual) name, asks when I came to this country, questions my nationality, or even "compliments" me on my

English, I get "the feeling."

I find it difficult to explain to those who haven't had it -- a combination of anger and frustration, fear and humiliation, sadness and regret.

Each generation of Yzaguirres has known "the feeling." My great-great grandfather knew it; he became a U.S. citizen through conquest, and had both his old property rights, previously guaranteed by the Constitution of Mexico, and his new right to vote, guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, ignored.

My grandfather knew it, when in the 1920s he barely avoided a lynching for a crime he did not commit, and later in the 1930s, when he escaped deportation because of his Mexican origin. My father knew it, though he too was one of the "lucky ones" who

escaped massive "repatriations" in the 1950s. I knew it even as a youth, when I was counseled to carry an ID card at all times "for my own protection" to prove I was an "American."

My entire professional career reflects an attempt to assure that my children and my grandchildren would be spared "the feeling." Yet today, in the 1990s, the U.S. teeters on the brink of institutionalizing it. A well-motivated desire to find an easy, simple solution to the problem of illegal immigration, combined with the seductive allure of new technology, has led to calls for sweeping new policy which requires that all U.S. residents be approved by a government computer before being permitted to work.

This is not a new debate. The National Council of La Raza has questioned the wisdom of such schemes for two decades. But anti-immigrant hysteria in this country has grown to levels which parallel the 1930s and 1950s, when thousands of citizens and non-citizens alike -- were unlucky enough to be "repatriated" to Mexico, a country in which many had never before set foot.

In the midst of this hysteria, the facts unearthed from our research and the arguments stemming from our analyses have been dismissed, and our motives challenged by some. As the debate moves forward, these new "Big Brother" verification schemes will be exposed as inaccurate, ineffective, discriminatory, costly, and subject to abuse.

Under this system, those who have the misfortune to have their names misspelled in computer records or have their records mixed with someone else's will lose job opportunities. Who among us hasn't been assigned debts that were not ours by a credit bureau computer, or had our records "lost" by a government agency, or even been told that, as far as the computer is concerned, we were no longer alive?

The question of immigration control is a serious one. It deserves earnest analysis and thoughtful consideration. It does not deserve a simplistic and dangerously flawed "magic bullet" which will divert attention and resources away from less intrusive, less dangerous, less discriminatory, less costly, and ultimately more effective alternatives.



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Bosnia - July 24, 1995

By Ira Cutler

I have been thinking about Bosnia, trying to figure out what is right and what I would do if I were in charge. The consensus of world leaders seems to be to do nothing, although they keep threatening to drop bombs on various people from several miles up. Apparently there is a height above which you can kill people and blow things up without being considered officially involved or particularly responsible.

The first fundamental question about Bosnia is whether to intervene militarily, to send US troops in to stop the Serbs from slaughtering and dispossessing Muslims -- what has been called "ethnic cleansing". The second is whether to lift the world wide arms embargo that now keeps the Muslims from buying weapons and increasing their ability to protect themselves.

Rather than send troops to stop the slaughter, the nations of the world have thus far watched it on CNN. The nightly television pictures from Bosnia are so awful that it is hard to imagine what more the Serbs could do to provoke the world to action. But for decades we have seen corpses, mortally wounded people and starving children somewhere in the world every night and we have become de-sensitized. Jimmy Carter often notes that there are typically over 100 armed conflicts going on in the world and the American press covers only 3 or 4 of them. To a large extent we worry about a particular place -- Bosnia or Ethiopia or Somalia -- only when the media pushes it in our faces.

How, in the face of such horror, can we even consider not getting involved? If we are honest with ourselves we will admit that we simply care less about people from other countries. Our sense of national identity causes us to care deeply and personally about deaths in Oklahoma City and only abstractly about many more deaths in Sarajevo. Nationalistic arithmetic treats the death of a single American as equivalent to many thousands of people from anywhere else. We are uncertain about what to do in Bosnia because it is not, after all, our people who are dying.

Another difficulty in figuring out Bosnia is rooted in feelings and beliefs about World War II and Vietnam. We believe that intervention in W.W.II was right and the monstrousness of Nazi Germany has been well documented. Despite huge American losses the national consensus is that by entering W.W.II we did the moral, courageous thing and, incidentally, became the world's leader. Few remember that neither German atrocities nor appalling Japanese acts against the Chinese and others were enough to create a political consensus for intervention. We joined W.W.II more than two years after its full eruption and only after Pearl Harbor was attacked. Before that we must have looked pretty much as we now look regarding Bosnia -- concerned but conflicted.

Vietnam is a different story altogether and there is still no clear national memory of what happened or what lessons we learned. Until about 3-4 years ago I thought the consensus on Vietnam was that it was a mistake to intervene in what was essentially civil war and that the war's costs were excessive in comparison to our interests. More recently, however, there has been a resurgence of the position that the Vietnam War was the right thing to do but that our strategy was poorly designed and weakly carried out. There still is a deep chasm over Vietnam and echoes of that continuing debate can be heard in the Bosnia debate.

Part of the Bosnia paralysis is that we cannot figure out whether to equate it to W.W.II or to Vietnam. Ethnic cleansing is reminiscent of the Holocaust which makes us want to get involved for humanitarian reasons. Yet the Vietnam inspired specter of getting "bogged down" in a long and difficult war is fearsome. After Vietnam we decided that there would be no more jungle wars in our military future. History says that we would like urban guerrilla warfare even less -- the Germans at the Warsaw ghetto and the Russians in Chechnya learned that it is devastating to go house to house in somebody else's neighborhood. In an urban war you cannot do the long distance, low casualty kind of killing that we liked so much in the Gulf War.

The Gulf War was ideal. Oil was there as a critical consideration and it is perhaps the only commodity considered important enough to kill or die for. Iraq offered a no-tree terrain, few buildings to hide in, and an army that turned out to be incompetent and not deeply committed. A short, quick winnable war against a non-European foe is an election year dream and even perhaps the stuff a general might run for President on.

No such luck in the former Yugoslavia. The Serbs, with a decades long history of resistance to both Germany and Russia, are a nightmare. Like the Vietnamese they are apt to be willing to fight longer, suffer greater hardships and losses, and wait us out forever. After all, they cannot quit and go home.

For all these reasons I think we have already decided as a nation that it is a shame about Bosnia but not enough of a shame to have some of our children die instead of some of theirs. I am conflicted but generally okay with that. Going to war in Bosnia does not, for me, pass the test of "would I want my son to go?"

On the other hand the arms embargo is an atrocity. The rationale for the embargo is that allowing arms to be imported would prolong the war. Those fighting for their lives presumably would appreciate just that -- the power to prolong the war by extracting a price from the better equipped Serbs. In times past we have armed the South Vietnamese, the Afghans, even the Iraqis -- we have armed one and sometimes both sides in most of the wars that have happened in the last 25 years. Even when we could not make a profit selling cars overseas, we could always peddle guns and we could buy friends with them.

The shame of Bosnia will not be that we did not fight -- it will not be our finest hour but it is understandable. The shame will be that, even though we decided not to fight, our national ego did not allow us to just stay away and mind our own business. Our shame will be that we meddled, postured, offered false hope, sent confusing signals and ultimately failed to provide even material help to people who, given the choice, might have liked to shoot some of their would-be conquerors.

Ira Cutler says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverent, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

Subscribe El Editor 763-3841

Hispanics Reassured by Clinton's Affirmative Action Stance

By Joseph Torres

President Clinton's July 19 speech supporting federal affirmative action programs came as a relief to many Hispanic groups and leaders who were concerned that he might bow to political pressure and abandon the administration's commitment to pluralism.

Instead, he erased any doubts with a personalized endorsement delivered from the National Archives. Acknowledging past and ongoing discrimination against Hispanics, blacks and other people of color, he addressed critics who have sought to portray affirmative action as reverse discrimination.

He pointed to 90,000 complaints of employment discrimination filed with the federal government last year, with less than 3 percent alleging reverse discrimination.

Clinton concluded, "Based on the evidence, the job is not done."

Judging by a Hispanic Link survey of 28 Latina and 30 Latino activists conducted last March, Hispanic leaders strongly agree. Only one favored dismantling affirmative action. Of the others, 39 said its elimination would hurt Latinos severely, 14 said it would hurt them somewhat, while 4 said it would have no effect.

Juan Figueroa, president of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, told Hispanic Link, "The

president showed real leadership. This is a real victory for women and all people of color who continue to face serious discrimination in this nation."

The president's speech came just weeks after several recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions -- including one which struck a blow to federal affirmative action contracting programs -- rolled back civil rights in several areas. In many states around the country, most notably California, legislation is moving forward to cut back or curtail affirmative action programs.

Clinton cited several examples of why affirmative action is still needed: the high unemployment rate for blacks and Hispanics; the Glass Ceiling Commission's report revealing less than 1 percent of senior corporate management positions are held by Hispanics or blacks; and Hispanic women with college degrees who still earn less than white males with high school diplomas.

"He displayed the kind of leadership that made me extra proud to be American...I haven't felt that way in a while, living out here in California," said Mary Hernández, president of the Hispanic National Bar Association.

Acknowledging that not all affirmative action programs have worked perfectly, Clinton added, "We should reaffirm the principle of affirma-

tive action and fix the practices. We should have a simple slogan: Mend it, but don't end it."

A few days later, the president addressed nearly 2,000 participants at the National Council of La Raza's annual convention in Dallas and reiterated his support. He credited his Latina speech writer, Carolyn Curiel, with helping "more than anyone else" in drafting his affirmative action message.

NCLR President Raúl Yzaguirre responded, "We are pleased that President Clinton has reaffirmed both the continuing existence of widespread discrimination against minorities and women and for such programs such as affirmative action to remedy such discrimination."

Despite broad support for Clinton's speech among Hispanics, some worried that the Republican-led Congress will still dismantle such programs.

"President Clinton and whomever the president is next has to live within the framework of the law, and it is Congress that makes the laws," said Raymond Fuñtez, a small business owner in Fairfax, Va., and a member of the Latin American Management Association.

(Joseph Torres is a reporter with the national newsweekly, Hispanic Link Weekly Report. Fellow reporter Patricia Guadalupe contributed to this column.)

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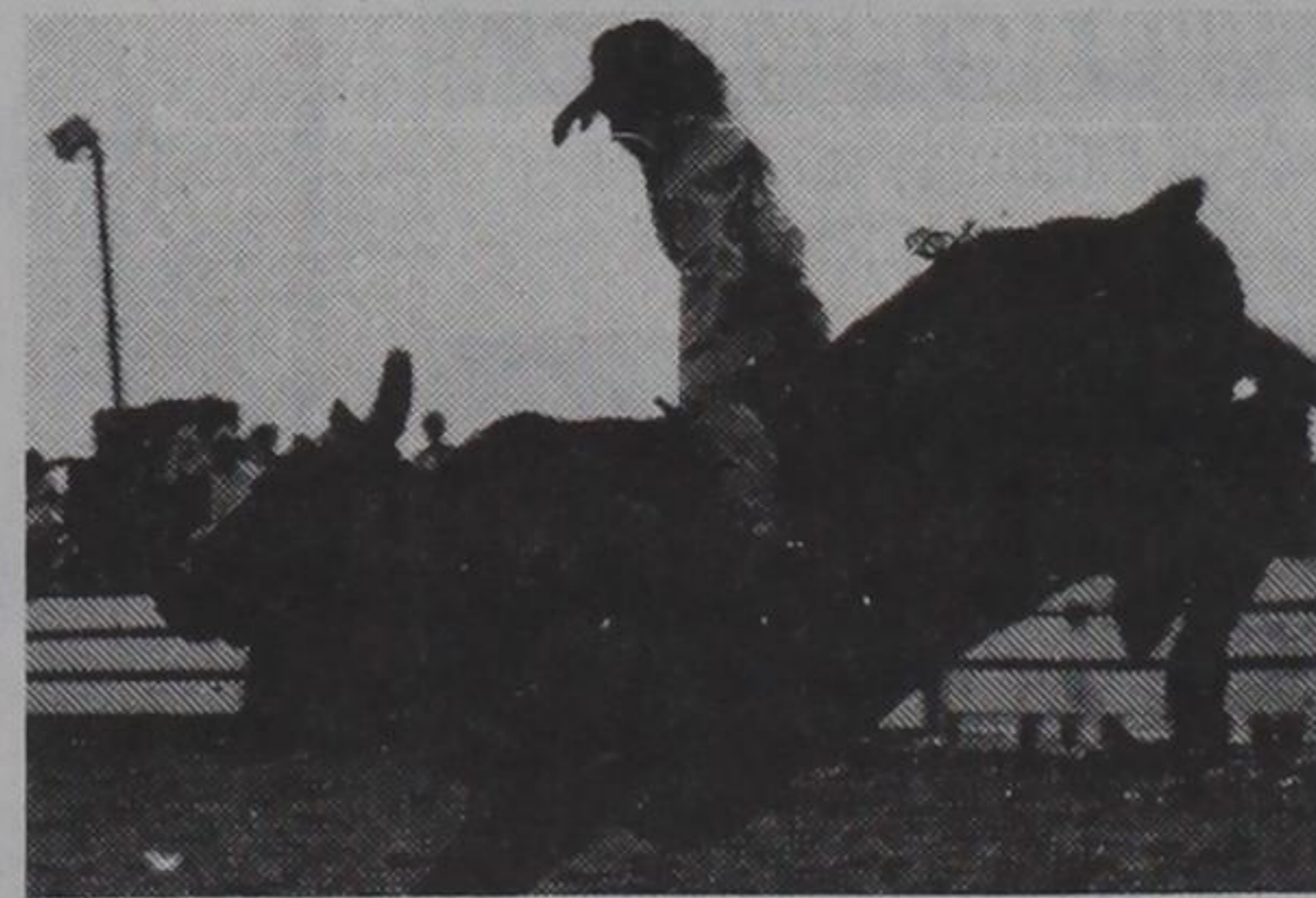
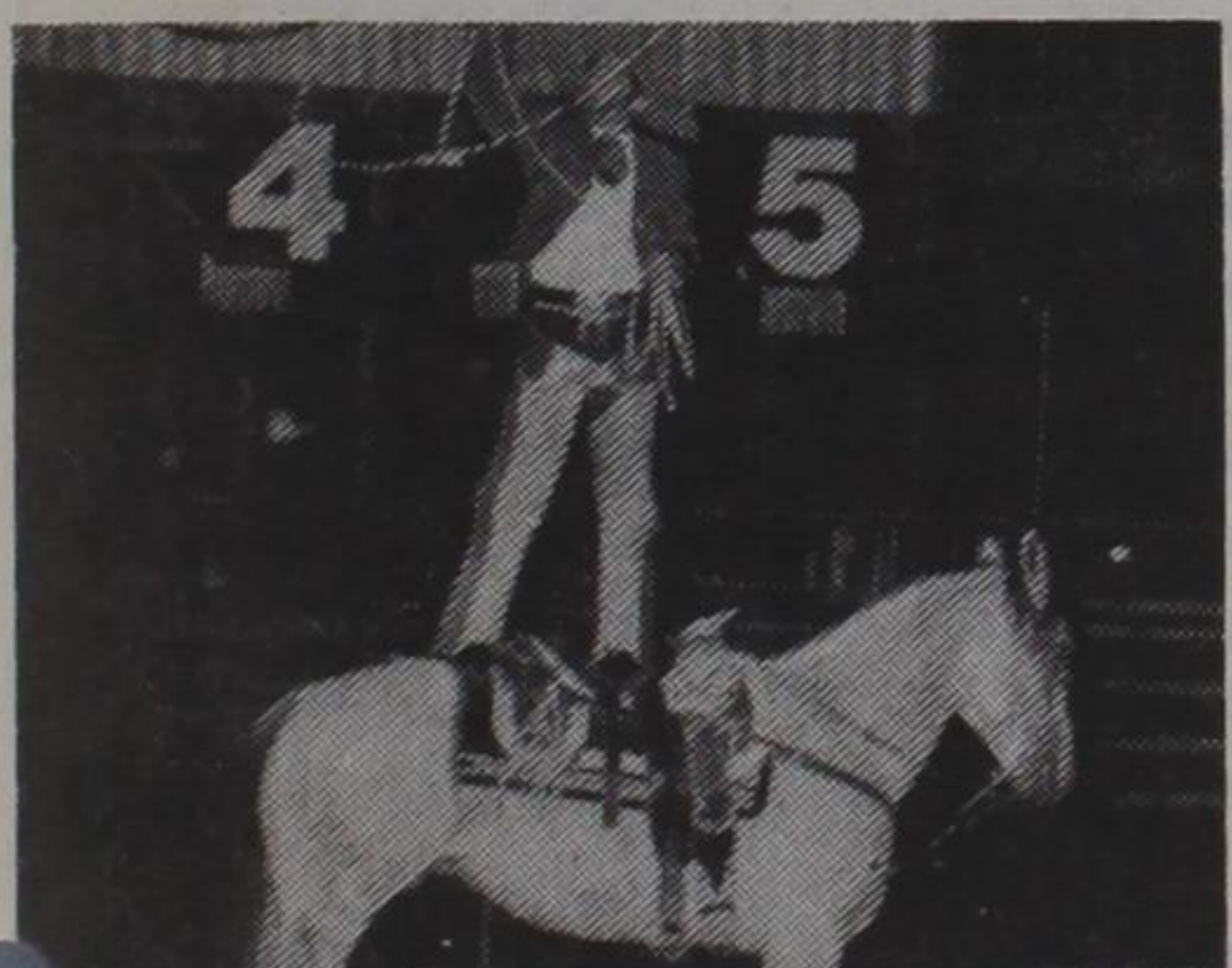
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Aztlán, Mexico-Tenochtitlan y la Piedra del Sol

Por Enrique Gómez-Ramírez

Pese a todas las teorías que existen sobre la Piedra del Sol, el Profesor Alfonso Rivas Salmón quiso agregar otra, tal vez la más controvertida de todas: «lo que conocemos como Calendario Azteca, ni es calendario, ni es azteca».

La siguiente afirmación de Rivas Salmón nos deja todavía aún más perplejos:

«La Piedra del Sol es la historia del pueblo nahuatl, en ella están contenidos más de 2,500 años de existencia, que abarcan desde el año 1386 antes de Cristo, hasta el 1116 después de Cristo».

Y con estas tremendas afirmaciones sintetizó más de 11 años de afanosas investigaciones.

Rivas Salmón, quien durante 20 años fuera el Director del Instituto de Humanidades de la Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara, en México, nos explica: «Algunos le llaman calendario azteca porque contiene jeroglíficos sobre años y días. Algunos otros creen que contiene la profecía sobre el fin del mundo porque contiene jeroglíficos que hablan sobre la destrucción de 4 mundos nahuatl anteriores y creen ver símbolos que predicen una nueva destrucción que aún está por llegar. En la piedra hay símbolos sobre ambas cosas, años-días y destrucciones. Pero no hay suficientes símbolos como para decir que sea un calendario, como tampoco los hay para decir que es una profecía» enfatiza el historiador.

Además, si fuera un simple calendario, por muy perfecto que fuera, o una profecía sobre la destrucción del pueblo nahuatl, jamás hubiera ocupado el lugar tan preponderante que le dieron los sacerdotes, nos explica. La Piedra del Sol es una monumento circular, de aproximadamente 4 metros de diámetros que estaba localizado en lo más alto de la escalera principal del Templo Mayor en Mexico-Tenochtitlan.

Ningún pueblo indígena de México, ni siquiera el pueblo maya que tuvo un calendario más perfecto que inclusive el calendario eu-

ropeo, le dio una preponderancia tan grande como le dieron a la Piedra de Sol en Tenochtitlan. Por lo que no puede ser un calendario.



Y tampoco puede ser una profecía de destrucción porque si lo hubiera sido, habría sido guardada en la habitación principal del sacer-

dote mayor de Tenochtitlan a fin de no desmoralizar al pueblo.

Durante más de 20 años, Alfonso Rivas Salmón luchó porque los arqueólogos mexicanos tomaran en cuenta sus descubrimientos pero nunca quisieron escucharle. En una ocasión, hablando con Eulalia Guzmán, la arqueóloga más influyente en México, ella de dijo textualmente: «Tal vez tengas razón, pero los libros de historia no se pueden cambiar». Pero él no dejó de insistir, siempre buscó la forma de que sus teorías fueran incluidas en los libros oficiales de México.

Lo Entrevisté para diversos diarios en 1972, 1974 y 1984. En tales ocasiones aún confiaba en que tarde o temprano la razón haría que los arqueólogos mexicanos aceptaran su teoría. En 1991, cuando lo volví a encontrar, comenzaba a aceptar que las cosas no cambiarían desde México. Tal vez, la historia del país tenga que ser reescrita desde fuera.

¿Cómo llegó Alfonso Rivas Salmón a la conclusión de que la Piedra del Sol relataba 2,500 años de historia del pueblo nahuatl?

«Todo comenzó cuando leía la obra "Mexicana", del padre Mariano Cuevas, que en uno de sus primeros capítulos señala que es imposible encontrar Aztlán y el Chicomoztoc porque en todas partes hay garzas y cuevas. Eso para mí fue un reto, ¿cómo que no se pueden encontrar? me pregunté a mí mismo y así comencé todo».

El historiador, en su búsqueda de Aztlán, el Chicomoztoc, y la tierra común de todos los pueblos nahuatl o nahuatlacas: la legendaria Amecameca y Huehuetlapalla, primero comenzó a estudiar todos los códices indígenas previos a la conquista de México, y después todos los monumentos o esculturas que contuvieran relatos sobre la evolución de estos pueblos.

En su mente quedaron grabados los códices que hablan de las tragedias sufridas por los pueblos nahuatl y las fechas en que les sucedieron.

Un día que analizaba cuidadosamente la Piedra del Sol, sintió que le recorría el cuerpo una especie de nerviosismo y alegría, allí, sin él

Flagstar,

from Page 1

our restaurants is very diverse, we believe it is important for our company to reflect our multi-cultural society," said James B. Adamson, chairman and chief executive officer of Flagstar. "This partnership with HACR is part of our overall business strategy aimed at increasing minority participation in our company. At the same time, this joint resolution will make a positive contribution to the Hispanic community." Adamson noted that Flagstar approached HACR to expand and strengthen programs already underway with the Hispanic community.

Currently, 14 percent of Flagstar's approximately 100,000 employees are Hispanic. In the company's Den-

ny's division, 16 percent of the regional multi-restaurant leaders who supervise 50 to 85 Denny's restaurants each, are Hispanic. In the company's El Pollo Loco division, 59 percent of restaurant general managers are Hispanic. In addition, 30 percent of El Pollo Loco's 97 franchise restaurants are Hispanic-owned.

Antonio Gil Morales, chairman of HACR, said, "The signing of this agreement is a joyous occasion for the Hispanic community. This economic pact values the talent of our community as employees, entrepreneurs and as a large and growing consumer sector with a burgeoning purchasing power, presenting both Flagstar and our community with a bounty of economic opportunities."

Morales noted economic opportunities in the American Hispanic community are significant with 25 million citizens spending \$200 billion in goods and services annually.

The president of HACR, Richard Jose Bela, said, "HACR, through its network of organizations, will work hard to inform our community of these expanded economic opportunities and to assist Flagstar in cementing this relationship. Our goal is to transform this partnership into a stellar example of corporate-community cooperation."

The scope of the Flagstar/HACR partnership is far-reaching. The company has committed to enhance opportunities for Hispanic Americans in the following areas:

- o Increase the overall number of Hispanic American employees. Flagstar will work closely with colleges in recruiting.

- o Recruit and promote more Hispanic employees into management positions.

- o Increase use of qualified Hispanic business enterprises for procurement, banking, legal services, and advertising.

- o Seek out additional qualified restaurant franchisees among the Hispanic business community.

- o Increase participation in Hispanic American organizations, conferences and charities.

"We are sincere in our desire to not only contribute to the Hispanic community, but also benefit from its vast economic and employment base," Adamson said.

"Productive partnerships must be mutually beneficial, and this is certainly a win-win situation."

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News Briefs

Options to Curb Teen Smoking Weighed

The Washington Post reports that the White House is debating two government strategies for limiting smoking by minors. One would allow the FDA to classify tobacco as a drug and impose new regulations, the other would use the threat of regulations to extract concessions from the tobacco industry.

Sources say Clinton is leaning toward the "voluntary" option, trying to get the tobacco industry to sign onto a series of steps that would make it harder for minors to buy or obtain cigarettes and would stop promotions aimed at young people.

Some options for making cigarette purchases more difficult are banning vending machine sales, banning free samples and giveaway promotions and banning mail-order cigarette purchases. The goal, one senior official said, would be to make it impossible for a minor to get cigarettes without an adult providing them.

Sen. Wendell H. Ford (Ky.) and North Carolina Gov. Jim Hunt, met with White House Chief of Staff Leon E. Panetta last week to try to dissuade the administration from forcing broad reform on the tobacco industry. Tobacco states, such as North Carolina and Kentucky, are important electorally to a Clinton reelection effort.

Prison Sentences Don't Meet Target

The Associated press reports that a survey of state prison systems showed that violent criminals serve just under half their prison sentences behind bars. The survey conducted by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics conducted the survey of violent state inmates just imprisoned and those just released during the years 1992-94. These inmates had an average sentence of about ten years and were expected to serve less than five years on average, the study said. The average percentage of a sentence to be served rose from 44 percent to 48 percent during the three-year period. For violent offenders released during the three-year period, the average sentence was about eight years and the average time served was about 3 1/2 years, the study said.

A crime bill passed by House Republicans would provide \$10.5 billion for prison construction over five years, but half the money would be reserved for states that imprison violent criminals for at least 85 percent of their sentences. A 1994 law authorizes \$7.9 billion for prisons in formulas that reward increased incarceration but without the 85 percent qualifying figure.

California is the only state that already meets the target for released violent prisoners. In 1994, the average violent inmate released by California had served 85 percent of an average 39-month sentence. For inmates newly imprisoned during 1994, only Delaware, anticipates meeting or exceeding the 85 percent figure.

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Parece que, a veces, vemos nuestra religion como una Agencia de Aseguranzas que nos protege de los problemas del futuro, Por eso hablamos tanto de obligaciones que tenemos que cumplir. Y en esas obligaciones contamos los sacramentos y los mandamientos, y las demas reglas de la Iglesia...

Tratamos de cumplir todo lo que creemos que es una obligacion, porque pensamos que asi nos estamos asegurando un "Futuro eterno". Sera "tan facil asi" ser cristiano? Porque algunas obigaciones, que nos manda la Iglesia no son duras, pero otras si son muy duras, porque parece que en lugar de abrirnos la puerta nos la cierra.

En Mateo 14, 22-33, vemos que Jesus le dijo a Pedro: "Ven", y Pedro tuvo tanta fe y confianza en Jesucristo, que no dudo en irse a encontrarlo, caminando sobre las aguas. La presencia de Jesus le dio seguridad, y se le hizo facil lanzarse a caminar sobre las aguas...Hasta que comenzo a sentir la fuerza del viento, y le entro miedo y perdio la confianza en Jesus y comenzo a hundirse. Pero comenzo a gritarle a Jesus: "Señor, salvame." Jesus le dio la mano y lo salvo. Pero le dijo: "Hombre de poca fe, porque dudaste?"

Jesus nos dice como le dijo a Padro: "Ven" de Jesus es tambien una invitacion para que nos pongamos a actuar como El. Y la decision final, de seguir a Jesus, depende de nosotros. Para llegar a donde esta Cristo y actuar como El actuó, y para seguirle con todas las consecuencias, vamos a tener que correr el mismo riesgo de camir por sobre las aguas, que parecen que nos quieren tragar. Porque vivir como cristianos es un compromiso muy grande en la vida, un esfuerzo de vivir todos los dias el evangelio y ayudar a todos los que nos rodean para que ellos, tambien, lo vivan.

Tal vez ya sabemos por experiencia propia que esta compromiso tiene riesgos como los tuvo Jesus. Un

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dia de tantos, por el Evangelio, vamos a ser perseguidos por defender la verdad; un dia de tantos nos van a exigir perder para ganar, y un dia de tantos vamos a tener que morir para poder resucitar. Y, ciertamente que, no es facil aguantar si nos falta fe y confianza en Jesucristo. Pero confiando en Cristo le podremos todo. (Fillip. 4, 13).

Hispanos Tranquilos Por Postura de Clinton

Por Joseph Torres

El discurso del Presidente Clinton el 19 de julio, en el que apoyó a los programas federales de acción afirmativa, llegó como un alivio para muchos grupos y dirigentes hispanos que estaban preocupados porque él podría doblegarse a la presión política y abandonar el compromiso del gobierno con el pluralismo.

En vez de eso, él borró muchas dudas con un respaldo personalizado, pronunciado desde los Archivos Nacionales en Washington, DC. Reconociendo la discriminación pasada y continua en contra de los hispanos, los negros y otras personas de color, él se dirigió a los críticos que han procurado pintar a la acción afirmativa como discriminación a la inversa.

El señaló a 90,000 quejas de discriminación en el trabajo presentadas al gobierno federal el año pasado, en las que menos del 3% alegaban discriminación a la inversa.

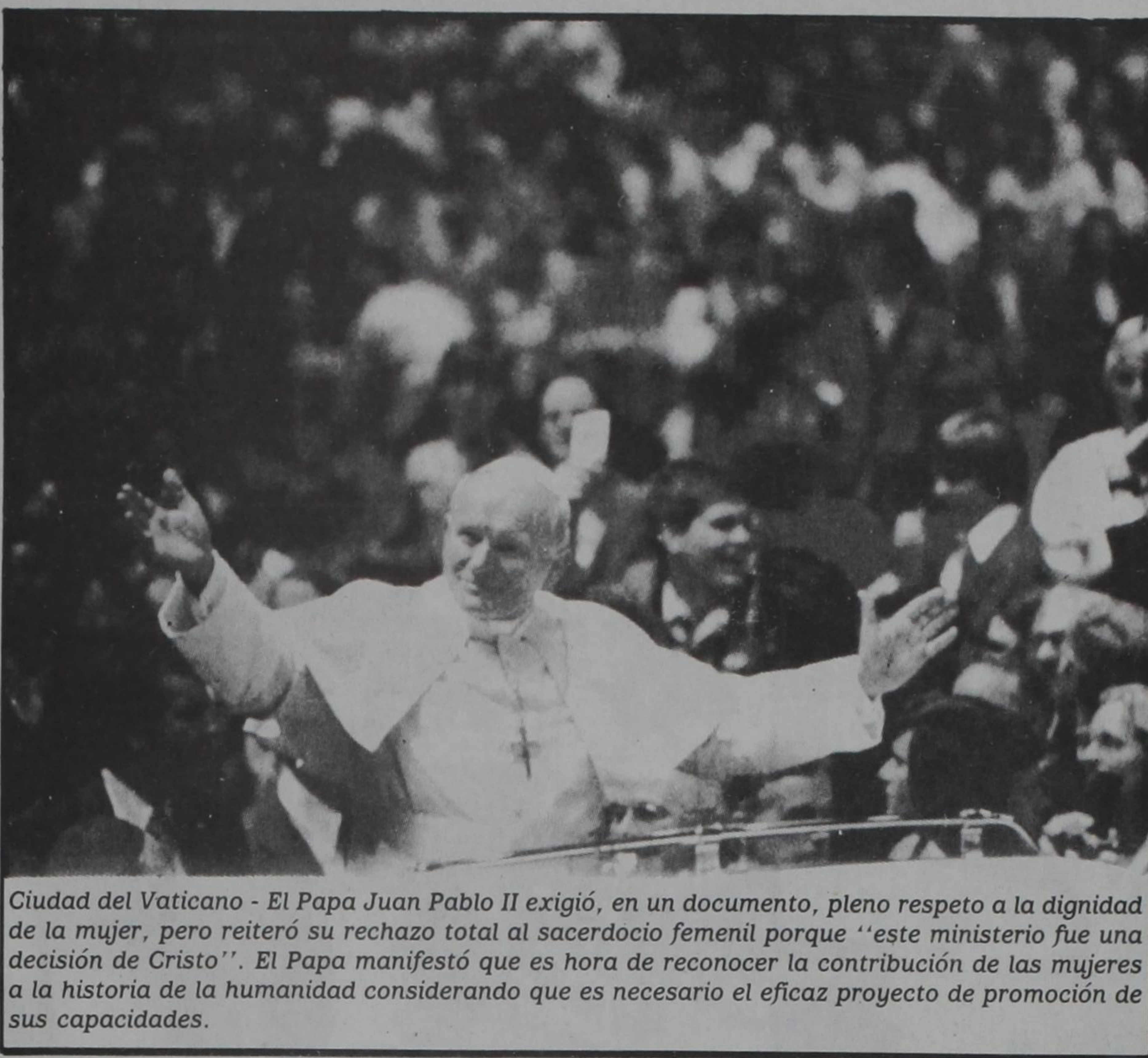
Clinton concluyó: "Basándonos en la evidencia, el trabajo no está hecho".

A juzgar por un estudio hecho por Hispanic Link entre 28 activistas latinas y 30 activistas latinos, efectuado en marzo último, los dirigentes hispanos están de acuerdo sólidamente. Sólo uno estuvo a favor del desmantelamiento de la acción afirmativa. De los demás, 39 dijeron que su eliminación perjudicaría mucho a los latinos; 14 dijeron que los perjudicaría de algún modo, mientras que 4 dijeron que no tendría efecto alguno.

Juan Figueroa, presidente del Fondo Puertorriqueño para la Defensa Legal y la Enseñanza, dijo a Hispanic Link Weekly Report: "El presidente motró verdadera dirigencia. Esta es una victoria real para las mujeres y todas las personas de color que continúan enfrentándose a la discriminación grave en esta nación".

El discurso de Clinton se produjo sólo algunas semanas después de varias decisiones recientes del Tribunal Supremo de Justicia de los Estados Unidos -- incluyendo a una que propinó un golpe a los programas de acción afirmativa en la contratación -- que hicieron retroceder a los derechos civiles en varios campos. Y en muchos estados alrededor del país, y más notablemente en California, viene adelantando la legislación que disminuiría o abreviaría los programas de acción afirmativa.

Clinton mencionó varios



Ciudad del Vaticano - El Papa Juan Pablo II exigió, en un documento, pleno respeto a la dignidad de la mujer, pero reiteró su rechazo total al sacerdocio femenino porque "este ministerio fue una decisión de Cristo". El Papa manifestó que es hora de reconocer la contribución de las mujeres a la historia de la humanidad considerando que es necesario el eficaz proyecto de promoción de sus capacidades.

ejemplos de por qué se necesita aún la acción afirmativa: La tasa elevada de desempleo para los hispanos y los negros; el informe de la Comisión del Techo de Vidrio, que revela el que menos del 1% de las plazas empresariales superiores de administración están siendo desempeñadas por hispanos o negros; y las mujeres hispanas que tienen grados universitarios y todavía ganan menos que los varones blancos que sólo tienen diplomas de escuelas secundarias.

"El desplegó la clase de dirigencia que me hizo estar adicionalmente orgullosa de ser estadounidense, porque no me he sentido así por algún tiempo viviendo aquí en California", dijo Mary Hernández, presidenta de la Asociación Nacional de Abogados Hispanos.

Clinton dijo que no todos los programas de acción afirmativa han funcionado perfectamente.

El continuó diciendo: "Deberíamos reafirmar el principio de la acción afirmativa y rectificar las prácticas. Deberíamos tener un lema sencillo: "Arréglenla, pero no le pongan fin".

Después de su discurso, Clinton se dirigió a cerca de 2,000 participantes de la convención anual del Consejo Nacional de La Raza (NCLR en inglés) en Dallas y reiteró su apoyo. El dió credito a su redactora de discursos hispana, Carolyn Curiel, por ayudar "más que cualquier otra persona" a redactar su mensaje sobre la acción afirmativa.

El presidente del NCLR,

Raúl Yzaguirre, respondió: "Nos complace que el Presidente Clinton haya reafirmado tanto la existencia continua de la discriminación muy extendida contra las minorías y las mujeres, como los programas tales como la acción afirmativa para remediar tal discriminación". A pesar del amplio apoyo al discurso de Clinton entre los hispanos, algunos se preocupaban porque el Congreso, controlado por los republicanos, pudiera desmantelar aún dichos programas.

"El Presidente Clinton y cualquiera que sea el presidente después, tienen que vivir dentro del marco de la ley, y es el Congreso el que hace las leyes", dijo Raymond Fuénte, propietario de un negocio pequeño en Fairfax, Virginia.

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