



THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

Border Patrol (INS) - History

May 16, 1974

General L. F. Chapman, Jr.  
Commissioner of Immigration  
and Naturalization  
Washington, D. C. 20536

Dear General Chapman:

For 50 years the Border Patrol of the Immigration and Naturalization Service has been our first line of defense against those aliens who, unable to obtain entry to the country by legal means, attempt to enter illegally. In addition to preventing the smuggling and illegal entry of aliens, I am told Border Patrol officers also play a key role in our war on the drug menace by intercepting large quantities of contraband narcotics being smuggled across our land borders.

The reputation of the Border Patrol for enforcing our immigration laws fairly and compassionately is well known. Over the years the Patrol's watchword of "Honor First" has been symbolized by hundreds of examples of moral and physical courage, many of which went far beyond the call of duty.

I am glad to take the opportunity to salute this outstanding organization on its 50th anniversary for the valorous dedicated service its members have rendered to our country.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

GRF:jom