BIDEN'S BORDER BLUNDER

Tik Tok Tactics

Chinese Social Media's Role in Exploiting our Open Border

A breakthrough <u>investigation</u> by CBS' "60 Minutes" unveiled a startling reality: **Chinese migrants are navigating their path through the U.S. southern border from information provided by Douyin, the Chinese equivalent of Tik Tok.** While our migrant crisis grows in unison with the <u>debt crisis</u>, it is important to assess the fiscal implications that the Biden Administration's open border policies have on the federal deficit.



Via CBS News

With nearly 600 migrants, including Chinese nationals, observed crossing the border near San Diego over just four days, this phenomenon sheds light on the transformative role of digital platforms in shaping migration patterns.

As citizens of China are subject to mass media censorship, the leniency by the CCP in allowing citizens access to border crossing routes presents implications for our national security. A recent <u>article</u> delves into the intricacies of this frightening trend, examining its impact and the urgent need for proactive measures to address these multifaceted border security challenges. Our open border contributes to the debt crisis, and a debt crisis is a national security crisis.



WORD ON THE STREET

Via **Business Insider**:

- "Over four days, CBS journalists observed nearly 600 migrants, some of whom were Chinese, crossing the border through a gap at the end of a border fence near San Diego."
- "Chinese migrants who spoke to 60 Minutes said they learned about the gap via the video application Douyin, the Chinese version of TikTok."
- In April, <u>Reuters</u> interviewed more than two dozen Chinese migrants entering the US via southeastern Texas. All the migrants that Reuters spoke to said that social media had helped them to plan their journey.
- A representative for the Department of Homeland Security told BI that the department was 'experiencing historical global migration.'"

Via Reuters:

- "Lihua Wu's journey to the United States started when she scrolled past the words "The Route," one of several common hashtags on Douyin, the Chinese counterpart of TikTok, advising migrants on the irregular overland trek across Latin America to the United States, also known online as 'the Big Beautiful.'"
- "Wu said she had relied on social media for detailed instructions for her trip, including footwear (Crocs as well as hiking boots) and how to find and pay for a reliable local guide."
- "The difficulty of obtaining U.S. visas and the economic after-shocks of China's COVID lockdowns have led to a sharp increase in Chinese nationals presenting at the U.S.-Mexico bsorder and some of those arrivals, like Wu, learned about how to come online, migrants, immigration experts, attorneys, and current and former U.S. officials, told Reuters."
- "Apprehensions of Chinese nationals at the U.S.-Mexico border reached more than 6,500 in the six months since October 2022, the highest on record and a more than 15-fold increase over the same period a year ago, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data."



THE BIG PICTURE

This issue is not new. On March 16, 2023, CBP Chief Border Patrol Agent Gloria Chavez in the Rio Grande Valley sector that includes Fronton said the increase was "creating a strain on our workforce due to the complexities of the language barrier & lengthens the processing."



RGV continues to lead the nation in Chinese migrant encounters. In FY23, there have been 1,577 apprehensions-91% being single adults. A 920% increase compared to FY22 creating a strain on our workforce due to the complexities of the language barrier & lengthens the processing.



6:06 PM · Mar 16, 2023 · **55K** Views

The utilization of social media platforms by Chinese migrants to facilitate border crossings represents a pressing national security concern. The exploitation of digital platforms to circumvent immigration laws, underscores the threat of the CCP's targeting of the United States.

Beyond the immediate implications for immigration policy, this trend poses broader security risks, as it provides opportunities for the CCP to exploit vulnerable pathways into the United States and infiltrate the country undetected.

COUNTING THE COST

<u>Data</u> from the US Customs and Border Protection say that the number of encounters the agency has had with Chinese nationals at the Southwest border has increased more than 50-fold, from 450 people in 2021 to 24,314 in FY2023. There have been 18,755 encounters with Chinese nationals so far since the beginning of 2024 ALONE.



The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) has <u>calculated</u> that the total cost to the taxpayer per illegal immigrant is \$8,776 per year. That means that the exploitation of our border by Chinese "Tik Tok" has cost American Taxpayers:

- \$165 million in the past 5 months ALONE.
- \$377 million since the start of FY2023.

The border policies of this Administration show the blatant disrespect they have for the hardearned dollars of American taxpayers.

The chief duty of the American President and the federal government is to provide for the common defense. This Administration has categorically <u>failed to protect Americans</u> and their pocketbooks:

- In the past five months, <u>18,755 Chinese nationals have been encountered at the Southwest border.</u> That is \$164 million that the federal government is spending on illegal Chinese immigrants. This is a stark increase from **24,314 migrants** last year.
- Since President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas took office, there have been <u>8.7 million</u> encounters nationwide and over <u>7.2 million encounters at the Southwest border</u>. That is over <u>75 billion dollars spent on illegal immigrants</u>.
- In January, <u>CBP</u>, including Air and Marine Operations (AMO), seized **1,799 pounds of fentanyl** coming across the Southwest border, bringing the total for the fiscal year to **6,778 pounds**—enough to kill over a billion people, <u>harming our safety and our economy</u>.

Failure to address these challenges comprehensively not only undermines the integrity of the nation's immigration system and jeopardizes the nation's broader national security interests but also **costs the federal government hundreds of millions of dollars**. It is imperative for policymakers to recognize the urgency of this issue and take decisive action to safeguard national security in an increasingly interconnected world.



MORE ON THE BORDER FROM THE HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE

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Click **HERE** for our "Cost of.. Biden's Weak National Security Policies"

Click **HERE** for our "Cost of... Biden's Border Crisis."

Click **HERE** to read "The Costly Border Crisis."

Click **HERE** to read "Biden's Border Crisis Enters Third Year"

Click <u>HERE</u> to read "Newsom Extends Free Healthcare to 700,000 Illegal Immigrants Despite Record Budget Deficit"

Click **HERE** for our *first* letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

Click **HERE** for our *second* letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

Click **HERE** to read an overview of what Chairman Arrington requests in these letters.

