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Facebook, Amazon and Alphabet take center stage on Wall Street



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Teen gunman scorned California garlic festival on social media before mass shooting

GILROY, Calif. (Reuters) - A California teenager was identified by police on Monday as the gunman who opened fire with an assault rifle at a garlic festival in Gilroy, California, killing three people, including two children.

Santino William Legan, 19, cut through a fence at the festival on Sunday evening and shot people seemingly at random with an "AK-47-style" assault rifle, Gilroy Police Chief Scot Smithee told reporters. Legan was fatally shot by three police officers armed with handguns.

"It could have gone so much worse so fast," Smithee said, noting the festival, which takes place about 30 miles (48 km) southeast of Silicon Valley, is attended by thousands of visitors.

Police were still trying to determine a motive for the shooting and investigating unconfirmed reports by eyewitnesses that Legan may have had an accomplice.

Legan killed a 6-year-old boy, a 13-year-old girl and a man in his 20s, Smithee said. Police believe Legan, who was originally from Gilroy, purchased the rifle legally on July 9 in Nevada, where he had been living with family members.

At least 12 people were injured, but it was unclear how many of them were struck by gunfire. Police had initially said that 15 people were injured.

Seven of the victims, ranging in age between 12 and 69 years old, were taken to nearby Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. One was released and another was transferred to another facility, according to the hospital.

Of the five remaining patients, one was listed in critical condition, one in serious condition and the other in fair condition. Two patients have requested no information be released.

St. Louise Regional Medical Center in Gilroy received six patients with gunshot wounds, including one of the victims who later died, the hospital said.

Two other victims were transferred to another hospital and three were discharged. Another eight people came with non-gunshot injuries, but were not admitted to the hospital.



Gilroy Police Chief Scot Smithee speaks at a news conference, the day after a mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic festival, at a police station in Gilroy, California, U.S. July 29, 2019. REUTERS/Alexandria Sage

Takeaway.com lands \$10 billion Just Eat deal in food delivery race

LONDON/AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - Amsterdam-based Takeaway.com (TKWY.AS) has agreed to buy Just Eat (JE.L) in an 8.2 billion pound (\$10.1 billion) deal to create the world's largest online food delivery firm outside China in a race to rule the \$100 billion market.

A combined Takeaway and Just Eat would rival Uber Eats (UBER.N) and would have leadership positions in many of the world's largest food-delivery markets, including the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands and Canada.

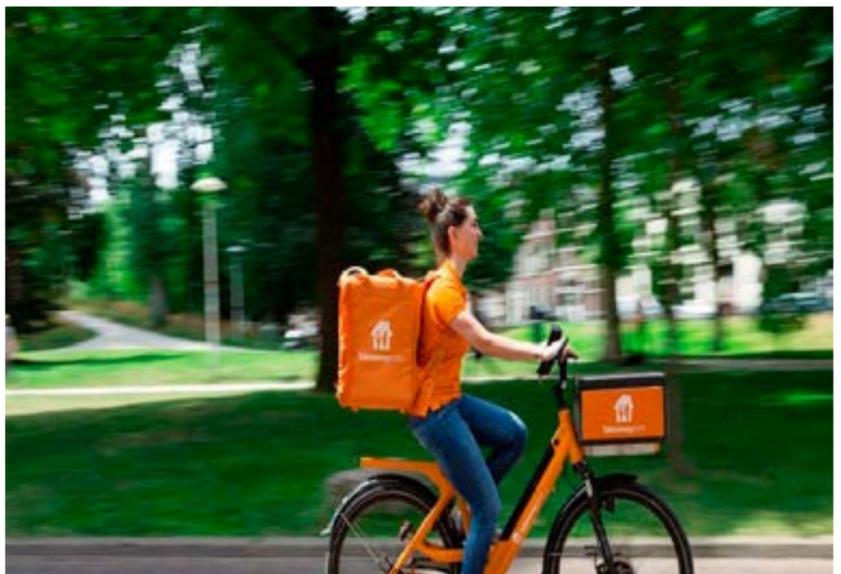
Scale is all-important as food delivery apps scramble to offer consumers the biggest choice. Most players, though not Just Eat, are still loss-making as they spend heavily on marketing and acquisitions.

Just Eat, founded in Denmark in 2000, is principally an online marketplace that connects restaurants and customers, although it has more recently begun offering its own delivery service, like Uber Eats and Amazon-backed (AMZN.O) Deliveroo.

Activist investor Cat Rock calls Just Eat, Takeaway.com deal 'excellent news' The agreement with Takeaway, a driver of sector consolidation, represents a victory for U.S. activist investor Cat Rock, which has holdings in both companies and has been pushing Just Eat to merge with a rival.

"The proposed transaction is excellent news for Just Eat shareholders," Cat Rock Founder and Managing Partner Alex Captain, said in a statement. "We support the Board's work in evaluating and consummating a transaction that maximizes long-term shareholder value over the coming weeks."

Based on 2018 order value, the combined company would narrowly overtake Uber Eats, with orders worth \$8.1 billion versus its U.S. rival's \$7.9 billion. Uber Eats declined to comment on the planned deal, which has been agreed in principle.



Undated handout image of a Takeaway.com delivery person. Takeaway.com/Handout via REUTERS

Under British takeover rules, Takeaway.com has until Aug. 24 to announce a firm intention to make an offer or to announce that it will not make an offer. The deal would then have to be approved by the companies' boards and shareholders.

Investors in London-listed Just Eat will receive 0.09744 Takeaway.com shares for each share, implying a value of 731 pence per Just Eat share, a 15% premium to their closing price on Friday, the two companies said on Monday



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Accused 9/11 mastermind open to role in victims' lawsuit if not executed

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The accused mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks has indicated a willingness to be deposed by victims who are suing Saudi Arabia for damages, if the United States decides not to seek the death penalty against him.

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed's offer was disclosed late Friday in a letter filed in the U.S. District Court in Manhattan by lawyers representing individuals and businesses seeking billions of dollars in damages.

The Saudi government has long denied involvement in the attacks, in which hijacked airplanes crashed into New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C., and a Pennsylvania field. Nearly 3,000 people died. Michael Kellogg, a Washington-based lawyer for the Saudi government, declined to comment. The Wall Street Journal reported earlier about the letter.

According to the letter, the plaintiffs' lawyers have been in contact with lawyers for five witnesses in federal custody about their availability for depositions.

The lawyers said three, including Mohammed, are housed at the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba detention camp, where they face capital charges, while two are at the "Supermax" maximum security prison in Florence, Colorado.

According to the letter, Mohammed would not agree "at the present time" to be deposed, but that could change.

"Counsel stated that 'the primary driver' of this decision is the 'capital nature of the prosecution' and that '[i]n the absence of a potential death sentence much broader cooperation would be possible,'" the letter said

Mohammed and the other Guantanamo detainees have been attending pre-trial hearings in their cases, the letter said.

James Kreindler, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, said it was not clear how useful Mohammed might be. "We're just really leaving no stone unturned," he said.

The U.S. Department of Justice did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Saudi Arabia long had broad immunity from Sept. 11 lawsuits in the United States. But that changed in September 2016 when the U.S. Congress overrode President Barack Obama's veto of the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act ("JASTA").

In March 2018, U.S. District Judge George Daniels in Manhattan, who oversees the litigation by victims, said their claims "narrowly articulate a reasonable basis" for him to assert jurisdiction through JASTA over Saudi Arabia.

His decision covered claims by the families of those killed, roughly 25,000 people who suffered injuries and many businesses and insurers.



U.S. President Donald Trump participates in signing ceremony for September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act at the White House in Washington

SC 副刊
Daily News

AK 终结者，成功亦尴尬的 AN94 突击步枪



所谓“尺有所短，寸有所长”，任何东西都有各自的优劣势。武器也是这样，再好的枪也有其优点和缺点。作为俄罗斯现役现代化小口径突击步枪，AN94 突击步枪点射、扫射都强势，曾经一度将这枪当做神器，号称“AK 终结者”。

1979 年，AK-74 小口径步枪正式服役后不久，便装备给入侵阿富汗的苏军部队。但经过一段时间的使用后，士兵们普遍认为该枪的精度不能令人满意。于是，苏联国防部要求研制一种全新的自动步枪，以弥补这个缺陷。

在中央精密机械研究所的配合下，下面的设计局相继提出多种不同结构的未来步枪方案：如使枪机后坐时一个动量向前，一个动量向后，只要两种能量在运动方向上互相抵消，根据牛顿第三定律，它们便可以同时停止运动，使后坐力受阻或降低，当来自图拉兵工厂的科波罗夫、来自伊热夫斯克工厂的小卡拉什尼科夫和来自科福罗夫工厂的康斯坦丁诺夫都建议采用这种方式。但另一个被称为“阿巴甘”的方案，由尼科诺夫工程师领导的设计小组负责。与第一种方案相比，尼科诺夫反其道而行之，拿出改变后坐冲量的枪机后坐(BBSP)方案。尼科诺夫知道，他所喜爱的 BBSP 系统不是灵丹妙药，也不能阻止枪机后坐，但却可消除一些对射击精度的负面影响。

新型步枪的首次亮相是 1993 年，该枪外表上最引人注目之处是采用玻璃纤维增强的聚酰胺，从托底向前直到前握把，整个枪托都是用这种材料制作的。在前面有一管子，像是安在枪管下方供气用的导气管，实际上此管是一根抑制后坐的加长管，其上安装有榴弹发射器。加长管中间的薄销钉起重要的双重作用：在全自动射击期间枪管和加长管震动时改变其频率，抑制其后坐；导气管与所有击发机构和机匣一样，位于枪管上方的护木里；枪管和

机匣作为一个整体在枪托里运动。机匣就像一个炮架，枪机和机匣都在机匣里运动，这样新步枪里有 2 个闭锁系统：当枪管和闭锁系统在射击时按照自由枪机原理向后运动的时候，运动过程中产生的燃气则推动枪机运动。

枪托后上端安装有可旋转的“Asterix”型觇孔瞄准具，觇孔有不同的高度，瞄具侧面有突起部，每个突起上有 21 觇孔，孔里可装发光源，有助于射手在黎明薄暮或光线不好的时候能瞄准目标；在有护翼保护的钉子形准星旁边也有发光源，准星本身可调整风偏和高低。

1994 年，尼科诺夫的“阿巴甘”全自动步枪以 AN-94 这一名称注册。该枪的外观在此时已经有了很大的改变，由原设计中紧凑的无托型改成普通外型。第一种样枪采用 3 发点射机构，但最后定型的时候改为 2 发，2 发点射的理论射速为 1800 发/分，长点射为 600 发/分。当使用者以站姿实施进行 2 发短点射时，其精度比 AK-74 突击步枪高 13 倍！

AN-94 步枪之所以能以 1800 发/分的高射速实施两发点射，有 3 个原因：其一，枪机行程短；其二，2 个缓冲器同时使活动机件和枪机加速复进；其三，在击锤上设置有能缩短 2 发弹之间的时间的专门装置。测试中进行了充分的精度测试：拿 20 发枪弹，在 100 米距离上以单发方式射击，散布圆直径为 100 毫米，以 2 发点射方式射击（10 个点射），散布圆直径为 160 毫米；在 100 米距离上，以连发方式射击，采取卧姿和无依托立姿各进行 20 发长点射，卧姿射击的散布圆直径 200 毫米，立姿 250 毫米。测试者评价，该枪不单精度特好，就是射击过程中的后坐力也很小，后坐力小对提高点射精度很有帮助。

由于设计中让枪管后退并在系统中有 2 个缓冲器，加之枪口补偿器的作用，使

得后坐力降低和改变，射手感觉就不明显了。后坐力低的另一个好处是瞄准时几乎不会偏离目标，在必要时可补射一发弹，或快速对下一个目标射击。仅仅是以 2 发点射方式射击时射手才感到有后坐力，因为在一个后坐循环中，通过发射 2 发弹，自动运动的系统具有一定的动能向后撞击。和 AK74 相比，AN94 的发射声响明显小些，这样士兵们心理负担也会小些，可在声音嘈杂的战场上测定方位。

成也萧何，败也萧何。在步枪发展史上，德国曾推出高射速的 G-11 无壳步枪，无独有偶，俄罗斯也推出一支高射速步枪。所不同的是 G-11 步枪没有被部队使用，而 AN-94 步枪俄军将少量订购，首先发给特种部队和军队中其他负有特殊使命的部队。但由于目前俄罗斯的经济不景气，军费拮据，因此不可能普遍装备这种成本高昂的步枪。不过其他独联体国家已对 AN-94 感兴趣，并在不久前同伊孜玛什工厂签定协议。就这点而言，AN-94 不会遭到 G-11 那样的命运。

AN-94 步枪的口径为 5.45mm，自动方式为设有调节器的导气式闭锁方式机头旋转式发射方式，分为单发、2 发点射、连发等 3 种，理论射速 1800/分或 600 发/分（2 发点射连发），供弹具双排，可卸式 30 发盒式弹匣，枪重 3.85 公斤（不带弹匣），枪全长 943/728 毫米（托伸/折），枪管长 405 毫米，膛线 4 条，右旋，缠距 195 毫米，瞄准具为长方形准星，带准星护翼，高低与方向可调；调整 5 个距离的觇孔瞄具表面黑色磷化处理托托托，由聚酰胺做成，小握把、上护木与机匣盖连为一体精品刺刀，背带环，擦拭工具及通条，供临时选用的瞄准镜、夜视镜和榴弹发射器。

尼科诺夫设计 AN94 时，以普通枪弹为基础，大胆提高射速，结合延迟后坐技术实现了与 G11 相近的点射效果。AN94

可以 1800 发，分的理论射速实施两发点射，并通过延迟枪机后坐，使枪机在实现两次射击循环、完成了两发高频点射后才后坐到位，即射手还未感到武器后坐，两发枪弹已射出枪口，以此提高命中精度。

AN94 连发射击的头两发弹与点射的射速相同，可以大大提高连发点射的首发命中精度。在 100 米距离上立姿无依托连发点射时，AN94 头两发弹着点距离不到 2 厘米，AK74M 则是 14 厘米。这一精度甚至远高于德拉贡诺夫狙击步枪发射专用狙击弹时的精度，即使与俄军新装备的，以高精度著称的 SV98 狙击步枪相比，AN94 也毫不逊色。

AN94 不同于常规枪械不同。通常的突击步枪是在自动机后坐的过程中抛壳，在复进的过程中推次发弹上膛闭锁。而 AN94 的射击组件包括两组运动部件：枪机组件和枪管一套匣组件。枪管一套匣组件固定连接在一起，回转式枪机组件则装在浮动的套匣内。在枪机组件中的联动装置是最精妙的设计，它实际是一根通过滑轮连接枪机框和扳机杆的钢丝绳，这根钢丝绳配合双重运动组件和套匣内的过渡弹膛，将次发弹的上膛、闭锁、击发控制在枪管一套匣组件首次后坐到位之前。

AN94 与常规枪械的另一特点是，枪机安装在浮动的套匣内，枪机后坐冲量转嫁于套匣而不作用于射手肩部，因此枪机后坐到位的冲击对射击精度的影响较小。而当枪管一套匣后坐到位时，前两发子弹均已出膛，后坐力对射弹散布已没有什么影响了。

AN94 在连发状态下，发射完两发高速射弹后，无需多余操作，只要持续按住扳机，就能从 1800 发/分的高射速自动转为 600 发/分的标准射速，松开扳机再次扣动，重复上述过程。听起来变射速的动作很复杂。实际上，在整个自动射击过程中，枪机的循环速度都是相同的，即每分钟 1800 次，高频与低频的区别仅在于击锤与枪机的扣合状态。在高频射击时，击锤随枪机一起运动。在两发高频射击后转入低频射击时，击锤与枪机分离被挂在后方，等待枪管一套匣组件复进后，才被解脱进行再次击发。这时射击频率不是由枪机的循环速度决定的，而是由枪管一套匣组件的运动频率决定的。

变射速的目的是节约弹药，因为两发高速射速之后，后坐力的作用必然使枪管偏离瞄准点，必须再次瞄准才能准确命中。在需要压制火力时，600 发/分的火力

密度已经足够，没有必要保持高射速增加无谓的弹药消耗。事实上，尼科诺夫最初的设计是 3 发高频点射，也正是基于军方倾向斜的弹匣、挂载在枪口右侧的刺刀等，完全颠覆了俄军在多年使用 AK 步枪过程中积累的习惯，换装后训练成本增加不说，大量的训练也未必能改变部分射手的操作习惯，而操作是否顺手将在很大程度上决定使用效果的好坏。

此外，AN94 一些创新的结构设计，如向右折叠的枪托、觇孔瞄具、略向右方倾斜的弹匣、挂载在枪口右侧的刺刀等，完全颠覆了俄军在多年使用 AK 步枪过程中积累的习惯，换装后训练成本增加不说，大量的训练也未必能改变部分射手的操作习惯，而操作是否顺手将在很大程度上决定使用效果的好坏。

俄军在经历了车臣战争之后总结出了这样的结论：射击精度虽然是突击步枪效能的核心指标之一，但在现代战场上，精确瞄准射击的任务越来越多地落到专门的狙击手和狙击步枪身上，突击步枪常做的是对某一区域实施压制性射击。能够提高精度自然是锦上添花，但单就压制作用来讲，AN94 与 AK74 并无本质区别。更何况 AK74 枪族技术成熟，其技术水平和目前世界各国的现役轻武器仍在同一水平线上，俄罗斯陆军没有充足的理由将其淘汰。

因此 AN94 只少量装备了特种部队。后来，伊热夫斯克机械厂又在 AN94 的基础上推出了 7.62 毫米和 5.56 毫米口径的变型枪，力图在国外市场寻找知音。但是，依然是装备成本的问题，目前还没有一个国家与之签下批量生产的订单。

从 AN94 尴尬的现状不难看出，经济性在轻武器装备发展中的重要地位。上个世纪发生的两次世界大战的实践证明，真正有影响的轻武器并不是性能最优的，而是结构简单可靠、造价低廉、装备量大的。俄军曾开展 5.45 毫米突击步枪的改进工作，而在“阿巴甘”计划中落选的 AEK971，几经改进后又走进军方的试验场，欲与 AN94 再比高。单论性能，AEK971 想要超越 AN94 着实不易，但较为低廉的造价和适度提高的性能也许更适合俄军现阶段的要求。

Editor's Choice



A man killed by an air strike on a market in Yemen's Saada province is seen on a back of a truck after he was transported to a local Al Jomhuri hospital in Saada



U.S. President Donald Trump participates in signing ceremony for September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act at the White House in Washington



Hundreds of hot air balloons attend the Mondial Air Ballons festival in Chambley



A boy gathers coins as lieutenants of Stavropol Branch of the Krasnodar University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs attend a graduation ceremony in Stavropol



Tour de France - The 128-km Stage 21 from Rambouillet to Paris Champs-Elysees



Hong Kong democracy activists march in Hong Kong's Central and Western districts



People gather at a boat terminal to cross the Buriganga river by boat in Dhaka



Swimming - 18th FINA World Swimming Championships - Women's 50m Breaststroke Semi-Finals - Nambu University Municipal Aquatics Center, Gwangju, South Korea - July 27, 2019. Martina Carraro of Italy.

Chinese Consul General Li Qiangmin Will Return To Beijing Goodbye To A Good Friend



Outgoing Chinese Consul General of Houston Li Qiangmin
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

A farewell reception for outgoing Houston Chinese Consul General of Houston, Li Qiangmin, was held last Friday, July 26, 2019, at the International Trade Center in southwest Houston.

The event was hosted by Southern News Group Chairman Wea H. Lee and his wife Catherine Lee, and was MC'd by James Noteware VP of the ITC. The reception drew a crowd of close to 150 friends and well wishers from the community.

Tributes to Consul General Li began with Southern News Chairman Wea H. Lee. Chairman Lee said that, "In addition to his strong sense of working together with myself and other members of our community, Consul General Li has become a close friend. During Hurricane Harvey, Consul General Li expressed great concern for what the people were going through and supported our efforts 100%. For all his time with us, Consul General Li has been one of us and I am proud to call him 'my brother.'" Former



Harris County Judge Robert Eckels extolled Consul General Li's involvement and interest in all levels of the community including government, education and art, Gezahgen Kebede, President of ITC and Honorary Consul General of Ethiopia, expressed his sincere appreciation to Consul General Li for sharing his expertise on many topics with himself and others. U.S. Congressman Al Green (by cell phone broadcast) assured Consul General Li that he would contact him on his planned visit to Beijing in the future and greetings from the City of Houston were conveyed by Houston City Council Member Michael Kubosh. Nell Chennault Calloway, of the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum in Monroe, Louisiana, thanked Consul General Li for his support of the Chennault Aviation

and Military Museum in Monroe, Louisiana, as well as for his support of future educational programs that are planned to educate and highlight the accomplishments of the WWII "Flying Tigers" to future generations.



Southern News Group Chairman Wea H. Lee, (left) bids goodbye to his friend and colleague, Li Qiangmin Li as ITC President Gezahgen Kebede and Catherine Lee look on.

During his time in Houston, Ambassador Li has fostered an unprecedented positive relationship between US and China with his relentless missions in the area to promote friendship, trade and socioeconomic developments.

It's a moment of mixed feelings to bid farewell to such a fine and warm person. Everyone agreed that it was both a happy and sad occasion.



Consul General Li Qiangmin speaking via cell phone to U.S. Congressman Al Green.

About Consul General Li Qiangmin
Mr. Li Qiangmin was the 13th Consul General of the People's Republic of Chi-

na in Houston. He assumed the office as of May 2014.

Consul General Li is a senior diplomat with extensive international experiences. His most recent portfolio was the Special Envoy to the China-Pacific Islands Forum Dialogue from 2011 to 2014. His previous diplomatic portfolios include Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia from 2007 to 2011, Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda from 2001 to 2004, and Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in the State of Israel in 2001. He also served as Deputy Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of Chinese Foreign Ministry from 2004 to 2007.



Consul General Qiangmin Li. Mr. Li Qiangmin was the 13th Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Houston. He assumed the office as of May 2014. Consul General Li has considerable expertise in economic and trade affairs.

Consul General Li has considerable expertise in economic and trade affairs. He served 10 years, from 1991 to 2001, as Director and Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Department and the Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Commission of China's Hunan Province. He also worked for 5 years in Hunan Economic Management College, serving twice as Deputy Director of its General Office, from 1988 to 1991 and from 1985 to 1987, respectively. Before serving in this college, he worked in the General Office of the Government of Hunan Province from 1982 to 1984.

He graduated from Central South University in 1981 and obtained his MBA from the Research Institute for Management Science in the Netherlands in 1988.

He was born in May 1957. He and his wife have a daughter.

~Photo Essay~



"Consul General Li Will Be Missed By The Entire Community"



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The Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 vote on Friday that the Pentagon can redirect \$2.5 billion to build President Trump's long-promised southern border wall.

The big picture: Trump wants roughly \$8 billion to build a wall on U.S.-Mexico border, \$3.6 billion of which he plans to access with emergency powers.

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

Wow! Big VICTORY on the Wall. The United States Supreme Court overturns lower court injunction, allows Southern Border Wall to proceed. Big WIN for Border Security and the Rule of Law!

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How we got here: Last month, a federal judge blocked the administration from transferring the \$2.5 billion that had been previously reallocated from the Pentagon under Trump's national emergency declaration.

Flashback: In the 2016 election cycle, Trump campaigned on making Mexico pay for the border wall.

Related

What the fight over Trump's border wall is really about

Here's what gets lost in the fight: This wouldn't be the first time we ever built border barriers or beefed up security. There's already fencing along as much as 690 miles of the border between the U.S. and Mexico, and the number of border agents has almost

Supreme Court Sides With Admin To Redirect \$2.5B From Pentagon For Wall On Southern Border



A US flag at the border wall next to Rio Grande on June 9, 2019. (Photo//AP/Getty Images)

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tripled in the past two decades.



Data: Reveal from The Center for Investigative Reporting and OpenStreetMap contributors, Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data. (Map/Axios)

Why it matters: That still leaves more than half of the almost 2,000-mile border uncovered, and there are gaps and dilapidated fencing in the barriers that are in place. The fight that has shut down the government is basically about 234 miles of new border wall that President Trump wants, according to the Trump administration's latest request.

By the numbers: Less than half of the border between the U.S. and Mexico has man-made barriers, according to Reveal News.

•**Only 403 miles** of fencing is intended to keep out pedestrians, while the rest just keeps out vehicles, according to a study by the Federation for American Immigration Reform, an immigration group that advocates for lowering immigration levels.

•**For 36 miles**, there is a second tier of pedestrian fencing.

•**And for 14 miles**, there are three layers of fencing.

•**In October**, the Department of Homeland Security unveiled the 2.5-mile-long, 30-foot-tall steel slatted barrier in Calexico, California, dubbing it the first completed border wall project — despite the fact that it just replaced existing fencing.

• **The border also** runs through the rugged,

mountainous terrain of Big Bend National Park for 118 miles. Many local government officials fear that a wall would negatively impact wildlife and look bad in the beautiful park, NPR has reported.



•**62 miles** of the border are part of the Tohono O'odham Nation reservation in Arizona. The nation has historic ties to Mexico as well as current tribe members there, and they'd be further cut off from each other if a wall was built, according to USA Today.

Trump wants \$5.7 billion to build new steel barriers along 234 miles of the south-

ern border, according to the latest letter sent by the White House to Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby earlier this month.

•**Details:** The priority would be to build a barrier along 104 miles in the Rio Grande Valley, which is a popular crossing point and has few barriers, Vox's Dara Lind reported. Next, the administration would focus on putting up barriers in a 27-mile stretch in Yuma, Arizona; 14 miles in El Centro, California; and 55 miles in Laredo, Texas.

•**What to watch:** The government would have to use its powers of eminent domain to take private land from Americans at the border to build the wall — something that would likely spark a flurry of legal battles. Around 100 Texans have already received letters from the government asking for access to their land to look at how and where a wall could be built, the Washington Post reported.



Background: Trump has often changed his mind about the wall, at one point pitching Republicans that it could be covered in solar panels, another time insisting that it be "see-through," claiming it would be "artistically designed steel slats," and then insisting that "an all concrete Wall was NEVER ABANDONED."

•**He's changed his budget** requests from \$25 billion to \$18 billion to \$5 billion over the past year. But DHS only asked for \$1.6 billion to build 65 miles worth of barriers in its 2019 budget request. The latest Trump administration proposal is an effort to expand that request.

The bottom line: Securing the rest of the border would be a huge challenge under the best political conditions. After the longest government shutdown in history, it's going to be even tougher. (Courtesy axios.com)



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