

BORDER PATROL IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Museum opens a world on an evolving agency

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS
Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — For many Mexican-Americans living near the U.S.-Mexico border, the U.S. Border Patrol was viewed as a federal government agency to be feared. Its agents might raid the factory where you worked, question your citizenship status at checkpoints, and detain you if an agent thought you were in the country illegally or were hiding drugs.

To some Latinos, the work of the U.S. Border Patrol seemed racialized.

A museum dedicated to the history of the U.S. Border Patrol seeks to give a more complex view of a once unknown agency that rose from obscurity to become one of the nation's most powerful arms of law enforcement. The privately funded museum in El Paso, Texas — near one of the busiest U.S. ports of entry — attempts to piece together its history as the nation's views on immigration, travel and border security have changed.

Using photos, artifacts, newspaper clippings and even movie posters, the U.S. Border Patrol Museum explores the story from the agency's formation — to fight Chinese immigration and enforce Prohibition — to its current role at a time of massive migration, cartel drug smuggling and political skirmishes.

Museum visitors learn about some of the challenges agents faced over the years, from rudimentary equipment to lack of jurisdiction.



A vintage U.S. Border Patrol vehicle sits in a museum for the border patrol in El Paso, Texas.

AP Photo/Russell Contreras

diction. Mounted horsemen and poorly assembled vehicles gave way to high-tech helicopters and surveillance accessories as expectations of the agency increased.

Visitors can even jump into a retired helicopter and an all-terrain vehicle.

The evolution of the border-patrol uniform alone — from something resembling the mythic Old West lawman to today's heavily armed agent in a post-Sept. 11 world — shows how the agency became professionalized over a century.

Also on display are a rope ladder used by an alleged smuggler to climb over a border wall, and tools from an underground tunnel discovered in San Luis, Arizona.

There's a raft made out



U.S. Border Patrol uniforms throughout the years are on display at a museum dedicated to the border patrol in El Paso, Texas.

AP Photo/Russell Contreras

of scrap metal, tire tubes and blue canvas used by Cuban migrants attempting to land in Florida.

(Interestingly, the raft's exhibit is called "Voyage to Freedom," while exhibits about immigration from

Mexico focus on border enforcement).

Congress created the U.S. Border Patrol in 1924, and the agency slowly grew as its mission transformed. Emmanuel Avant "Dogie" Wright and a handful of others were some of the first agents hired to guard nearly 2,000 miles of the southern border.

Kelly Lytle Hernandez, a University of California, Los Angeles history professor and author of "Migrar! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol" (University of California Press, 2010), says that initially there were no restrictions on Mexican immigration because U.S. agricultural growers wanted a steady stream of workers.

That, of course, would change.

For the most part, the museum does a fair job of explaining the agency's metamorphosis. However, it downplays the corruption and mismanagement of its early days, and its role in discriminating against Mexican-Americans along the border that federal courts were forced to halt thanks to various challenges.

For example, in 1992 a federal judge ruled that the U.S. Border Patrol had violated the rights of Mexican-American students at Bowie High School in El Paso by repeatedly stopping them to ask about citizenship status. The border patrol was forced to change some of its tactics and focus on aggressive patrols along the El Paso area, forcing migrants to change their routes to the more unforgiving Arizona desert.

There also are some surprises.

Documents and photos illustrate the role the U.S. Border Patrol played in the Civil Rights Movement. In 1962, for example, Attorney General Robert Kennedy requested that 300 border patrol agents come to support U.S. Marshals working to ensure that black student James Meredith be allowed to enroll at the previously segregated University of Mississippi. Violence ensued, and 77 Border Patrol agents were injured.

A wall honors agents killed in the line of duty. In the early days, most of those agents were white. By the 1990s, most of those killed were Hispanic.

The U.S. Border Patrol Museum receives no federal funding and operates on donations. It's an excellent introduction to an agency that remains little known to most Americans, beyond soundbites and quick images on cable news.

Disneyland raising prices ahead of Star Wars park

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Disneyland Resort is raising prices ahead of the scheduled opening of a Star Wars-themed expansion, with the cheapest daily ticket costing more than \$100.

Less than a year ago, prices were raised by up to 18 percent. The prices that took effect Sunday for tickets, annual passes and parking represent increases of up to 25 percent.

The *Los Angeles Times* reports price increases in recent years haven't thinned the throngs at Disneyland and nearby California

Adventure Park.

A one-day, one-park ticket is now \$104 for low-demand days, such as May weekdays. Tickets for regular- and peak-demand days are more.

More visitors are expected for this summer's opening of "Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge."

Spokeswoman Liz Jaeger says the resort offers a variety of tickets while helping manage demand and spread visitation.

The least expensive one-day ticket to Disney World in Florida is \$109.

Global airlines association warns of potential Brexit impact

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Disruptions to air travel are possible if Britain leaves the European Union in March without a deal, the head of the leading association for airlines around the world warned Thursday.

Alexandre de Juniac, director general and CEO of International Air Transport Association, said the risk to traffic flow is partly under control after the announcement of contingency plans.

However, he voiced concerns about the possi-

bility of some disruption that could involve flight adjustments and cancellations in the period after a so-called "no-deal" Brexit because current guidelines relating to air travel between Britain and the EU reflect 2018 traffic levels. Passenger traffic is projected to grow 5.5 percent in Europe this year.

"I am not concerned that there will be a major disruption, but I am concerned that there will be disruptions in the coming weeks, in the coming months because it has not

been calibrated properly," de Juniac told reporters in Dubai.

With less than three months to Brexit day on March 29, Britain has yet to agree on terms for its withdrawal from the EU, raising fears that the country could leave the bloc without a deal to ease the transition to a new future relationship — a scenario that could see serious dislocations to trade.

Even if a deal is secured, Brexit will involve the country leaving around 750 international treaties,

among them arrangements governing the EU's aviation market. The British government has said that following Brexit it wants arrangements with other countries to allow air travel to continue unimpeded.

U.K. Transport Secretary Chris Grayling told the House of Commons on Thursday that there would be no disruption to flights in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The Civil Aviation Authority was working on creating a "properly functional British alternative," he said.

AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Dress up your banana bread with nuts, spices or chocolate



America's Test Kitchen/Daniel J. van Ackere

One of the best ways to serve banana bread is with toasted nuts. Toasting nuts in the oven makes them taste better.

Spread the nuts out on a rimmed baking sheet and heat the nuts in a 350 F oven until you can smell them, which takes about 5 minutes.

Once the nuts cool, chop and stir them into the batter for any cake, cookie, muffin or quick bread. Follow this recipe with your kids.

Banana bread

Servings: 10
Start to finish: 1 hour 15 minutes, plus cooling time

Prepare Ingredients:
Vegetable oil spray
2 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

3 very ripe bananas (skins should be speckled black)

3/4 cup sugar
2 large eggs

6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and cooled

1/4 cup plain yogurt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Gather Cooking Equipment
8 1/2-by-4 1/2-inch metal loaf pan

2 bowls (1 medium, 1 large)

Whisk
Large fork or potato masher
Rubber spatula

Toothpick
Oven mitts
Cooling rack
Cutting board
Chef's knife

Start Cooking!

Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 350 F. Spray bottom and sides of 8 1/2-by-4 1/2-inch metal loaf pan with vegetable oil spray.

In medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, and salt.

Peel bananas and place in large bowl.

Use large fork or potato masher to mash bananas until broken down but still chunky.

Add sugar, eggs, melted butter, yogurt, and vanilla to bowl with bananas and whisk until combined.

Add flour mixture and use rubber spatula to gently stir until just combined and no dry flour is visible. Do not overmix — batter should look thick and chunky. Use rubber spatula to scrape batter into greased loaf pan and smooth top.

Place loaf pan in oven. Bake until banana bread is golden brown and toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, about 55 minutes.

Use oven mitts to remove banana bread from oven (ask an adult for help). Place loaf pan on cooling rack and let banana bread cool in pan for 15 minutes.

Use oven mitts to carefully turn loaf pan on its side and remove banana bread from pan. Let banana bread cool on cooling rack for at least 1 hour. Transfer to cutting board, slice, and serve.

Make It Your Way

Dress up banana bread with nuts, spices, citrus zest, or chocolate.

— Nutty Banana Bread

Stir 1/2 cup walnuts, toasted and chopped, into batter along with flour mixture.

— Chocolate Chip Banana Bread

Stir 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips into batter along with flour mixture.