

THE HISTORY OF AND THE FOCUS ON “THE WALL”

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Part 2 of 3

Part 1 ended with pointing mythology to the wall. To Trump and his followers, the myth has reached a realm to the point where the wall effort has become a totem for everything that he stands for. The wall's supposed ability to stop immigration by closing the border shows his determination to be the anti-thesis of what the Statue of Liberty stands for. It also said it was part 1 of 2. Correct that. It is 1 of 3 parts.

Trump has committed much illegal and inhumane things to ecology, indian rights and the rights of the U.S. border landowners. Some of these people and Indian groups have power and connections and will win holding on to their land regardless of the pressure of the laws of imminent domain. Some properties are very valuable, and some have multiple absentee owners scattered throughout the nation. Yet, he seems almost untouchable. He has built where he has been refused or where he has not even asked. He tells the contractor to just let the owners sue. This is one of his versions of “law and order.”

The destruction of the natural semitropical beauty left untouched by man for centuries is being ripped down in wide swathes by machinery and explosives. The rare and beautiful tall saguaro cactus trees long promised to be protected and left forever untouched are being cut into short blocks that now litter the desert sand for miles in Arizona. Trump's administration has waived dozens of regulations regarding endangered species and native american burial sites. They are detonating areas that may never be finished. Trump has no empathy. They are now into the very remote Guadalupe Canyon east of El Paso.

This area is similar to the Grand Canyon. Flat rock base on the sides of the canyon cliffs with the river between them thousands of feet below. A mere fraction of migrants cross there. Most who try will perish. There is no need for walls. However, the area includes some of the most endangered and critical habitats in North America. Many wild-life creatures will become extinct.

The cost of Trump's spending on the wall is very high, unnecessary and ill-spent. Trump has spent more than 8 billion of the 15 billion allocated. The wall has become one of the largest infrastructures in U.S. History. Only 4.5 billion was authorized by Congress. The rest has been illegally seized from the Pentagon congressional allocation and from the Treasury Forfeiture Fund. To date, Trump has seized almost 300 acres of private land via eminent domain. He has paid as little as \$1,400 per acre and as much as \$870,261. Corruption on purchase agreements and other transactions is rampant.

Trump says that the wall is "virtually" impenetrable. Another lie. The fence generally stands on high concrete bases. Both drug cartel smugglers and the immigrants they help smuggle through along with the drugs have found cheap ways to explode the concrete bases and/or saw through the steel bollards. They also tunnel under the cement bases. Some of the tunnels are big enough for truck, drugs and migrants to drive through. Ladders 30 feet long and/or ropes 60 feet long are used. In fact, since the bollards are smooth and separate so you can see the other side, you can simply "shimmy" on up "like frogs" and over!

In a recent (2020) documentary; entitled *The River and the Wall*, a team of key people with camera crew traveled the whole route from the San Diego Pacific Coast to the Gulf of Mexico, via bikes, then canoes, then horses. One of the team members, with cameras rolling – shimmed up the wall in about 2 minutes!!

To be continued