

Bésame Mucho



If you think it's hard to smuggle illegal aliens and druggists from Mexico into the U.S. today, you should've been around in 1940. That's when the newly formed Department of Immigration Elimination fanned the flames of fear of invasion by swarthy south of the border colonizers and tried to close the international border for good. First they moved the Grand Canyon 295 miles to the south, creating an intimidating topographic impediment to cross-border traffic. However President F.D. Roosevelt was campaigning in the Canyon at the time and protested so loudly that it was quickly moved back. A week later, government goons erected a giant chain letter fence along Arizona's southern border, however an unexpected monsoon swept through the area, reducing the fence to pulp. Eventually, the department resorted to posting 90,000 sentries every 115½ feet (1,969 miles of border ÷ 90,000). That lasted only until the DIE noticed that the temp agency had not supplied *sentient* sentries. Legal entry into the U.S. was also made more difficult. Even persons with impeccable documentation had to first score 100 or better on a 36-page essay test before being granted stateside access. But not everyone allowed the government to trample his constitutional rights. There was one man who stood up to authority, one man who snorted in the face of bullying DIE agents, one man who could sneak darn near anything into the U.S. That man was Frank Farnsworth. He possessed a face that anyone would want to trust. Border guards certainly did. Farnsworth routinely crossed into the U.S. bearing aliens from as far away as Planet Zontank. But his most celebrated smuggle was when he spirited in all eleven members of the Astounding Amenhotep Sisters on the Tijuana-San Diego trolley by hiding them under a false bottom in his carry-on luggage. The highly publicized incident was especially humiliating to the government because all during the trip the Sisters sang *Bésame Mucho* at the top of their lungs. (The border guards thought it was the trolley bell.) The department soon disbanded and normal cross-border traffic resumed ... until 2001 when Homemaker Security raised the paranoia banner to even more harebrained heights. But that's another you-know-what.