## A Tsunami of Crises About to Swamp Biden Administration

by Conrad Black



The Biden-Harris administration is now in an extended levitation of credibility. Except for Donald Trump, who entered office in the midst of a public relations terror campaign against him and had no trace of a political honeymoon, all incoming presidents arrive with a favoring wind of bipartisan goodwill behind them.

Especially as President border policy.

As Vice President Kamala Harris checked the box by going to El Paso, Texas, 800 miles away from the more agitated areas of illegal southern entry last week, she repeated the mantra that this administration inherited a mess. The polls are unanimous in indicating that the public realizes they didn't inherit a mess; they inherited the almost complete end of illegal immigration and they squandered it instantly and jubilantly by

effectively inviting the world to enter, while having the hapless Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas repeat like a Disney World self-propelled puppet "The border is closed."

Television viewers can switch channels from that almost daily pronunciamento to see illegal immigrants swarming across by land and through water. Illegal immigration is now running at the rate of 2 million a year, which is an unsustainable level of entry of almost entirely unskilled people who will severely strain the social, educational, and public security services of the southern border states.

It's a crisis closing in upon a disaster, and the public can already see it approaching. All that can be said for the vice president's visit to El Paso, where she was welcomed by the gushy local Democratic congresswoman to the "21st Century Ellis Island," (where people arrived legally and some were rejected), is that it was nothing like as great a fiasco as her visit to Mexico and Guatemala three weeks ago.

There, she conspicuously failed to excite the enthusiasm of the American public to deluge more billions of dollars into those improvident areas in order to tackle "the sources of the problem"—the ancient liberal death wish of turning America's pockets inside out to fight poverty in poor foreign countries by enriching their avaricious politicians.

## Inflation

The tsunami of crises about to break over this administration doesn't stop at the southern border. It's no longer possible to disguise that <u>crime</u> wave. Violent crime is up everywhere and especially in Democratic-governed cities that cravenly bowed to the outrageous demands in the "peaceful protests" of last summer that injured 2000 police personnel, killed approximately 50 people, and caused more than \$2 billion of property damage.

The rioters, almost none of whom would have been Republican voters, demanded that the police be defunded and "reimagined" and this was done in many cities, generating violent crime increases of from 25 to 150 percent.

All Biden's nonsense about shooting to hit people in the leg and enlisting social workers and psychologists to go out on 911 calls is vanishing in the vast cauldron of skyrocketing violent crime. Many formerly feasible neighborhoods are terrorized by gangs and conditions are undoubtedly aggravated by sluggish work from police forces that are tired of being the scapegoats for racist urban terrorists. The ranks of American urban police are thinning rapidly as the people in blue can easily find less hazardous and more highly appreciated work.

The president's address on crime on June 23 took refuge in the usual Democratic arguments about gun control. No doubt the gun laws can be better enforced, but the counter-argument is that in such lawless conditions, the existence of firearms in most American homes is a factor of deterrence of crime and not an incitement to it.

Chicago has tough gun laws but its worst areas are shooting galleries where the arrest rates are so low that it is obvious that the police are either compromised by their association with violent gangs or confining themselves to the perimeters of the most crime-ridden areas and have abandoned the core of those areas to the Darwinian masters of them (and these desperate conditions are certainly not confined to Chicago).

The president was correct in his plan to give greater assistance to criminals returning to civilian life and to prison reform in general, but that will work better with nonviolent people who are generally chronically oversentenced, and who are much less likely to be repeat offenders than their violence-prone fellow inmates.

## Possible Fixes

This is a problem that disconcerts and frightens scores of millions of Americans. When the administration comes to its collective senses, it can go back to the Trump methods of protecting the southern border while giving their policy a name that connotes reform.

Biden can also stop being intimidated by Sanders and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and be assured of a large number of the reasonable majority with any serious gesture of fiscal restraint, at least up until the midterm elections. It might not be too late to damp down the psychology of inflation.

But there is no quick fix to violent crime. It will soon be impossible to hide from the necessity to intervene directly to finance the recruitment and proper training of at least 100,000 more police personnel.

The methods for reducing violent urban crime in the United States are now well-known and were demonstrated by the mayoral regime of Rudolph Giuliani in New York (1993–2001), and there is no alternative but to return to them and the federal government can incentivize that.

The embarrassment to the Democrats in such a course will be as nothing to the embarrassment they will receive at the polls next year if they don't take serious anti-crime measures.

First published in the