Issue Guide

Homeland Security and Border Control

America's Open Border Crisis

Issue Summary: America's wide open border is the #1 threat to the security of our homeland. An estimated 3,000,000 people illegally slip into America every year by crossing the Mexican border. About 190,000 people illegally enter the U.S. each year through Mexico from such terrorist-producing nations as **Afghanistan**, **Iran**, **Iraq**, **Egypt**, **Sudan**, **Bulgaria**, and **Russia**. If just a few of these are **al Qaeda** operatives or terrorists, this would be enough to carry out a catastrophic attack with a **Weapon of Mass Destruction**. Al Qaeda operatives may be able to get across Canadian border even easier. At present, only 500 U.S. border control agents monitor the 6,000 mile U.S.-Canadian border.

Al Qaeda Plans Cross-Border Attack on U.S.: On October 17, 2003, THE WASHINGTON TIMES reported that "A key al Qaeda terrorism suspect was in Canada…posing as a student at McMaster University…He is believed to be part of an al Qaeda cell in Canada and the United States that was planning a dirty-bomb attack…U.S. intelligence officials said earlier this year that al Qaeda planned to detonate a dirty bomb inside the United States"

TIME magazine reported in its November 22, 2004 issue that **al Qaeda** has plans to smuggle nuclear material into the United States through Mexico, if it hasn't already done so.

Terrorists and Criminals Come and Go from America at Will: In July of 2004, U.S. military veteran Glenn Spencer brought a simulated **Weapon of Mass Destruction** (WMD) over the border not just once, but twice. The first time, he didn't announce it, but the second time he publicly advertised when he would bring it across. And he did so successfully to demonstrate the danger.

There are 20 other states which require no proof of legal residence for a driver's license: *Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.*

Incredibly, our government is allowing more than half a million illegal aliens who have been convicted of additional crimes to remain in the U.S. rather than deporting them.

In cities where crimes committed by illegal aliens are highest, the police are often barred by local or state law from using their immigration status to arrest them.

Many of the world's most violent criminals are crossing America's vast borders illegally. In Los Angeles, 95 percent of all outstanding warrants for homicide (which total 1,200 to 1,500) are for suspects illegally in the U.S., as are two-thirds of all fugitive felony warrants (17,000). Other major U.S. city law enforcement divisions face a similar situation.

Al Qaeda Develops Ties With U.S. Gangs: Al Qaeda has developed ties with the extremely violent MS-13 gang, which has its roots in El Salvador and is largely made up of illegal aliens. The FBI and CIA have spotted al-Qaeda terrorists with members of MS-13 in El Salvador, prompting concerns the gang may be smuggling militant Islamic terrorists and other criminals into the U.S. Law enforcement believes MS-13 controls alien smuggling routes along the Mexican border into cities such as Boston.