

Congressman questions asylum application policy

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — The head of the House immigration subcommittee Tuesday questioned a policy of detaining rejected political asylum applicants and said Congress should consider allowing more Central Americans to stay in the country.

An immigration official, however, said stopping deportations would attract more illegal immigrants to the United States.

"Detention in and of itself is not a solution to a problem, and if we end up with large numbers of people in detention for long periods of time, that is not a successful policy," U.S. Rep. Bruce Morrison, D-Conn., said Tuesday, winding up a 22-hour fact-finding trip to the southern Texas border.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service on Feb. 21 began immediate detention of political asylum applicants in a new one-day adjudication procedure. It also stopped releasing those apprehended by the Border Patrol on their own recognition.

Since then, the number of people in INS custody in Texas' southern-

most county has swollen from about 450 on Feb. 20 to Tuesday's total of more than 2,600.

Morrison said the Central American immigration crisis will be discussed at a hearing the subcommittee will hold Thursday in Washington.

U.S. Rep. Solomon Ortiz, D-Corpus Christi, hosted Morrison in his

See related story/Page 12

district, where they met with local officials, immigration attorneys and visited a church-sponsored refugee shelter as well as INS facilities.

Ortiz said he was impressed with the new INS policy.

More than 40,000 people, mostly Central Americans, who have crossed near the border city of Brownsville since last spring applied for political asylum.

Asylum is granted to those able to persuade the INS that they are fleeing persecution, but INS officials maintain that most are here for economic reasons and do not qualify for

political refugee status.

Morrison, who last month became chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and International Law, said the concept of political asylum was little more than "an afterthought" in the Refugee Act of 1980.

"The current level of applications, in a sense, overwhelmed the system," said Morrison, noting that there are some 80,000 pending asylum applications in the United States, although not all are from Central Americans.

"The prospects of their being adjudicated in a reasonable amount of time are very slim," Morrison said.

"We're talking about people from countries where there are some very severe problems, where there's been a lot of war and violence," Morrison said. "And whether or not these individuals have the requisite facts to be granted asylum, I think we have to look beyond that to other kinds of issues like extended voluntary departure or safe haven, which may apply to some of these populations."

Ex-counselor teaches people value of laughter in cutting down on stress

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Former high-school counselor Mark Towers is making good money teaching folks how to laugh and improve their self-esteem and personal motivation.

A little humor sprinkled through your daily diet can help you get along better with other people and stimulate productivity on your job, he suggests.

And laughter is an excellent health tonic that can reduce the big killer — stress — and let you live longer, Towers says.

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people" is a truism credited to American humorist Will Rogers that Towers frequently urges upon his audiences.

And he pops jokes, cracks anecdotes, mixes in some card and sleight-of-hand tricks, and offers witty, funny common-sense phrases and tales that make listeners feel more chipper.

"Stress is getting stuck in traffic after drinking two cups of coffee and a bran muffin," is one of his typical one-liners.

Last July, Towers, 38, gave up 16 years of high-school teaching and counseling, including the past three years at Tuloslo-Midway High School, to become a

lecturer for National Seminars Inc., a Kansas-based national workshop promoter.

When 1988 ended, Towers had given talks at 70 public seminars in 12 states to meetings ranging from 50 to 300 people.

He has spoken to groups in New York City, New Orleans, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Boston, San Francisco, Miami, St. Louis, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Other seminars took him to Chicago, Detroit, Denver, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Albuquerque, Dallas, Houston and other cities.

This year Towers, now a member of the National Speakers Association, has been booked for 96 seminars — most of them day-long sessions — in 26 weeks, or up to four lecturers per week in more than 30 states.

For NSI, Towers gives workshops dealing with leadership, time management, self-esteem development, sales promotion, using humor in the workplace and coping with change in work and lifestyles. Those going to seminars pay \$49 to \$89 a head to hear him.

Towers works one week and is off the next week. In his free time, he independently conducts local, state and regional seminars. He expects to give another 40 seminars on his own, for a total of about 140 speaking engagements in 1988.

CHEVY CHASE

When there's more trouble than one man can handle... there's more than one man for the job.

Fletch Lives

ELMER FUDD GANTRY BILLY GENE KING CLAUDE HENRY SMOOT BOBBY LEE SWARTZ ED HARLEY

MICHAEL RITCHEY FILM
DOUGLAS/GREISMAN PRODUCTION "FLETCH LIVES" HAL HOLBROOK JULIANNE PHILLIPS R. LEE ERMEY RICHARD LIBERTINI
AND CLEAVON LITTLE WRITTEN BY LEON CAPETANOS PRODUCED BY GREGORY McDONALD MUSIC BY HAROLD FALTERMEYER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BRUCE BODNER
PRODUCED BY ALAN GREISMAN AND PETER DOUGLAS DIRECTED BY MICHAEL RITCHEY
PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
DOLBY DIGITAL
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE
OPENS MARCH 17

Spring Break Special

KODACOLOR GOLD Film!

All 20% off!

KODACOLOR GOLD 100 Film
New and improved, for better flesh tones. 35 mm, 24 exp.

KODACOLOR GOLD 200 Film
Indoor/outdoor versatility with rich color and sharp detail. 35 mm, 24 exp.

KODACOLOR GOLD 400 Film
This fast-action film brings you unsurpassed color accuracy in a 400-speed film and fine-grain enlargements. 35 mm, 24 exp.

Try KODACOLOR GOLD Film today!

Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30

CAMPUS PHOTO
VISA Northgate • 846-5418

PRODUCTS BY Kodak

AT LAST, THE OFFER OF A NIGHTTIME

★ ————— ★

A FREE TAQUITO FROM 11 PM. TO 10:30 AM.

If you're hungry during the wee hours, we've got a deal for you. A free Taquito!

From now through May 31st, when you present this coupon and purchase a 16 oz. soft drink, we'll give you a fresh and tasty Taquito—absolutely free!

It's a great way to wrap up your night. Or to get your day rollin'!

FREE TAQUITO

Present this coupon when ordering, and with the purchase of a 16 oz. soft drink, you'll receive a free Taquito. Good at the Whataburger restaurant at 105 Dominik in College Station or 902 Texas Avenue in Bryan. Offer valid from 11 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. May not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Limit one per customer per visit. Expires May 31, 1989.

WHATABURGER
HOT, FRESH AND MADE TO ORDER.™