

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR IN CHARGE  
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No. 2557

April 3, 1922.

Memorandum of the substance of a verbal statement made by the undersigned to Mr. C. D. Sprigg, Collector of Customs, San Diego, Calif., relative to a Treasury Department letter addressed to him on March 28, 1922, inquiring whether there is a duplication of work by Immigration and Customs officers and stating that the Chief Coordinator suggests "that if the Customs Service and the Bureau of Immigration were to work together and combine their forces the number of men required could be greatly reduced:"

By far the greater part of the work of the Immigration Service in the San Diego jurisdiction, which incidentally does not embrace all of the territory in your Customs District, has to do with preventing aliens entering the United States surreptitiously across the land border. In this work I feel that the Customs Service co-operates to the fullest extent practicable. It is the purpose and the practise of Immigration officers to do all possible in the way of assisting Customs officers in the enforcing of the Customs laws, thus accomplishing in this particular jurisdiction just what the Chief Coordinator apparently seeks to bring about -- that is, reasonably effective enforcement of Immigration and Customs laws with the fewest number of men practicable. It is recognized that to thoroughly guard the land border at points right on the International Line or very close to the International Boundary Line would require a many times greater force of men than the combined personnel of the Immigration and Customs Services, so this co-operation between the two Services, of which I speak, is in practise reasonably effective since the Immigration Service maintains stations at strategic points well inland to back up the work of the officers right along the International Line. To be more specific:-

At Tia Juana, Calif., right on the International Line, where the Immigration force is very much smaller than would be necessary if it were necessary for the Immigration Service to depend solely upon the efforts of Immigration Service employees, the Immigration Service has available for the work mentioned only about two-thirds of the time of two Immigrant Inspectors to prevent the surreptitious entry of aliens along the land border from the ocean to Tecate in the mountains, a distance of about 40 miles and in this distance there are many roads and trails to the interior. So in practise the Immigration Service must depend upon the Customs officers who, while doing the



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same sort of work for the purpose of enforcing the Customs laws, incidentally prevent the smuggling of aliens thru that territory *to some extent.*

The same is true at Tecate, only the distance is not so great except that while you have a Customs officer at Tecate, the Immigration Service has no employee stationed there and only details men to that section when there is positive information regarding an Immigration law violation in that section.

At Campo, California, (only a few miles from the International Line), the Immigration Service also has only one employee and there too we must and do depend upon the Campo Immigration officer working with a Customs officer for, because of the hazards of the work no one Inspector can be detailed unassisted to stop automobiles and apprehend smugglers.

In return for this work of Customs officers for the Immigration Service the latter Service has two employees at Jacumba, Calif. (right on the International Line), who devote all of their time to watching roads and trails for the purpose of preventing smuggling of aliens into the United States and who, while engaged in this work, assist in the enforcement of the Customs laws. ~~So~~ further, at points at a considerable distance from the International Line the Immigration Service has stationed officers at strategic points where the roads and trails converge. To be specific, in the San Diego jurisdiction the Immigration Service has:

At Temecula, two guards and maintains an automobile for their use. At Oceanside, Calif., one Immigrant Inspector and two guards and there maintains an automobile and a motorcycle for their official use. At Warner Springs, Calif. two guards and also maintains an automobile for their use. In addition two Inspectors from the San Diego station, who are equipped with an automobile, are working almost continuously at various points in this district and other officers are detailed from the San Diego station when there is information relative to a specific violation.

For the sake of brevity no attempt will be made to specify the actual results accomplished by Immigration officers for the Customs and other services at these outside stations, but, as you are personally aware, these results are not inconsiderable. Likewise, the writer would not point to results accomplished by Immigration Service employees for the Customs Service without hastening to acknowledge the assistance rendered the Immigration Service by your officers and the results accomplished by them.

As long as the relations between your office and this are so cordial and that has been so during all time within the



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writer's knowledge, it would appear as previously indicated, that in practise what the Chief Coordinator seeks to accomplish, is being done by this close co-operation. It is thought that the change suggested could not result in a reduced force for the combined forces of the two Services in this jurisdiction, however administered, are inadequate to effectively enforce the Immigration and Customs laws; although, it is felt that under the present arrangement both the Immigration and Customs laws are enforced with reasonable effectiveness, since the co-operation as above outlined is accomplished without any conflict of authority. If, in your opinion, at any time it appears possible that Immigration officers can assist to a greater extent in the enforcement of your laws, would be glad to entertain any suggestion you may have to make.

(Sgd) Dan S. Kuykendall

Inspector in Charge.

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April 5, 1922.

Triplicate copies of the foregoing memorandum dated April 3rd, together with an equal number of copies of Treasury Department letter No. 100000, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Diego, respectfully referred to the Inspector in Charge of the Immigration Service at Los Angeles, Calif. for his full information.

The Treasury Department letter of the 28th ult. naturally brings to mind Mr. Berkshire's "Border Patrol" idea under which, with adequate personnel properly equipped and stationed at strategic points inland, as well as along the International Line and directed by trained officers, would do all police and investigative work necessarily incident to the enforcement of ALL United States laws. The writer, of course, would not attempt to discuss the details of such a plan with Mr. Sprigg, the Collector of Customs here.

(Sgd) Dan S. Kuykendall

Inspector in Charge.

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