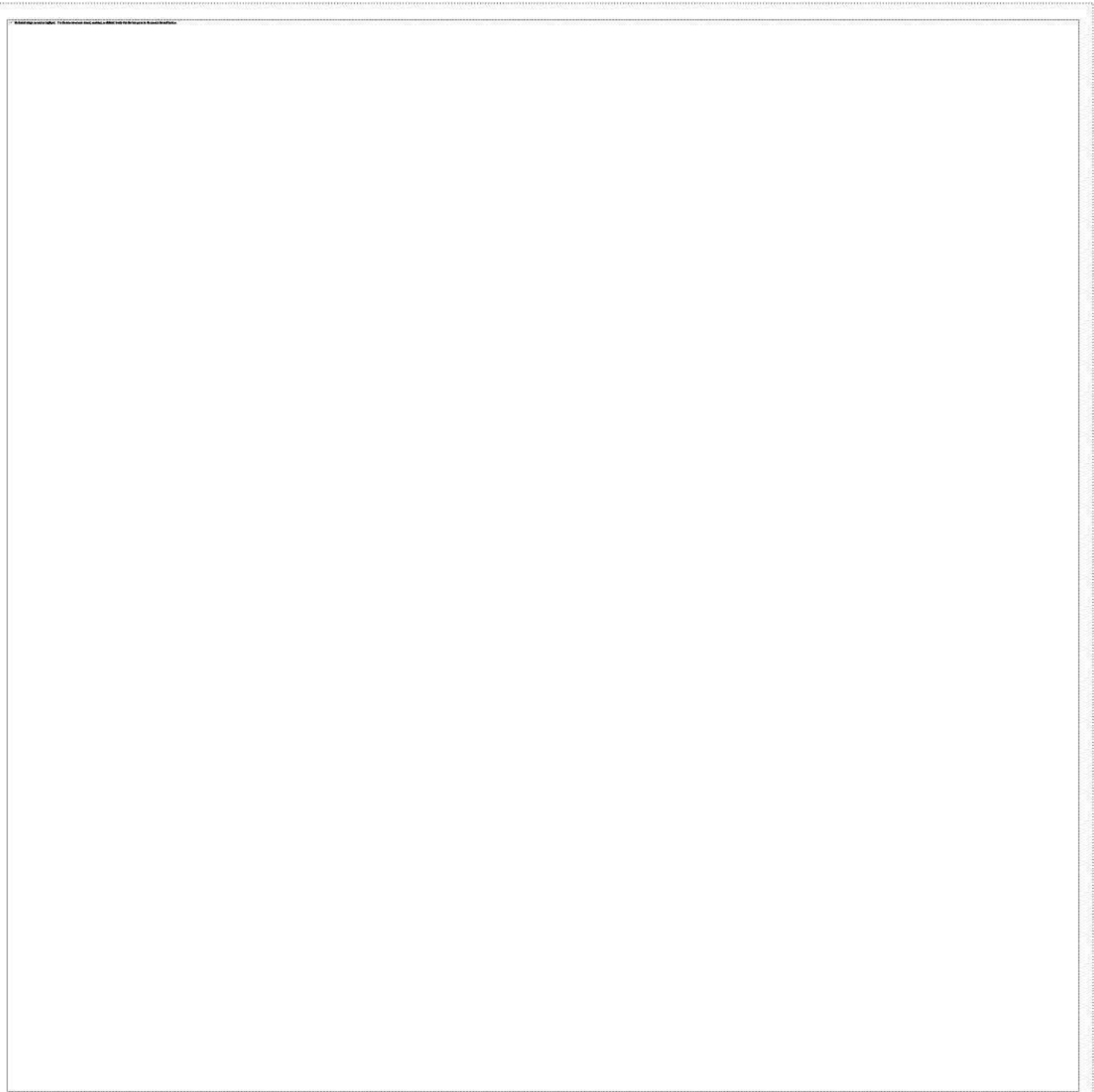


Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 9/27/2021 10:57:31 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: September 27, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | OF INTEREST |

September 27, 2021

Executive Summary

Media outlets during the weekend reported that the Biden administration has finished clearing out the border camp in Del Rio, Texas, and partially reopened the border crossing; Haiti's prime minister stopped short of criticizing Washington over its recent actions on the border; and Texas's governor said he would hire border patrol agents under investigation who feared being fired.

The Washington Post reported that the Biden administration said Friday it has finished clearing out the border camp in Del Rio, Texas, where images of U.S. agents on horseback pursuing migrants subjected the president to criticism. DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told reporters during a White House briefing that the encampment was emptied several days ahead of schedule, the result of an extensive federal mobilization and "heroic" efforts by his department's workforce.

In related news, the Associated Press reported that the Texas border crossing where thousands of Haitian migrants converged in recent weeks partially reopened late Saturday afternoon. In a statement, officials said trade and travel operations would resume at the Del Rio Port of Entry for passenger traffic at 4 p.m. Saturday. It will be reopened for cargo traffic on Monday morning. CBP temporarily closed the border crossing between Del Rio and Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, on Sept. 17 after the migrants suddenly crossed into Del Rio and made camp around the U.S. side of the border bridge.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press also reported that Haiti's embattled prime minister pointedly said Saturday that inequalities and conflict drive migration. But he stopped short of directly criticizing Washington over the issue. But "human beings, fathers and mothers who have children, are always going to flee poverty and conflict," he added, urging the international community to move fast to improve living conditions in the countries that refugees are leaving for political or economic reasons. He noted, however, that "many countries which are prosperous today have been built through successive waves of migrants and refugees."

And, Politico reported that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Sunday defended U.S. Border Patrol agents seen charging at migrants on horseback, saying he would hire them if they fear being fired. Images surfaced last week showing Border Patrol agents moving on horseback with reins against Haitian migrants seeking to enter the United States in Del Rio, Texas, although the photographer later said some of the pictures could be "misconstrued" as showing the agents behaving badly when they weren't.

Top News

[A.1] Haitian migrants are cleared from the Texas border

September 25, 2021 (The Washington Post (Print) - Felicia Sonmez) Reach: 838k

The Biden administration said Friday it has finished clearing out the chaotic border camp in Del Rio, Texas, where images of U.S. agents on horseback pursuing migrants subjected the president to withering criticism this week. DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told reporters during a White House briefing that the encampment was emptied several days ahead of schedule, the result of an extensive federal mobilization and "heroic" efforts by his department's workforce. Secretary Mayorkas's appearance capped a week that left the Biden administration scorched by intraparty anger, and Republican attacks on the White House's immigration policies and border management struggles. Agents were photographed and filmed by news crews cursing at the Haitians and attempting to force them back across the river to Mexico, at times charging with their horses and swinging their leather

reins. There has been no evidence that agents stuck any of the migrants or used "whips" as some claimed.

[A.2] Texas migrant camp empty, Haitians await word on their fate

September 25, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The Texas border crossing where thousands of Haitian migrants converged in recent weeks partially reopened late Saturday afternoon. Federal and local officials said no migrants remained at the makeshift encampment as of Friday, after some of the nearly 15,000 people were expelled from the country and many others were allowed to remain in the U.S., at least temporarily, as they try to seek asylum. In a statement, officials said trade and travel operations would resume at the Del Rio Port of Entry for passenger traffic at 4 p.m. Saturday. It will be reopened for cargo traffic on Monday morning. CBP temporarily closed the border crossing between Del Rio and Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, on Sept. 17 after the migrants suddenly crossed into Del Rio and made camp around the U.S. side of the border bridge.

[A.3] Haiti's leader: Migration won't end unless inequality does

September 25, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Amid an outcry over the U.S. treatment of Haitian asylum-seekers, the beleaguered island country's embattled prime minister pointedly said Saturday that inequalities and conflict drive migration. But he stopped short of directly criticizing Washington over the issue. "We do not wish to challenge the right of a sovereign state to control the entry borders into its territory, or to send back to the country of origin those who enter a country illegally," Prime Minister Ariel Henry said in a video speech to the U.N. General Assembly's annual meeting of world leaders. But "human beings, fathers and mothers who have children, are always going to flee poverty and conflict," he added, urging the international community to move fast to improve living conditions in the countries that refugees are leaving for political or economic reasons. He noted, however, that "many countries which are prosperous today have been built through successive waves of migrants and refugees."

[A.4] Texas governor to Border Patrol agents under investigation: 'I will hire you'

September 26, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Sunday defended U.S. Border Patrol agents seen charging at migrants on horseback, saying he would hire them if they fear being fired. Images surfaced last week showing Border Patrol agents moving on horseback with reins against Haitian migrants seeking to enter the United States in Del Rio, Texas, although the photographer later said some of the pictures could be "misconstrued" as showing the agents behaving badly when they weren't. DHS said it would launch a full investigation, and President Joe Biden said the footage shocked him. Gov. Abbott said the fault for any misbehavior should be placed on Biden and members of his administration because they didn't keep the Haitian migrants from crossing from Mexico into Del Rio, Texas. He also said that Texas was going to assume some of the functions of border control, even though the U.S. Constitution assigns the federal government that responsibility.

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] DHS chief: About 4,000 migrants in Del Rio have been expelled

September 26, 2021 (CNN.com International) Reach: 27.7m

[Video] DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas says about 4,000 migrants recently apprehended by CBP in Del Rio, Texas, have been expelled under a public health authority known as Title 42.

[B.2] U.S. border agents briefly detain 14 Mexican soldiers in El Paso

September 25, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

Fourteen Mexican soldiers were detained early Saturday morning for several hours by U.S. border agents after they crossed into El Paso, Texas, from Mexico's Ciudad Juarez, CBP said.

[B.3] Exclusive Video: Smugglers Move Migrants into Heart of Texas Border City

September 26, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.8m

Cartel-connected human smugglers moved their operations from hiding in the remote outskirts of Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas, Mexico to the heart of Roma, Texas, a Texas border city less than one hundred yards from the Roma International Bridge.

[B.4] Large Migrant Groups Run from West Texas Border Agents — Get Caught

September 25, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.8m

Border Patrol agents in the Big Bend Sector of West Texas report that large groups of migrants continue to run in an effort to escape apprehension. The agents say the fleeing migrants are no match for their speed and they apprehended all of them.

[B.5] Biden administration has removed just 2K of 30,000 migrants who surged border in Del Rio

September 25, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 58.8m

The Biden administration has removed just 2,000 of the more than 30,000 migrants who surged to the border in Del Rio in September, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said Friday.

[B.6] Migrants found inside horse trailer

September 24, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

U.S. Border Patrol agents discovered more than 30 migrants on the bed of a pickup truck and inside a horse trailer, authorities said on Friday.

[B.7] Stash house with 50-plus migrants busted in south Laredo

September 24, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

County and federal authorities busted a south Laredo stash house with more than 50 migrants, authorities said. The case unfolded last Thursday afternoon.

[B.8] Parents of 303 children separated at US-Mexico border under Trump have still not been found

September 24, 2021 (Independent, The (Online) - Gino Spocchia)

U.S. authorities are still searching for the parents of 303 children who were separated at the U.S.-Mexico border under the Trump administration.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] The Border Is Reopening At Del Rio After The U.S. Clears Migrant Camp

September 25, 2021 (National Public Radio - Dave Mistich) Reach: 46.1m

U.S. officials are reopening an international border crossing in southern Texas that had been closed for more than a week. The port of entry at Del Rio was closed after thousands of migrants set up camp below the international bridge crossing.

[C.2] U.S. News: All Haitian Migrants Cleared From Camp on Texas Border

September 24, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Andrew Restuccia) Reach: 37.8m

U.S. officials have emptied the makeshift camp of mostly Haitian migrants under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, as the remaining migrants were deported or allowed to pursue their immigration cases in the U.S., according to DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

[C.3] Texas crisis eases; Immig camp cleared, Mex. crossing opens

September 25, 2021 (New York Daily News - Powered by Dow Jones - Nelson Oliveira) Reach: 7.2m

The Texas border crossing that became the site of a massive migrant camp in recent days partially reopened Saturday following the removal of nearly 15,000 people who were mostly from Haiti.

[C.4] Laredo's World Trade Bridge expansion on 'fast track'

September 27, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Thomas Lott) Reach: 14.1k

Leaders from the state of Texas, the City of Laredo and the Mexican state of Tamaulipas gathered Saturday at the Gateway to the Americas Bridge to discuss the construction and expansion plans on the World Trade Bridge.

[C.5] CBP announces opening of processing facility in Laredo

September 26, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cecilia Trevino Laredo) Reach: 14.1k

CBP announced the opening of a soft-sided facility in Laredo in a press release Friday. Due to the worsening economic conditions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, the border has received an increase of encounters from the Western Hemisphere.

[C.6] Laredo leaders say they weren't informed about closure of Border Patrol checkpoints

September 24, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Jorge A. Vela) Reach: 12.2k

All checkpoints leading to the interior of the United States from Laredo were closed Friday night and unmanned for about 12 hours through Saturday morning, allowing people to potentially travel freely through them without being inspected.

Border Wall

[D.1] Mayorkas Says U.S. Won't Protect Southern Border With Wall

September 26, 2021 (Bloomberg - Craig Torres) Reach: 716k

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said the Biden administration won't build walls on the border despite a pickup in crossings.

[D.2] EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS: 200 Central American Migrants Show Texas Border is Not Closed

September 25, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.8m

More than 200 Central American migrants crossed the Rio Grande unimpeded and walked into La Joya, Texas. The steady stream of migrants crossing into the border city continues day and night, according to Border Patrol agents on the ground.

Travel

[E.1] Airports to passengers: DIY

September 26, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - NICHOLAS GOLDBERG) Reach: 27.7m

CBP says machine identification cuts the processing time of a typical Global Entry passenger by almost 90%, from 45 seconds to less than 6 seconds.

[E.2] U.S. Extends North American Land Border Closures Through October 21, 2021

September 24, 2021 (Mondaq Business Briefing - Ian Love)

Although Canada eased some restrictions for vaccinated U.S. travelers in August and September, North American land borders will remain closed for another month.

[E.3] Denied Cross-Border Shoppers, Some U.S. Companies Opt to Export to Canada Instead

September 26, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

The ongoing ban on non-essential land travel from Canada to the U.S., tentatively extended now for a 19th month until Oct. 21, drove home the importance of winning shelf space in a part of the world where crossing the border is no longer as easy as it once was.

Trade

[F.1] U.S. export tightening slows advance of Chinese C919 jet -sources

September 27, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

China's C919 jetliner has found it harder to meet certification and production targets amid tough U.S. export rules, according to three people with knowledge of the program.

[F.2] China will likely fail in its CPTPP bid — but it's a 'smart' move against the U.S., say analysts

September 26, 2021 (CNBC - Yen Nee Lee) Reach: 58.4m

China will likely fail in its bid to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership — but its move to submit an application highlighted the lack of U.S. economic policy in Asia-Pacific, said analysts.

[F.3] Supply-Chain Delays Worsen As Ports Struggle to Adapt

September 26, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Jennifer Smith) Reach: 37.8m

Despite mounting shipping delays and cargo backlogs, the busiest U.S. port complex shuts its gates for hours on most days and remains closed on Sundays.

[F.4] Cargoes nowhere fast at Calif. ports

September 25, 2021 (New York Post - Powered by Dow Jones - Eileen AJ Connelly) Reach: 47.6m
A record 62 cargo ships are waiting to dock at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach amid a serious supply-chain crunch that could mean fewer clothes and toys under the Christmas tree this year.

[F.5] China Shifts Tack On Intellectual Property Theft

September 26, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Josh Zumbun) Reach: 37.8m

Large Chinese technology companies have seized on a new legal tactic to fight claims of intellectual-property theft, raising concerns in the U.S. that Beijing's promises to strictly enforce patent and copyright laws will be undermined by Chinese courts.

[F.6] EU says U.S. trade, tech council to boost its clout, set rules for 21st century

September 26, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council will give Europe more clout and set standards and rules for the 21st century, the EU's trade and digital chiefs said, underscoring global concerns about China's growing power.

[F.7] U.S.-EU Trade Summit in Pittsburgh Aims to Deepen Economic Ties; Trade and technology summit is intended to ...

September 26, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Daniel Michaels) Reach: 37.8m

Senior U.S. and European officials will meet in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, aiming to show that closer trans-Atlantic ties have value—in dollars and euros.

[F.8] Exclusive: Under U.S. sanctions, Iran and Venezuela strike oil export deal

September 25, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

Venezuela has agreed to a key contract to swap its heavy oil for Iranian condensate that it can use to improve the quality of its tar-like crude, with the first cargoes due this week, five people close to the deal said.

[F.9] Canadians home after Huawei CFO resolves US charges

September 25, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

China, the U.S. and Canada completed a high-stakes prisoner swap with joyous homecomings for two Canadians held by China and for an executive of Chinese global communications giant Huawei Technologies charged with fraud, potentially bringing closure to a 3-year feud that embroiled the three countries.

Workforce

[G.1] Vermont Supreme Court Rebukes Border Patrol, Excludes Seized Evidence

September 26, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

Evidence seized by CBP agents in a warrantless vehicle search near the international border with Canada cannot be used in state prosecutions, a divided Vermont Supreme Court ruled on Sept. 24.

[G.2] Mayorkas: Investigation into border agents will be fair

September 26, 2021 (The Washington Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Valerie Richardson) Reach: 3.2m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas insisted Sunday that the mounted border agents under investigation for their treatment of Haitian migrants would receive a fair hearing despite President Biden's declaration that "those people will pay."

[G.3] Abbott says he'll hire Border Patrol agents who whipped at migrants

September 26, 2021 (Axios - Yacob Reyes) Reach: 6.4m

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Sunday defended the actions of U.S. Border Patrol agents who charged at Haitian migrants on horseback, blaming the Biden administration for not preventing them from crossing the border.

[G.4] George P. Bush talks to horse-mounted border agents, slams idea they whipped migrants

September 25, 2021 (Fox News - Houston Keene) Reach: 58.8m

Texas Land Commissioner and state attorney general candidate George P. Bush slammed the idea that horseback Border Patrol agents whipped migrants, sharing a video from a previous border visit to show the agents don't have "whips."

Opioid

[H.1] Synthetic opioid strong enough to 'kill more than 50M people' seized in California, authorities say

September 25, 2021 (USA Today Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jordan Mendoza) Reach: 57.1m

Two Southern California residents were charged in a massive drug bust that resulted in authorities seizing more than 46 pounds of an extremely lethal synthetic opioid.

Opinion

[I.1] US economic statecraft adrift as China seeks to join mega Asian trade deal

September 25, 2021 (The Hill) Reach: 19.0m

In this opinion piece, Joshua P. Meltzer wrote that "China's decision to formally seek to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the world's most important Asian trade deal, presents the U.S. with an enormous set of economic and diplomatic challenges."

[I.2] Biden, Harris push big lie about Border Patrol

September 26, 2021 (The Hill) Reach: 19.0m

In this opinion piece, Joe Concha wrote that "Due process sometimes seems like a foreign concept to the Biden administration, particularly when it comes to how it deals with the crisis at the border."

[I.3] Biden Promised a New Era for Immigration After Trump. How's That Going?

September 26, 2021 (Rolling Stone - Tessa Stuart) Reach: 16.9m

In this opinion piece, Tessa Stuart wrote that as CBP officers on horseback "rounded up Haitian migrants before hundreds of them were deported en masse under a Trump administration rule Biden has fought to keep in place, it's been hard to tell any difference between the president who made rabidly anti-immigrant policies the centerpiece of his administration and the president who vowed to reverse those policies."

[I.4] Biden is continuing the U.S. pattern of saying Haiti's woes aren't our problem

September 25, 2021 (The Washington Post - Jonathan M. Katz) Reach: 838k

In this opinion piece, Jonathan M. Katz wrote that "[President] Biden is continuing President Donald Trump's policies of support for a corrupt, undemocratic government in Port-au-Prince while overseeing a campaign of aggression against immigrants seeking safety and opportunity in the United States."

Immigration

[J.1] Haitian Americans 'appalled'; Protesters seek better treatment of migrants

September 26, 2021 (Detroit Free Press - Powered by Dow Jones - Niraj Warikoo) Reach: 4.1m

Haitian Americans and supporters rallied in downtown Detroit on Sunday afternoon to express outrage over the treatment of Haitian migrants seeking asylum at the border and call upon the Biden administration to adopt a more fair policy toward them.

[J.2] 'Beyond unacceptable': Haitian immigrant supporters rally in Salt Lake City

September 26, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Enrique Limón) Reach: 48.2m

A small group of Salt Lake City residents came together at the state Capitol on Friday to decry potential abuse and demand better treatment of Haitian migrants seeking asylum along the U.S.-Mexico border.

[J.3] Chicagoans stand in solidarity with Haitian migrants mistreated at Texas border

September 26, 2021 (Chicago Sun-Times - Madeline Kenney Sep) Reach: 2.9m

About a hundred people gathered Sunday afternoon in the Loop to call for protection for Haitian asylum seekers and demand answers for the mistreatment of Black migrants at the southern border.

[J.4] Local priest visits migrants at Texas border amid calls to stop deportations

September 26, 2021 (WSVN-TV - Joe Roetz) Reach: 1.4m

One of two South Florida priests who traveled to the U.S. border with Mexico in Texas to meet predominantly Haitian migrants shared his account of his trip as some local clergy called on the Biden administration to stop the deportations.

[J.5] On both sides of border, migrants, faith leaders and immigration advocates protest to save asylum

September 26, 2021 (The Arizona Republic - Clara Migoya) Reach: 4.8m

Nearly 400 people assembled at the Plaza Miguel Hidalgo downtown and marched toward the U.S. port of entry to demand the restoration of asylum and an end to a rule that quickly expels illegal border-crossers under a public health justification.

[J.6] Black Immigration Orgs Demand Biden Halt Deportations Of Haitian Asylum Seekers

September 26, 2021 (HuffPost - Sanjana Karanth) Reach: 25.1m

Several Black immigration organizations have filed a formal complaint with the DHS's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, demanding that the Biden administration halt its continued deportations of Haitian asylum seekers.

[J.7] Haiti deportations justified because of Covid, Biden homeland secretary says

September 26, 2021 (Guardian - Amanda Holpuch)

DHS Secretary, Alejandro Mayorkas on Sunday defended the Biden administration's decision to send thousands of Haitians to a home country they fled because of natural disasters and political turmoil.

[J.8] Homeland Chief Mayorkas defends Biden administration over treatment of Haitian migrants

September 26, 2021 (NBCNEWS.com - Teaganne Finn) Reach: 41.0m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas sought Sunday to fend off criticism of the Biden administration's handling of the crisis at the border, specifically the cases of Haitian migrants who had been encamped under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas.

[J.9] DHS secretary: We are working in a 'completely broken' immigration system

September 26, 2021 (The Hill - Joseph Choi) Reach: 19.0m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on Sunday said that the U.S. is capable of addressing the immigration crisis at the southern border, but acknowledged that "we are working in a completely broken system."

[J.10] Uncertain future for some as Haitian migrant camp closes

September 25, 2021 (Associated Press - SARAH BLAKE MORGAN)

The Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition has received dozens of drop-offs from U.S. Border Patrol agents since the sudden influx of migrants to Del Rio became the country's most pressing immigration challenge. Its operations director, Tiffany Burrow, said the group processed more than 1,600 Haitian migrants from Monday through when the camp was completely cleared Friday, assisting them with travel and resettlement necessities.

[J.11] Thousands of mostly Haitian migrants traverse Panama on way to United States

September 26, 2021 (Reuters News)

Up to 4,000 migrants, most of them Haitians, have passed through the treacherous jungles of the Darien Gap in Panama on the Colombian border as they make their way north to the United States, two Panamanian government sources said.

[J.12] 'You are free, you are home': Haitian migrants to be offered residency, permits by Mexico

September 24, 2021 (USA Today Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Natalia E. Contreras) Reach: 57.1m

Acuña Deputy Mayor Felipe Basulto Corona made an offer to Haitian migrants huddled in a makeshift camp in a park near the Rio Grande.

[J.13] Haitian migrants on the move weigh jobs in Mexico after clearout

September 25, 2021 (Reuters News)

Many Haitians who are heading for the U.S. border as thousands of their compatriots were cleared out of a frontier camp are giving thought to finding work in Mexico if measures to curb entry to the United States stay tough.

[J.14] Climate change is intensifying the US border crisis. It will only get worse

September 26, 2021 (CNN - Rachel Ramirez) Reach: 151m

Research has shown that climate migration will become more likely as the planet warms and people seek places they consider safer and more economically stable.

Of Interest

[L.1] 'Amistad' binds Del Rio and Ciudad Acuña amid migrant crisis

September 25, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Amistad — Spanish for friendship — binds the sister cities of Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuña, Mexico. Each year, the border communities that sit across the Rio Grande from one another come together to celebrate that bond during the Fiesta de la Amistad. But that traffic was disrupted for more than a week by the shutdown of the bridge that connects them and serves as a conduit for commerce, culture and community.

[L.2] Horrors of Child Trafficking, Exploitation Exposed at Texas Border Rally

September 26, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.8m

More than one hundred visitors and residents in the Texas border city of McAllen attended a rally and march to the border wall to shed light on the dangers of child trafficking.

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/21/2021 1:05:52 AM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Copy, sir. We'll work to flesh it out with BP StratComms and circle back.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:19:26 PM
To: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Concur, we need to get out ASAP.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 8:15 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

I'm very comfortable with this path forward.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:04:16 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Sir, I concur that for tonight we do not need to issue another statement. However, we continue to push for more media engagement and updates to the media with Chief Ortiz, so we do need to start laying out any steps he can use. We'll need to get those cleared. Below is a very rough outline of what that might look like:

What do you say to people horrified by what they saw in that footage?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

So you think the language the Agent used including expletives could potentially be justifiable?

-
-

(b) (5)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:24 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.- Mexico border

Thank you. I do not think there is a need for us to develop another one now.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:13 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here's what DHS put out:

<https://twitter.com/dhsgov/status/1440090164425019397?s=21>

After Secretary Mayorkas viewed the footage, we are providing the following statement:

“The Department of Homeland Security does not tolerate the abuse of migrants in our custody and we take these allegations very seriously. U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Office of Professional Responsibility is investigating the matter and has alerted the DHS Office of Inspector General. In addition, Secretary Mayorkas has directed that personnel from the Office of Professional Responsibility be on site full-time to ensure that the responsibilities of DHS personnel are executed consistent with applicable policies and training and the Department’s values.

Secretary Mayorkas visited Del Rio today and witnessed the extraordinary work of DHS personnel. The footage is extremely troubling and the facts learned from the full investigation, which will be conducted swiftly, will define the appropriate disciplinary actions to be taken. We are committed to processing migrants in a safe, orderly, and humane way. We can and must do this in a way that ensures the safety and dignity of migrants.”

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:12 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here are the two statements that were covered with the Minnesota incident. I’m checking if we have any of the other drafts internally that could offer other wording. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/06/08/u-s-border-officials-investigating-use-of-low-flying-helicopter-used-for-dispersal-at-enbridge-pipeline-protests/>

“CBP’s headquarters is investigating the facts to determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified,” a CBP spokesperson told CNN. “All

appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency's applicable policies and procedures." Also ran here: <https://www.twincities.com/2021/06/09/border-protection-helicopter-team-under-investigation-for-rotor-washing-line-3-protesters/>

<https://verticalmag.com/news/u-s-cbp-investigating-low-flight-over-pipeline-protesters/>

"U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Grand Forks responded to a local law enforcement request for assistance to address a gathering of people who were reported to have trespassed on private property," a CBP spokesperson said in a statement emailed to *Vertical*. "CBP's headquarters is investigating the facts to determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified. All appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency's applicable policies and procedures."

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:45 PM

To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

I want to look at the response when the helicopter dusted out the reporters in Minnesota. I'm thinking something similar to that that doesn't prematurely convict the agent of misconduct but yet acknowledges the seriousness of what is alleged to have happened and that we are looking into it and will hold people accountable should misconduct be established. We should also reiterate if we have a good track record of holding employees accountable for misconduct.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:38 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Believe s1 will issue something shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Good copy. We will work on a response.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Carry, we are going to need a stronger response on what our actions are steps we are taking in response.
Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 4:26 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

wrote:

Perfect. Thank you!

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021

5:25 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>; ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico
border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I edited the sentence as follows:

(b) (5)

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/21/2021 6:25:00 PM
To: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC:
Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG
Attachments: PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).docx

I believe the attached consolidates all of it plus the corrections on guidance (b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:21 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,
MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Horse Patrol PAG

We do not need to add any language about the (b) (7)(E) unit being grounded, this incident was a few agents.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 1:13:14 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG

And I just got word that the horse patrol unit from (b) (7)(E) station has been returned to (b) (7)(E) and is no longer working in Del Rio. If that's accurate we need to update that. I'm also told that the guidance has been: (b) (7)(E) for migrants in medical distress or vulnerable populations. Guide them to location where we have food, water, shelter, and medical services. As needed, request transport or assistance."

If that's accurate we should fix that too.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:11 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Attached with my edits. If we get a line on why we use the Horse Patrols for crowd control or anything else that needs review on the curriculum that would be great, but if that's going to take time I can start moving this through DHS for approvals.

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 1:59 PM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Thank you.

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 1:41 PM

To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Chief, AC,

Please see attached edits/comments, adding [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for his edits around the curriculum.

Note: once we are complete with edits this must go back to [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and still requires DHS clearance.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Command Suite Executive Staff
DHS/CBP
Cell: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
☒: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:48 PM

To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Horse Patrol PAG

Chief,

Please see attached PAG for Horse Patrol incident.

Available to discuss.

Manuel Padilla, Jr.

Acting Deputy Chief

United States Border Patrol Headquarters

O: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 3/9/2022 12:24:52 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: FY 2022 Appropriation Update
Attachments: FY 2022 Enactment -- HS Fact Sheet.pdf; FY 2022 Enactment -- HS Summary.pdf; FY 2022 Enactment -- Division F (pgs 655-746).pdf; FY 2022 Enactment -- JES Division F.pdf

Thx.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2022, at 7:16 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

FYSA - our team need to go thru the bill and will send a note once we read...but in the meantime here is a quick DHS summary from (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6)
Date: March 9, 2022 at 6:49:09 AM EST
To: (b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: FY 2022 Appropriation Update

ALL

Last night the House Appropriation Committee filed all 12 appropriation bills to the Rules Committee. Also included was additional funding for Ukraine support and COVID-19...however, no funding for DHS is in either of these. Timing is going to be tight for passage in both chambers and signature by the President by Friday night, so the House also introduced a Continuing Resolution extension which would go through next Tuesday, 15 March. This extension is only to allow the process to proceed through the House and Senate. The House is planning to vote this afternoon and the Senate will take it up after that...if they can get unanimous consent to waive debate, the bills will move more quickly, if not, they will be delayed by approximately one day.

Attached is the Bill language (DHS Division F starts on page 655), the JES, Fact Sheet and Overview Summary. Also...here are some highlights provided to S1.

- * Provides \$57.5B in discretionary funding...~\$5B above the FY 2022 President's Budget request.
- * Does not rescind the ~\$1.9B in prior year wall funding...this was anticipated to ensure our

bill could get bipartisan support

- * Provides \$1.45B for the surge on the Southwest Border (while not our entire request, this will alleviate most of the need for a reprogramming)
 - * \$1.06B for CBP for soft-sided facilities, medical care, transportation and personnel costs
 - * \$239.7M for ICE for processing capacity, transportation and personnel costs
 - * \$150M for FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter Program at the Southwest Border
- * Allows the realignment of the Chief Medical Office in CWMD and the Workforce Health office in MGMT to be aligned to OSEM
- * OSEM: Increases grant funding by \$15M for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention and Alternatives to Detention case management
- * MGMT:
 - * Provides \$200M for the new Joint Migrant Processing Centers to reduce reliance on soft-sided facilities
 - * Continues to support the National Capital Region consolidation at St Elizabeths and other locations
- * CBP:
 - * Provides \$27.5M to begin implementation of the Uyghur Forces Labor Prevention Act
 - * Invests \$256M in border technology
 - * Right-sizes CBP user fee revenue deficit due to the pandemic by providing an additional \$650M
- * ICE:
 - * Does not provide funding for the Migrant Protection Protocol Immigration Hearing Facilities (this will most like require a reprogramming)
 - * Continues to fund Alternatives to Detention at ~\$442M
 - * Provides ~\$266M above the FY 2022 request for HSI and ERO requirements
- * USCG:
 - * Provides ~\$580M above the FY 2022 request to continue to support critical fleet acquisition requirements along with requirement for operational readiness, personnel and families, workforce readiness and tuition assistance and childcare subsidy
 - * Provides \$50M for the National Coast Guard Museum
- * CISA:
 - * Continues to invest in critical cybersecurity requirements by providing \$460M above the FY 2022 request
- * FEMA:
 - * Continues a robust Grant program by providing ~\$400M more than the FY 2022 request
 - * Funds the Nonprofit Security Grant Program at \$226M...\$46M above the request, but short of the \$360M requested in Technical Assistance
- * All other Components are funding at a level similar to, or above, the FY22 request

My team will be reaching out to you as we dig into the documents to create the Side-by-Side. I understand we are slammed with finalizing the FY 2023 President's Budget, so we will have to juggle this in. Also, if you provide your senior leadership summaries, please share. And as always...if you have questions...give me a shout.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Budget Director

Department of Homeland Security

Office: (b) (6) Mobile: (b) (6)

Message

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/20/2021 4:15:52 PM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Also, on one of the pictures in the link to the Daily Mail Online, one of the Agents appears to have a GoPro type camera mounted on his shoulder. The footage of this event on Foxnews now.

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:13 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Copy Chief

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:09 PM
To: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Thank you. Looping in USBP Leadership.

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:04 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Making sure you are tracking this, specifically the photos of BP agents on horseback. Brought to OPR attention this morning. Whether these are uses of force per se can will be assessed but the images are troubling.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:22 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Team

I just received this email string from OCC attorney (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) regarding a Reuters article regarding the situation in Del Rio.

There are several photos of BPAs on horseback that have garnered particular attention. One photo depicts a BPA grabbing the shirt of a migrant running up an embankment and another captures what was described in the article as "one of the officers...unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face."

The question from OCC, "Have these incidents been reported and will someone be conducting follow-up?"



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:57 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: OCC Guidance

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:46 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

matthew.magliaro@cbp.dhs.gov

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

This article has 43 pictures—several show what appears to be the leather reins (not a lariat) near a migrant.

[Border agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing | Daily Mail Online](#)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (OCC)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:36 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:22 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-border-river/trapped-migrants-collecting-food-try-to-evade-law-enforcement-at-the-u-s-mexico-border-idUSKBN2GG01C>

The entire article is worth reading and includes a photo of horse mounted BPAs in the water. This is an excerpt from the end of the article:

“[r]euters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with “POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL” blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side.”

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 7:29 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:39 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

Good evening,

(b) (5)

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:07 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both!

Also looping in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for visibility.

Please let us know what you need.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel
Advanced Training Center
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
440 Koonce Rd
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Office)

Mobile)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:45:26 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both, let me digest this and will circle back if I need anything more

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Special Operations Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:41:39 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

Sir –

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Senior Attorney
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Advanced Training Center
440 Koonce Road
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(cell)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:11 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel
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Mobile)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 10:06:39 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

Subject: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Special Operations Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 9/24/2021 10:33:22 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: September 24, 2021

TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | TRAVEL | TRADE |
WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

September 24, 2021

Executive Summary

The Washington Post reported that the Biden administration has directed U.S. border officials to suspend patrols by agents on horseback in the Del Rio, Texas, migrant camp. DHS officials told reporters during a separate briefing Thursday that the measure was temporary. Border Patrol union representatives did not immediately respond to requests for comment, but they have defended the agents' conduct, which they say was consistent with their training as federal law enforcement officers.

In other news, the Associated Press reported that Haitian migrants waited to learn their fate at a Texas border encampment whose size was dramatically diminished from the almost 15,000 who gathered there just days ago in an effort to seek humanitarian protection in the U.S. but now face expulsion. About 3,000 remained late Thursday, DHS said. The number peaked Saturday as migrants driven by confusion over the Biden administration's policies and misinformation on social media converged at the border crossing trying to seek asylum.

Meanwhile, the Washington Post reported that the resignation Thursday of the U.S. special envoy to Haiti in protest of what he called "inhumane" deportations of Haitian migrants spotlighted a widening crisis for the Biden administration as Democratic allies turned on the White House over images of pursuit and squalor. Daniel Foote's resignation letter accused the administration of conducting a

"deeply flawed" policy of returning Haitian migrants to their home country despite the deteriorating political and humanitarian conditions there.

Top News

[A.1] Biden administration directs border officials to suspend horse patrols in Del Rio migrant camp

September 23, 2021 (The Washington Post - Nick Miroff) Reach: 356k

The Biden administration has directed U.S. border officials to suspend patrols by agents on horseback in the Del Rio, Texas, migrant camp, White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters Thursday. Psaki said DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told civil rights leaders Thursday morning "we would no longer be using horses in Del Rio." DHS had previously announced that the incident was under investigation and that the agents recorded in video footage have been placed on administrative duties. DHS officials told reporters during a separate briefing Thursday that the measure was temporary. Reporters were allowed to participate on the condition that none of the speakers could be named. Border Patrol union representatives did not immediately respond to requests for comment, but they have defended the agents' conduct, which they say was consistent with their training as federal law enforcement officers.

[A.2] Migrant camp shrinks on US border as more Haitians removed

September 24, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Haitian migrants waited to learn their fate at a Texas border encampment whose size was dramatically diminished from the almost 15,000 who gathered there just days ago in an effort to seek humanitarian protection in the U.S. but now face expulsion. Families milled around makeshift shelters held up with giant reeds under a bridge between Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, as wind blew dust through the camp littered with plastic bottles and overflowing trash bags. Some migrants sat on plastic paint cans or the ground while others hung clothes to dry on the bamboo-like carrizo cane. About 3,000 remained late Thursday, DHS said. The number peaked Saturday as migrants driven by confusion over the Biden administration's policies and misinformation on social media converged at the border crossing trying to seek asylum.

[A.3] Envoy to Haiti quits as furor widens

September 24, 2021 (The Washington Post (Print) - Sean Sullivan) Reach: 356k

The resignation Thursday of the U.S. special envoy to Haiti in protest of what he called "inhumane" deportations of Haitian migrants spotlighted a widening crisis for the Biden administration as Democratic allies turned on the White House over images of pursuit and squalor that some lawmakers denounced as racist and immoral. Daniel Foote's blistering resignation letter accused the administration of conducting a "deeply flawed" policy of returning Haitian migrants to their home country despite the deteriorating political and humanitarian conditions there. The move appeared to catch the Biden administration by surprise, although Foote's critique echoed the recent outcry from

advocates and lawmakers over the treatment of Haitian migrants massed near Del Rio, Texas. In another effort to contain the growing furor, the administration announced it was suspending all horse patrols at the Del Rio migrant camp.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] Mexican forces surround border migrant camp

September 23, 2021 (Associated Press - JULIO CORTEZ)

A camp where almost 15,000 migrants had waited along the Texas border just days ago was dramatically smaller Thursday, while across the river in Mexico, Haitian migrants in a growing camp awoke surrounded by security forces as a helicopter thundered overhead.

[B.2] Mexico urges Haitians at US-Mexico border to give up and head south

September 24, 2021 (Reuters News)

Mexican officials are urging Haitians on the Texas border trying to reach the United States to give up and return to Mexico's frontier with Guatemala to request asylum, even as discontent grows over the treatment meted out to the beleaguered migrants.

[B.3] Haitian Migrants, Rebuffed by U.S., Cause Crisis for Mexico

September 23, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Juan Montes and Santiago Pérez) Reach: 5.9m

The unprecedented wave of Haitian migrants at the U.S. southern border is causing a crisis in Mexico, which now must contend with thousands of asylum seekers turned back by the U.S.

[B.4] The Biden Administration Will No Longer Use Horses At A Texas Border Crossing

September 23, 2021 (National Public Radio - Joe Hernandez) Reach: 46.1m

The Biden administration has suspended the use of horse patrols at the U.S.-Mexico border crossing in Del Rio, Texas, White House press secretary Jen Psaki announced Thursday.

[B.5] DHS temporarily suspends use of horse patrol in Del Rio

September 23, 2021 (Axios - Erin Doherty) Reach: 6.4m

DHS on Thursday temporarily suspended the use of horse patrol in Del Rio, Texas a DHS spokesperson confirmed.

[B.6] Kansas Republicans want Gov. Kelly to send aid to border. Guardsmen are already there

September 23, 2021 (Kansas City Star - Jonathan Shorman) Reach: 181k

Kansas Republicans for months have been pushing Gov. Laura Kelly to send resources to the southern border in response to the flow of migrants crossing into the United States.

[B.7] Separate enforcement actions yield more than 50 migrants

September 24, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

U.S. Border Patrol agents stopped the smuggling attempt of more than 50 migrants in two separate enforcement actions, authorities said.

[B.8] White House Blames Donald Trump for Joe Biden's Haitian Migrant Border Crisis

September 23, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Charlie Spiering) Reach: 5.8m

The White House argued Thursday that former President Trump was to blame for the Haitian migrant crisis taking place on the Southern border.

[B.9] DHS Reports Only 1400 Haitian Migrant Removals from U.S. This Week

September 23, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.8m

DHS officials report the removal of only 1,401 Haitian migrants via repatriation flights since Sunday. On Sunday, the population of the Del Rio Migrant Camp peaked at more than 15,000. Roughly 5,000 remain in the camp as of Thursday morning.

[B.10] Border Patrol agents find 142 migrants hidden in trailer, SUV near Anthony, NM

September 23, 2021 (El Paso Times - Aaron Martinez) Reach: 36.8k

U.S. Border Patrol agents found 142 migrants hidden in the back of a tractor-trailer and in an SUV near Anthony, New Mexico. Agents received information of a potential human smuggling attempt Sept. 17 from Homeland Security Investigations agents.

[B.11] Colombia: around 19,000 US-bound Haitian migrants waiting to cross Panama border

September 23, 2021 (BBC International Reports (Latin America) - Latin America)

Nearly 19,000 migrants, mostly Haitian nationals, were waiting in the Colombian village of Necocoli, Antioquia department, to cross the nearby border with Panama as part of their northwards journey toward the United States, said the Colombian government's human rights Ombudsman Carlos Camargo in a tweet.

[B.12] Haitian migrants at the southern border

September 23, 2021 (Axios) Reach: 6.4m

[Podcast] Thousands of Haitian migrants are living in a temporary encampment at the southern border in Del Rio, Texas. The Biden administration recently announced it was going to start deporting many of these people back to Haiti.

Travel

[E.1] Gillibrand calls border shutdown 'an outrage'

September 23, 2021 (Buffalo News - Jerry Zremski) Reach: 129k

Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand said Thursday that it's "an outrage" that the United States continues to bar Canadians who are vaccinated against COVID-19 from crossing U.S. land borders.

[E.2] Mexican workers get around border closure by taking to the skies

September 23, 2021 (Dallas Morning News - Alfredo Corchado) Reach: 275k

An increasing number of border residents are going to unusual lengths to navigate around restrictions during the pandemic to conduct their business. Many people who are not "essential travelers" are finding that flying to the U.S. is their best option, albeit an expensive choice.

Trade

[F.1] EU to attend U.S. trade meeting put in doubt by French anger

September 23, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The inaugural meeting of the U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council will go ahead as planned next week after it was put in doubt because of French anger over the scrapping of a \$40 billion submarine contract.

[F.2] EU Confirms Inaugural Trade-Tech Summit With U.S. to Go Ahead

September 23, 2021 (Bloomberg - John Follain) Reach: 36.9m

The European Commission confirmed that the inaugural meeting of a new trade council with the U.S. will go ahead as planned after France sought to have it postponed.

[F.3] Congress takes aim at traffickers by blocking imports

September 23, 2021 (The Hill) Reach: 19.0m

Congress stands poised to dramatically change a key legal tool in the fight against human trafficking. Although the name of the law itself focuses on the Uyghur community who are forced to work in Xinjiang, China, it could have global implications.

[F.4] U.S. Returns Smuggled 3,600-Year-Old 'Gilgamesh' Tablet To Iraqi Government After Forfeiture By Hobby Lobby

September 23, 2021 (Forbes - Joe Walsh) Reach: 70.3m

The United States returned an ancient cuneiform tablet inscribed with part of the Epic of Gilgamesh — one of the world's oldest known literary works — to the Iraqi government Thursday, after the rare artifact was seized from craft store Hobby Lobby, which had purchased it seven years ago.

[F.5] World News: U.S.-China Rift Puts EU Nations In a Tight Spot

September 23, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Laurence Norman) Reach: 37.8m

The European Union's biggest countries want to carve a middle path between China and the U.S. Last week's surprise announcement of a new defense pact among the U.S., the U.K. and Australia, alongside the cancellation of a multibillion-dollar French submarine deal with Canberra, shows how hard that will be.

[F.6] U.S. friends in Latin America are turning to China

September 23, 2021 (Axios - Stef W. Kight) Reach: 6.4m

The U.S. is losing Latin America to China without putting up a fight, Ecuador's ambassador to Washington told Axios, laying bare her frustrations with early inattention from the Biden administration.

[F.7] US Commerce chief: more action to be taken on Huawei if needed

September 23, 2021 (Fox Business) Reach: 13.1m

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said on Thursday the Biden administration will take further action against Chinese telecoms firm Huawei if necessary after some Republican lawmakers have pressed for more steps.

[F.8] Why There Is An 'Alarming Decline' In US Solar Panel Imports

September 23, 2021 (Benzinga.com - Powered by Dow Jones - Wayne Duggan) Reach: 4.7m

On Thursday, Bank of America analyst Julien Dumoulin-Smith said he has observed an "alarming decline" in U.S. solar panel imports, and the worst could be yet to come.

[F.9] China's Bid to Join Trans-Pacific Trade Bloc Highly Unlikely to Be Greenlighted: Analysts

September 23, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

Beijing officially applied to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership. However, experts said the possibility of getting approved was quite low due to high entry standards and China's unfair market practices.

[F.10] N. Korea offers talks, likely trying to get sanctions relief

September 23, 2021 (Associated Press - By HYUNG-JIN KIM) Reach: 10.4m

The influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Friday her country is willing to resume talks with South Korea if conditions are met, indicating it wants Seoul to persuade Washington to relax crippling economic sanctions.

Workforce

[G.1] DHS chief Mayorkas sidelines agents during investigation into images of rough treatment of migrants

September 23, 2021 (Washington Times)

Border Patrol agents who were involved in a rough encounter with migrants this week in Texas have been sidelined from law enforcement duties during an investigation into their behavior, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told lawmakers Wednesday.

[G.2] Rep. McCaul defends 'overwhelmed' and 'under-resourced' Border Patrol agents

September 23, 2021 (Fox News Video) Reach: 9.1m

[Video] Rep. Mike McCaul responded to outrage over images that lawmakers falsely claimed showed Border Patrol agents using 'whips' to stop Haitian migrants getting into the country.

[G.3] Border Patrol union chief says Biden using 'whip' furor to deflect from handling of migrant crisis

September 23, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 58.8m

The head of the Border Patrol union is accusing the Biden administration of using a controversy over agents on horseback blocking Haitian migrants to "deflect" from its own handling of the crisis at the border while saying the furor is "completely and totally demoralizing" for agents.

Opinion

[I.1] Scapegoats at the Texas Border; The Biden White House blames border agents who are overwhelmed.

September 23, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 37.8m

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Wall Street Journal wrote that "At last the Biden administration is furious about tumult on the southern border. Not about the surge of migrants, mind you. The White House is using a single episode to scapegoat law enforcement and deflect criticism from its immigration failure."

[I.2] China's Answer to Aukus; Where is the Biden Administration on the Pacific trade deal?

September 23, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 37.8m

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Wall Street Journal wrote that "President Trump's 2017 exit from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal looks in retrospect like one of his worst foreign-policy decisions."

[I.3] Biden confronts a trio of setbacks with Black and immigrant groups

September 23, 2021 (The Washington Post - Aaron Blake) Reach: 356k

In this opinion piece, Aaron Blake wrote that the situation on the border has "in many ways united both immigrant and civil rights groups against [President] Biden in an unprecedented way."

Immigration

[J.1] Obama-Appointed Judge: Florida's 'Discriminatory' Ban on Sanctuary Cities Is Unconstitutional

September 23, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - John Binder) Reach: 5.8m

A judge has ruled that Florida's ban on sanctuary cities, which shield criminal illegal aliens from arrest and deportation, is unconstitutional because it is discriminatory.

[J.2] Democratic AGs Blast Biden For Expelling Haitian Migrants

September 23, 2021 (Forbes - Joe Walsh) Reach: 70.3m

More than a dozen Democratic state attorneys general urged the Biden administration on Thursday to stop using a Trump-era public health rule to rapidly expel Haitian migrants caught at the U.S.-Mexico border as President Biden faces increasing criticism for his response to a recent surge in migration from immigration advocates and Democratic politicians.

[J.3] Healey joins 17 other attorneys general calling for Biden to address treatment of Haitian migrants at ...

September 23, 2021 (The Boston Globe - Powered by Dow Jones - Nick Stoico) Reach: 4.9m

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey joined a growing list of local elected officials who are urging President Joe Biden to address the harsh treatment of Haitian immigrants attempting to cross the southern border.

[J.4] More than 150 Catholic organizations ask Biden to stop expedited migrant expulsions

September 24, 2021 (Crux - John Lavenburg) Reach: 279k

Ahead of the 107th World Day for Migrants and Refugees, more than 150 Catholic organizations are imploring President Biden to end Title 42 – a border policy that allows the immediate expulsion of migrants and limits their right to seek asylum.

[J.5] This obscure, now contentious law is being used to expel thousands of migrants

September 23, 2021 (National Geographic - Victoria Razo) Reach: 10.1m

More than 14,000 migrants, most of them Haitian, amassed at the border in Del Rio, Texas during the past week in a high-visibility bid for entry into the United States. But officials have moved quickly to expel the vast majority of them using a public health statute that immigration rights groups claim violates U.S. and international law.

[J.6] Where are the Haitians ending up? Biden administration pressed for answers

September 23, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Quinn Owen) Reach: 22.5m

The Biden administration continued to be pressed for answers Thursday over its handling of Haitian migrants who surged to Del Rio, Texas, this past week as more information comes out about where they are being sent now.

[J.7] Texas, Missouri File Motion to Compel Biden Admin to Reinstate 'Remain in Mexico' Policy

September 24, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

The states of Texas and Missouri filed a motion on Thursday seeking a court order to force the Biden administration to reinstate the Migrant Protection Protocols program, accusing the administration of having ignored the Supreme Court's order last month to do so.

[J.8] Haitians see history of racist policies in migrant treatment

September 24, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The Border Patrol's treatment of Haitian migrants is just the latest in a long history of discriminatory U.S. policies and of indignities faced by Black people, sparking new anger among Haitian Americans, Black immigrant advocates and civil rights leaders.

[J.9] BUSINESS; Haitian influx splits Texas border town; Some in Del Rio help the migrants move on, but others ' ...

September 23, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Molly Hennessy-Fiske) Reach: 27.7m

Del Rio, Texas, a border town of about 36,000 — 85% Latino, many with ties across the border, and home to Laughlin Air Force Base and a slew of cross-border family businesses — has been divided by the influx of Haitian migrants this month that stirred national controversy.

[J.10] Chicago's Haitian community saddened, concerned over migrants' mistreatment at US-Mexico border

September 23, 2021 (WLS-TV - Leah Hope) Reach: 4.4m

Some Chicagoans with personal connections to Haiti say they are feeling the pain of those trying to come to the United States. Two out of every three people being returned to Haiti from the US border are women and children.

[J.11] Al Sharpton calls for deportation flights of Haitian migrants to end as he tours Del Rio migrant camp

September 23, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - John Bowden) Reach: 48.2m

Civil rights leader Rev Al Sharpton toured camps set up by more than 12,000 Haitian migrants near the international bridge in Del Rio, Texas, on Thursday where he called for the Biden administration to immediately suspend deportation efforts for the desperate migrants.

[J.12] Unruly passengers forced cancellation of Haiti deportation flight from San Antonio

September 23, 2021 (San Antonio Express-News - Antonio Express-News) Reach: 111k

A deportation flight headed to Haiti from San Antonio was delayed this week after passengers became unruly and assaulted officers, federal authorities allege.

[J.13] Afghan refugees are vetted before coming to Michigan; not all get benefits after arrival

September 23, 2021 (MLive.com) Reach: 4.3m

Refugees from Afghanistan must undergo a thorough vetting process before being allowed to resettle in the United States. Michigan resettlement agencies volunteered to help house 1,300 Afghan refugees who are arriving through the end of 2021.

[J.14] Ohio's high immigration bonds pose challenges to cash-strapped detainees

September 23, 2021 (Columbus Dispatch - Columbus Dispatch) Reach: 133k

Every year, tens of thousands of immigrants seek release on bond at court hearings, but low grant rates and high bond amounts continue to keep cash-strapped detainees in prolonged custody, according to advocates and experts.

DHS

[K.1] Watchdog: CBP improperly targeted Americans as caravans approached border

September 23, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

CBP improperly targeted American citizens that the agency suspected were involved with a 2018-19 migrant caravan with intrusive additional inspections, according to a new DHS inspector general's report.

[K.2] Trump-era CBP targeted US citizens, including journalists and lawyers, amid caravan concerns, watchdog finds

September 23, 2021 (CNN.com International - Geneva Sands) Reach: 27.7m

CBP targeted US citizens, including journalists and attorneys, during the Trump administration as it monitored migrant caravans traveling through Mexico, according to a new DHS Inspector General report.

[K.3] Exclusive: DHS tracked Haitian migration for months but failed to predict surge at the border

September 23, 2021 (Yahoo! News - Caitlin Dickson) Reach: 29.8m

As multiple U.S. federal agencies continue to move thousands of Haitian migrants from a makeshift encampment on the banks of the Rio Grande River this week, DHS officials said Thursday that they were also "actively investigating" how about 15,000 Haitian migrants were able to quickly make their way through Mexico to Del Rio, Texas, without being detected by U.S. intelligence.

Of Interest

[L.1] Desperation Meets Dysfunction on the Southern Border

September 23, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

The harshest and most dramatic coverage of the recent migrant crisis — photos of Black immigrants being rounded up by CBP officers on horseback, stories of the dire conditions in the camp under the bridge — only hint at the bigger picture on the ground in which people on both sides of the border, Mexico and the U.S., are living in a state of subjective and at times seemingly arbitrary enforcement of policy.

[L.2] CBC members nix border visit

September 23, 2021 (Axios - Alayna Treene) Reach: 6.4m

Several members of the Congressional Black Caucus weighed visiting the U.S.-Mexico border this week to investigate the conditions faced by Haitian migrants and protest allegations of inhumane treatment by U.S. agents.

[L.3] U.S. Customs and Border Protection releases operational data for August

September 23, 2021 (Deming Headlight - Deming Headlight) Reach: 10.6k

CBP has released operational statistics for August 2021. CBP Acting Commissioner Troy Miller said CBP "played an important role in Operation Allies Refuge and Operation Allies Welcome as well as in support of the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Ida and the people of Haiti after their earthquake."

Message

From: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/24/2021 5:25:22 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: POTUS on Horse Patrol Unit

Gonna have a hard time sleeping tonight!
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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 12:11:38 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: POTUS on Horse Patrol Unit

Sirs, making sure you saw today's POTUS comments on the Horse Patrol Unit:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/biden-border-del-rio-migrants-b1926468.html>

'I promise you, those people will pay': Biden slams border agents who whipped migrants

'It's horrible what you saw. To see people like they did, with horses, running them over, people being strapped, it's outrageous,' Biden says

President Joe Biden has slammed the border agents who whipped migrants from horseback in Del Rio, Texas as people tried to enter the US after fleeing natural disasters and political turmoil in Haiti.

"It's horrible what you saw. To see people like they did, with horses, running them over, people being strapped, it's outrageous," Mr Biden said on Friday.

"I promise you – those people will pay," he added. "There is an investigation underway right now and there will be consequences."

"It's an embarrassment," the president said. "It's beyond an embarrassment. It's dangerous, it's wrong. It sends the wrong message around the world. It sends the wrong message at home. It's simply not who we are."

An investigation has begun following video footage emerging earlier this week showing border agents on horseback aggressively trying to push back migrants, and at times swing long reins towards people on the ground.

Administration officials and congressional Democrats have shared their anger over the behaviour of the border agents. The Department of Homeland Security has suspended the use of horse patrols for the time being.

The CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility is leading the investigation and it's expected to be finished next week.

"Of course I take responsibly," Mr Biden told reporters. "I'm President."

Democratic California Representative Maxine Waters said during a press briefing on Wednesday: "What we witnessed takes us back hundreds of years. What we witnessed was worse than what we witnessed in slavery."

"Cowboys with their reins, again, whipping Black people, Haitians, into the water where they're scrambling and falling down when all they're trying to do is escape from violence in their country," she added.

"I'm pissed. I'm unhappy and I'm not just unhappy with the cowboys, who were running down Haitians and using their reins to whip them," Ms Waters said. "I'm unhappy with the administration."

The White House has faced criticism for continuing its deportations of Haitian migrants, but has defended the policy, arguing that they are trying to install an "orderly and humane process".

"Our policy process has continued to be the same with Haiti as it is for anybody coming through an irregular migration across our border," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said on Thursday.

A large number of the migrants trying to enter the US are being removed under Title 42 – a policy that began under the Trump administration and that allows the US to expel migrants without allowing them to apply for asylum if they pose a public health risk. During the pandemic, Title 42 have blocked many from entering the US at the southern border.

Some Democrats have urged the Biden administration to put a stop to the removals of Haitians as their country faces multiple crises – an earthquake recently killed more than 2,000 people and caused widespread devastation, the country has not managed to take control over the spread of Covid-19 and has a very low vaccination rate, and political chaos has gripped the country since President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated on 7 July.

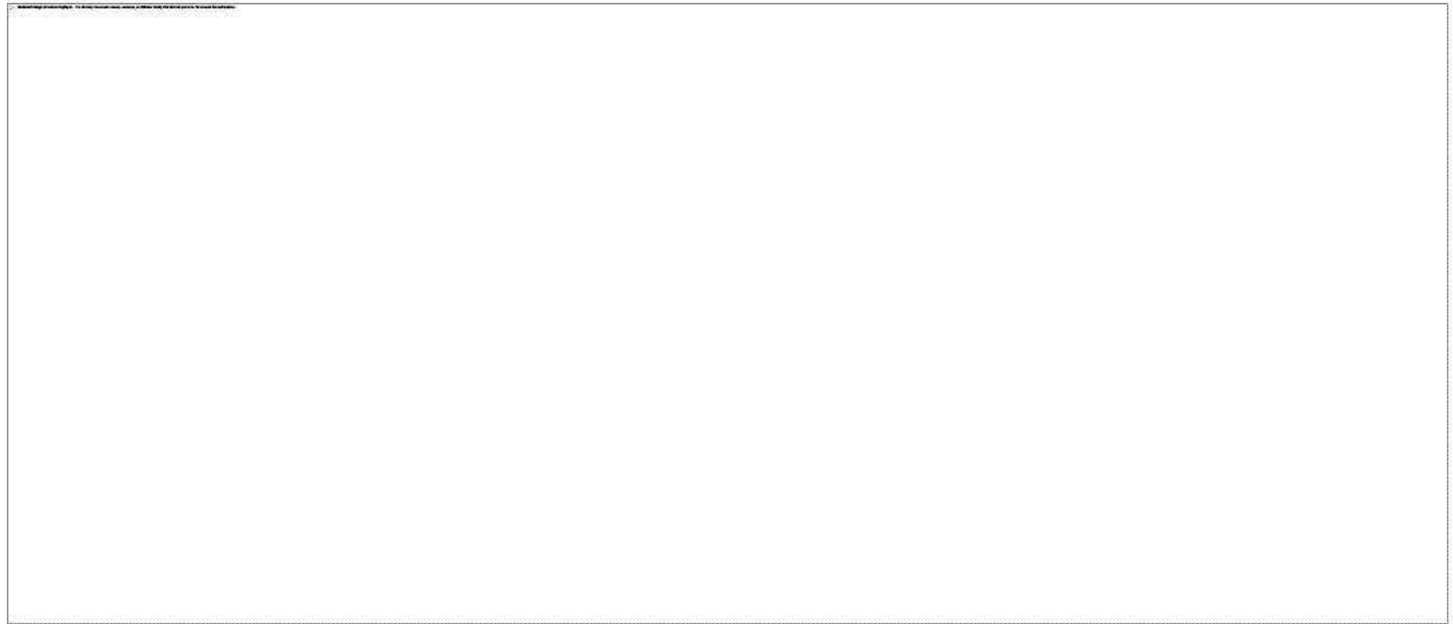
The US Special Envoy to Haiti Daniel Foote resigned on Wednesday, laying out his outrage at the handling of the crisis in a scathing resignation letter.

“I will not be associated with the United States’ inhumane, counterproductive decision to deport thousands of Haitian refugees and illegal immigrants to Haiti, a country where American officials are confined to secure compounds because of the danger posed by armed gangs in control of daily life,” he wrote.

State Department spokesperson Ned Price fired back, saying in a statement: “It is unfortunate that, instead of participating in a solutions-oriented policy process, Special Envoy Foote has both resigned and mischaracterized the circumstances of his resignation. He failed to take advantage of ample opportunity to raise concerns about migration during his tenure and chose to resign instead.”

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 2/21/2022 12:51:05 PM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: February 21, 2022



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

February 21, 2022

Executive Summary

Media outlets over the weekend reported that the Supreme Court will hear the Biden administration's plan to rescind the "Remain in Mexico" policy; migration to the U.S.-Mexico border fell to its lowest level since the 2021 surge; and the Biden administration is planning a repair job of the southern border.

The Washington Post reported that the Supreme Court on Friday said it will expedite review of the Biden administration's attempt to get rid of former President Trump's policy requiring asylum seekers along the southern border to wait in Mexico for their cases to be decided with a ruling by the end of the court's term this summer. The justices put on a fast-track review of the plan to do away with the "Remain in Mexico" policy. The justices called for expedited briefing in the case so it can be heard in April, the last month for oral arguments this term.

Meanwhile, Axios reported that the number of encounters between border officials and migrants attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border fell last month to the lowest levels since last February when the surge began. While it was the second-lowest monthly number on Biden's watch, the 154,000 migrant encounters last month was still abnormally high for the time of year. There were more border patrol arrests than any other January in over two decades, according to government data. It's unclear yet whether the decline in border numbers will last.

In other news, the Washington Post reported that the Biden administration has been developing plans to put its own stamp on the border wall. President Biden has waved off calls from activists to tear the structure down and recycle the steel. Instead, his government has been adding new barriers as it shores up flood levees along the Rio Grande and fixes other segments left in a precarious state by the contractors rushing to build right up to Biden's inauguration. CBP officials have been soliciting input as the Biden administration prepares to spend hundreds of millions for border wall remediation.

Top News

[A.1] Supreme Court will hear Biden administration plan to rescind Trump immigration policy on asylum seekers

February 18, 2022 (The Washington Post - Robert Barnes) Reach: 356k

The Supreme Court on Friday said it will expedite review of the Biden administration's attempt to get rid of former President Trump's policy requiring asylum seekers along the southern border to wait in Mexico for their cases to be decided with a ruling by the end of the court's term this summer. The justices put on a fast-track review of the plan to do away with the "Remain in Mexico" policy. Last summer, the Supreme Court refused to stop the rulings by a Texas federal judge and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, over the objections of the court's three liberals. The administration says it has complied with the orders, but told the Supreme Court that full consideration by the court was necessary because the lower courts had usurped the powers of the president. The justices called for expedited briefing in the case so it can be heard in April, the last month for oral arguments this term.

[A.2] Migration to U.S.-Mexico border falls to lowest levels since 2021 surge

February 18, 2022 (Axios)

The number of encounters between border officials and migrants attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border fell last month to the lowest levels since last February when the surge began. While it was the second-lowest monthly number on Biden's watch, the 154,000 migrant encounters last month was still abnormally high for the time of year. There were more border patrol arrests than any other January in over two decades, according to government data. Fewer migrants from the Northern Triangle attempted to cross the border last month with the number falling below that of January 2019. There were also fewer migrants traveling from "other" further away nations — a relatively new, major demographic. Encounters with Mexican nationals rose slightly over December's numbers, although the vast majority of them were quickly expelled back to Mexico. It's unclear yet whether the decline in border numbers will last.

[A.3] Where Trump's border wall left deep scars and open gaps, Biden plans repair job

February 19, 2022 (The Washington Post - Nick Miroff) Reach: 838k

In the year since President Biden halted border wall construction, his administration has been developing plans to put its own stamp on the border wall. President Biden has waved off calls from activists to tear the structure down and recycle the steel. The president promised while he campaigned that there would "not be another foot," but his government has been adding new barriers as it shores up 13 miles of flood levees along the Rio Grande and fixes other segments left in a precarious state by the contractors rushing to build right up to Biden's inauguration. In recent weeks, CBP officials have been soliciting input from ranchers, environmental advocates, landowners and

others as the Biden administration prepares to spend hundreds of millions for border wall remediation. The money will go to clean up worksites, stabilize areas facing erosion and remedy some of the worst environmental damage, while also allowing CBP to close gaps in the wall. The precise details — where and how much money — remain undefined.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] Migrant encounters at border drop to lowest level since March 2021

February 18, 2022 (United Press International - Adam Schrader) Reach: 2.4m

Migrant encounters with CBP agents at the border with Mexico fell to their lowest level since March 2021.

[B.2] Twice as many migrants crossed border illegally last month than January 2021, data shows

February 18, 2022 (BorderReport - Fernie Ortiz) Reach: 151k

The number of times border officials encountered migrants fell from December to January, but it is nearly twice as much as the previous year.

[B.3] Migrant Apprehensions in January Nearly Doubles Prior Year

February 19, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

The apprehension of migrants illegally crossing the border in January nearly doubled the previous year. Agents apprehended nearly 154,000 in the last month of President Biden's first year in office.

[B.4] Migrant Mother of Three Saved from Drowning in Texas Border River

February 20, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Del Rio Sector Border Patrol agents rescued a Nicaraguan migrant mother of three from drowning in the Rio Grande. The woman became stranded while illegally crossing the border from Mexico into Texas.

[B.5] USBP: Truck driver had 103 migrants in trailer

February 19, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - César Rodríguez) Reach: 133k

A truck driver was arrested for allegedly transporting more than 100 migrants, according to an arrest affidavit.

[B.6] Border Patrol sees rise in human smuggling cases

February 19, 2022 (KRQE-TV - Anna Padilla) Reach: 1.0m

The U.S. Border Patrol has seen an uptick in human smuggling cases in recent days. The agency says this week alone, agents have intercepted 15 smuggling attempts, rescuing nearly 100 migrants.

[B.7] Area Border Patrol agents stop 15 smuggling attempts this week

February 18, 2022 (KTSM-TV - Luis Barrio) Reach: 235k

According to the El Paso Sector U.S. Border Patrol, their agents said stopped 15 smuggling attempts, while rescuing 91 migrants just this week.

[B.8] Human smuggling attempt ends in crash

February 18, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - César Rodríguez) Reach: 133k

A suspected human smuggler sped off from a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint only to crash into a tree about 12 miles later, according to an arrest affidavit.

[B.9] Penske rental truck used in smuggling attempt

February 18, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Powered by Dow Jones - César G. Rodríguez) Reach: 133k

A man used a Penske rental truck to try to smuggle 24 migrants through a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint, an arrest affidavit states.

[B.10] U.S. Border Patrol wraps up 'busy' week by stopping reported smuggling run into Whatcom

February 18, 2022 (Bellingham Herald - Wash Bellingham) Reach: 15.7k

U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested a U.S. citizen Tuesday for reportedly attempting to smuggle an Israeli national across the U.S.-Canada border into Whatcom County.

[B.11] Kidnapped American woman among 15 people rescued from stash house in Mexico where migrants were being held by smugglers

February 18, 2022 (Daily Mail - Adry Torres) Reach: 88.3m

An American female kidnapping victim was among 15 people who were recently rescued by the Mexican military in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas. The operation came about after the U.S. Border Patrol's Laredo Sector Foreign Operation Branch reached out to the FBI after the agency learned that a woman was being held against her own will at a house in the border city of Nuevo Laredo.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Suspected money smuggler busted at International Bridge 1

February 18, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A man tried to smuggle more than \$30,000 via the pedestrian lane of the Gateway to the Americas International Bridge, according to an arrest affidavit. He was arrested and charged with bulk cash smuggling.

[C.2] TSA Agents Baffled After Finding \$10,000 Cash Stashed in Slow Cooker

February 18, 2022 (Newsweek - Kate Fowler) Reach: 21.5m

TSA has shared the baffling story of a passenger who attempted to get on a flight with \$10,000 cash stuffed into a slow cooker.

Border Wall

[D.1] Government donates leftover border wall materials to Texas

February 20, 2022 (Associated Press - DANYELLE KHMARA)

The federal government has donated at least \$6 million worth of leftover border wall materials to Texas, which will use them for the state's plan to build its own wall.

Trade

[F.1] U.S. Lifts Temporary Ban on Avocados From Mexico

February 19, 2022 (The New York Times - Eduardo Medina) Reach: 119m

The United States lifted a temporary ban on avocados from Mexico on Friday, allowing exports of the fruit to resume, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said.

[F.2] United States lifts Mexican avocado ban — averting what could have been a costly crisis

February 18, 2022 (The Washington Post - María Luisa Paúl) Reach: 356k

For foodies, workers, restaurant owners and investors on both sides of the Rio Grande border, Friday brought a sigh of relief after the United States lifted its temporary ban on imports of Mexican avocados.

[F.3] UK Seeks State-by-State Trade Deals as Biden Sends Brexit Britain to Back of Queue

February 20, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Kurt Zindulka) Reach: 4.9m

The United Kingdom will reportedly seek to strike a swath of trade agreements with individual American states in order to boost commerce while the Biden administration drags its feet on a post-Brexit deal between the two countries.

[F.4] US Indo-Pacific Strategy Short on Trade Incentives, Experts Say

February 19, 2022 (Voice of America) Reach: 7.7m

A major initiative to strengthen and cement America's ties with Asia and counterbalance China's expanding influence lacks robust trade incentives that are viewed as politically perilous in the United States, where protectionist sentiment runs high, experts told VOA.

[F.5] USDA head: US farmers to help if Ukraine exports threatened

February 19, 2022 (Associated Press) Reach: 19.8m

American wheat farmers will boost production and prevent supply chain problems in the event that a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine chokes off agricultural exports from the global grains powerhouse, the U.S. secretary of agriculture said on Saturday.

[F.6] Global Supply Chain Crisis Deteriorates During Lunar New Year, Beijing Winter Olympics

February 19, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 13.0m

The Chinese New Year holiday, which lasted nearly one week, along with the Beijing Winter Olympics and the ruling regime's "zero tolerance" epidemic policy, might exacerbate the global supply chain crisis amidst severe disruptions in global shipping, experts said.

[F.7] US may boot Nicaragua from free trade pact

February 18, 2022 (Chicago Tribune - Powered by Dow Jones - Christopher Sherman) Reach: 9.2m

The Biden administration is considering trying to expel Nicaragua from a lucrative regional free trade pact -- or allocate its valuable sugar quota to another country in Central America -- to retaliate against President Daniel Ortega's crackdown on his opponents, according to a U.S. official.

[F.8] FDRA Calls for Elimination of Price-Hiking Shoe Tariffs in Letter to Council of Economic Advisors

February 18, 2022 (Footwear News - Shoshy Ciment) Reach: 5.0m

The combination of inflation and punishing footwear tariffs are spurring industry leaders to ramp up their calls for change.

[F.9] China accused of failing to buy more Maine lobster

February 21, 2022 (AP NEWS - Unknown) Reach: 19.8m

China has failed to live up to its promise to buy more Maine lobster under a deal that opened the door to an easing of a trade war under former President Trump, Maine's congressional leaders say.

[F.10] Customs officers seize \$2.3 million in fake watches at airport

February 19, 2022 (Rochester Business Journal - Kevin Oklobzija)

Counterfeit designer watches with a suggested retail value of \$2.3 million were recently seized by CBP officers at the Rochester Airport Port of Entry.

Workforce

[G.1] UPDATE: Man dies following incident northeast of Douglas

February 20, 2022 (KOLD News 13) Reach: 433k

The Cochise County Sheriff's Office confirmed that one man has died following an incident on Saturday, Feb. 19. According to officials, the incident involved a Border Patrol agent and a group of migrants about 30 miles northeast of Douglas.

[G.2] Report: CBP Warns Patrol Agents About Potential Cartel Assassination Attempts

February 18, 2022 (Newsmax - Charles Kim) Reach: 6.4m

CBP sent out an alert to all personnel last week warning agents that Mexican cartels may be plotting to assassinate them.

[G.3] Texas legislators join national call to halt migrant COVID-related expulsions, but border patrol union says 'there's no alternative'

February 18, 2022 (KENS-TV - Anastasiya Bolton) Reach: 644k

Two members of the Texas congressional delegation joined 34 other lawmakers in signing a letter this week to the director of CDC, expressing concern about the country's continued expulsion of migrants who cross the border.

Opioid

[H.1] CBP sees 'substantial increase' in fentanyl seizures, confirms 153,941 migrant encounters in January

February 21, 2022 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 51.1m

CBP on Friday said it had seen a "substantial increase" in fentanyl seizures at the southern border in January, just as it confirmed that there were 153,941 migrant encounters last month.

Opinion

[I.1] Biden's open-border policy is poisoning our streets

February 21, 2022 (Washington Examiner - Roger Williams) Reach: 6.5m

In this opinion piece, Rep. Roger Williams wrote that the Biden administration's "open-border agenda has allowed fentanyl to flow freely across our border and empowered the cartels to ramp up business in Texas communities. Republicans recognize this as a crisis and are tackling it head-on."

[I.2] The US needs a free trade deal with itself

February 18, 2022 (The Hill) Reach: 15.7m

In this opinion piece, Marc L. Busch wrote that "Free trade is difficult to achieve within countries, let alone between them. Canada is a big country geographically, which adds to the costs of trade. But there are also provincial policies that get in the way."

Immigration

[J.1] Court To Weigh In On Asylum-Seekers Made To Wait In Mexico

February 18, 2022 (Associated Press - MARK SHERMAN) Reach: 411k

The Supreme Court is giving the Biden administration a quick hearing on its effort to scrap a Trump-era border policy that makes asylum-seekers wait in Mexico for hearings in U.S. immigration court.

[J.2] Supreme Court to Consider Biden Appeal to End 'Remain in Mexico'; Lower courts have blocked the ...

February 18, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jess Bravin) Reach: 33.0m

The Supreme Court said Friday it would consider whether the Biden administration has the power to end a Trump-era program that denies asylum applicants from Central America entry to the U.S. while their cases are pending.

[J.3] Gavin Newsom proposes funds for migrants on California-Mexico border. What would it cover?

February 19, 2022 (The Fresno Bee - Powered by Dow Jones - Nadia Lopez) Reach: 564k

California has dedicated funding toward humanitarian services for asylum seekers who have been released from federal immigration custody since before the pandemic. Gov. Gavin Newsom is now proposing to add an extra infusion of money to those efforts.

[J.4] Seeking asylum, migrant encampment grows in Mexico amid uncertainty over US policy

February 19, 2022 (ABC News - Mireya Villarreal) Reach: 22.8m

The bridge that connects Hidalgo, Texas, to Reynosa, Mexico, has become a path of uncertainty and fear for thousands of families in search of opportunity.

[J.5] Children needing serious medical care are denied entry to U.S., despite doctor recommendations

February 19, 2022 (The San Diego Union-Tribune: Web Edition - Powered by Dow Jones - Kate Morrissey) Reach: 2.6m

With Mexico's already struggling medical system further hamstrung by COVID-19, asylum seekers who are waiting indefinitely for the United States to begin processing them have turned to Refugee Health Alliance for help with conditions both chronic and acute. But the clinic isn't equipped to handle the more complex cases it receives or the follow-up care they need.

[J.6] The migration lottery: Haitian migrants abandon 'American dream' and head to Canada

February 19, 2022 (Univision Television Network - David C Adams) Reach: 15.6m

For many migrants, the American Dream has quickly transformed into a Canadian Dream.

[J.7] Pima County uncertain federal funds to support asylum seekers will continue

February 19, 2022 (Arizona Daily Star - Danyelle Khmara) Reach: 883k

Pima County officials hope — but aren't certain — the federal government will continue to fund programs that provide services to asylum seekers, which are now costing about \$1.3 million per month here.

[J.8] Mexico's top diplomat urges U.S. to manage flow of migrants by creating legal pathways for entry

February 18, 2022 (The Dallas Morning News - Alfredo Corchado) Reach: 6.8m

Mexico's top diplomat for North America is calling on the U.S. to do "a better job" of managing rising immigration by, in part, creating more legal pathways into the U.S. for migrants who otherwise face an increasingly perilous journey at the hands of organized crime.

[J.9] Dozens of Afghan Refugees Sent to U.S. After Pullout Went Missing: Report

February 18, 2022 (Newsweek - Fatma Khaled) Reach: 21.5m

A new report found that dozens of Afghan refugees out of nearly 80,000 evacuees who came to the U.S. were not fully vetted when they arrived and can't be located in the U.S.

[J.10] Backlog of immigration cases continues to climb under Biden administration

February 18, 2022 (Houston Public Media - Julián Aguilar) Reach: 205k

Immigration courts in Texas have the highest number of backlogged cases in the country with the number of pending decisions at more than 262,000, according to data compiled by the Transactional Research Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University.

DHS

[K.1] DHS celebrates drop in border crossings

February 18, 2022 (The Washington Times - Stephen Dinan) Reach: 2.2m

DHS on Friday touted a drop in arrests at the southern border in January with Border Patrol agents making the fewest arrests of any month so far in the Biden administration.

[K.2] Nobody's Happy With The Biden Administration's Nearly Five Months-Delayed Border Patrol 'Whipping' Report

February 19, 2022 (The Daily Caller - Jennie Taer) Reach: 2.2m

Groups on opposing sides of the debate surrounding the possible conclusions of the investigation into an incident in which border agents on horseback allegedly "whipped" Haitian migrants in Del Rio, Texas, in September are at odds with the Biden administration over the delay in the report.

[K.3] DHS Chief Mayorkas Strips Border Protections from U.S. Graduates

February 19, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Neil Munro) Reach: 4.9m

DHS has dropped nearly all border protections for U.S. graduates, allowing a rush of Indian graduates to grab jobs from Fortune 500 companies, experts and foreign workers say.

[K.4] Mayorkas describes 'tough trip' to the border after tense encounter with Border Patrol

February 21, 2022 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 51.1m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas described a recent "tough trip" to the U.S. southern border that included tense encounters with Border Patrol agents.

Of Interest

[L.1] Robot dogs that could patrol the US-Mexico border would not 'take over' due to their 4-hour operating capacity, CEO says

February 20, 2022 (Business Insider - Business Insider)

DHS has released images of robot dogs, which they are testing with the possible aim of having them patrol the U.S.-Mexico border. Officials have not said when the robot dogs — known as automated ground surveillance vehicles — might be deployed.

[L.2] Mexican cartels kill avocado farmers to take over trade in 'green gold'

February 20, 2022 (thetimes.co.uk - Powered by Dow Jones - Keiran Southern) Reach: 23.2m

Mexico's ultra-violent drug cartels have been muscling in on the "green gold" avocado business as their other revenue streams dry up, torturing and killing farmers who oppose them and planting their own orchards.

Message

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: 9/21/2021 4:51:37 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Horse Patrol PAG

Attachments: PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021.docx

Can you and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) come to my office to discuss this?

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:48 PM

To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Horse Patrol PAG

Chief,

Please see attached PAG for Horse Patrol incident.

Available to discuss.

Manuel Padilla, Jr.

Acting Deputy Chief

United States Border Patrol Headquarters

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 12/23/2021 11:05:58 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: December 23, 2021

TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | IMMIGRATION | OF INTEREST

December 23, 2021

Executive Summary

Reuters reported that several hundred migrants who left southern Mexico in a caravan two months ago began boarding buses to northern Mexico on Wednesday, after reaching a deal with the Mexican government that will bring them closer to their dream of reaching the United States. A memo from the government's Interior Ministry and National Migration Institute said they will bring migrants on buses to the northern cities of Hermosillo, Monterrey and Chihuahua, as well as Ciudad Juarez.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported that CBP has been authorized to start cleaning up construction sites and close small gaps in the southern border wall nearly a year after President Biden took office and ordered building to stop. DHS Alejandro Mayorkas said in a statement this week that wall-building projects will be turned over to his agency so any safety and environmental concerns can be addressed. Work will include installing drainage systems to prevent flooding, erosion control and slope stabilization, construction and improvement of access roads and removal of building materials that will no longer be used.

In other news, the New Yorker reported that after 10 months of negotiations, the Biden administration withdrew from settlement talks aimed at providing financial compensation to families who'd been separated at the border by the Trump administration. The move was a shock even to current and former administration officials. What changed the President's mind? One answer is his growing skittishness about appearing too lax at the border.

Top News

[A.1] After weeks walking, Mexico migrant caravan splits up on buses headed north

December 22, 2021 (Reuters News)

Several hundred migrants who left southern Mexico in a caravan two months ago began boarding buses to northern Mexico on Wednesday, after reaching a deal with the Mexican government that will bring them closer to their dream of reaching the United States. The caravan left the southern city of Tapachula near Mexico's border with Guatemala in late October with some 3,000 people, but hundreds gave up the tough journey as they trekked on foot for weeks. A smaller group slowly made its way to Mexico City where activist Irineo Mujica pressed government officials to provide visas and buses to bring the migrants further north. A memo from the government's Interior Ministry and National Migration Institute said they will bring migrants on buses to the northern cities of Hermosillo, Monterrey and Chihuahua, as well as Ciudad Juarez. Migration officials in recent weeks also offered migrants buses out of Tapachula after thousands of arrivals overwhelmed the migration processing system there, leaving them stranded for months without jobs or lodging.

[A.2] Border agency authorized to clean up wall construction sites

December 22, 2021 (Associated Press)

CBP has been authorized to start cleaning up construction sites and close small gaps in the southern border wall nearly a year after President Biden took office and ordered building to stop. DHS Alejandro Mayorkas said in a statement this week that wall-building projects begun by the Defense Department within the Border Patrol's sectors in California, Arizona and parts of Texas will be turned over to his agency so any safety and environmental concerns can be addressed. Work will include installing drainage systems to prevent flooding, erosion control and slope stabilization, construction and improvement of access roads and removal of building materials that will no longer be used. It was unclear when cleanup and any remediation work will begin. CBP will also close any small gaps that remain open from prior construction and finish work on incomplete gates, including inoperable storm gates that need to open during the rainy season.

[A.3] Why Biden Refused to Pay Restitution to Families Separated at the Border

December 22, 2021 (The New Yorker - Jonathan Blitzer) Reach: 8.6m

Late last week, after 10 months of negotiations, the Biden administration withdrew from settlement talks aimed at providing financial compensation to families who'd been separated at the border by the Trump administration. The move was a shock even to current and former administration officials. Previously, the President had left little room to doubt what he thought of the Trump administration's decision to deliberately take some four thousand children from their parents in order to intimidate future asylum seekers. What changed the President's mind? One answer is his growing skittishness about appearing too lax at the border. In October, the Wall Street Journal reported that advocates were asking the government to consider giving \$450,000 to each family member that had been separated under Trump's zero-tolerance policy. This number, according to sources with knowledge of the talks, wasn't final; the D.O.J. hadn't agreed to it, and the government's opening bid in the negotiations, which remains undisclosed, was substantially lower.

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] Haitians Sue Biden Admin Over 'Racist Treatment' in Del Rio Border Encampment

December 22, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.7m

Several Haitians who crossed into the United States illegally are suing the Biden administration over "racist treatment" of the approximately 15,000 Haitians who gathered in a primitive encampment in Del Rio, Texas, in September.

[B.2] Affidavit: Migrant 'intended to kill' USBP agent after reaching for his gun

December 22, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A migrant being deported via International Bridge 2 tried to take a U.S. Border Patrol agent's firearm, according to an arrest affidavit.

[B.3] Cawthorn: 'I don't give a damn' about Russia-Ukraine border conflict until US border secured

December 22, 2021 (Fox News Channel) Reach: 55.8m

U.S. Rep. Madison Cawthorn said Americans should be more focused on pressing issues in the United States like the southern border crisis before worrying about the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] 18 Illegal Immigrants Detained After Speeding Through Newport Harbor on Boat

December 22, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.7m

CBP detained 18 people on Dec. 21 believed to have illegally entered the country, after their boat sped past two CBP agents who were investigating another boat in Newport Harbor in Southern California.

Border Wall

[D.1] Migrant Dies in Fall from Border Wall in New Mexico

December 22, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.5m

A Mexican migrant attempting to illegally scale a border wall in New Mexico died after falling from the barrier. The migrant suffered severe head trauma.

Travel

[E.1] Several travel credit cards have quietly added application fee credits for NEXUS — a better deal than Global Entry or TSA PreCheck

December 22, 2021 (Business Insider - Jasmin Baron) Reach: 63.5m

Despite being the least expensive of Trusted Traveler programs, NEXUS actually confers the most benefits. Along with expedited entry into Canada, it offers the same perks as Global Entry, speeding up customs processing into the U.S. from overseas. Like with Global Entry, NEXUS members qualify for TSA PreCheck privileges at U.S. airports.

[E.2] GSP expects half of last December's traffic in one week

December 23, 2021 (GSA Business Report)

The Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport is preparing for a flush of holiday traffic despite omicron fears. The airport expects between 40,000 and 45,000 passengers to arrive and depart this week. That's about half the number of passengers that traveled through GSP during the entire month of December in 2020 when passenger traffic was down 61.4% from the previous year, according to the airport.

Trade

[F.1] China hopes U.S. could create conditions to expand trade cooperation

December 23, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 38.7m

China hopes the United States could create conditions for both sides to expand trade cooperation, the Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday, when asked about the latest in the implementation of the Phase 1 trade deal.

[F.2] Intel apologizes for asking suppliers to avoid Xinjiang

December 23, 2021 (The Associated Press - Unknown) Reach: 7.9m

Intel Corp. apologized Thursday for asking suppliers to avoid sourcing goods from Xinjiang after the world's biggest chipmaker joined other foreign brands in facing the fury of state media over complaints of abuses by the ruling Communist Party in the mostly Muslim region.

[F.3] How the Uyghur forced-labor bill will impact business

December 22, 2021 (National Journal Daily - Cristina Maza)

The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act anticipates that some companies will attempt to use workarounds and send their goods to third countries to avoid bans, and it requires that guidelines be issued to prevent this. While the details are yet to be determined, this will likely require interagency cooperation within the U.S. government and in-depth investigations to determine what was produced with forced labor and where it came from initially.

[F.4] The lumber bubble is back—but consumers have a short window before retail prices explode

December 22, 2021 (Fortune - Lance Lambert) Reach: 5.3m

Lumber prices are on yet another run. Last week the cash market price of framing lumber climbed a weekly record of \$129. That price is up 50% this month, and up 135% since lumber bottomed out at \$389 per thousand board feet in August. It's also the highest price that buyers have seen since the so-called "lumber bubble" this spring—when the price topped out at \$1,515 per thousand board feet.

[F.5] Port files lawsuit against log exporter

December 22, 2021 (The Daily Astorian - Ethan Myers The) Reach: 15.1k

The Port of Astoria has filed a lawsuit against Astoria Forest Products, a log exporter, for breach of contract. The suit alleges that the asphalt on Pier 1 and Pier 3 became worn after a decade of log operations and Astoria Forest Products was contractually responsible for repairs. The Port is seeking more than \$1 million.

[F.6] Fake COVID vaccination cards are now illegal in New York after Governor Hochul passes bill

December 23, 2021 (New York Times Post) Reach: 37.8k

It's now against the law in New York state to use a fake vaccination card, according to a new bill signed by Governor Kathy Hochul late Wednesday.

Workforce

[G.1] EXCLUSIVE: Probe into Border Patrol Agents Accused of 'Whipping' Migrants Ends – Charging Decision Imminent

December 22, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.5m

A DHS source says the CBP Office of Professional Responsibility has concluded its investigation into the September incident where mounted Border Patrol agents were accused of "whipping" or "strapping" Haitian migrants near Del Rio, Texas. The source notes a final decision on possible criminal charges is imminent from the Justice Department.

[G.2] Brandon Judd: Tales Of The National Border Patrol

December 22, 2021 (Fox News Channel - Catherine Caban) Reach: 55.8m

[Audio] National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd discusses the daily routine of a Border Patrol agent as well as how the role has been maligned in recent months.

Opioid

[H.1] Mexico says fentanyl and meth seizures have soared since 2019 as cartels ramp up production, import from China

December 22, 2021 (Fox News Channel) Reach: 55.8m

Federal seizures of fentanyl and meth are soaring in Mexico as cartels have begun churning out increased quantities of the deadly synthetic drugs while also importing it from China.

Immigration

[J.1] Texas Baptist pastor building migrant shelters along 'border highway' in Mexico

December 22, 2021 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 124k

The desire to protect vulnerable migrants from the cartels has prompted one Texas pastor to present a plan to government officials and nonprofits on both sides of the border to build a string of shelters along Mexican Federal Highway 2. That's a stretch of asphalt running from Nogales to Agua Prieta, Sonora, and on to Palomas and Ascencion in Chihuahua.

[J.2] Amnesty International calls on Mexico not to request visas for Venezuelans

December 22, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 217k

Amnesty International on Wednesday called on Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador to reconsider his recent decision to request visas for Venezuelans in light of the increase in their transit through this country to the United States.

[J.3] NYC, Massachusetts put aside nearly \$10 million to help new Haitian immigrants

December 22, 2021 (The Haitian Times - Sam Bojarski) Reach: 67.3k

Governments in New York and Massachusetts plan to set aside nearly \$10 million to help Haitian immigrants coming into the United States.

[J.4] A Shelter in Juárez Prepares for Another Wave of Migrants as the 'Remain in Mexico' Policy Is Reinstated

December 22, 2021 (Time Magazine - Jasmine Aguilera) Reach: 17.6m

So far CBP has placed mostly single adult men in the newest iteration of MPP, according to researchers at Human Rights First, which observed in person the relaunch of the policy. The MPP rollout process has so far not led to overcrowding at Kiki Romero, and with the help of donated goods, shelter coordinators appear to currently be able to meet many of the needs of the people staying there. But, human rights advocates say, it's too early to put their guards down.

[J.5] Biden's Revival of Trump Border Policy Challenged as Too Soft

December 22, 2021 (Bloomberg BNA - Bloomberg Law) Reach: 899k

The Biden administration's court-ordered restart of the Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" border program includes too many exceptions for vulnerable migrants, a new legal challenge says.

[J.6] San Juan Bosco Shelter celebrates 39 years nourishing the Christmas spirit of migrants

December 22, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 217k

As has been done for 39 years without interruption, about a hundred migrants who are currently in the San Juan Bosco shelter will enjoy a Christmas Eve dinner this coming Friday, Dec. 24.

[J.7] Haitians Stuck in Mexico's 'Open Air Prison' City Claim Racism as Asylum Cases Are Denied

December 22, 2021 (Newsweek - Alex J. Rouhandeh) Reach: 20.8m

Mexico's Commission for Refugee Assistance has seen a backlog in applications as the country struggles to handle a wave of migration that has seen asylum requests jump to a total of over 123,000 in 2021 as opposed to the over 41,000 posted the year prior.

[J.8] For many Haitian migrants the prospect of a better future often clashes with a harsh reality

December 22, 2021 (National Geographic - Victoria Razo) Reach: 9.6m

Haitians who enter the U.S. as undocumented immigrants face a future just as uncertain as those quietly allowed in or deported.

[J.9] People smugglers making México migration routes into a \$5 billion business

December 22, 2021 (The Fresno Bee - Unknown) Reach: 539k

Organized crime has taken advantage of the migration crisis in México to make a lucrative business out of people trafficking, bringing in \$3 billion to \$5 billion per year, according to migration and drug trafficking experts' estimates.

Of Interest

[L.1] Photos show how the U.S.-Mexico border changed — and didn't — in 2021

December 22, 2021 (The Washington Post) Reach: 356k

President Biden's first year began with a burst of hope among supporters and activists for a more humane immigration enforcement system, as he promised during the campaign. Then record numbers of migrants began to arrive and officials scrambled to shelter them. The influx upended President Biden's plans.

[L.2] Red Cat Flies On \$90m Customs and Border Protection Contract Win

December 22, 2021 (Investing.com - Sam Boughedda) Reach: 25.5m

Red Cat Holdings shareholders were given a welcome boost Wednesday after the company announced its subsidiary, Teal Drones, has been awarded a blanket purchase agreement by CBP as one of five contractors.

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/26/2021 3:50:46 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: S1 on Sunday shows

Good morning,

Here's a quick recap of S1 on the Sunday shows, with longer notes after the recap. The tone overall helps reset expectations. CNN in particular challenged the images, citing new video, and along with NBC challenged the fairness of the investigation. S1 did well, and expressed pride in the heroism in Del Rio:

CNN State of the Union with Jake Tapper

The CNN interview was good for our Border Patrol horse patrol investigation. It also started on the numbers, S1 asserting about 4K migrants have been expelled and some 13K are in court proceedings. It focused on the policy, a clarification by S1 on how the process works if someone makes a claim of asylum and that T42 is a public health determination by the CDC. That if the CDC says is no Longer necessary, we will not apply it. On questions regarding the resignation of the special envoy to Haiti, he reiterated the determination to send migrants back and the 5.5 million in humanitarian aid.

On the horse patrol, Tapper repeatedly emphasized that the Border Patrol often saves migrants' lives, and played video of POTUS comments and S1 comments from Friday, asking how s1 could be horrified and claim a fair investigation. S1 did well, saying that what the images appear to suggest horrified the public, that's different from facts that will be determined by the investigation. Tapper noted that some claims are patently false, citing new video.

S1 reiterated he will await the facts of the investigation. Tapper asked if the USBP can count on him and Pres Biden who said those people will pay, that they will be judged based on facts and not Twitter outrage. S1 said "They sure can. I've worked for years with them, They are heroic, saw their heroism when I was on the ground on Monday... Tireless dedication to mission... Incredibly proud." Tapper responded, a lot of them have saved lives of migrants, maybe you should tell Biden and not just us, to which S1 said Pouts had Echoed my sentiments many a times to the men and women of CBP, not who we are. Defended the role of horse patrol highlighting that they have saved many lives.

Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace

Fox News Sunday was a tough interview that started focusing on the fact 12,000 migrants are being released into the US. S1 said we monitor them and they'll be removed pending their hearings, that the law provides that people can claim humanitarian relief. S1 asserted that the horse patrol investigation and any follow up will be determined by the facts. It was followed by an interview with Governor Abbott claiming that this Administration has abandoned the border patrol and is in dereliction of duty to secure sovereignty of USA. He said everyone knew the migrants had gathered on the Mexican side, nothing was done stop them from coming across. He said USBP itself said the flow stopped only when Texas DPS steel line of vehicles showed up.

Meet the Press with Chuck Todd

Meet the Press began on challenging the notion of sending migrants back to Haiti under conditions there. S1 defended that and T42. Todd noted the read out VP office issued of her call with S1, calling it a dressing down. S1 focused on independent investigation, balance of horrified public. Todd asked if POTUS went too far in his comments, if USBP horse patrol is being treated as guilty before investigation, s1 said no, differentiate between POTUS addressing public concern and DHS handling independent investigation. Todd said some consider CBP a rogue agency, S1 vehemently disagrees and expressed pride, talks of heroism of the men and women of CBP,

in Del Rio. He deflected bipartisan criticism, and asked if he has the resources said yes but that the system is broken. Asked if Haitians being able to apply for asylum is a magnet, he said no. He said they have been admonished to not put their lives and money into the hands of smugglers who exploit them.

Longer notes:

Not a full transcript, refer to full transcript to verify but this provides greater detail:

Meet the Press

Was it a mistake to send Haitians back to Haiti given conditions.

No, exercise of public health... pandemic is not behind us.

But these people didn't come from Haiti,

W we are working with other countries in the region, some don't have documents from countries where they came, they're Haitian nationals, subject to removal

T42, is that a title you still want to have
CDC arc of pandemic

Border Patrol, a lot of people upset. They put out something I had never seen before with a cabinet member, they put out a read out of her call with you, the implication was it was a dressing down of sorts.

So the performance of USBP is the subject of an investigation and the facts are going to be determinative. The public was right to be horrified by what the images suggested, Conjured up a dark past.

Did President go too far in saying they're going to pay? Are they guilty before proof before an investigation?

Absolutely not. The instigation is independent. We know how to conduct an independent investigation. I think the President echoed the sentiments of the public in terms of what the images suggest.

There are some in Washington who say CBP is a rogue agency. What would you say to that, I'm sure you've heard that privately.

Oh I couldn't disagree more vehemently. I am intensely and immensely proud of the men and women of the US CBP. In fact in Del Rio Texas I saw them act heroically. You know what those images suggest do not reflect who CBP is, who we are as a department, who we are as a country.

Note the USBP Union said that using horse back, that is a training that they get, are they right?

The horse patrol serves an incredibly important function. Horses can traverse terrain that might not otherwise be covered, in fact horses are often used to not only assess a situation, but to help people in distress, CBP personnel have saved many lives on horseback.

So do you think those images misconstrued their actions? You think it will turn out their actions were on the up and up?

The facts are going to be adduced in the investigation. The investigation is going to determine the facts. It is an independent one run by the OPR. In fact I directed that the leadership of that office direct that investigation to ensure it is both integrity and quality.

A lot of heat from members of Congress from both sides of the aisle...clip from Rep Cuellar. That Obama admin treated with dignity but followed the law.

What is the same and what is different with surges in 14, 15.

So this is not new. In summer of 2014 a great number Of unaccompanied children arriving... there were people who called for us to do differently others to do more, getting hit on both sides is no surprise... we are on the epicenter of the country's divide, regrettably. We do what the law requires, what our humanitarian mission requires

But do we have the resources? Turns out not seasonal

We have incredible ability to deploy resources to meet the challenges we face. And we have the evidence quite powerfully in Del Rio that in less than a week we addressed a population of 15,000 there and now there are none.

Do you accept the idea that we have a crisis on the border

I am focused on mission and the challenges we face. And our ability to meet those challenges and I'm incredibly impressed with the men and women who do so.

Do you think we have ability to meet this challenge or does the law need to be changed?

Well we can meet the challenges but we're working in a completely broken system. And as to that there is unanimity. In Washington and in the country I've never heard anyone say that immigration laws are well structured.

IF we get more Haitian migrants is the likelihood that they'll be deported back to Haiti?

No as you mentioned at outset. A number of them are expelled under title 42, others put into immigration court proceedings and have ability to make their claims to immigration judge.

Are you concerned that this will serve as a magnet?

Oh I don't think that is the case at all in fact 8K returned to Mexico over the past week

Is that because we're sending people back to Haiti?

I can't speak for them. But I do think think they made that journey which we admonished them not to make, to not put their lives and savings into hands of smugglers who exploit them.

Fox News Sunday

They had Gov. Abbott on after S1 to respond.

Sources in Texas say 20,000 just crossed southern Mexican border, could arrive in Del Rio this month.

About 3,000 are in detention, others in judicial proceedings. Ten, 12,000. We monitor.

What we do is follow the law.

They have opportunity to make their case for relief as the law requires.

CW said 44% don't show up to hearings

S1, intention to deport them.

CW 11 million -

CW 20k in Colombia, 3000 Peru, 1500 Panama

In may 150K Haitians TPs, now 12K released
Haven't you created a magnet?

Nothing new, irregular migration many times
2019

Speaks to the need of legislative reform

30K in 17 days

Law provides people can claim humanitarian relief

Your own IG said, .. we concur, have made improvements

Horse patrol:
Lindsey Graham quote, USBP abandoned

Horse patrol employed, used to assess and often to see if anyone is distress

Independent, determined by the facts, nothing more

Abbott: dereliction of duty to secure sovereignty of USA

Everyone knew they had gathered in Mexican side, Biden admin did nothing to stop them from coming across

Word of USBP who said flow stopped only when Texas DPS steel line of vehicles showed up.

Texas will arrest and jail for trespassing.
Constitution, it's federal govt that has responsibility

On horse patrol

They wouldn't have been in that situation if admin had secured borders

Photographer said whipping claims false

Will hire horse patrol if they are fired

CNN

JT
2K returned, 8 back to Mexico

S1 about 4K expelled
13K In court proceedings
Go to judge
Make claim of asylum
If judge approves they remain, if denied they are removed

S1 cites more than 40 CBP have died COVID

We made one exception from start, UCs

CAT, operational capacity, humanitarian need

JT - resignation of special envoy

Respectfully disagree. Rescinded immoral unethical policies and rebuilding system dismantled by prior administration

5.5 million in humanitarian aid

JT - letter from House, failing to treat migrants with dignity

T42 is not an immigration policy.

Broken immigration system

If T24 was rescinded by CDC that would be fine with you?

Horse patrol
Biden said those people will pay vs you will not pre judge the facts

How horrified and independent?

Images appear to suggest horrified public, different from facts that will be determined by the investigation

What they suggest is horrifying, but independent
JT some claims patently false, new video shows

What do you think

I will await the facts of the investigation
Can the Bp count on you and pres Biden who said people will pay, that they will determination based on facts and not Twitter outrage?

They sure can
I've worked for years
They are heroic, saw their heroism when I was on the ground
Tireless dedication to mission
Incredibly proud

JT a lot of them have saved lives of migrants, maybe you should tell Biden and not just us

Pouts had said so to the men and women of CBP

Echoed my sentiments many a times to the men and women of CBP

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:13 AM

To: MILLER, TROY A; ORTIZ, RAUL L

Cc: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR;
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: S1 on Sunday shows

Good morning. Flagging that S1 will be on Sunday shows tomorrow. DHS wants the Secretary to continue to lead on national interviews with one unified message at this time. He is scheduled to be on FOX, CNN, and NBC's Sunday shows.

V/R

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 12/22/2021 11:04:32 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: December 22, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | OF INTEREST |

December 22, 2021

Executive Summary

The Associated Press reported that officials said agents with an investigative unit of DHS will wear body cameras for the first time as part of a six-month pilot program that will focus on the costs and benefits of using the technology in federal law enforcement. The cameras will be used during the test by 55 members of the SWAT-like special response teams at Homeland Security Investigations in Houston, Newark, New Jersey, and New York, a senior official told reporters.

Meanwhile, Fox News reported that Uber drivers in the border town of Yuma, Arizona, say illegal immigrants regularly use Uber to travel from the border to destinations within the interior of the United States. The surge in Uber pickups began within the last several weeks, according to the drivers, just as the Biden administration announced a plan to reimpose the "Remain in Mexico" policy.

In other news, Axios reported that a new poll indicates that opposition among U.S. Latinos to walling off the U.S.-Mexico border is being driven by Mexican Americans and Central Americans while Puerto Ricans are more ambivalent and a majority of Cuban Americans support the idea. The Axios-Ipsos Latino poll also found COVID-19 and crime or gun violence were the top two concerns for U.S. Latinos with immigration ranked behind climate change and inflation and supply chain issues. Nearly three-fourths of Mexican Americans surveyed said they strongly or somewhat oppose the border wall.

Top News

[A.1] US Homeland Security agents to test use of body cameras | AP News

December 21, 2021 (Associated Press - BEN FOX) Reach: 22.2m

Agents with an investigative unit of DHS will wear body cameras for the first time as part of a six-month pilot program that will focus on the costs and benefits of using the technology in federal law enforcement, officials said Tuesday. The cameras will be used during the test by 55 members of the SWAT-like special response teams at Homeland Security Investigations in Houston, Newark, New Jersey, and New York, a senior official told reporters. Homeland Security Investigations, which focuses on transnational federal crimes such as drug and human trafficking and fraud, is a component of ICE. The senior ICE official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity to provide details on the program before the announcement, said the agency expects later to expand the pilot to include officers who conduct immigration enforcement arrests.

[A.2] Exclusive poll: The wall divides Latino Americans

December 21, 2021 (Axios - Russell Contreras) Reach: 5.0m

Opposition among U.S. Latinos to walling off the U.S.-Mexico border is being driven by Mexican Americans and Central Americans while Puerto Ricans are more ambivalent and a majority of Cuban Americans support the idea, according to an inaugural Axios-Ipsos Latino poll in partnership with Noticias Telemundo. The poll also found Latinos broadly support teaching about racism in school — but not if it's described as "critical race theory." COVID-19 and crime or gun violence were the top two concerns for U.S. Latinos, with immigration ranked behind climate change and inflation and supply chain issues. Nearly three-fourths of Mexican Americans surveyed said they strongly or somewhat oppose the border wall. There are more than 38 million Mexican Americans in the U.S., about 62% of the Latino population.

[A.3] Uber drivers aiding transport of illegal immigrants from border to US interior

December 21, 2021 (Fox News Channel - Digital Originals) Reach: 55.8m

Illegal immigrants regularly use Uber to travel from the border to destinations within the interior of the United States, two drivers in the border town of Yuma, Arizona, told Fox News. One driver said the riders confirmed to him that they were in the U.S. illegally. Another said he deduced their immigration status based on the circumstances, such as getting picked up with bags alongside large groups in remote locations near the border with destinations at hotels. The drivers told Fox News that many of the illegal immigrants ask to be dropped off at local hotels in the Yuma area. The surge in Uber pickups began within the last several weeks, according to the drivers, just as the Biden administration announced a plan to reimpose the "Remain in Mexico" policy, which requires asylum seekers to remain in Mexico while awaiting immigration court dates in the United States.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] GOP Rep. Murphy: It's a Matter of If, Not When Terrorists Get Through Border 'and Wreak Havoc'

December 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Ian Hanchett) Reach: 5.5m

On Tuesday's broadcast of the Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends First," Rep. Greg Murphy reacted to the capture of a possible terrorist at the southern border by stating that terrorists will "somehow get their way in through our southern border and wreak havoc upon this nation."

[B.2] Texas militia sanctioned by sheriff seeks government support to halt flow of migrants

December 21, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Molly Hennessy-Fiske) Reach: 618k

Militias have staked out the border for decades, but Patriots for America has managed to do what many others have not: Patrol armed, with landowners' permission, in concert with local law enforcement.

[B.3] Border Patrol catch potential Saudi terrorist entering Arizona illegally from Mexico

December 21, 2021 (The Center Square - Bethany Blankley) Reach: 235k

A Saudi Arabian man described by a U.S. Border Patrol chief as a "potential terrorist" was apprehended attempting to enter the U.S. illegally near Yuma, Arizona. He was apprehended wearing a New York county ambulance jacket.

[B.4] Border Patrol seizes \$400k worth of marijuana over three days

December 21, 2021 (ValleyCentral.com) Reach: 273k

Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents have seized \$450,000 worth of marijuana during the last three days.

[B.5] Photos: Filthy Conditions of Migrant Stash Houses Found Along Southwest Border

December 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.5m

Photos tweeted by U.S. Border Patrol officials this week show the filthy and dangerous conditions human smugglers force upon migrants. The photos show the conditions of stash houses discovered along the southwest border.

[B.6] Several migrant stash houses uncovered in one week in El Paso Sector

December 21, 2021 (BorderReport - Fernie Ortiz) Reach: 23.4k

Federal, state and local authorities have encountered several migrant stash houses this month in the El Paso area, including a pair of apartments holding 30 people, the U.S. Border Patrol announced Tuesday.

[B.7] Activist: Organized criminal groups control migrant smuggling in northern Chihuahua

December 21, 2021 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 124k

A new search for more than a dozen migrants missing for several weeks in the desert of northern Chihuahua came up empty, but Mexican officials say they found evidence of human smuggling in the area.

[C.1] 18 suspected of illegally entering U.S. detained on boat speeding across Newport Harbor

December 21, 2021 (Daily News - Eric Licas) Reach: 57.1k

CBP agents summoned to investigate an abandoned boat in Newport Harbor spotted another craft speeding across the water and discovered 18 people suspected of illegally entering the U.S. when they intercepted it Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Border Wall

[D.1] DHS Mayorkas OKs Closure of Some Gaps in the Border Wall

December 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Neil Munro) Reach: 5.5m

President Biden's border agency will close up a few gaps and doorways in some sections of the incomplete border wall, according to a statement from DHS.

[D.2] U.S. Will Use Trump-Era Border Funds to Complete Infrastructure Projects, Not Build Wall

December 21, 2021 (Newsweek - Alex J. Rouhandeh) Reach: 20.8m

Money previously designated for the Trump-era border wall project will now go toward a series of environmental rehabilitation projects aimed to address problems such as flooding, erosion, and other concerns.

[D.3] Biden Admin Finally Agrees to Fill Gaping Holes in Border Wall, Lankford Says 'Huge Victory' for American People

December 21, 2021 (The Christian Broadcasting Network - Steve Warren) Reach: 1.3m

DHS on Monday announced it would finish several gaps in the border wall near cities located in Arizona, California, and Texas, including San Diego, El Centro, Yuma, Tucson, El Paso, and Del Rio.

[D.4] Texas Attorney General asks court to require Biden to build border wall

December 21, 2021 (KFOX TV - Unknown) Reach: 234k

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and the State of Missouri submitted a motion for a preliminary injunction asking a federal court to order the Biden administration to immediately resume the building of the southern border wall.

[D.5] Border Patrol reacts to migrant death after fall from New Mexico border wall

December 21, 2021 (Washington Examiner) Reach: 6.0m

Immigration officials have released a statement about a man seen falling to his death from a portion of the border wall in New Mexico. CBP released a statement Monday acknowledging the incident that led to one man dying.

Travel

[E.1] Unruly airline passengers could now lose their TSA PreCheck eligibility, officials say

December 21, 2021 (Miami Herald - Tanasia Kenney) Reach: 4.1m

Unruly plane passengers could face new consequences as federal officials continue to crack down on bad behavior. Those fined by the Federal Aviation Administration for disruptive behavior now risk losing TSA PreCheck screening eligibility, the agencies announced Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Trade

[F.1] Russia violates WTO commitments with import bans, substitution policies - USTR

December 21, 2021 (Reuters - David Lawder) Reach: 38.7m

Russia continues to move away from commitments it made to join the World Trade Organization in 2012, the U.S. Trade Representative's office said on Tuesday, citing agricultural import restrictions and import substitution policies.

[F.2] Federal watchdog: Trump's USDA overpaid corn farmers by \$3B | AP News

December 21, 2021 (Associated Press - DAVID PITT) Reach: 22.2m

The Trump administration overpaid corn farmers by about \$3 billion in federal aid in 2019 and farmers in the South were paid more for the same crops than those elsewhere in the country, a federal watchdog agency has found.

[F.3] Grinch hits candy cane makers with sugar shortage, twisted supply chain

December 21, 2021 (Fox Business) Reach: 15.4m

Candy makers, like retailers and farmers, have been slammed during the pandemic with high commodity prices, labor shortages, and transportation and supply chain snarls, preventing them from fully cashing in on the holiday season.

[F.4] Sugar shortage could mean fewer candy canes this Christmas

December 21, 2021 (The Hill) Reach: 15.2m

The supply chain crisis has left no industry unscathed, with candy makers reporting a spike in sugar costs that could limit their ability to meet the demand of candy canes this holiday season.

[F.5] US Current Account Deficit Spikes to Highest Level In 15 Years on Import Surge

December 21, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.7m

The current account deficit, which essentially reflects U.S. expenditure exceeding income, rose sharply in the third quarter to its highest level in 15 years, driven by a reduced surplus in services and a surge in goods imports as businesses rushed to build up inventories in the face of strong demand.

[F.6] Exclusive: U.S. could hit Russia phone, aircraft part imports if it invades Ukraine

December 21, 2021 (Reuters - Steve Holland) Reach: 38.7m

U.S. officials are considering tough export control measures to disrupt Russia's economy should Russian President Vladimir Putin invade Ukraine, a Biden administration official told Reuters.

[F.7] What's Biden's Plan to Stop CCP's Unfair Trade Practices? Sen. Scott Asks US Trade Chief

December 21, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.7m

Sen. Rick Scott on Dec. 21 sent a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tsai demanding answers about how the Biden administration plans to respond to Beijing's chronic violation of the terms of its World Trade Organization membership and failure to comply with the phase one U.S.-China trade agreement.

[F.8] Canada to challenge U.S. softwood lumber duties under USMCA - minister

December 21, 2021 (Reuters - Reuters) Reach: 2.5m

The Canadian government on Tuesday launched a challenge against American duties on Canadian softwood lumber under the terms of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade deal, Canadian Trade Minister Mary Ng said in a statement.

Workforce

[G.1] Record number of immigrants are evading apprehension: Brandon Judd

December 21, 2021 (Fox News Channel - Fox Report Weekend) Reach: 8.2m

[Video] National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd warned that cartels and terrorist organizations are able to exploit 'wide open' holes in the border.

[G.2] Zuckerberg-Funded Groups Sue Border Patrol Over Del Rio 'Whipping'

December 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Jordan Dixon-Hamilton) Reach: 5.5m

A pro-migration advocacy group is suing the U.S. Border Patrol for supposedly abusing a Haitian migrant who was photographed while trying to dodge a horse-mounted border patrol officer.

[G.3] Border Patrol Agent: 'Utilize Your Second Amendment' for Safety

December 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - AWR Hawkins) Reach: 5.5m

Thirteen-year Border Patrol Agent Roy Cantu warns that the border crisis could soon get worse and urges Americans to "utilize your Second Amendment" for safety.

Opioid

[H.1] Meth, fentanyl seizures have soared in Mexico since 2019

December 21, 2021 (BorderReport - "FABIOLA SANCHEZ, Associated Press") Reach: 23.4k

Mexican drug cartels are turning to bigger, more productive labs to churn out increasing quantities of synthetic drugs like meth and fentanyl, according to seizure figures issued Monday by the country's Defense Department.

Opinion

[I.1] What refugees taught me about living during uncertain times

December 21, 2021 (The Boston Globe - Alli-Michelle Conti) Reach: 239k

In this opinion piece, Alli-Michelle Conti wrote that "As Afghan families resettle among us in Rhode Island, share your personal experiences with them. And listen to theirs. It will help us form a strong

community. For future generations, they will learn how we coped during the worst global health crisis of our times. And discover that with uncertainty comes strength.”

Immigration

[J.1] U.S. immigration agents to pilot use of body-worn cameras

December 21, 2021 (Reuters - Mica Rosenberg) Reach: 38.7m

ICE is rolling out a pilot program to test the feasibility of requiring immigration agents to wear body cameras, a senior agency official said on Tuesday, a move that could aid criminal investigations as well increase oversight of agents’ activities.

[J.2] Homeland Security to Put Body Cameras on 55 Agents As Part of Six-Month Pilot Program

December 21, 2021 (Newsweek - Erin Brady) Reach: 20.8m

DHS has announced that dozens of agents will be wearing body cameras in order to see if the technology is beneficial to the organization.

[J.3] ICE To Implement Body Cameras — But Not Yet For Raids

December 21, 2021 (Forbes) Reach: 928k

ICE will begin requiring some officers to wear body cameras as part of a pilot program, the agency said Tuesday, amid calls for increased accountability and transparency for immigration agents — but the change will not yet apply to the agents who enforce raids and have drawn the most scrutiny for their interactions with civilians.

[J.4] Migrant Deaths At An All-Time High Along The Southwest Border

December 21, 2021 (Newsy) Reach: 121k

The Remain in Mexico policy is back in full swing after a pause. Advocates who fought against the revival of the policy say they’re worried it could lead to more deaths as migrants grow desperate and take greater risks to cross into the U.S. illegally.

[J.5] Crowded migrant shelters in Tijuana seek donations

December 21, 2021 (BorderReport - Salvador Rivera) Reach: 124k

The city of Tijuana has about 15 shelters primarily housing migrants and asylum-seekers, but only one receives government funding. All the others are on their own, dependent on contributions and donations from the public.

[J.6] Spartz: Immigration reform stalemated

December 21, 2021 (Herald Bulletin - Ken Bastide)

U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz believes any effort to reform the nation’s immigration laws is not on the horizon. Rep. Spartz said during a town hall meeting Saturday that she has been trying to find common ground with Democrats on the House Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee.

[J.7] ‘Enormous’: Refugee requests in Mexico triple in 2021

December 21, 2021 (PressNewsAgency) Reach: 17.8k

Applications for refugee status in Mexico have roughly tripled this year compared with 2020, the government has said, in the face of a significant influx of people bound for the United States.

[J.8] 'Remain in Mexico' program preparing to expand, but advocates and Border Patrol union rep say they're being kept in the dark

December 21, 2021 (KENS TV - Unknown) Reach: 2.6k

Advocates and Border Patrol Union representatives in border communities say that they've received essentially no information about this second edition of MPP, so they know very little about what's coming, including how the new policy will shape their jobs and affect people wanting to get into the U.S.

Of Interest

[L.1] Claims Process Now Open in \$2.2M Greyhound Settlement

December 21, 2021 (Daily Fly - Marisa Lloyd) Reach: 17.4k

Attorney General Bob Ferguson today announced that the claims process is now open as a result of his successful civil rights case against Greyhound Lines Inc. Greyhound passengers detained, arrested or deported after CBP agents approached them, or boarded their Greyhound bus, at the Spokane Intermodal Center are eligible for a share of \$2.2 million Greyhound paid to resolve Ferguson's lawsuit.

Message

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/20/2021 10:26:52 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Teams is there now and will ensure we have presence going forward until no longer needed.

Matthew Klein
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Professional Responsibility
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:16 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Matt we need to make it happen - today. There are too many people and too many opportunities for something to go wrong. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:05 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sirs, with your concurrence I would like to have a full time presence of OPR agents on site.
[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:03 PM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR; HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES, MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

OPR is engaged, agents are on scene and working to collect additional information and identify involved agents. So can confirm the following:

- CBP OPR engaged and investigating the actions of the agents depicted in the footage, and assessing any potential for misconduct.
- OIG has been notified.

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:43 PM

To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Additional details;

The horse patrol was not tasked to conduct containment/entry prevention operations at the location shown in the video.

DRT Sector has corrected this issue and provided operational guidance to horse patrol. Their duty is to patrol the area and keep order with the migrants' movements as well as look for any migrants that are in need – medical distress, water and food, vulnerable population, etc..

The current situation warrants the ability for migrants to go back and forth in a controlled manner. This is the operational guidance in place.

OPR is looking into the matter to determine if there is any misconduct.

Thank you,

Manny

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:31 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:25 PM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Getting with DRT now

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Hj all: We need to get the more details on this as soon as possible. Just got a call from WH IGA/Political – the footage is getting everywhere.

Thanks,
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC
Cell: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

From: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM
To: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** PADILLA, MANUEL
JR **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** ORTIZ, RAUL L **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.
Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

From: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM
To: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** PADILLA, MANUEL
JR **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** ORTIZ, RAUL L **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,

I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

“Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.”

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT
To: "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)
Cc: "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "NUNEZ-NETO, BLAS"
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/21/2021 11:33:42 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Yes sir. I will take this one. We have an HQ program manager and real experts in the field.

Manuel Padilla, Jr.
(A) Deputy Chief
U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 7:19:49 AM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Chiefs,

Is there a Horse Patrol policy or training curriculum that we can look at? Who is our Horse Patrol SME at HQ that can answer questions?

Carry

From iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: September 21, 2021 at 7:12:12 AM EDT
To: "HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "ORTIZ,
RAUL L" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, lets talk when you get in – I would like to discuss a path forward. We need to continue to let everyone know we take the incident very seriously are addressing it, even highlight some of the horse patrol polices we discussed last night then pivot to the incredible work that is going on, partnerships, medical, care and feeding, really is a community coming together to solve a very difficult problem then pivot to exactly you state below, highlight the lives we have saved, meals we have delivered, violence we encounter, enforcement mission we continue to perform under an extremely difficult situation. – then maybe highlight some of the other challenges we have faced such as the UC's, etc... Troy

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 7:01 AM
To: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Agreed! What are assault against agents stats? I have not seen that reported out anywhere internally. Also number of folks treated medically, babies delivered, meals provided etc.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 11:11 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

This horse business is awfully negative but there are great efforts occurring and we aren't highlighting any of them. Everyday we are providing lifesaving efforts to migrants under the bridge.

Our agents are being assaulted and we aren't saying a word. The bus contractors and pilots are dealing with Haitians escaping or trying to overrun drivers and we stay quiet. Agents and pro staff are working 14 hour days in difficult conditions, nothing said. We have to change the narrative or these stories will be the only story.

Get Outlook for iOS

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:04:16 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Sir, I concur that for tonight we do not need to issue another statement. However, we continue to push for more media engagement and updates to the media with Chief Ortiz, so we do need to start laying out any steps he can use. We'll need to get those cleared. Below is a very rough outline of what that might look like:

What do you say to people horrified by what they saw in that footage?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

So you think the language the Agent used including expletives could potentially be justifiable?

-
-

(b) (5)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:24 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you. I do not think there is a need for us to develop another one now.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:13 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here's what DHS put out:

<https://twitter.com/dhsgov/status/1440090164425019397?s=21>

After Secretary Mayorkas viewed the footage, we are providing the following statement:

"The Department of Homeland Security does not tolerate the abuse of migrants in our custody and we take these allegations very seriously. U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Professional Responsibility is investigating the matter and has alerted the DHS Office of Inspector General. In addition, Secretary Mayorkas has directed that personnel from the Office of Professional Responsibility be on site full-time to ensure that the responsibilities of DHS personnel are executed consistent with applicable policies and training and the Department's values.

Secretary Mayorkas visited Del Rio today and witnessed the extraordinary work of DHS personnel. The footage is extremely troubling and the facts learned from the full investigation, which will be conducted swiftly, will define the appropriate disciplinary actions to be taken. We are committed to processing migrants in a safe, orderly, and humane way. We can and must do this in a way that ensures the safety and dignity of migrants."

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:12 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here are the two statements that were covered with the Minnesota incident. I'm checking if we have any of the other drafts internally that could offer other wording.

(b) (5)

<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/06/08/u-s-border-officials-investigating-use-of-low-flying-helicopter-used-for-dispersal-at-enbridge-pipeline-protests/>

"CBP's headquarters is investigating the facts to determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified," a CBP

spokesperson told CNN. "All appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency's applicable policies and procedures."

Also ran here: <https://www.twincities.com/2021/06/09/border-protection-helicopter-team-under-investigation-for-rotor-washing-line-3-protesters/>

<https://verticalmag.com/news/u-s-cbp-investigating-low-flight-over-pipeline-protesters/>

"U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Grand Forks responded to a local law enforcement request for assistance to address a gathering of people who were reported to have trespassed on private property," a CBP spokesperson said in a statement emailed to *Vertical*. "CBP's headquarters is investigating the facts to determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified. All appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency's applicable policies and procedures."

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:45 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

I want to look at the response when the helicopter dusted out the reporters in Minnesota. I'm thinking something similar to that that doesn't prematurely convict the agent of misconduct but yet acknowledges the seriousness of what is alleged to have happened and that we are looking into it and will hold people accountable should misconduct be established. We should also reiterate if we have a good track record of holding employees accountable for misconduct.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:38 PM, MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Believe s1 will issue something shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Good copy. We will work on a response.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Carry, we are going to need a stronger response on what our actions are steps we are taking in response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 4:26 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Perfect. Thank you!

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 5:25 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY

A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

bp.dhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Reuters:
"Trapped": Migrants
collecting food try to
evade law enforcement
at the U.S.-Mexico
border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) edited the
sentence as follows:

(b) (5)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday,
September 20, 2021
5:13 PM

To: PADILLA, MANUEL
JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN,
MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN,
BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY

A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

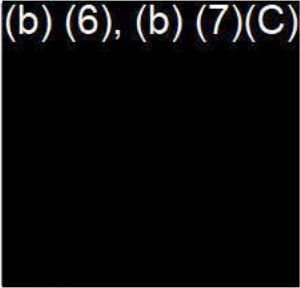
ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

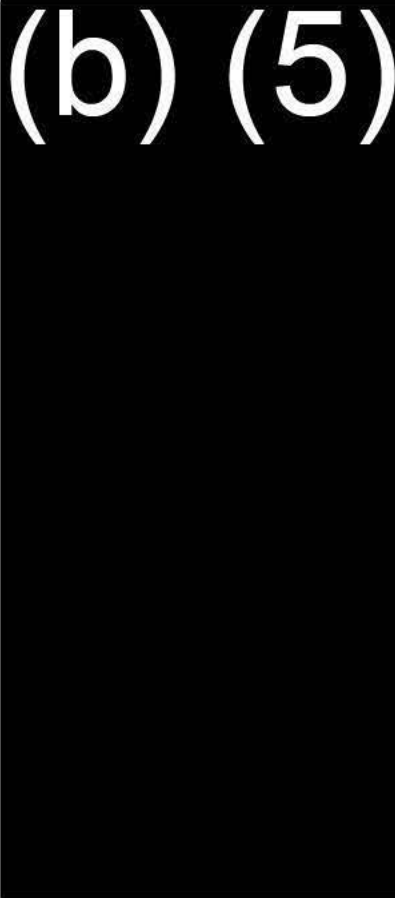
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Subject: RE: Reuters:
"Trapped": Migrants
collecting food try to
evade law enforcement
at the U.S.-Mexico
border

One more ask came in.
That we add language
to clarify that horse
patrol uses long reins or
lariat for the horse. I
don't believe I saw a
lariat, thought it was
just the long reins I.
Would the highlighted
line below be accurate
and acceptable for use
at this time?

(b) (5)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the bottom half of the page.