

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

DISTRICT No. 22

REC'D. BU. OF IMMIGRATION

MAY 19 1924

MAIL AND FILES

OFFICE
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
F. S. BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No. 2000/86

May 13, 1924.

Commissioner General of Immigration,
Washington, D. C.

Reference is respectfully made to the Bureau's letter of the 30th ultimo, No. 55391/237, requesting a report by wire, to be followed with a detailed report by letter, as to the number of additional guards, etc., necessary for the successful patrolling of the border in this district. Upon receipt of the Bureau's letter, the Inspectors in Charge at Brownsville, Laredo, Eagle Pass and Del Rio were called to San Antonio and a conference was held here at which the matter of properly protecting the border in this district was thoroughly gone into from every angle. After careful consideration of the matter, a telegram was sent to the Bureau advising that it was believed the border in this district could be successfully patrolled with fifty-eight additional Mounted Guards. These additional men should be stationed as follows:

IN THE BROWNSVILLE SUB-DISTRICT:

At Brownsville	2
At Rio Grande City	2
At Roma	2
At Kingsville	2
At Falfurrias	3
At Mission	2
At Edinburg	2
At Mercedes	2
At Harlingen	1
TOTAL	18

IN THE LAREDO SUB-DISTRICT:

At Laredo	2
At Zapata	2
At Dolores	2
At San Ignacio	2
At Santa Rosa	2
At Cotulla	3
At Aguilares	2
At Alice	2
TOTAL	17

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IN THE EAGLE PASS SUB-DISTRICT:

At Eagle Pass	2
At Batesville	2
At Uvalde	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	5

IN THE DEL RIO SUB-DISTRICT:

At Brackettville	2
At Sonora	2
At Ozona	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	6

DIRECTLY UNDER THE SAN ANTONIO OFFICE:

At San Antonio	10
At Pearsall	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	12

It is felt that with but few exceptions the men who do the patrol work in this district should travel in pairs, with one automobile between them, and it is believed that in addition to the present equipment in that respect, either an automobile allowance or a Government owned automobile should be authorized as follows:

One each at

Falfurrias	Dolores
Kingsville	Cotulla
Roma	Alice
Rio Grande City	Eagle Pass
Mission	Batesville
Edinburg	Brackettville
Mercedes	Sonora
Brownsville	Ozona
Zapata	Pearsall
San Ignacio	

At San Antonio there should be five automobile allowances (or Government owned automobiles) authorized, since the force at this station will have to cover a great deal of territory in all directions from the city.

At Santa Rosa the two Mounted Guards should be given a horse allowance each.

As the Bureau knows, there are two G.M.C. Ambulances now in use, one each at Laredo and San Antonio, they having recently been turned over

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to this Service by the war Department. These ambulances are used to convey contraband aliens to the border for voluntary return. It was originally contemplated that four of these vehicles be secured, but only two were found to be surplus. At any rate, it is believed that Dodge trucks will be far more satisfactory and it is earnestly requested that additional conveyances of this nature be of that make, which will cost in the neighborhood of \$1200.00 each. It is believed that additional trucks should be placed in service, one each at San Antonio, Laredo and Brownsville.

With the additional mounted force, the Bureau will readily appreciate that the office work will be greatly increased, both in the District Headquarters and in the sub-offices. This office has, since the creation of this district, been handicapped considerably in clerical help and has been able to keep the work up satisfactorily only by utilizing a large part of the time of one of the Mounted Guards and some of the Inspectors for clerical and stenographic work. A new position of Clerk (stenographer & typist) should be authorized to relieve that situation as it stands at the present time, and with the greatly increased force which is expected and the resulting increase in the work which will undoubtedly pass through this office, it will be necessary to have an additional clerk to assist in the file room. This clerk should be a stenographer and typist in order that his (or her) services may be utilized in that capacity in emergencies. Under the present arrangement, the clerk in charge of the files is given whatever assistance he needs by drawing upon the stenographic force when they can be spared. This arrangement is unsatisfactory even now and, with the increased personnel, involving as it will many new files (personal, detail, etc.,) to say nothing of the increased correspondence incident to the increased work, it will be essential that a clerk be regularly assigned to the filing division.

An additional inspector will also be needed at San Antonio. It has been found advisable to have an inspector in immediate charge of the outside force in each sub-district and, with the additional Mounted Guards here, there will be a total of fourteen working under this office. This will require the entire time of the Inspector who is assigned to immediate supervision of the work of these men. The local investigation work and the increased office work due to the increased activities will require the time of the two inspectors now authorized for the local office.

It will be noted that it is not contemplated assigning any Mounted Guards to Fort Worth. It is felt that the force above outlined will be able to check the smuggling of aliens. However, it is desired to state that the matter of requesting an additional inspector and stenographer at Fort Worth has been under consideration for some time and it is felt that the proper time has come to make such recommendation. Inspector Smith has a large territory to cover, embracing not only all of the north part of Texas, but practically the entire state of Oklahoma, all of the penal insti-

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tutions in the latter state being within his jurisdiction. It is believed the Bureau will appreciate that an additional inspector should be assigned there to assist him, and not the least of the points to be argued in favor of such move is the advisability of having an Inspector present at Fort Worth at all times. It is necessary for an officer to be away from Fort Worth a large part of the time in Oklahoma and points in north Texas and, under the present arrangement, the station there is left uncovered during his absence. It is understood that District Director Hanson discussed this matter with Assistant Secretary White upon the occasion of the latter's trip to San Antonio a year ago, but no recommendation along that line was made due to the limited appropriation. As to the advisability of having a stenographer at Fort Worth, it may be stated that a great deal of clerical work emanates from that office and it seems that in a majority of the warrant cases there the aliens employ attorneys. In a recent case it was deemed advisable to secure the services of a local stenographer at Fort Worth on that account.

It is respectfully recommended that the following new positions, in addition to those above mentioned, be authorized in this district:

AT SAN ANTONIO:

Immigrant Inspector	1
Clerks (Stenographer & Typist)	2

AT FORT WORTH:

Immigrant Inspector	1
Clerk (Stenographer & Typist)	1

AT BROWNSVILLE:

Immigrant Inspectors	2
Clerks (Stenographer & Typist)	2

AT HIDALGO:

Immigrant Inspector	1
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AT LAREDO:

Immigrant Inspectors	2
Guards	2
Clerks (Stenographer & Typist)	2

AT EAGLE PASS:

Immigrant Inspector	1
Guards	2

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AT DEL RIO:

Immigrant Inspector	1
Guards	2
Clerk (Stenographer & Typist)	1

The Inspectors in Charge at Brownsville, Laredo, Eagle Pass and Del Rio were requested to submit detailed reports to this office covering their plans as to their respective districts, and copies of these reports are attached hereto. They set forth in detail the manner in which it is contemplated using the increased forces. It will be noted that additional Guards (bridge guards) are needed at Laredo, Eagle Pass and Del Rio, and it is earnestly hoped that these will be authorized. The traffic over the bridges will undoubtedly take on an enormous increase when the smuggling of aliens is checked, and sufficient help should be provided at the bridges to see that the traffic is handled properly and expeditiously.

The ten new Mounted Guards at San Antonio will make a total of twelve at this station. Practically all railroads from the border pass through this city and it is the present tentative plan to have four of these men devote practically all their time to riding trains; four men to work the local labor agencies, railroad yards, handle the Government trucks, etc; and four men to scout the roads.

The two men at Pearsall, who will be under the immediate jurisdiction of this office, will devote practically all their time to watching the roads.

In connection with the outside force, it is believed the Bureau will appreciate the fact that it will be necessary occasionally to shift these men from one place to another at a moment's notice, and it is hoped that a considerable amount of leeway will be given this office in that respect. It may be deemed advisable at times to change some of the men from one town to another, and it may likewise be necessary at times to effect an exchange of official stations between some of the Mounted Guards for the good of the Service. It is respectfully requested that this office be authorized to make changes of this character, if deemed necessary, without the necessity of securing prior authority from the Bureau.

It is not known whether the additional patrolmen will be given a salary less than or in excess of that now given Mounted Guards, but it is earnestly hoped that it will be greater, this for the reason that it will be often necessary for these men to be absent from their homes for several days at a time, and it will probably be found impracticable to grant per diem in the general run of such cases. The men riding the trains will no doubt have to take at least two meals away from home, although they may not

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be absent an entire day. If the salaries of these Mounted Guards are increased, it is believed they will be satisfied with that arrangement, and when the new appointees are put on, it can be explained to them that they will be expected to make such details without reimbursement for personal expenses and will enter into the work with that understanding.

If the three additional trucks are authorized, it will make a total of five in the district. The work in connection with the additional force has been planned with the idea of having the trucks handled by some of the Mounted Guards. In making the above estimate for the increased force, our plan has been to ask for just what men we believe necessary, basing our estimate on conditions as they now exist. We have not given ourselves any leeway to provide for unforeseen contingencies, for we desire to properly account for every man we have asked for. With that in mind, it is respectfully suggested that, if the appropriation will permit of such action, we be authorized to employ five chauffeurs for the trucks at salaries of say \$1200.00 per annum. This will relieve five of the Mounted Guards from that work and enable them to devote their entire time to patrol duties. It is expected that the use of the trucks will be seasonal and of course when the greatest need for the trucks occurs, there will be as a result the greatest need for the Mounted Guards to assist in the patrol work. If the drivers for the trucks are authorized, it may be better to place their salary on a daily or monthly basis in order that they may be used only when necessary.

As to the matter of conveyance for the men, it is not known whether the Bureau contemplates granting automobile allowances as is the present practice, or purchasing automobiles outright. If the latter, it is earnestly hoped that Dodge touring cars will be secured. If an allowance is to be granted the men, it is hoped that it will be not less than \$60.00 per month. The Inspector in Charge at Brownsville has appropriately summed up the automobile situation in the second paragraph on page 6 of his report attached, and this office concurs heartily in the comment made by him.

In conclusion, it is desired to reiterate that the foregoing estimate is considered as the minimum rather than the maximum, but it is believed that this district can be properly taken care of with the additional force and equipment mentioned, provided we get the right kind of men. In considering the defensive measures to be adopted in the western section of this district, it is desired to state that information has been received that aliens have in the past smuggled in over the Rio Grande at points to the south of Sanderson, Texas, which is in the El Paso District, and in heading towards the interior of the country have cut across the territory to the north of Del Rio which is in this district. It is also believed that aliens have smuggled into the country at points within this district and have moved across the country through territory within the El Paso district. We have endeavored, however, to take care of the situation in that section as best we could without knowing just where the El Paso office contemplates placing men in that vicinity.

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In the eastern section of this district, it is believed that the situation has been well taken care of as to aliens who smuggle in at points in this district. It may be stated, however, that, with the tightening up of our lines of defense, it is believed there will be a decided increase in the smuggling of aliens by water in the Gulf of Mexico, but it is believed that aliens smuggled in in that manner will be landed at points up the coast beyond the jurisdiction of this district.

It is also desired to issue a word of prophesy at this time that smuggling by aeroplane, if it has not in fact already been instituted, will no doubt soon be undertaken. Reports have been received that such means are being employed, but no concrete evidence to that effect has been secured. This is a situation that will of course have to be met if and when it arises.

Chas. Campbell
Acting District Director.

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