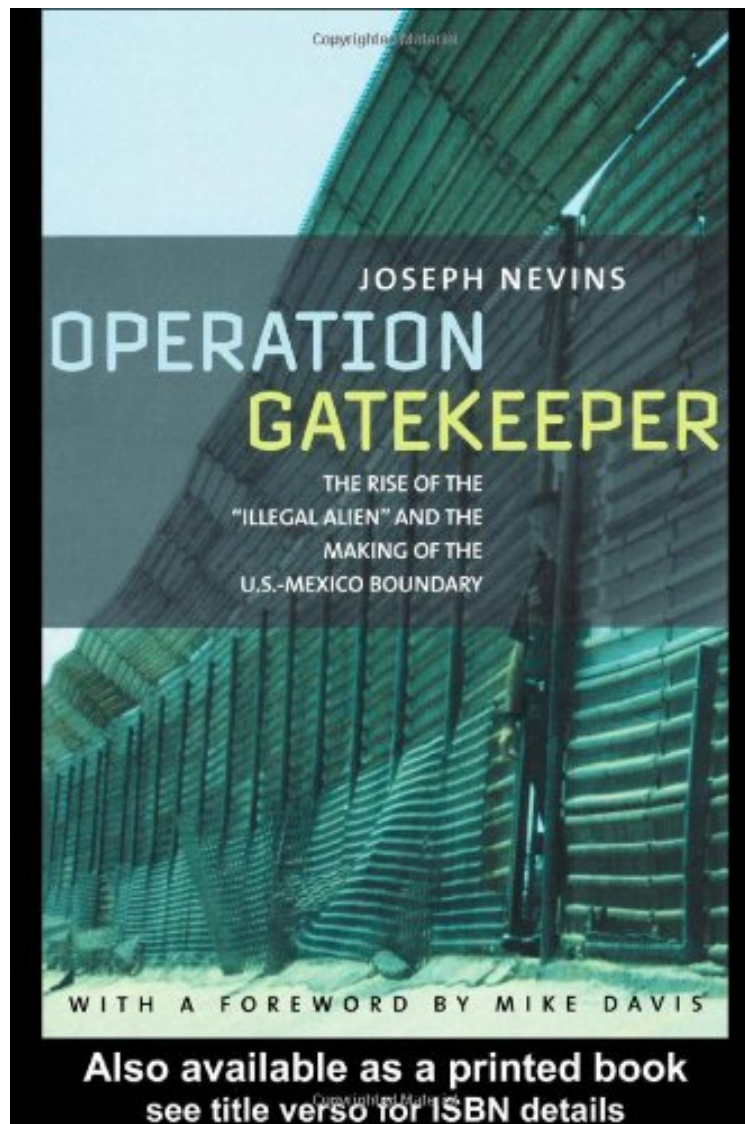


[Mobile book] Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the Illegal Alien and the Remaking of the U.S. Mexico Boundary

Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the Illegal Alien and the Remaking of the U.S. Mexico Boundary

Joseph Nevins

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Joseph Nevins : Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the Illegal Alien and the Remaking of the U.S. Mexico Boundary before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the Illegal Alien and the Remaking of the U.S. Mexico Boundary:

23 of 30 people found the following review helpful. An eye-opening book informative and thorough. By

yippee1999This book provides an excellent overview on the history of the US-Mexican border, and immigration laws that have been instituted over the years. The author is able to see through the propaganda the US government uses to perpetuate their "rationale" for the continued security buildup with regards to the border. Anyone with an interest in history and/or immigration should read this book, and become enlightened!1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Operation GatekeeperBy OnefrozenmigraAfter reading this book it will be clear (as it was to me) that the Author is an Open Border zealot (IMHO). Trying to blur the line between LEGAL Immigrants and the Illegal Aliens. That Operation gatekeeper was a failure is a joke. Operation did exactly what it was designed to do. It forced virtually all the illegal alien crossings to the East. The 2 fence system took a long time to be put into place mostly because of the "Tree Huggers". Once the 2 fences were in, the "traffic" in the areas in and around the San Ysidro Port of Entry, San Ysidro, California was forced to move to the East. This area is a lot more rugged as well as forcing load vehicles used by smugglers to travel roads away from areas where they can blend in with daily commuters. The smugglers began charging more money for taking people across. The areas being used were also patrolled by border bandits that would rob, rape or take these groups of Illegals.Operation Gatekeeper slowed the traffic in those areas where 2 fences were emplaced. However, the attack on agents did increase due to the frustration the smugglers were experiencing. Also, when President Bush and Tom Ridge first announced their Amnesty proposal, the agents began seeing groups getting larger and attacking the second fence with every type of ladder imaginable.....as well as some that were hard to imagine. The attacks on agents increased as the promise of amnesty became more of a possibility due to the announcement from the POTUS.They have since added razor wire along the top of the secondary fences. However, they did not use enough rolls and or tangle foot as suggested by the US Military. The camera systems also helped to cut down the number of illegal crossings in the 2 fence areas. Gate Keeper allowed agents to be sent to areas still being hit hard by smugglers as well as those areas seeing an increase due to the huge success of Gatekeeper.San Diego Mayor(s) and Police Chiefs took all the credit for the HUGE drop in crime in San Diego "proper" as well as the areas in and around the border. We saw housing areas spring up along the border as well as a large outlet mall.As for the huge traffic problem at the Ports of Entry in San Diego, that is due to the US Customs and Border Protection OFO command. They are forcing the Customs Officers to allow Mexican Nations who are crossing using their Passport/Visa (B-2 Visitor) as well as their Border Crossing card and attending San Diego schools. The Customs Officers all know they are entering for a purpose that is a lie. That their true purpose is to attend US Schools, which makes their entries illegal. They are using documents to enter for a purpose other than declared. Also, the bulk of the people crossing into the United States from Mexico are LAPRs. They are Resident Aliens who are required by law to reside in the United States. However, they are living in Mexico (in violation of their status) and cross each day in the morning and reenter Mexico at night. When confronted, they produce an electric or phone bill with their name on it along with a US address. The thing is, their vehicles are shown crossing each and every day. The license plate readers catch them entering the US and reentering Mexico at night. These LAPRs, if they were forced to move back to the US or have their status changed to that of a Commuter Alien, the times at those Ports would drop drastically. Thus, allowing the OFO Officers to do a more thorough inspection of the people and vehicles crossing.This book is not a true depiction of Operation Gatekeeper. To suggest that it was a failure is false. You can ask any agent working the "dreaded X" in the areas where the 2 fences were emplaced. This book should be placed in the fiction section. God Bless the brave men and women of the US Border Patrol, the US Customs and the Army National Guard who helped secure and control large portions of our southern border. Oh, let's not forget the AMO.Call your elected officials and demand they investigate OPERATION FAST FURIOUS with the same aggressiveness they have been looking into the Secret Service Escort Gate. Let's line up every ATF AGent and give them a polygraph. Starting at the bottom and working up to the top officials. Let them know they will be charged with the murder of 2 federal Agents if they do not answer truthfully. Ask them who they worked for. Ask them if their boss knew about Fast Furious. Then, you ask their boss. You work your way to the highest levels. This investigation should have been over in a month. yet, here we are going on 2 years and not a single firing...the Secret Service, yeah, they had plenty of heads that rolled. They got to the bottom of this incident even though they had to send investigators to a foreign country. Demand those 2 Federal Agents that were murdered get justice!24 of 28 people found the following review helpful. Important story often overlooked, excellent bookBy A CustomerEspecially for those of us who live in the Southwest, this is a very important book that contains a reality which is underreported in national and mainstream media. The only reason I have given this book 4 stars rather than 5 is a result of the overall writing style. It is a very historically-based book that can come off as a bit dry at times, but the content and shock value alone more than makes up for it. Read this book and learn about the violence that takes place every day on the US-Mexico border in the name of democracy and freedom.

By 1994 American anti-immigration rhetoric had reached a fevered pitch, and throngs of migrants entered the U.S. nightly. In response, the INS launched "Operation Gatekeeper," the centerpiece of the Clinton administration's unprecedented effort to "regain control" of our borders. In Operation Gatekeeper, Joseph Nevins details the administration's dramatic overhaul of the San Diego-Tijuana border-the busiest land crossing in the world-adding miles of new fence and hundreds of trained agents.

From Publishers Weekly In 1994 the Clinton administration upped the neo-protectionist ante by doubling the budget for fences and trained agents along the border between Mexico and the U.S. Journalist Joseph Nevins's *Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the 'Illegal Alien' and the Remaking of the U.S.-Mexico Boundary* explores this concerted effort to prevent illegal border crossings in the context of the mid-90s economic boom and the hundreds of thousands of legal Mexican immigrants. Examining physical, political and economic attributes of the Border culture often abstracted in postmodern literary and cultural criticism, Nevins argues that Clinton's program has done little to keep undocumented immigrants from entering but has increased the dangers for them as well as inflamed anti-immigrant tendencies in the U.S. Mike Davis's introduction will help draw attention to this astute book. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal In October 1994, the Immigration and Naturalization Service began Operation Gatekeeper. Its goal was to reduce the movement of Mexicans across the U.S. border between San Diego and Tijuana. Nevins (Berkeley), who writes for the *Nation*, the *Progressive*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and other publications, examines this operation in the context of immigration between these two countries. A historical account of the United States-Mexico border shows that, up through recent times, the movement of peoples between the two countries was of relatively little concern. Not until the period of 1970 to the 1990s did political pressures make securing the border a pressing national issue. In turn, this pressure popularized the concept of the illegal alien. Operation Gatekeeper itself was developed by the Clinton administration to counter efforts by Gov. Pete Wilson to restrict Mexican migration into California as well as the Proposition 187 movement to deny education, health, and social services to undocumented immigrants. While the operation did defuse anti-immigrant feelings, it made the crossing much more dangerous and resulted in an increased loss of life. This work complements Peter Andreas's *Border Games: Policing the U.S.-Mexico Divide* (LJ 8/00) and Pablo Vila's *Crossing Borders, Reinforcing Borders: Social Categories, Metaphors, and Narrative Identities on the U.S.-Mexican Frontier* (Univ. of Texas, 2000). Nevins does a good job of presenting the case, but the result is a narrowly focused work that is most appropriate for academic libraries. Stephen L. Hupp, West Virginia Univ., Parkersburg Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. ...an exhaustively researched and well-organized compendium of information on the history and making of the Mexico-U.S. boundary...The book's strength lies in its conceptual emphasis on immigration policy as a political-economic process rooted in deep-seated sociocultural agendas that materialize across time and space. [This] book will be helpful in bringing the illegal immigration debate into the larger discourse about globalization and the post 9/11 future of the Mexico-U.S. border. -- *International Migration*, Vol. 36, No. 4 Winter 2002 Nevins' research is highly original...skillfully introduces academic material within a compelling narrative. The ideas are fresh, the scholarly debates are fully engaged, and the storyline never lags. -- *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* Bill Clinton launched Operation Gatekeeper in 1994...Nevins demonstrates how this politically motivated policy failed to significantly reduce unauthorized border crossings. -- *Foreign Affairs*...a richly descriptive historical volume about the US Border Patrol strategy to enhance the enforcement of boundaries since 1994. -- *Choice* Nevins meticulously deconstructs this political, and above all, human phenomenon in a thorough and penetrating text. Operation Gatekeeper could not be more timely: literally, there are lives on the line. -- Rubn Martinez, author of *Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail* Operation Gatekeeper gives a forensic-like analysis of the U.S.-Mexican border, and efforts to control the human resources on both its sides. Indispensable to scholars and anyone wanting to know why the border is still contested ground. -- Rodolfo F. Acua, author of *Occupied America: A History of Chicanos* An important and timely book. Not only does Nevins provide a convincing indictment of U.S. policy on the Mexican border (a policy that has increased deaths, driven down wages, and shown the U.S. to be anything but the open, tolerant society it likes to proclaim itself to be). He also provides a rich account of the historical and contemporary context that has made Operation Gatekeeper central to rising American Nationalism. -- Don Mitchell, author of *The Lie of the Land: Migrant Workers and the California Landscape* Add[s] significantly to the literature on Mexican migration... free of the uninformed claims and inflammatory language that characterizes so much of the literature on this topic. -- *Political Science Quarterly* Well-researched and important. -- *American Historical*