

# *Pentagon chief Mattis visits 6,000 troops at U.S.-Mexico border*

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McAllen, November 15 (RHC)-- U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis visited the U.S. border area with Mexico near McAllen, Texas, on Wednesday – meeting some of the thousands of troops deployed there by the U.S. president last month.

Nearly 6,000 active-duty troops are currently stationed in Texas, California and Arizona, following Trump's escalating attacks against the Central American caravans heading toward the U.S.-Mexico border in the run-up to the midterm elections last week.

According to some reports, the border deployments could cost \$220 million, despite the fact the Pentagon reportedly does not see the caravans as a risk. Mattis's visit follows the Trump administration's announcement of new immigration rules to deny asylum to anyone who enters the country outside of a port of entry.

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