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Cross the Razor: project documentation

Cruzar la navaja

1994

29 minutes, 17 seconds

Speaker: Terry Allen

Transcribed by: Stephanie Duncan

[inSite Archive](#)

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Time	Transcription
00:01	[inSite_Archive_94 Terry Allen/ Crossing the Razor> Cruzar la Navaja]
00:09	[Project Documentation 29min.]
00:15	[rustling and indistinct chatter in the background]
00:32	Speaker One: ...[unclear] used to be a military reservation in the nineteen--late forties and fifties. Used to do a lot of practicing for bombing of targets and stuff like that here.
00:42	Speaker Two: here?
00:43	Speaker One: Yeah. Then--
00:47	Speaker One: [unclear]
01:16	Speaker Two: But people can always go back and forth--
01:19	Speaker One: Well the fence--compared to the barbed wire that we have now..and it stopped when it got to the beach--people walked across it. If you got too far north on the beach, you were asked to go back, or you were taken by border patrol...[trails off]. Then at night drug smugglers would come up in vehicles back and forth--
01:36	Speaker Two: On the beach?
01:37	Speaker One: Then people in the summer would be lying on both sides of the beach, and if somebody was drowning sometimes we'd go help, but we had to leave diplomatic courtesy and stuff like that. But then at times there'd be ATV operators or people drunk driving on both sides of the border, and there's nothing you can do. You can't run across the border and chase them on foot and try to arrest somebody that almost ran a kid over. So, eventually they said "let's just put the fence to the edge of the water." And then they said, "well, let's put it in the water" because aliens that were smuggling used to go chest deep in water, and they weren't good swimmers. [unclear] to get them out [unclear].
02:10	[Video quality rapidly decreases]
02:15	Speaker One: From our view, the fence keeps unauthorized vehicles from going up the beach [unclear]
02:16	[Screen turns blue]
02:24	[Audio begins cutting in and out]
02:26	[Audio cuts out completely; Screen remains blue]

02:46 [Audio and video return]
02:47 [Background chatter continues between Speaker One and Speaker Two.]
03:39 [Screen fades to grey as sound fades out]
05:44 Speaker Three: Terry...
05:45 Terry Allen: Yeah?
05:45 Speaker Three: ...Do you have a cellular phone?
05:47 Terry Allen: Nope.
06:27 Terry Allen: Check, One, Two, Three.
08:00 [Screen fades to white.]
08:45 Terry Allen: I don't have...[trails off]
13:44 Terry Allen: You're ok, keep coming...keep coming, you're alright.
13:54 Driver: I'm ok?
13:55 Terry Allen: Yeah, that's good.
18:12 [Two small children speaking Spanish]
18:25 Speaker Four: What's your name?
18:52 Speaker Four: ...seventy-five, eighty, eighty-five, ninety, ninety-five, one hundred!
19:13 Speaker Five: Testing...
19:19 Speaker Five: Now it's on. Testing, testing, one, two, three.
19:25 Terry Allen: Now, the speaker--the speaker's straight at this side.
21:09 [Spanish music continues to play]
23:00 [music cuts out]
23:11 [individuals speaking Spanish in the background]
23:50 Speaker Five: Here we have Fidel who's gonna express himself about the border.
23:56 Fidel: no, no, no.
23:58 [Speaker Five laughs]
24:47 [continuous chatter]

24:54 Terry Allen: Nah, don't be afraid. Just say anything you want to say.

25:09 Fidel: I want to get across the border. [chuckles] Can I please go across the border? Please? Sugar on top and a cherry too!

25:20 Terry Allen: What do you think of this wall?

25:23 Fidel: I don't like it. Why can't I get through without having to jump or run?

25:31 Terry Allen: I don't know. I don't know either.

25:35 Fidel: How did you get across the border?

25:38 Terry Allen: I started over here.

25:41 Fidel: But how did you do that? Maybe you can show us a trick.

25:46 Terry Allen: Well, Neither one of us is at the border right now. We're above the border right?

25:53 Fidel: But you are on that side, and I'm on this side. [crosstalk] That's the difference.

25:55 Terry Allen: Yeah, I know but I'm not sure that side is the same as this side when it comes right down to it.

26:03 Fidel: Well, I don't know about that. I would just like to be on that side too.

26:06 Terry Allen: I'd like to be on that side. I'd like to go get one of those coconuts without getting arrested over here. [chuckles]

26:11 Fidel: I can roll one to you [laughs]

26:16 [Terry Allen laughs]

26:18 Fidel: Hello there! Can I come across the border?! [unclear] hey...yoohoo...over there...[whistles] can I get over? Without getting chased? Please? Sugar on top, with a cherry too? I give up, thank you. Thanks anyway, your cooperation has been appreciated. Ok, by the way my name is Fidel. That's all I got to say, I got to go now.

26:51 Terry Allen: Thanks Fidel. Good luck, man.

27:14 [Terry speaking with someone through the fence]

27:47 [Spanish music begins to play]

28:58 [Video cuts to blue screen and sound cuts out]

29:17 [End of video]