



Written by [William P. Hoar](#) on September 17, 2021

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Correction, Please!

Security Sham in Progress with Border-crossers, Afghan Evacuees



What border? The U.S. border with Mexico is essentially wide open during the Biden administration. The surge of illegal border-crossers even has Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas saying the situation is “unsustainable” and we will “lose.” (Photo credit: AP Images)

Item: *The Economist* (August 28-September 3 issue), in discussing problems of those fleeing from Afghanistan, merged that situation critically with the Biden administration’s overall immigration policies. “The administration,” noted the London-based publication, “is frequently attacked as soft on immigration. Tucker Carlson, a TV host, and Stephen Miller, an adviser to President Donald Trump, have warned of the supposed threat posed by Afghan refugees.”

Item: Politico correspondent Anita Kumar in an August 30 piece tried to be reassuring: “A senior administration official said Afghans ‘undergo robust security’ that includes ‘biometric and biographic security screenings conducted by our intelligence, law enforcement and counterterrorism professionals who are working quite literally around the clock’ to vet Afghans before they’re allowed in the United States. In many cases, the refugees are taken to a third country, such as Qatar or Kuwait, where they undergo additional screening.”

Item: Writing about the increasing number of illegal aliens streaming across the southern U.S. border, Politico’s Kumar said (August 2): “Millions of immigrants — from those seeking to escape their countries to international students — are now waiting for Trump-era policies to be overturned.”

Joe Biden, she said, “vowed to immediately reverse the Trump administration’s restrictive immigration policies. The president rescinded some policies quickly through executive actions but other changes have required lengthy, cumbersome regulatory processes, or face legal challenges or a recalcitrant Congress reluctant to swiftly change laws.”

Item: Vanity Fair, in an August 26 column entitled “The Right-Wing Afghan-Refugee Panic Is Reaching a Fever Pitch,” charged that “Republican politicians and Fox News personalities are stoking fears about the U.S. taking in Afghans trying to flee the Taliban.” The evacuated people “have gone through a



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stringent vetting process — one that involves ‘biometric and biographic security screenings,’ a senior official in Joe Biden’s administration said this week. But of course, if you ask conservative media stars, none of this is nearly enough.”

Item: *Addressing possible terrorist concerns, Biden press secretary Jen Psaki said during a press briefing on September 1 (as reported by the White House): “I can absolutely assure you that no one is coming into the United States of America who has not been through a thorough screening and background check process. And there are many individuals ... who have not been through that process and they have gone to lily pad countries, as that process has been completed.”*

Correction: If the U.S. vetting of Afghan refugees is handled as well as the security debacle on our virtually open southern border — where hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens pour over monthly — we are in double trouble.

Former Border Patrol Chief Rodney Scott, recently retired, warned in August that suspected terrorists were crossing the Mexico-U.S. border “at a level we have never seen before.” That’s no exaggeration.

Alejandro Mayorkas, Joe Biden’s homeland security secretary, announced in August an increase of encounters of 13 percent on the southern border from the already large number during the previous month (212,672 migrants in July, compared to around 188,000 in June). He has tried to keep the dire situation quiet, but his private comments were leaked to Fox News. Agents were told in Texas by the secretary: “A couple of days ago I was down in Mexico, and I said look, you know, if, if our borders are the first line of defense, we’re going to lose, and this is unsustainable.”

That, to be sure, is not what he says in public.

Those migrants in question are, keep in mind, the ones detained at the border — excluding the “got-away” aliens. [Breit-bart.com](#) has uncovered some of those numbers, reporting in late August that the migrants crossing the border thus far in FY 2021 had reached more than 340,000, according to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) source. That figure is an “estimate of the total number of migrants believed to have escaped into the U.S. interior without capture or apprehension by Border Patrol agents.”

Apparently, more than 40,000 had escaped being caught during the previous month or so. Said Breitbart:

On average, 1,100 migrants avoid capture daily. In 2020, an estimated 69,000 migrants managed to avoid apprehension by the Border Patrol.

The metric is usually not officially released. The number is determined by counting migrants who ultimately escape apprehension after being observed by surveillance systems.

The figures (if not public awareness) are the same if reported by “right-wing” media or ignored or distorted by leftists. The *New York Post* is one publication that hasn’t looked the other way. In a recent article, after reporters went on patrols with Border Patrol personnel, the *Post* said that this is “the crisis that Biden is either ignoring — or doesn’t care that it’s happening.”

Agents in the El Paso (Texas) Sector, noted the September 4 piece, had at that point detained almost 156,000 illegals in fiscal year 2021, “almost triple the 54,396 in all of FY 2020.” Nearly 80 percent “of



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those making the crossing are single adults, a significant change in the demographics over the last few years that saw more families crossing the border and giving themselves up to Border Patrol agents.”

What happens to those caught? That too is a concern — since some are resettled domestically. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has officially demanded that the Biden administration stop sending illegal aliens to his state. In his late-August missive to Secretary Mayorkas, the GOP governor said:

My office has received information indicating that ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement], sometimes with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has chartered flights transporting illegal alien adults and children to Florida.

Given the overall lack of transparency, I am concerned that the federal government is running its own massive human smuggling operation, surreptitiously resettling illegal aliens in the various states without consultation or even advance notice to state leadership.

Huge numbers are involved. An analysis cited this summer by Andrew Arthur of the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) attempts to count overall totals of aliens encountered and not caught, concluding that “the true number of migrants who have entered illegally this year is close to 1.6 million.” In his CIS piece (“Report: Just 68% of Illegal Border Crossers Get Caught”), Arthur commented about the “more than 1.582 million migrants” who by then had

actually attempted to enter illegally in FY 2021, and more than 500,000 of them successfully evaded Border Patrol agents.

That is a staggering number of people, greater than the population of Kansas City, Mo. The United States government has no idea who they are, whether they are criminals or terrorists, or where they are going.

The leftist mass media would prefer that the public hear as little as possible about how the Biden administration has lost control of the nation’s borders. If it’s bad for Joe, the less they tend to show.

When the official CBP border encounters jumped to a 21-year high of 212,672 in July, the television network silence was deafening. As the Media Research Center’s “Newsbusters” put it,

while the reality along the border is worse than ever, coverage of the crisis on the ABC, CBS and NBC evening newscasts has slowed to a trickle: Just four minutes and 20 seconds for the entire month of July (including weekends), down an astonishing 96 percent from the Biden-era peak of 113 minutes in March.

And on August 12, when the terrible July border statistics were released, none of the three broadcast evening newscasts bothered to even mention them — but all three found time for the latest developments in the legal soap opera surrounding singer Britney Spears.

That, recall, is a very far cry from the ceaseless broadcast denunciations of supposed immigration degradations in the Trump years.

Now the same Biden team superiors that have made a show about ordering federal immigration

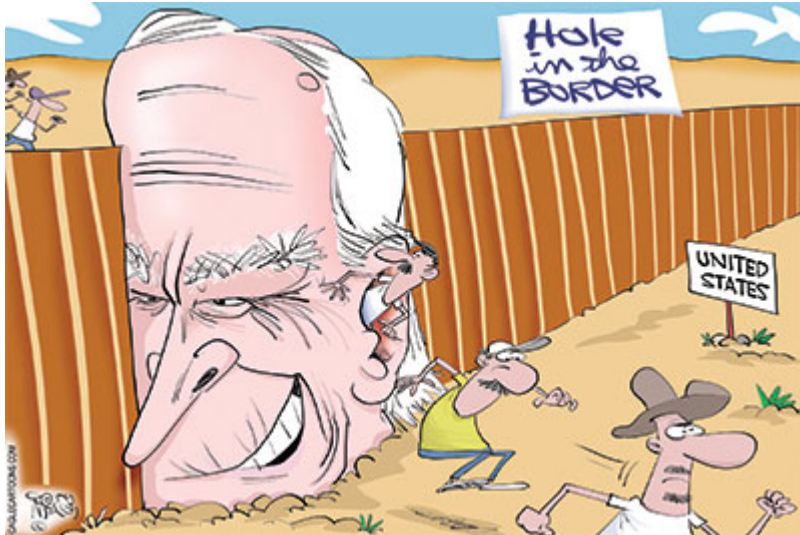


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enforcement agencies not to use (proper and legal) terms such as “illegal alien” — because it might hurt the feelings of such aliens — are going to be in charge of vetting fleeing Afghans.

Sure, many evacuating Afghans did work with and for Americans. Yet countless others did not. Enforcing security is not supposed to be a popularity contest; it’s a means to protect the nation. To cite just one example: How sure are we that none of the horde of terrorists released by the Taliban from prisons in Afghanistan will not try to slip into our country?



Mark Krikorian, the director of the Center for Immigration Studies, is blunt, saying, “The problem is that the agency tasked with Homeland Security is being run by people who don’t take that [security] mission seriously.” And the evacuation from Kabul, as Krikorian wrote in an article entitled “Kabuki Vetting of Afghans,” was so “haphazard and rushed that many, perhaps most, of those extracted were not such previously screened people. Representative Tom Tiffany (R-Wis.) told the *Washington Times* that of the 2,000 Afghans housed at a base in his state, not one had the Special Immigrant Visa for Afghans employed by, or on behalf of, the U.S. government.”

What is done if potential threats are found? They won’t be deported back to Afghanistan and are unlikely to be welcome over the long term in those “lily-pad” countries the evacuees reached after leaving Afghanistan. Krikorian is probably correct when he also concludes that they will be resettled in the U.S. regardless of the vetting outcome. As he puts it:

The whole notion of holding Afghans offshore until they’re vetted is a charade. Those who don’t have a Special Immigrant Visa are simply being “paroled” into the U.S. Immigration parole in a work-around whereby the executive can temporarily let in visa-less foreigners for humanitarian reasons. But like so much else in our dishonest immigration system, “temporary” in this case means permanent. Every Afghan we extracted from Kabul will be able to live here for the rest of his life.

There will be some political pushback. And you can depend on leftists in the mass media to disparage such “hardliners” and tar them as heartless fiends.

Keep in mind that vetting depends on reliable information. Do top Biden administration officials think the Taliban will check their local records for us? American personnel doing the task on the line will



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undoubtedly do their best. Yet, as Robert Spencer reported for PJ Media, one official “familiar with the process admitted: ‘CBP on the ground has old tech and they don’t know how to use it, integrate it.’ Even worse, ‘there’s not enough people to process’ all of the refugees.”

Twenty-six Republican senators, led by Senator Tom Cotton of Arkansas, told the president that they were “concerned by reports that ineligible individuals, including Afghans with ties to terrorist organizations or serious, violent criminals, were evacuated alongside innocent refugee families.” They asked (among other questions): “Of the more than 57,000 Afghans who are not American citizens, green-card holders, or SIV applicants or their families, how many had no pending immigration application or status with the United States prior to being airlifted?”

Somewhat surprising considering its leftist slant, the *New York Times* does not seem to be buying all the tales being spun by the White House. As we write, the *Times* has just reported that “Mr. Biden and his aides have insisted that the evacuation of Kabul after the Taliban seized the city on Aug. 15 was done as efficiently as possible. But State Department emails and documents from the Health and Human Services, Homeland Security and Defense Departments, as well as interviews with officials and refugee advocates, suggest otherwise.”

If Biden has really lost the *New York Times*, he could be in dire political straits. One wonders if he realizes that. After all, he’s got a one-track mind, and the traffic on it is very light.



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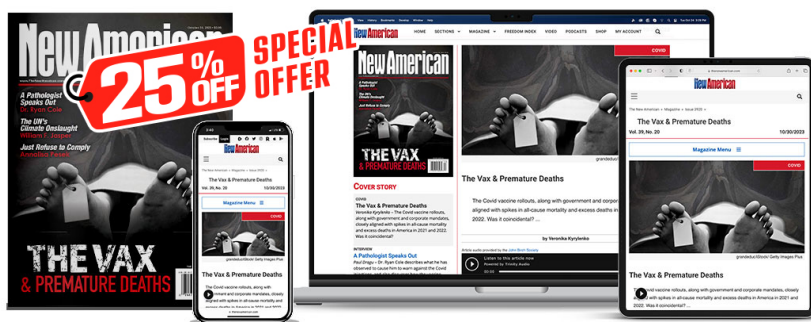
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