

## Cinco Buscan Ser Electos Para Comisionado de Precincto 3 de Lubbock

Cuatro nombres muy conocidos dentro de la política en la comunidad Mexicana de Lubbock aparecieron en las boletas de los partidos democrata y republicano esta proxima eleccion.

En el partido republicana Francisco J. Gutierrez no tiene oponente en su busqueda de ser el candidato oficial para comisionado del condado de precincto 3. El sera nominado en la proxima eleccion y encontrara a el nominado del partido democrata en las elecciones de noviembre junto con el candidato para el partido liberatarian.

En la primaria democrata, tres candidatos se han lanzado para buscar la nominación de comisionado. Ellos son el actual comisionado Gilbert Flores, antiguo comisionado Eliseo Solis y el antes aspirante para el puesto Ysabel Luna.

Todos los candidatos en sus presentaciones durante la campaña han dicho que quieren lo mejor para su precincto pero los tres tiene distintas opiniones en como adquirir sus metas.

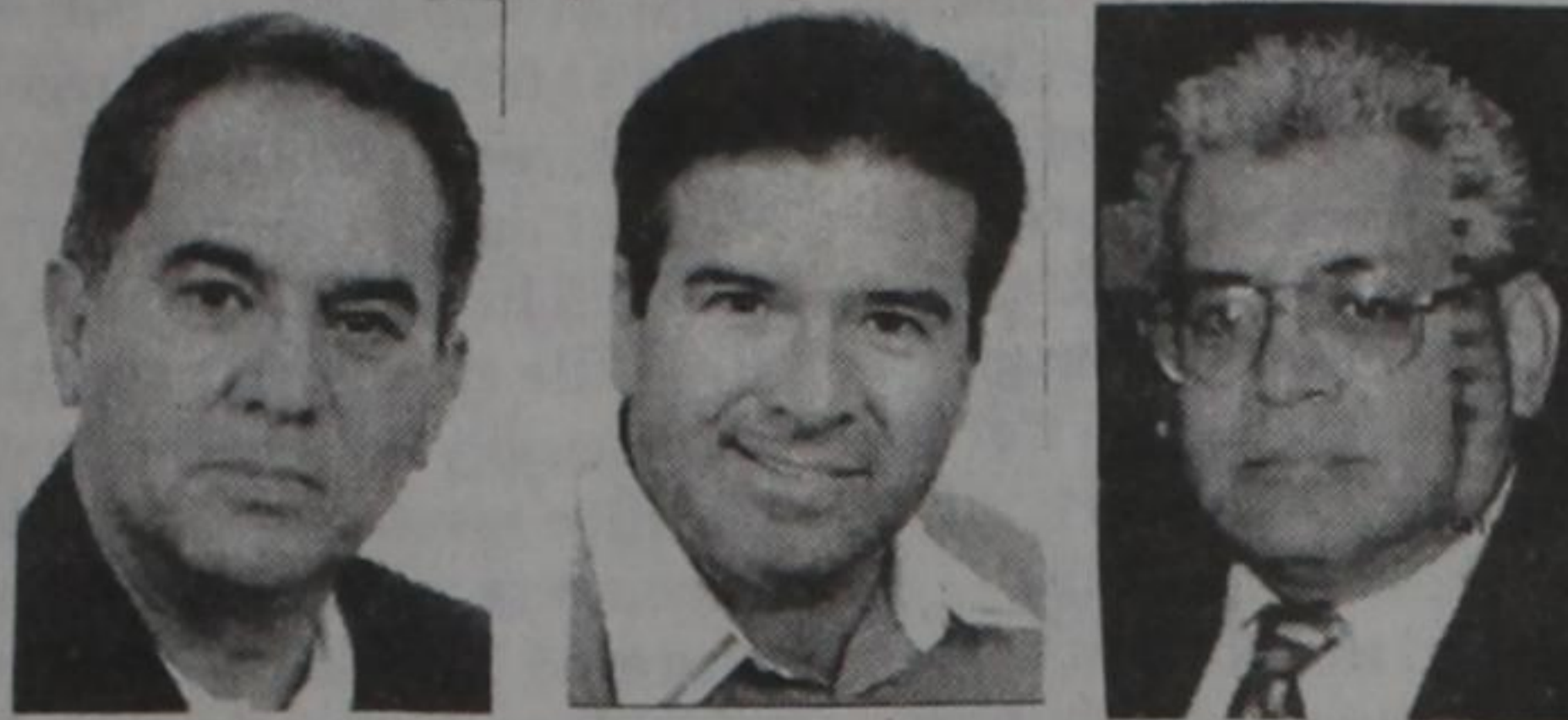
Gilbert Flores ha dicho que él buscar el puesto con la opinion que debe de continuar como lo ha hecho por los ultimos 7 años. "Yo traigo a esta campaña mi record de mantener la dignidad y respeto merecido a este puesto. Con esta actitud ha logrado alcanzar muchos mejoramientos dentro de un precincto que se encontraba a muy bajo nivel bajo el liderazgo de la administración anterior," dijo Flores.

Eliseo Solis, quien era el jefe de la administración anterior como comisionado, dice que Flores no tiene la capacidad necesaria para ser efectivo. "Dentro de esta posición se necesita una persona fuerte que no tiene miedo enfrentarse con los poderes quien corren este condado y quien actualmente no ponen las necesidades de nuestra gente al frente."

Ysabel Luna, negociante y antes aspirante para el puesto dice que su prioridad es mejorar la vida de los residentes del precincto 3 a través de más atención en desarrollar la economía. "Nosotros tenemos la capacidad de cir-

cular millones de dolares dentro del precincto 3. ¿Porque es que las tiendas grande no traen y fican sus tienda dentro del nuestro precincto? Si logramos convencer que tragan sus tiendas para este lado del pueblo, toda nuestra gente prospera."

Tocante este punto Flores dice que él ha trabajado para mejorar la economía en el



precincto 3. "Yo soy el responsable de que haiga dado rebajos en impuestos a tiendas como United, Dollar Store y otras tiendas y bodegas para que finquen sus tiendas y negocios dentro del precincto. Estoy trabajando constantemente para mejorar la economía dentro del precincto."

A este punto Solis dice que aún que si se han logrado mejoramientos dentro del precincto economicamente, los mejoramientos no fueron iniciados por Flores. "¿Dime un inciativo que has iniciado?" le pregunto a Flores durante un recien foro. Solis dice que lo que se necesita mas en el precincto es el desarrollo de programas que ayudan a las familias. "Se necesitan nuevas habitaciones, rehabilitación de hogares y un ambiente positivo para que más gente pueda vivir agusto y con un ambiente bueno dentro de nuestra comunidad. Esto no se va lograr con un representante que solamente da el 'si señor'. Se necesita una persona que traiga el corraje positivo para enfrenta y solucionar las necesidades," dijo Solis.

En un reciente cuestionario hecho por el periodico diario de Lubbock a la pregunta de que que decaban los candidatos que supiera el publico sobre ellos y su candidatura todos re-

spondieron.

Flores: "Yo soy en hombre honesto. Yo no soy politico. Yo soy un serviente del publico. Yo traigo respeto, dignidad a mi oficina. Yo tengo mi propio corazon. Yo represento todos los residentes del condado de Lubbock."

Luna: "Aun que yo soy un hombre con sueños, yo créo que juntos podemos alcanzar cualquier cosa necesaria en nuestra comunidad. Necesidades de comunidades como la de nosotros seran alcanzados solamente si estamos determinados. La única preparación para mañana es escojer lo mejor para ahora. Recuerden que el mas pobre de la gente no son los que no tienen ningun centavo, pero los que no tienen vision y sueños."

Solis: "Como un comisionado anterior, yo solamente le pido a los votantes que comparen mi trabajo anterior con el actual comisionado dentro y fuera de el puesto. Esos quien me oponen dentro del public solamente se mantienen dentro de las acusaciones hechas dentro de mi de unos cargos que fueron renegados por un veridicto hecho por el juez quien no vido razon por esas acusaciones. Mis confrontaciones con los mentados "poderes que son" atravez de mistenencia basicamente aseguraron el esfuerzo que fue conducido para reelamlarame con alguien más agadable a ellos. Yo soy activo y determindo en preguntar sobre situaciones que puedan ser determinantes a el publico del condado de Lubbock. En particular la comunidad dentro del precincto 3. Punto. El anterior comisionado del precincto 1 y yo fuimos los unicos que hicimos preguntas de el sherife sobre la comisionaria en los 80's. Los actuales comisionados no tienen ningun record de hacer preguntas sobre el caso de la comisionaria. Un comisionario que ahora declara que esto es un buen paso reuso envolverse en ese tiempo. Yo no tengo penas en ser considerado activista. Por lo hecho yo era y seguiré siendo preocupado de gente sin voz en el proceso politico y la economia."

La eleccion para este puesto sera el dia 14 de marzo. Las cajillas tempranas (early voting) estan abiertas hasta el 10 de marzo. - B.A.

## News Briefs

### Bill Richardson Opina Que EEUU Listo Para Vicepresidente Latino

Los Angeles, - El Secretario de Energía, Bill Richardson, opina que Estados Unidos está listo para un vicepresidente hispano y que esto "no sólo sería una sorpresa positiva, sino una decisión muy acertada".

En una entrevista con el periódico La Opinión, de Los Angeles, Richardson afirmó que "no estoy haciendo campaña, pero veo los números -estamos creciendo-, y si no ocurre esta vez (que haya un vicepresidente hispano), va a ocurrir la próxima".

Nacido en Pasadena (California), de padre estadounidense y madre mexicana, Richardson vivió, hasta los 13 años, en el vecindario de Coyoacán, en la Ciudad de México, informó La Opinión.

Richardson pronosticó, sobre las elecciones del 7 de noviembre, que "los demócratas ganaríamos el voto, pero lo que queremos es que los republicanos no obtengan más del 30 por ciento".

Advirtió que si George W. Bush o John McCain -principales aspirantes a la candidatura presidencial republicana-, obtienen un mayor porcentaje de respaldo, esto podría en peligro una victoria demócrata.

### Rep. Luis Gutierrez Supports Bradley, Criticizes Gore

Los Angeles, - Rep. Luis Gutierrez (Dem.-IL), who is promoting presidential hopeful Bill Bradley's political platform, accused Vice President Al Gore on Thursday of "turning his back on Hispanics in California."

During a press conference, Gutierrez confirmed his support for Bradley, and said Gore deserted Hispanics "when I personally asked him to actively oppose laws like Proposition 209," which eliminated Affirmative Action in California.

Bradley, who is seeking to win the Hispanic vote - especially in states with high electoral votes - has clearly expressed his support for Affirmative Action programs, bilingual education, English as a second-language program and an increase in minimum wage.

Gutierrez - the only Hispanic legislator openly backing Bradley - said Gore also failed to oppose Proposition 227, which eliminated bilingual education in California's public schools.

Without revealing details of Bradley's political platform, Gutierrez said Gore "flirts with minority voters" but does not represent their interests in reality.

The Illinois lawmaker, of Puerto Rican descent, criticized the vice president's lack of action when reforms to immigration laws were implemented in 1996, which "brought a lot of negative consequences" for the Hispanic community.

According to Gutierrez, Gore only promises improvements in health care for Hispanics, an issue the vice president has pitched heavily among California's Hispanic population.

He said, however, that Bradley is truly interested in developing "a health plan to benefit all Hispanics and all minorities" throughout the country, through a universal medical insurance which would be available to a majority of U.S. citizens.

Gutierrez emphasized that he could not back Gore because of the negative impact of several welfare and immigration laws, signed by President Bill Clinton with the vice president's support, on the Hispanic community.

According to opinion polls recently circulated, Gore is favored over Bradley by a wide margin, especially among Hispanics.

### New York Latino Leaders Support All Gore

New York, - Democratic Hispanic community leaders in New York said Tuesday that they would support Al Gore's candidacy to the presidency of the United States, citing the vice president's contributions to the progress of the community.

"For the past seven-and-a-half years, we have seen poverty and unemployment drop significantly among Latinos. Of course, there is still much to be done, but Gore has shown that he will pay attention to the major issues of the community," said legislator Nydia Velazquez.

During a meeting of the committee that supports Gore's candidacy, Congressman Jose Serrano spoke on the progress of the Hispanic community in recent years, noting that: "The only way to ensure future success is to choose the man with the experience and the program for continuing progress. And that man is Gore."

State Sen. Olga Mendez said that Gore "works for us and he has done so all these years. We need to give him a chance to keep on working for us for the next few years."

Bronx County President Fernando Ferrer highlighted the political achievements of the vice president when Gore was a congressman and senator, saying that Gore "has fought to ensure the access of our community to health and education, and I trust that he will continue to work for this when he becomes president."

### Bush and McCain Escalate Fight for Delegates

By Jose A. Delgado  
Washington, - Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Arizona Sen. John McCain on Tuesday dispute 87 Republican delegates in Virginia, Washington and North Dakota in primaries considered the warm-up for next week's Super Tuesday.

Both presidential candidates were concentrating on Virginia and Washington.

On the eve of the vote in Virginia, where the winner will walk away with the votes of 56 delegates to the nominating convention, McCain renewed his criticism of Bush for his ties to the religious right.

In a speech to some 1,500 supporters at a high school in Virginia Beach on Monday, McCain attacked Bush and launched darts at staunch Bush supporter Pat Robertson, founder of the ultra-conservative Christian Coalition and owner of the Virginia Beach based Christian Broadcasting Network.

In his speech, McCain accused Bush of being "a Pat Robertson Republican who will lose to Al Gore."

"No party should let itself be defined by agents of intolerance, such as Louis Farrakhan and Al Sharpton on the left or Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell on the right," McCain said in his search for support from both independents and Democrats, a key to his campaign strategy.

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conseguir el respaldo de por lo menos 1.034 delegados que designarán a su representante en la convención republicana que se realizará a medianos de año.

El favor de la mayoría de esos delegados se decidirá el próximo martes cuando se realicen

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"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz."  
"Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace"  
Lic. Benito Juarez

# EL EDITOR

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### Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero  
Politics is a strange animal. Some people would say it's a science, some an art, some a job and many would call it a joke.



Those that call it a science are mainly academics that teach it. It is called an art by those that realize that many seem to be born with it. It is a job to all those that have been successful in being elected and finally, it's a joke to lots and lots of people on the street who say that voting doesn't really make a difference.

Those that see politics as a serious obligation will be voting this month to decide who will spend their money and how. Those that don't. Don't have any reason to complain.

I have had the experience of being actively involved in politics and realize that all of the above descriptions mentioned in defining politics probably apply at some time or another.

Members of our community are wanting to get elected to positions in which they will represent us. As the editor and publisher of this newspaper, it falls upon me to provide our readers with the information necessary to make a sound and educated decision. It also falls on my shoulders to give my opinion as to who I feel will represent us better as an elected official.

I have, since founding this newspaper taken this obligation very seriously. My endorsements have very often made a difference and more often not mattered at all as far as the final outcome.

I feel discouraged in that many that are running for office doesn't even need to address the public as to their stances. This because they do not have opponents.

My endorsements will be made to give my opinion in races that are contested but I reserve the option to change my mind when they who are nominated and will meet another opponent in the general election.

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## Legislador Hispano Promueve Plataforma Politica de Bill Bradley

Los Angeles, - El legislador demócrata de Illinois, Luis Gutiérrez, quien promueve la plataforma política del aspirante presidencial Bill Bradley, acusó el jueves en Los Angeles al vicepresidente Al Gore, de "haber dado la espalda a los hispanos de California".

Durante una conferencia de prensa, Gutiérrez reiteró su respaldo a Bradley, y afirmó que Gore abandonó a los hispanos "cuando personalmente le pedí que actuara en contra de leyes como la Proposición 209", que eliminó los programas de "acción afirmativa" en California.

Bradley, quien busca conquistar el voto hispano -especialmente en aquellos estados con alta concentración de votos electorales-, ha dejado en claro que favorece los programas de acción afirmativa, la educación bilingüe, los programas de inglés como segundo idioma y el aumento del salario mínimo.

Además, propone créditos tributarios a familias pobres, sugiere cobertura médica para todos los niños y favorece leyes que castiguen a los policías que aplican el "perfil racial" para detener a conductores latinos o afroamericanos.

Gutiérrez -el único legislador hispano que ha dado su apoyo a Bradley-, dijo que el vicepresidente Gore tampoco se pronunció en contra de la Proposición 227, que eliminó la educación bilingüe en las escuelas públicas de California.

Sin ofrecer detalles sobre la plataforma política de Bradley,

Gutiérrez aseguró que Gore "coquetea con los electores de las minorías étnicas" pero que en realidad no representa sus intereses.

El legislador, de origen puertorriqueño, criticó la presunta inacción del vicepresidente Gore cuando entró en vigor la reforma a la ley de inmigración de 1996, que "trajo muchas consecuencias negativas" para la población hispana.

En cuestión de salud -el tema que Gore ha promovido más entre los electores hispanos de California-, Gutiérrez opinó que el vicepresidente solamente "promete" mejorar los servicios para los hispanos.

Destacó, sin embargo, que Bill Bradley sí se interesa "por un plan de salud que beneficie a todos los hispanos y a todas las minorías" en el país, mediante un seguro médico universal al que tengan acceso la mayoría de los estadounidenses.

Gutiérrez opinó que Bradley, por ser cónyuge de una inmigrante -Ernestine es de Alemania y además domina el idioma español-, tiene mayor sensibilidad que Al Gore a los temas que más interesan a los electores hispanos, como la inmigración y la salud.

El legislador enfatizó que no podría apoyar a Gore por el impacto negativo que varias leyes de Welfare e inmigración, firmadas por el presidente Bill Clinton y apoyadas por el vicepresidente, han tenido en la comunidad hispana.

Tras la conferencia de prensa

## Bush Afianza Posibilidades De Ganar Candidatura Republicana

Por Orlando Lizama

Fairfax - El gobernador de Texas, George W. Bush, ha afianzado sus posibilidades de representar a su partido republicano en las elecciones presidenciales de noviembre tras ganar de forma concluyente las primarias de Virginia y Washington y las asambleas de Dakota del Norte.

Bush, hijo del ex presidente del mismo nombre, necesitaba con urgencia una victoria en esas consultas de partido, tras las derrotas ante su rival, el senador por Arizona John McCain, en las primarias de su propio estado y el de Michigan la semana pasada.

"Hemos dado un paso más hacia la victoria; estamos un paso más cerca de conseguir un partido unido y un paso más cerca de librarnos de Clinton y

Gore en Washington", expresó Bush en un acto de campaña en el estado de Ohio en la noche del martes cuando comenzaban a confirmarse sus tres victorias.

Bush, que acusó a McCain de tratar de dividir al partido y de llevar la lucha proselitista a la arena religiosa, derrotó al senador por un margen de nueve puntos porcentuales, con el respaldo de un 83 por ciento de los conservadores del estado.

McCain, un ex prisionero de guerra en Vietnam, estremeció los cimientos del partido cuando criticó el respaldo dado a Bush por los comentaristas religiosos conservadores Pat Robertson y Jerry Falwell y los acusó de ser "agentes de la intolerancia".

El triunfo del gobernador fue todavía más concluyente en las asambleas o "caucus" de Dakota del Norte donde las cifras

oficiales indicaban que había conseguido un 76 por ciento de los sufragios contra apenas un 19 por ciento para McCain.

En el estado noroccidental de Washington, donde se esperaba que la lucha fuera pareja, las cifras porcentuales señalaban, cuando se había escuchado alrededor de la mitad de los votos emitidos, que Bush ganaría con una diferencia de por lo menos 20 puntos.

La cadena de televisión NBC dijo que con estos resultados, Bush cuenta con los votos de 149 delegados en tanto que McCain tiene 96, con 12 no comprometidos y cuatro que respaldan al ex embajador y comentarista de radio Alan Keyes, quien obtuvo un tres por ciento de los votos en Virginia.

Para asegurar la candidatura, Bush o McCain deberán

## Comentarios de Bidal

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In the race for president, I will reserve my endorsement for next week as I will also do for other offices at the state level. But you can be sure that all endorsements will be for democrats. I will also reserve my opinion as to who I give my endorsement to for the position of County Commissioner in Precinct Four. Unfortunately this will have to be a republican.

The one race in which I will focus on this week is the position of County Commissioner in Precinct Three.

As I have said in the past, it is unfortunate that the majority of residents in what we call OUR community, have influence in

solely this race. It is only OUR community that will elect the person who will serve in this position.

Most people know that five persons want to get elected to the post. What many people do not know is that all must go through a nomination process within their particular party. Two candidates do not have opposition for nomination from their party and will advance automatically to the general election in November. They are Frank J. Gutiérrez, the nominee for the Republican Party and David Scott in the Libertarian Party.

Three candidates are asking for the nomination from the Democratic Party. They are incumbent Gilbert Flores, Ysabel Luna and Eliseo Solis.

It is difficult for me to choose

between them personally since I consider all of them friends but in deciding my choice, I feel it is my obligation to look beyond friendship toward who I think will make a better representative.

My decision is based primarily on personal knowledge of the effectiveness of each candidate in what I feel needs to be accomplished in our community and in a large part to their presentation at the forum recently hosted by the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

I must applaud the Chamber in their forum and especially Beto Cardenas who moderated. Their format proved to be excellent and it is unfortunate that more people did not attend.

At the forum, each candidate gave their opinion as to how they felt the duties of the County

Commissioner should be and would be more effectively carried out. Each candidate had a different opinion as to what method to use.

Gilbert Flores continued throughout the forum to say that his effectiveness has been shown by his accomplishments. Citing his accomplishments ranging from being responsible for the building of clinics in East Lubbock, rebuilding the resources of Precinct three from nothing to being one of the best in the county to being the founder of the enterprise zone concept - the concept was originally instituted during the Carter administration - Flores certainly did not hold back on praising himself even to the point of challenging Luna to explain how his experience as a pawn shop worker compared to his successful management of the County budget. Let's hope that Flores' elbow isn't sore.

In his presentation, Luna maintained that he was a dreamer. His statements affirmed it. Although Luna's intentions are good and his ideas are good, those

of us who have been dreaming that there will be change are probably not willing to wait. His idea of an outlet mall in East Lubbock is one that should definitely be pressed by whoever is elected. His idea of possible boycotts of business that refuse to even consider building in East Lubbock also has admirable qualities although how many people do you know will boycott WalMart and K-Mart. But why doesn't McDonalds or Burger King have stores on our side of town?

Past County Commissioner Eliseo Solis definitely showed very little change in the attitude that possibly lead to his ouster of his office seven years ago. His stoic personality was shown as he answered questions posed by journalists on the panel and as he considered questions asked by his opponents. Solis' opinion that he is a more qualified candidate because of his education as compared to what he referred to as the incumbent's lack of the ability to understand the complexity of the job, his complacency and his ineffectiveness did not take into consideration other qualities that

are necessary to be a good leader.

In my opinion, Gilbert Flores possesses many of those qualities like good communication, good attitude and the ability of portraying himself as a positive thinking elected official.

In my opinion, Ysabel Luna has the qualities of being a dreamer, but is that bad? Remember that Gandhi, Martin Luther King, John Kennedy and Cesar Chavez were all dreamers who learned how to make those dreams come true.

In my opinion, Eliseo Solis' indifference toward the press, the establishment and the so-called "powers that be" rate under his concern for the general welfare of the disenfranchised.

So who do I endorse? All the candidates have their good qualities and their bad qualities. Some outweigh others. Most of the bad qualities can be overcome with work and concern as to how each candidate can be most effective.

I am going to vote for Eliseo Solis. Is this an endorsement. It depends on how you read the first part of this column.

You make your own decision.

# Democrats Highlight Bush's Anti-Hispanic Record

Washington, D.C. — As GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush continued his campaign swing through California, Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chair Roy Romer and General Co-Chair Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) pointed to issue after issue on which the Texas governor is out of step with the growing Hispanic community in California.

DNC General Chair Romer criticized Bush for his support for lax gun safety laws. "Bush is out of step with most Americans on gun safety, and he is out of step with California. On gun safety, Bush sided with the far-right elements of Congress, and against common-sense measures to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children. Families across California should be frightened that Bush wants to increase, not reduce, access to handguns."

"Once you get past the rhetoric, Bush's positions on issues of concern to Hispanics are as alarming as those of Pete Wilson and Dan Lungren," DNC General Co-Chair Sanchez said. Pointing to recent actions by Bush's allies in Congress to cut funding for after-school programs and to reduce class size, Sanchez said that, "California's Hispanic families care about a good education, strong economy, and keeping their families safe. Bush sides with the extreme Republicans in Congress who would threaten our prosperity."

Sanchez also highlighted Bush's support from Ward Connerly, the anti-affirmative action activist who pushed Proposition 209. Connerly said "the governor agrees with me," on affirmative action and Bush said he was "glad he's supporting me." In fact, Connerly is hosting a fundraiser for Bush in Sacramento on Wednesday.

"Bush has a pattern of dodging the tough issues," Romer said. "Californians deserve a leader who will support them on the issues that affect their families every day, not an untested candidate who ducks difficult questions to avoid losing the support of people who fundamentally disagree with him on issues."

### BUSH AND HISPANIC ISSUES

George W. Bush claims to have support from the Hispanic community and uses Spanish in his speeches, but the facts don't support his claims. Bush opposed hate crimes legislation and affirmative action and supported requiring proof of citizenship to vote.

### BUSH IS ANTI-AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Bush Agreed 100 Percent with Anti-Affirmative Action Group. During his 1998 reelection campaign, Bush agreed 100 percent of the time with questions posed by the anti-affirmative action group Campaign for a Color-Blind America, according to Edward Bloom of the Houston-based Campaign. In 1999, Ward Connerly, an anti-affirmative action activist, said though he and Bush had never discussed legislation introduced in the state House to end racial quotas, set-asides and preferences, "the governor agrees with me." Ward Connerly and his wife are listed as one of five couples chairing a 1999 presidential campaign event for Bush in Sacramento, California and Bush has publicly praised Connerly. "I think he's a fine man. I like him a lot," Bush said. "I'm glad he's supporting me." [Washington Post, 3/10/99; Bush schedule; St. Petersburg Times, 6/26/99]

Bush Said He Would Not Guarantee Contracts for Minority-Owned Businesses. During his 1994 gubernatorial campaign, Bush said he would not guarantee more state contracts to minority-owned businesses or more minority appointees to state boards and commissions. In 1998, Hispanic businesses made up 12 percent of all Texas businesses but received only 3.6 percent of the state contracts. [Austin American-Statesman, 5/14/94, 1/14/99]

### BUSH FAILED TO LEAD ON HATE CRIMES

Bush Refused to Lead on 1999 Texas Hate Crimes Legislation. Bush refused to lead on the 1999 James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Act — a Texas bill to increase criminal penalties for hate crimes, provide specialized training for police officers and provide civil remedies for victims targeted because of their race, gender or sexual orientation. First, Bush said he wouldn't support any legislation that contained protections for homosexuals. "I've always said all crime is hate crime. People, when they commit a crime, have hate in their heart. And it's hard to distinguish between one degree of hate and another," he said. When the state legislature defeated the bill, Bush refused to use his influence to try to pass the bill in a second attempt — even after a hate crime victim's family lobbied him directly. "I asked him personally if he would use his influence to help pass the bill... He told me, 'No,'" said Daryl Verrett, nephew of hate crime victim James Byrd, Jr. [Dallas Morning News, 3/23/99; Analysis of HB 938, www.capitol.state.tx.us; New York Times, 5/16/99; Austin American-Statesman, 5/18/99]

### BUSH FAILED TO APPOINT MANY HISPANICS

Only Eight Percent of Bush Appointments Have Been Hispanic. Figures from Bush's office indicate that his appointments since taking office in 1995 until January 1999 have been 78 percent Caucasian and 64 percent male. Of 2,273 total appointments, only 184, or 8 percent, are Hispanic; and 817, or 36 percent, are women. In Texas, Hispanics make up over 25 percent of the population. [Fort Worth Star-

and 64 percent male. Of 2,273 total appointments, only 184, or 8 percent, are Hispanic; and 817, or 36 percent, are women. In Texas, Hispanics make up over 25 percent of the population. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 1/31/99; Almanac of American Politics, 1998]

### BUSH SUPPORTS PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Bush Supports Requiring Proof of Citizenship When Registering to Vote. In 1998, Bush said he supported requiring proof of U.S. citizenship when a person registers to vote. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus blasted an amendment to a 1998 campaign finance bill that would require proof of citizenship to vote as "anti-Latino" and argue that the measure serves only to intimidate Hispanic voters. [Project Vote Smart, 1998 Texas Gubernatorial National Political Awareness Test, www.vote-smart.org; The Hill, 6/17/98]

### BUSH OPPOSES METHOD TO COUNT EVERYONE IN CENSUS

Texas Lost Almost \$1 Billion in Census Undercount But Bush Still Would Not Support Sampling. Despite the fact that undercounting of minority and poor Texans caused the state to lose almost \$1 billion in federal funding for health care, housing, transportation and other federal programs, Bush refused to support using sampling for a more accurate census count. The Census Bureau proposed using sampling, statistical methods and mathematical models, to account for the uncounted people. Despite the Census Bureau's support, a Bush spokesman said Bush supported the traditional head-counting methods of collecting census data instead of sampling methods. In the 1990 Census, 245,286 Hispanics in Texas were not counted. Hispanics in Texas represented 5.4 percent of the undercount in the state, a greater proportion than the 5 percent national average for Hispanics. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 3/4/99; Corpus Christi Caller-Times, 3/17/99; Post Enumeration Survey, Census Bureau]

### UNDER BUSH, MOST WORKING POOR ARE HISPANIC

Most Poor Texans Work; More Than 60 Percent of Poor Working Families Are Hispanic. More than 60 percent of working poor families with children are Hispanic, according to a study by the Center for Public Policy Priorities. This study shows that Hispanics represent a disproportionate amount of working poor families since only 31.8 percent of Texas working families are Hispanic. "The basic point is there are people out there doing everything they should. They're working, married, some have high school diplomas, but are still poor because they don't get paid enough, said CPPP senior fiscal analyst Dick Lavine. [Associated Press, 3/30/99; Center for Public Policy Priorities, "Working but Poor: A study of the forgotten Texans who work hard yet remain in poverty," 3/99]

### FEWER HISPANICS SUPPORT BUSH THAN HE CLAIMS

Experts Dispute Bush's Percentage of Hispanic Vote. After Election-Day polls showed that Bush received 49 percent of the Hispanic vote in his reelection, Dan Weiser, a Dallas statistician, used actual vote totals from heavily Hispanic areas to show that Bush received only 33 percent of the Hispanic vote. The Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project said their exit interviews had Bush receiving only 37 percent of the Hispanic vote. [Austin American-Statesman, 11/13/98]



Arizona Sen. John McCain and his wife, Cindy, attended a town-hall meeting Wednesday in Riverside, Calif.



Gov. George W. Bush took time to sign autographs Wednesday during a campaign stop in Atlanta.

# Partisan Scorecard Misses Real Concerns of Hispanics - National Hispanic Leadership Agenda's bias does not reflect fair evaluation

WASHINGTON (February 25) - Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson joined Hispanic leaders to charge that a so-called "National Hispanic Leadership Agenda Legislative Scorecard" issued this month "is highly biased and skewed to favor liberal Democrats."

"This so-called 'scorecard' could have been written by the Democratic National Committee," joked Nicholson. "Where are the real votes of importance to Hispanics, like ending the tax penalty against marriages, or liberating poor children from public schools that don't work, or banning partial birth abortions?"

"This voting score is accurate only in that it evaluates whether someone is a Democrat," said U.S. Representative Henry Bonilla (TX-23). "The idea that these self-appointed experts have taken upon themselves the weighty task of deciding what Americans of different ethnic backgrounds should believe would be laughable if it weren't so pathetic. Millions of Americans have gotten beyond stereotypes. The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda would do well to follow their examples."

U.S. Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18) noted that, "I led the fight to secure the rights of the physically disabled who were unable to pass the citizenship exam. Many of those beneficiaries were Hispanic. As a naturalized citizen, I also strongly believe that high application fees should not become an obstacle for immigrants wishing to become naturalized; as a result, I have led a crusade in our justice system to enable a waiver for expensive fees."

Added U.S. Representative Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL-21), "After passing NACARA and the restoration of benefits to legal immigrants, only partisanship could construct a scorecard showing me at 9%. Even so, I am certain that it was not easy for the NHLA to construct it."

# Michigan Hispanic Coalition Backs Governor Bush's Record of Reform

LANSING, MI - A coalition of grassroots Hispanic community leaders Monday announced the formation of Michigan Hispanics for Bush at a news conference in Lansing. State Representative Valde Garcia from St. John's County who represents a large portion of Mid-

Michigan will serve as State Chair of the Bush Hispanic coalition with Fucundo and Nellie Bravo, small business owners from Detroit, serving as Statewide Co-Chairs.

"More than any other candidate, Governor George W. Bush understands the concerns of Hispanics and because of that, he is making a concerted effort to reach out to our community," said State Representative Valde Garcia. "It is for this reason, that I and many other Michigan Hispanic leaders stand together today to wholeheartedly give our support to Governor Bush."

"George W. Bush comes from a family that has a genuine commitment to education. As the Governor of Texas, he has worked hard with the Chicano community to reform education," said Gilberto Guevara, a Eastern Michigan Bush Hispanic coalition Chair. "Siempre con Bush."

"Governor George W. Bush has demonstrated that his message of compassionate conservatism is unifying one that appeals to all groups. The Michigan Hispanic Coalition's endorsement of his candidacy is the latest example of that. His message of high standards in education for all children, tax cuts, and a strong military is a welcome change from the status quo. We welcome the support of Michigan Hispanics for Governor Bush," said Governor John Engler, Chair of the Michigan Bush for President team, who joined the coalition leaders at the Monday news conference.

"I am honored to have the support of this coalition of Michigan Hispanics," said Governor Bush. "As President, I will usher in Un Nuevo Día in America. A New Day where our children receive a quality education, where families get to keep more of their hard-earned money, and where honor and dignity are restored to the White House. I was re-elected Governor of Texas in 1998 with the help of Hispanics on my record of reforming education and taxes. I worked hard with leaders from both side of the aisle and got things done for the people of Texas."

# MCCAIN WON'T CONCEDE HISPANIC VOTERS, DECLARES, "I WANT ALL THEIR VOTES."

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Republican presidential candidate U.S. Senator John McCain vowed today to fight for the vote of every Hispanic American and not concede their support to any presidential candidate, Republican or Democrat.

McCain made his remarks while speaking to the National Council of La Raza's (NCLR) annual convention in Houston, Texas. He was the only GOP presidential candidate to address the meeting. The NCLR, a major Hispanic

American organization, is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan group established in 1968 to reduce poverty and discrimination, and improve life opportunities for Hispanic Americans.

McCain has been a leader on issues affecting Hispanic Americans within the Republican Party and in the United States Senate and has been honored by the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), another of the nation's

leading Hispanic American organizations. The Senator also has garnered unprecedented support for a Republican among Hispanics, winning 55% of their vote during his 1998 senate reelection.

"I am proud that I may be the only Republican who has run a statewide campaign and won a majority of the Hispanic vote—twice," said McCain during his remarks. "I won over 55% in my last election. I'm proud, but I'm not satisfied with that number. I want all their votes. Their support is my honor."

"McCain has sought and worked for the support of Hispanics with the same message of inclusion and reform he has every other American, and he has succeeded," said McCain 2000 campaign manager Rick Davis. "McCain's winning platform of conservative reform remains constant no matter who the audience, without changes to its meaning, position or language."

## From Page 1

del Norte, señaló que todo podría decidirse el martes próximo.

"Esperamos con ansias el super martes cuando los estadounidenses de todos los sectores voten en el mismo día", expresó, aludiendo al hecho de que tanto en Virginia como en Washington el sufragio habría estado dominado por los sectores más conservadores del país.

Washington también fue escenario de una elección primaria demócrata ganada de forma concluyente por el vicepresidente Al Gore, quien, según las cadenas de televisión superaba al ex senador por Nueva Jersey Bill Bradley por una diferencia proporcional de alrededor de tres votos a uno.

Comentaristas políticos indicaron que Bradley, quien realizó cuatro días de campaña intensa en Washington, podría terminar sus aspiraciones sin ganar en ningún estado.

Frente a ese panorama manifestaron que el duro revés ha puesto en duda las posibilidades de que el ex legislador continúe en la lucha de cara al "super martes",

cuando también se decida quién será el abanderado del partido demócrata en las elecciones de noviembre.

Según las últimas encuestas, el favoritismo demócrata se inclina totalmente hacia el vicepresidente, quien tendría a su cargo defender la permanencia del partido demócrata en la Casa Blanca al menos por otros cuatro años.

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# Activists Seek Greater Census Participation Along U.S.-Mexican Border

El Paso, Texas, - Civil rights agencies on the U.S.-Mexican border will carry out a campaign to educate the Hispanic community on the importance of participating in Census 2000 and the confidentiality of the process.

Representatives from the Civil Rights Leaders Conference, the Educational Fund and the Census 2000 Initiative announced they will team up in an effort to increase the participation of border-area residents - especially Hispanics - in the national census, scheduled to begin in April.

According to the director of Civil Rights Leaders Conference, Wade Henderson, efforts will be directed at Hispanic immigrants - especially

illegal immigrants - who fear the information they divulge may be shared with federal immigration authorities.

The joint campaign immigrants - who fear the information they divulge may be shared with federal immigration authorities.

Activists will also depend on the media to help inform Hispanics that, among other things, the results of the census help the government to allocate 180 billion dollars in federal funds for social programs.

The census, which is constitutionally mandated to be carried out every 10 years, is the most detailed and thorough

study of demographic changes in the United States, determining the educational, economic and social level of all U.S. residents.

It also serves to establish new electoral districts and political representation for U.S. citizens.

According to Henderson, the Census 2000 Committee will send out letters as of Wednesday to encourage people to participate in the census. The census surveys will be sent out to millions of residences on March 13.

"It is well known that previous censuses have been inaccurate because certain groups were not considered," said Henderson, adding that a greater participation is expected this year.

próximos dos años".

El discurso de Gore estuvo salpicado además con los temas referentes a la violencia escolar -específicamente la masacre en Columbine en abril del año pasado-, las relaciones raciales, y la cobertura médica universal.

"Voy a luchar por la comunidad, voy a luchar por la familia, voy a luchar por Colorado y por la presidencia de Estados Unidos", enfatizó Gore, quien continuará su gira electoral en el estado de Arizona.

## Durante Visita a Colorado, Gore Ataca Industria de las Armas

Denver, - El vicepresidente Al Gore reiteró hoy su oposición a la venta y exposición de armas de fuego y calificó a sus posibles rivales republicanos en las elecciones de noviembre como "peones" de los sectores que promueven la libre tenencia de esas armas.

Gore manifestó que tanto el gobernador de Texas, George W. Bush, como el senador por Arizona, John McCain están al servicio de la Asociación Nacional del Rifle (NRA), un organismo conservador que considera la tenencia de armas como un derecho constitucional.

"Necesitamos tomar medidas de sentido común para despojar de armas de fuego a la gente que no debiera tenerlas", agregó en un discurso de campaña pronunciado ante unos 3,000 simpatizantes en el Complejo de Artes de Denver (Colorado).

Ayudándose en las metas y logros de la Administración Clinton, Gore también se refirió a su apoyo a reformas educativas que incluyan la contratación de más maestros y la reducción del número de alumnos en las aulas, para promover "una enseñanza más personalizada y efectiva".

"Es hora de tratar a los maestros como se merecen, además tenemos que modernizar la educación, dándole a cada niño una educación preescolar personalizada", dijo Gore.

El vicepresidente volvió a

tocar el tema de la protección del medio ambiente, tema que dominó durante la campaña Clinton-Gore de 1996.

Gore, quien ha intensificado su campaña enre las minorías -especialmente entre la comunidad hispana-, destacó su lucha personal para incrementar el salario mínimo, y prometió que presionará por un aumento de "un dólar por cada año en los

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It is estimated that the 1990 census failed to include at least four million people, primarily minorities and people with limited resources.

Federal authorities are employing multilingual advertising campaigns throughout the United States to assure minorities that the

information collected on the census survey is strictly confidential and will not be shared with any other governmental agency.

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United States Census 2000

ES NUESTRO FUTURO. HAGASE CONTAR.

# Latino Leaders' Lips Zipped in L.A. Police Scandal

By Javier Rodriguez H.

In Los Angeles, the 6-month-old police scandal is deepening, and the number of tainted cops and overturned convictions is growing. With it, the integrity of the L.A. Police Department is rapidly disintegrating.

Nonetheless, as clear a case as this is of the corruption and extreme brutality that has engulfed the department and torn into Los Angeles' Hispanic and immigrant communities, the politicians are nowhere to be found.

With the exception of maverick state Sen. Tom Hayden and City Councilman Joel Wachs, the organized political centers of power in Los Angeles have been silent. No other elected officials, including the mayoral hopefuls, have ventured forth to condemn the LAPD and the judicial system responsible for illegally thrusting hundreds into California's mammoth prison population. The city's clergy hasn't spoken out; nor has the powerful local labor movement or, especially, the growing but still too moderate Latino establishment.

Included among the latest revelations are charges that officers used the Immigration and Naturalization Service to deport Latinos who were potential witnesses against them.

The scandal began with the confessions of rogue-officer-turned-informant Rafael Pérez. In exchange for a light five-year sentence on his guilty plea for the theft of 8 pounds of cocaine from an LAPD evidence room, Pérez stunned the city by exposing years of corruption in the Rampart Division and its anti-gang unit.

Here are some elements I consider important: the killing and shooting of gangsters and drug dealers, the frequent planting of evidence, fabrication of charges and perjury, the stealing and running of drugs, and the terrorizing and intimidation of a community. And finally, police impunity and the relationship between crooked cops and the underworld. When connected, they reveal police misconduct with stark similarities to the illegal police practices found in developing countries, such as Brazil and Mexico.

The police violence and impunity involved in this investigation dwarfs the Rodney King incident. Through the videotape of the King beating, we saw brutality as never before. The Christopher Commission's findings exposed the culture of institutional racism in the ranks of the LAPD. And it shocked us.

However, in the Rampart scandal, the level of violence is multiplied 20-fold. In California, for the first time, the hand and political economy of drug traffic clearly affects a substantial part of a police division. Unequivocally the myth of the LAPD as the nation's finest and cleanest police department is gone forever.

The Rampart Division, west of downtown, is located in a community populated by working-class Catholic Latinos and thousands of union members. The majority of the victims and their families are Latino. At all levels of government, they are represented by Latino politicians: State Sen. Richard Polanco, Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, Assemblyman Gil Cedillo and Councilman Mike Hernández.

Why the silence of the clergy, labor and Latinos?

Is it fear of the power of the LAPD and its historical ability to come back?

Certainly the moral, political and pragmatic implications are there. Notwithstanding the fact that many of the victims were known gangsters or recidivists, the U.S. Constitution and the Universal Covenant on Human Rights both guarantee the right to due process and protection from violent behavior while under the custody of government institutions.

In addition to the huge expense of housing prisoners, the cost of the scandal will be astronomical. LAPD brass estimates that the settlement of future lawsuits against the city will top at about \$125 million.

However, others, including Ramona Ripston of the ACLU, believe the total bill will be in the several hundreds of millions. The police scandal will drain the city's treasury to the detriment of other social needs.

In extirpating the corruption in the LAPD, the political reasons are probably the most important. As is true of any paramilitary organization in this country, the LAPD cannot police itself. But unless pressure is brought from the organized

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# Labios De Dirigentes Latinos Silenciosos En Escandalo Policiaco De Los Angeles

Por Javier Rodriguez H.

En Los Angeles, el escándalo policiaco de seis meses de duración está profundizándose y la cantidad de agentes corrompidos y de declaraciones de culpabilidad revocadas a prisioneros incriminados falsamente va en aumento. Con todo eso, la integridad del Departamento de Policía de Los Angeles (LAPD en inglés) se está deshaciendo rápidamente.

No obstante, con un caso tan claro como éste en cuanto a la corrupción y la brutalidad extrema que han rodeado al departamento y rasgado a las comunidades hispanas y de inmigrantes de Los Angeles, no es posible hallar a los políticos en ninguna parte.

Con la excepción del senador estatal disidente Tom Hayden y del concejal municipal Joel Wachs, los centros políticos organizados del poder en Los Angeles han permanecido silenciosos. Ningún otro funcionario electo, incluyendo a los que aspiran a ser alcaldes, se han aventurado a condenar al Departamento de Policía de Los Angeles y al sistema judicial responsable de lanzar ilegalmente a cientos de personas al interior de la enorme población carcelaria de California. Además de lo anterior, me estoy refiriendo al clero, el poderoso movimiento sindical y especialmente al establecimiento latino de la ciudad, cada vez mayor pero todavía demasiado moderado.

Se incluyen entre las revelaciones más recientes las acusaciones de que los agentes de policía utilizaron al Servicio Federal de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS en inglés) para que deportara a los latinos que eran testigos potenciales contra los primeros.

El escándalo empezó con las confesiones del agente descarriado convertido en informante, Rafael Pérez. A cambio de una sentencia ligera de cinco años en su confesión de culpabilidad por el robo de ocho libras de cocaína de un almacén de propiedades y pruebas del LAPD, Pérez asombró a la ciudad al exponer años de corrupción en la División Rampart y su unidad contra las pandillas.

Permítaseme singularizar algunos elementos que considero ser importantes: La matanza y los ataques a tiros contra pandilleros y distribuidores de narcóticos; la introducción de evidencia falsa en gran escala; la invención de acusaciones y el perjurio; el robo y el tráfico de narcóticos y la terrorización e intimidación de una comunidad.

Y por último, la impunidad policiaca y la relación entre los agentes corruptos y los bajos fondos. Al conectarse, revelan la conducta impropia de la policía con semejanzas asombrosas a las prácticas policiacas ilegales que se hallan en los países del "tercer mundo" (por ejemplo, Brasil y México).

La violencia e impunidad de la policía involucradas en esta

investigación eclipsan al incidente de Rodney King. Mediante la cinta de video de la golpiza dada a King, vimos brutalidad como nunca antes. Los hallazgos de la Comisión Christopher expusieron a la cultura de racismo institucional en las filas del LAPD. Y eso nos estremeció.

Sin embargo, en el escándalo de la División Rampart, el nivel de la violencia queda multiplicado veinte veces. En California, por primera vez, la mano y la economía política del tráfico ilegal de narcóticos afecta a una parte considerable de una división policiaca. Inequivocamente, el mito del LAPD como el departamento de policía mejor y más limpio del país ha desaparecido para siempre.

La División Rampart, al oeste de la parte central de la ciudad, está situada en una comunidad poblada por latinos católicos de la clase trabajadora y millares de miembros de los sindicatos. La mayoría de las víctimas y sus familias son latinos. A todos los niveles del gobierno están representados por políticos latinos: El senador estatal Richard Polanco, el presidente de la Asamblea Estatal Antonio Villaraigosa, el asambleísta Gil Cedillo y el concejal Mike Hernández.

¿Por qué el silencio del clero, el sindicalismo organizado y los latinos?

¿Se debe al poderío del LAPD y a su capacidad histórica de recuperarse?

En verdad, las inferencias morales, políticas y pragmáticas están ahí. Sin perjuicio del hecho de que muchas de las víctimas eran pandilleros conocidos o reincidentes, la Constitución de Estados Unidos y el Acuerdo Universal de los Derechos Humanos garantizan ambos el derecho al debido trámite y la protección contra la conducta violenta mientras se está bajo la custodia de las

instituciones gubernamentales.

Además del gasto enorme de alojar a los prisioneros, el costo del escándalo será astronómico. La jerarquía superior del LAPD estima que las indemnizaciones en todos los litigios futuros contra la ciudad superará a los \$125 millones. Sin embargo, otras personas, incluyendo a Ramona Ripston de la American Civil Liberties Union, creen que la cuenta total ascenderá a cientos de millones. El escándalo policiaco tiene la seguridad de vaciar la tesorería de la ciudad con perjuicio de otras necesidades sociales.

Al extirpar el corrupción del LAPD, las razones políticas son quizás las más importantes. Como es cierto de cualquier organización paramilitar en este país, el LAPD no puede vigilarse a sí mismo. Pero a menos que el sector organizado de la ciudad ejerza presión, es pronosticable que la investigación que está siendo efectuada por la comisión de 60 oficiales, designada por el Jefe Bernard Parks, sólo producirá agentes descarriados de las filas inferiores.

Es ridículo creer que durante todo este tiempo, ningún oficial estuviera al tanto de los disturbios en la División Rampart.

En su informe reciente a la Comisión de Policía de Los Angeles, el jefe Parks culpa a la supervisión deficiente y a la adhesión insuficiente a las políticas departamentales de ser la raíz del problema.

Esta es una aberración absoluta de la verdad. Los niveles actuales de la corrupción policiaca y de la violencia extrema son una extensión natural y una parte del proceso que fermentó durante los decenios de encubrimiento oficial. El Jefe Parks olvida que el Código Azul de Silencio y el racismo en el LAPD son manifestaciones culturales antiguas.

Afortunadamente, las filtraciones y los informes de los medios de comunicación sobre la ilegalidad en la División Rampart están aumentando la presión para que se haga una investigación independiente.



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## Hispanos Enfocados Por El Odio En El 'Nuevo Sur'

Por Paul Cuadros

Esperé un año completo a que apareciera David Duke, el ex-legislador estatal de Luisiana y alguna vez gran dragón del Ku-Klux-Klan. Durante los últimos 12 meses, he informado sobre el flujo de inmigrantes hispanos a las zonas rurales del sur. La semana pasada, Duke apareció por fin -- como orador principal en una de las primeras asambleas contra inmigrantes hispanos en el sur.

La manifestación se efectuó en Siler City, Carolina del Norte, una población rural de 6,000 habitantes donde la elaboración de aves de corral es la industria principal.

La aparición de Duke era predecible e inevitable. Se debe a que, durante más de diez años, las empresas estadounidenses han reclutado mano de obra latinoamericana inmigrante para los pueblos pequeños del sur. El flujo resultante de trabajadores y sus familias está ocasionando un choque de culturas entre los blancos del sur, los afroamericanos y los latinos.

En las zonas rurales del sur, donde la división es todavía un hecho de la vida diaria entre blancos y negros, la introducción de un nuevo grupo estaba destinada a trastornar el delicado equilibrio racial. La pregunta no es por qué ocurrió esta manifestación, sino ¿por qué no ocurrió antes?

Una diversidad de industrias, incluyendo a las de elaboración de alimentos, fabricación de muebles, fabricación de calcetines, y la de la construcción, han reclutado mano de obra hispana inmigrante. En algunos pueblos rurales, la industria de la elaboración de aves de corral ha llegado a transportar a trabajadores hispanos desde otros estados.

La mano de obra es barata y plegable, en el sentido de que muchos inmigrantes hispanos son indocumentados. Las empresas se aprovechan de su situación de indocumentados pagándoles jornales bajos, pocos o ningún beneficio, y el conocimiento de que no se quejarán del tratamiento áspero.

Las compañías cosechan grandes utilidades sobre las espaldas de la mano de obra indocumentada en el sur. Por toda la región, donde quiera que se vea la construcción de una

nueva carretera, un nuevo edificio o una nueva casa, se verá mano de obra inmigrante hispana.

Es la otra cara de la moneda de la globalización. Si las empresas no pueden mudar las fábricas al extranjero para aprovecharse de la mano de obra barata, ayudarán a traer la mano de obra barata a donde estén ellas. Un "nuevo sur" está alzándose en verdad, pero está siendo construido con manos latinas.

Los pueblos como Siler City están floreciendo no sólo debido a la mano de obra barata, sino también al poder adquisitivo de los inmigrantes. Hace diez años, ese pueblo estaba muriendo.

Los afroamericanos, que trabajaban tradicionalmente en las plantas avícolas, abandonaron la línea de matanza de aves para asumir empleos de mejor paga con mejores condiciones de trabajo. Al mismo tiempo, el consumo de pollos en la nación sobrepasó al de carne de res. Consumimos más de 20,000 millones de libras de pollo al año, según dice el Consejo Nacional de Aves de Corral en Washington, DC.

La industria necesitaba una nueva fuente de mano de obra confiable. Reclutó a lo largo de la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México, en California y en los campos donde había trabajadores migratorios.

Hoy existe un florecimiento de la vivienda en Siler City porque los inmigrantes hispanos están comprando y fabricando casas. Hace tres años, una casa de dos dormitorios y un cuarto de baño se vendía aproximadamente en \$39,000,

según dice la mayor empresa de bienes inmuebles del condado. Ahora, esa misma casa se vendería por \$59,000. Pero mientras que los residentes de largo tiempo se sienten felices por los nuevos valores de sus casas y por la prosperidad económica que traen los inmigrantes, se hallan menos contentos por la perspectiva de llegar a ser una 'minoría' en su propio pueblo.

En ningún lugar se hace esto más evidente que en las escuelas. La Escuela Primaria de Siler City es hispana en más del 40 por ciento; la clase de kindergarten es más del 50 por ciento hispana.

Es precisamente este temor lo que está llegando ahora al primer plano en Siler City. David Duke capitalizó sobre el mismo por sus propios medios oportunistas, pero la asamblea fué concebida y organizada por un hombre de la localidad.

Muchos residentes del sur comparten este mismo temor. Muchos no lo comparten. Pero a medida que los propagadores del odio singularizan al trabajador hispano, pocos dedos señalan a las plantas elaboradoras de pollos camino abajo. Estas compañías permanecen solas y en alto bajo las nubes blancas de sus chimeneas. Quizá porque el trabajador latino y su familia son más fáciles de atacar que una gigantesca empresa.

Una cosa es cierta, no obstante. La asamblea de Siler City es un presagio de las cosas venideras.

(Paul Cuadros es becado de la Fundación Alicia Patterson y vive en la zona rural de Carolina del Norte, examinando el efecto de los trabajadores hispanos de las industrias de carne y aves de corral por todo el sur.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en el año 2000. Distribuido por Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

## Hispanics Targeted For Hate In New South

By Paul Cuadros

I waited a whole year for David Duke, the former Louisiana state legislator and one-time grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, to appear. For the past 12 months, I have reported on the migration of Hispanic immigrants to the rural South. Last week, Duke finally showed up -- as the keynote speaker at one of the first anti-Hispanic-immigrant rallies in the region.

The demonstration was held in Siler City, N.C., a rural town of 6,000, where poultry is the main industry.

Duke's appearance was predictable and inevitable. That's because for more than 10 years U.S. companies have recruited Latin American immigrant labor to small towns in the South. The resulting

influx of workers and their families is causing a culture clash between Southern whites, African Americans and Latinos.

In the rural South, where division is still a daily fact of life between whites and blacks, the introduction of a new group was bound to disrupt the delicate racial balance. The question is not why this manifestation happened, but why didn't it happen sooner?

A variety of industries -- including food processing, furniture manufacturing, the hosiery industry and construction -- have recruited Hispanic immigrant labor. In some rural towns, the poultry industry has even transported Hispanic workers from other

states. The labor is cheap and pliable because many Hispanic immigrants are undocumented. Companies take advantage of that legal status with low wages, little or no benefits, and the knowledge that they will not complain of harsh treatment.

Companies reap huge profits off the backs of undocumented labor in the South. All over the region, wherever you see construction of a new highway, building or house, you will see Hispanic immigrant labor.

It is the other side of the globalization coin. If companies cannot move plants abroad to take advantage of cheap labor,

continue on page 7

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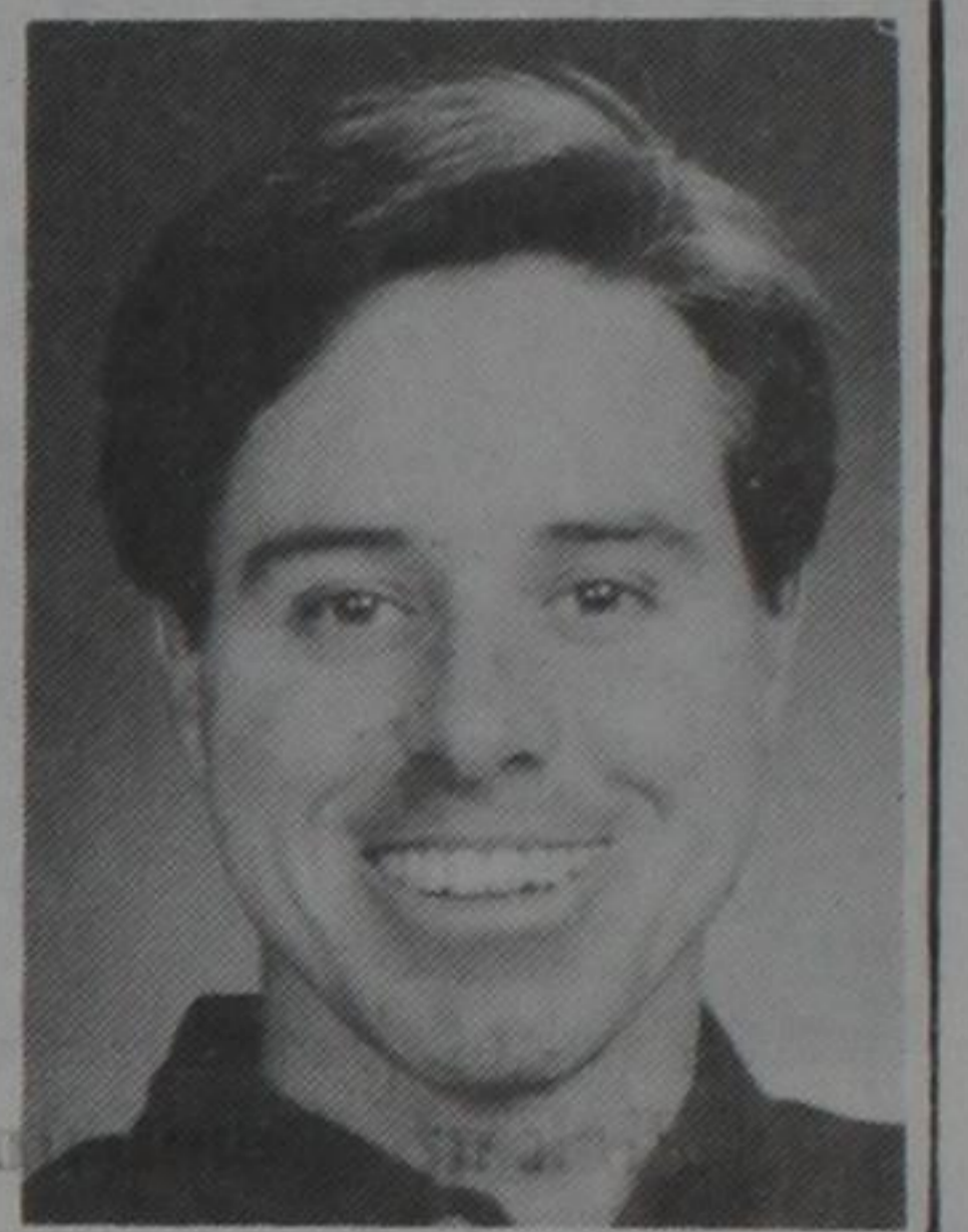
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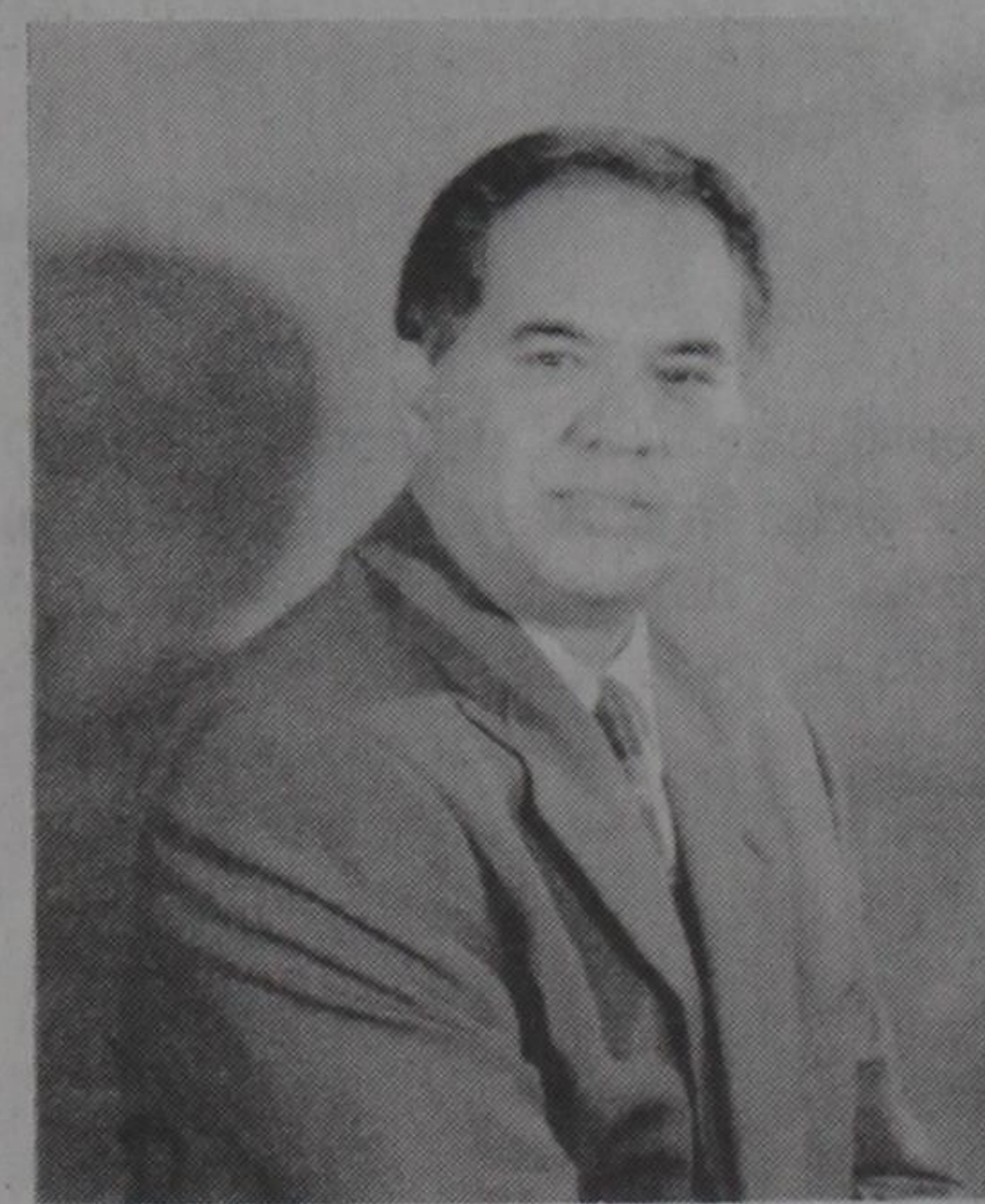
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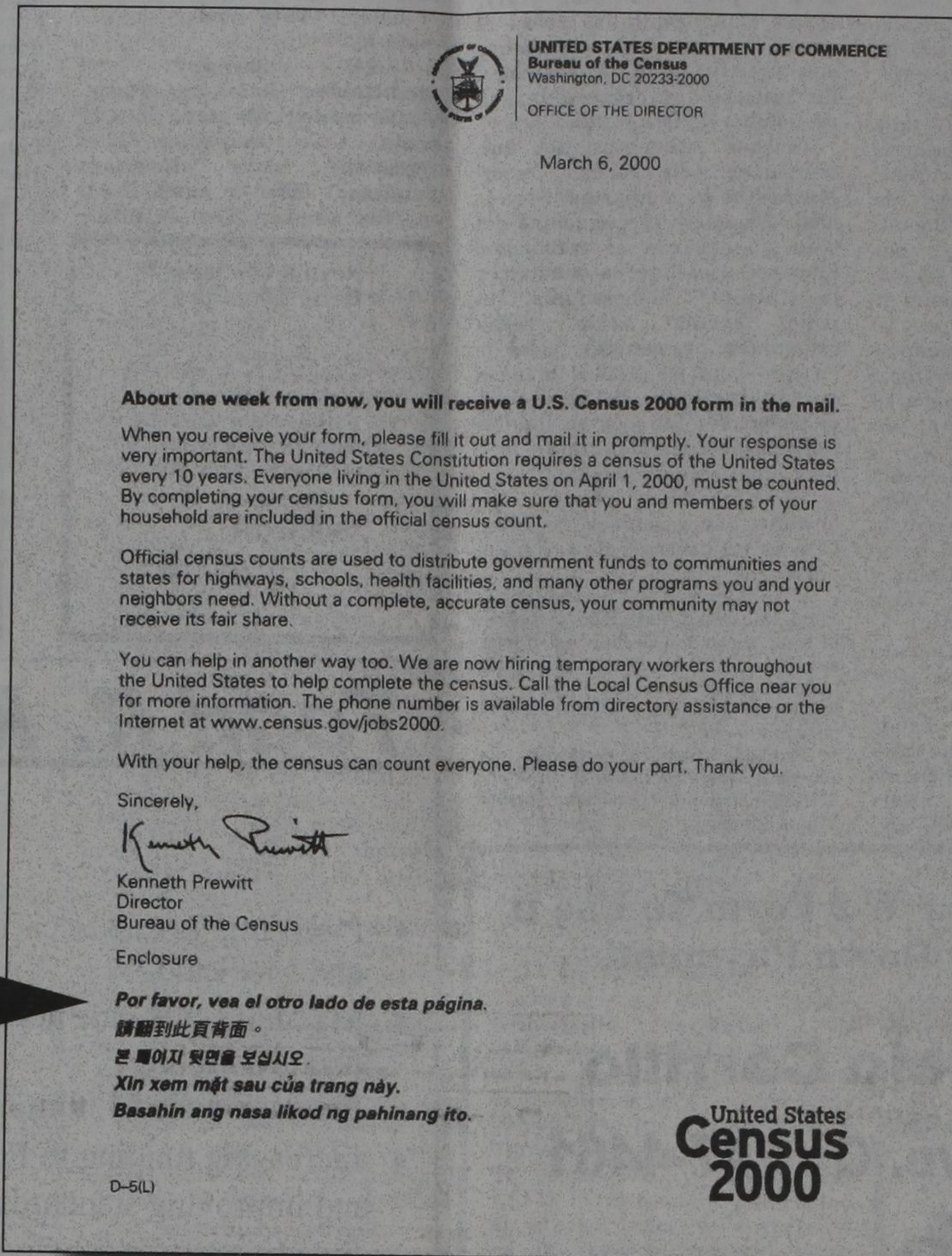
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# ¿QUE HAY DETRAS DE ESTA CARTA?



## ¡SU OPORTUNIDAD DE RECIBIR EL CENSO EN ESPAÑOL!

**Todas las personas que viven en los Estados Unidos el 1 de abril del 2000 deben ser contadas en el censo. ¡Por favor, asegúrese de que esta incluido!**

- Por favor, marque este cuadrado y devuelva esta carta inmediatamente en el sobre adjunto con el franqueo ya pagado si necesita un cuestionario en español. Recibirá un cuestionario en español en aproximadamente dos semanas. No complete el cuestionario en inglés que recibirá por correo. Sólo complete el cuestionario en español y devuélvalo tan pronto como sea posible.

Pronto, usted recibirá esta carta del director de la Oficina del Censo avisándole que su formulario del Censo 2000 está a punto de llegar. Adviértale a todos en su casa que no la tiren, ya que en la parte de atrás de la carta verá cómo solicitar un formulario del censo en español. Recuerde, las cifras oficiales del censo se usan para distribuir fondos federales en todo el país. Así que no se pierda esta oportunidad de recibir su formulario en español por correo, si le es necesario para participar.

United States  
Census  
2000

ES NUESTRO FUTURO. HAGASE CONTAR.

From Page 4

sector in the city, predictably the investigation being carried out by the commission of 60 officers appointed by Chief Bernard Parks will only produce rogue cops from within the rank and file.

It is ludicrous to believe that for all this time, no brass was aware of the turmoil at Rampart.

In his recent report to the L.A. Police Commission, Chief Parks blames lax oversight and poor adherence to departmental policies as the root of the problem.

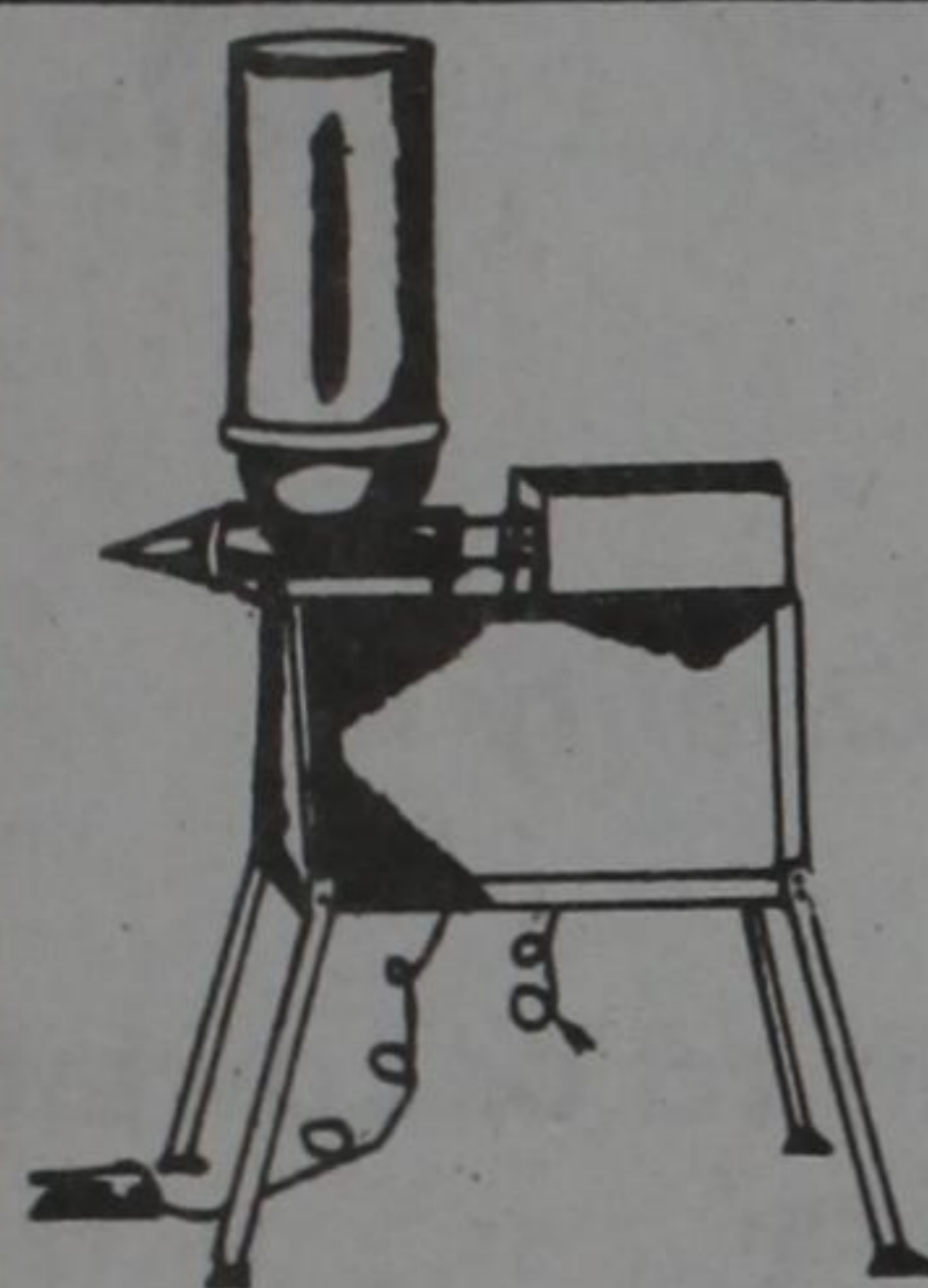
This is an absolute aberration of the truth. The current levels of police corruption and extreme violence are a natural extension and part of a process that fermented through decades of official cover-up. Chief Parks forgets that the Blue Code of Silence and racism in the LAPD are old cultural manifestations.

Fortunately, the leaks and media accounts of the lawlessness at Rampart are mounting the pressure for an independent investigation.

The Latino establishment, labor and clergy stayed on the sidelines throughout the King affair and the riots of 1992. In this, the biggest police scandal in the nation, they cannot afford the same mistake. They owe it to their people.

(Javier Rodriguez H., of Los Angeles, is a human rights activist and writer. He has participated in several human rights delegations to Mexico and El Salvador.)

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From Page 5

they'll help bring the labor to them. A new South is rising indeed, but it is being built with Latino hands. It is the beginning of *el Nuevo Sur*.

Towns like Siler City are booming not only because of cheap labor but also because of the buying power of the immigrants. Ten years ago, the town was dying. African Americans, who traditionally worked in the chicken plants, abandoned the slaughter line for better-paying jobs with better working conditions. At about the same time, the nation's consumption of chicken surpassed beef. We consume more than 20 billion pounds of chicken a year, according to the National Chicken Council in Washington, D.C.

The industry needed a new reliable labor source. It recruited along the U.S./Mexican border, in California and in the migrant labor fields.

Today there is a housing boom in Siler City because Hispanic immigrants are buying and building homes. Three years ago, a two-bedroom, one-bathroom house sold for approximately \$39,000, according to the largest real-estate company in the county. Now that same house would sell for \$59,000. But while long-time

residents are happy with their new home values and the economic prosperity the immigrants bring, they are less happy with the prospect of becoming a "minority" in their own town.

Nowhere is this fear more evident than in the schools. Siler City Elementary is more than 40 percent Hispanic; the kindergarten class is more than 50 percent. It is precisely this fear that is now coming to the fore in Siler City. And while David Duke capitalized on it for his own opportunistic ends, the rally was conceived and organized by a local man.

Many in the South share this same fear. Many do not. But as the hate mongers single out the Hispanic laborer, few fingers are pointed at the chicken plants down the road. They stand alone and aloof beneath the white clouds of their

smokestacks. That may be because the Latino worker and his family are easier targets than a giant corporation.

One thing is for certain, however. The rally in Siler City is a harbinger of things to come. (Paul Cuadros is an Alicia Patterson Foundation fellow and living in rural North Carolina examining the impact of Hispanic immigrant meat and poultry workers throughout the South.)

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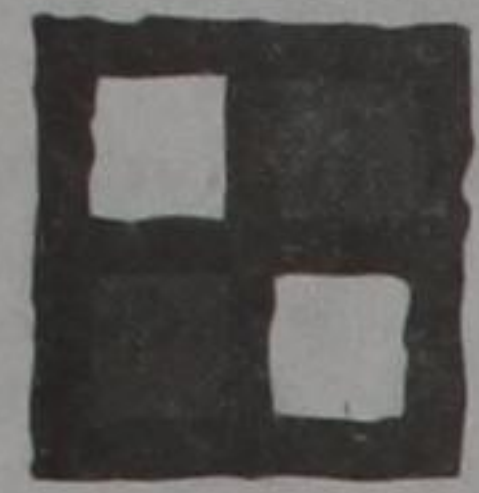
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Las probabilidades de ganar "One-Eyed Jack" son 1 en 4.70.

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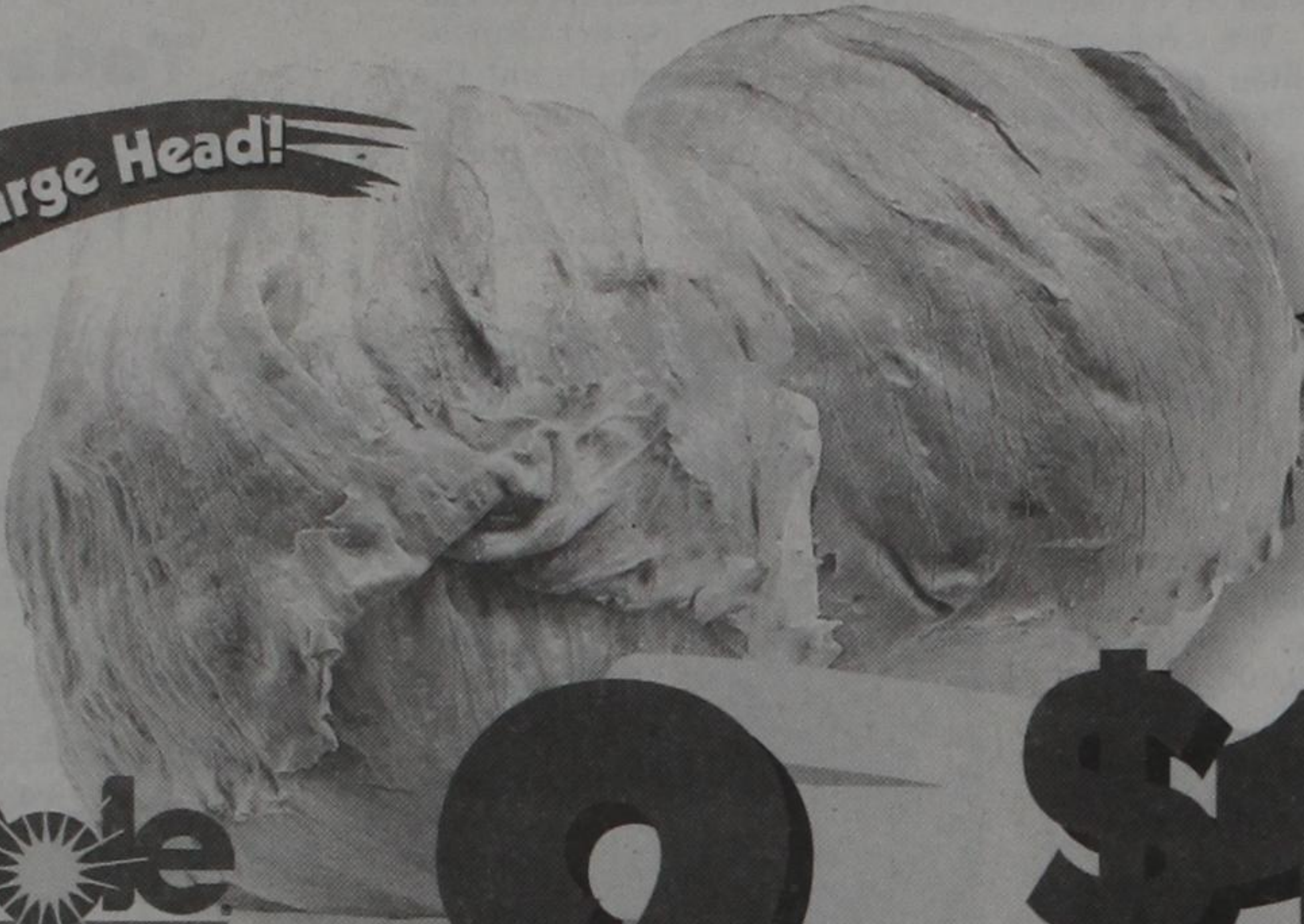


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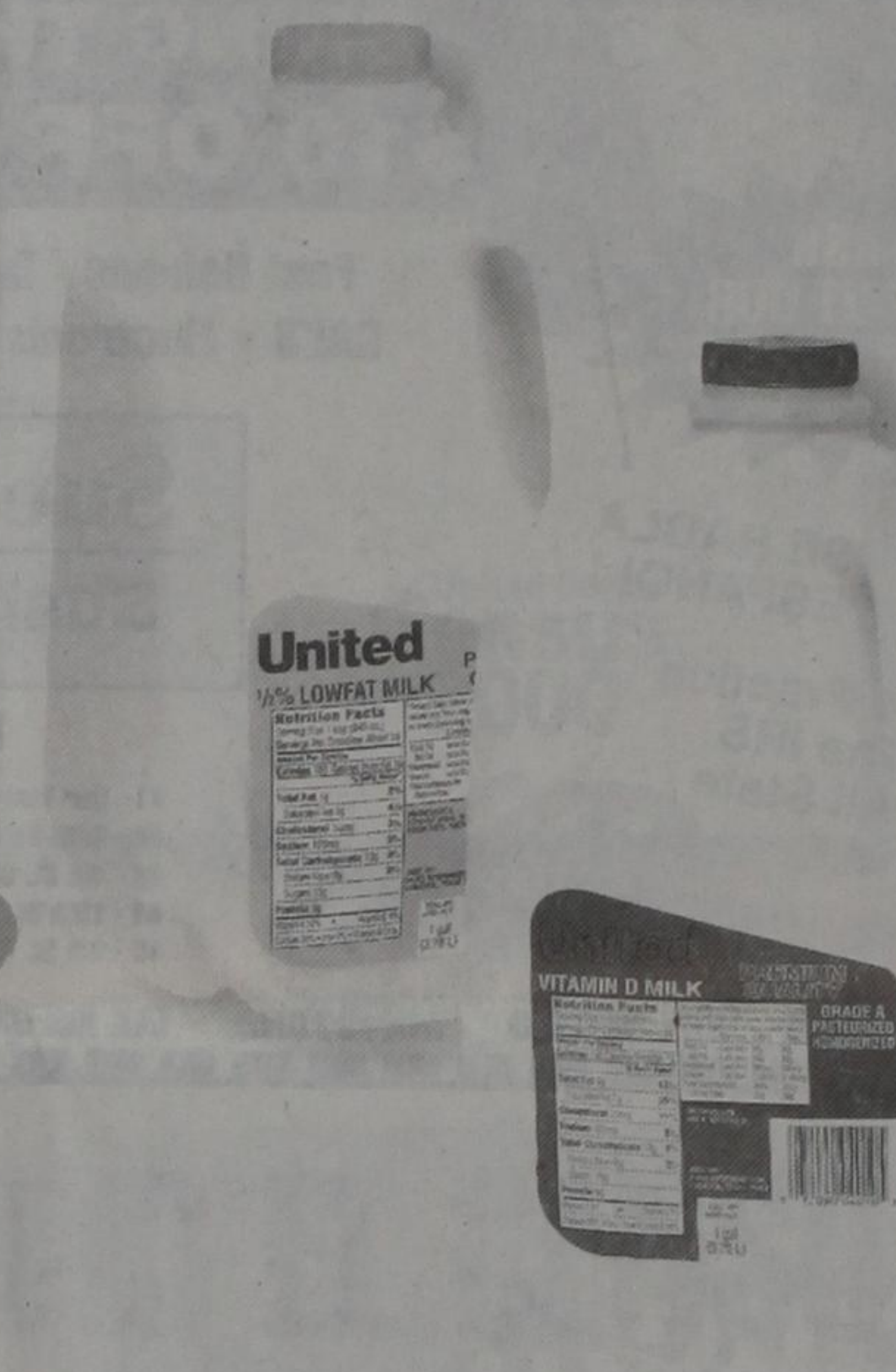
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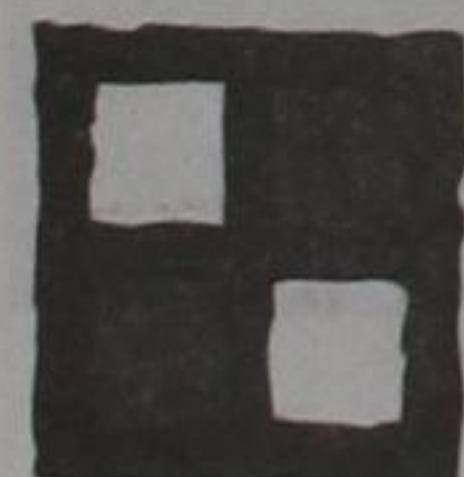
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