

Dear Mr. Lamb,

24 Sep., 1993

I thoroughly enjoy your program on C-SPAN. My letter is about the NAFTA debate. I am a supporter of Ross Perot, however, I may not agree with his reasons on why NAFTA will be bad for the United States.

First, if the Mexican government has paid 30 million dollars to lobby this deal, why don't we hear more people say how good it is for Mexico. Occasionally, I hear a muted phrase on how this will help the Mexican economy, followed by voluminous verbiage on how many more jobs this will create in the United States. Like I'm supposed to believe the moment NAFTA is passed every Mexican with a per capita income of \$2900 will rush to their El Chevy dealer and buy a Caprice.

What can a person who makes 1/6th of what the per capita income is in the United States buy, that is made in the US? If your income were reduced by 5/6ths what could you afford to buy that was made in the US?

Next, what if all of the supporters of NAFTA are correct? "NAFTA is good, because it will create more jobs for Americans in the US". However, since our economy and infrastructure are more advanced and efficient than the Mexicans, we might well create more jobs than anyone is planning on. I think we should view this trade deal in the same light as our trade with Japan.

30 years ago, the Japanese may or may not have planned to wipe out our domestic electronics industry, i.e. televisions, but they did. And who would have thought they would bring the American automotive industry to its' knees. This happened because the Japanese were more productive and more efficient. Well, the American supporters of NAFTA are saying the same thing about American industry relative to Mexico. And those that think this will end illegal immigration are really confused. If American industry does to

Mexico, what the Japanese did to America, our current immigration problem will be referred to as the good old days.

My other concern about NAFTA is about the institutional corruption in Mexico. I'm sure you have heard many stories from your friends about this. You may have experienced this for yourself and if you have, you can appreciate what I'm writing about. If giving a Mexican police officer \$50, so you won't be arrested for a non-offense and have your car impounded until your court date, next year, shows good judgment, then consider this.

If you can payoff a local cop with \$50, what can a South American drug dealer get done with \$100,00? With NAFTA, there will be an increase in cross border trucking traffic. Well, I haven't heard anyone say anything about increasing the number of customs inspectors, to search these trucks for contra-band. The South American drug dealers probably support NAFTA. You could ask the next foreign intelligence specialist how the drug cartels feel about NAFTA.

In summary, I feel NAFTA is bad, because we will economically destroy Mexico, the way Japan would have done to the US, if their economy were big enough. And maybe this is what the Mexican government wants. Maybe they want us to economically adopt them? Besides, if the Mexicans were that interested in improving the buying opportunities of their people, they would lower their import tariffs and drop their trade barriers to match those of the US and we wouldn't have to debate all of the other NAFTA related mumbo jumbo.

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