

**BORDER PATROL: PROTECTING THE HOMELAND**

By Mary Flannery - 2005

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Fast-paced montage of patrol officers shown in exciting but realistic shots- drawn from PSA shot list- on horseback- sign cutting- ATV- skybox- jeep- search and rescue- boat- checkpoint- tactical operation- comm center</p> <p>Note: NO NEED TO SEE AGENTS...just use their bites to go along w/ shots above.</p>	<p>Open Music- energetic, patriotic, forceful</p> <p>SOUNDBITES of AGENTS (optional):</p> <p>(13:50:49:18) CHRISTINE: The Border Patrol has agents working 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. ...[(13:47:15:11) ... you can be out there in rain, snow, extreme cold, extreme heat...]</p> <p>THOMAS: [This job is full of adventure, full of (10:09:19:12) inherent dangers ]... (10:09:02:16) you never know what's out there, you never know what's behind the next rock or the next hill or the next tree. .....</p> <p>(01:08:18:03) JASON: As a Border Patrol agent I take great pride in keeping terrorists, criminals and those who seek to do us harm, out of our country.</p> <p>NARRATOR: Are you up to the challenge?</p>
<p>TITLE: BORDER PATROL: PROTECTING THE HOMELAND</p>	
<p>Fade to black</p>	<p>Music fade</p>
<p>WS Seaports and land border POE</p> <p>WS Northern, Southern and coastal Border landscape and towns showing expansive stretches</p>	<p>NARRATOR: Between the official Ports of Entry into the United States--the seaports, and major land crossings--lies a vast frontier: an expanse of over 8,000 potentially vulnerable miles of land and coastal border. We are currently waging a War on Terror, and now...more than ever...this border must be guarded.</p>
<p>Map of North America showing borders- push in to Mexican border</p>	<p>Suspenseful music</p>
<p>WS Border-Rio Grande, desert and</p>	<p>Our border with Mexico alone extends</p>

mountainous terrain; ranch or farmland, small town	more than 2,000 miles, much of it across desolate and sparsely populated terrain.
Beaten path in the mountains. (Sepia toned FX of smugglers)	The trails long known to smugglers and migrants are now potential routes for terrorists and terrorist weapons entering the United States.
Border patrol agent with binoculars	
	Historical music- drum rolls
Archive footage/photos	Mounted watchmen have stood sentry along our border with Mexico for over 100 years. At the turn of the century, the Mounted Guards were authorized to patrol the borders for illegal entries into the country. In 1924, under authority of the new Immigration Acts, - the Border Patrol was established with an initial 450 officers. Early agents were recruited from the ranks of Texas Rangers and local sheriffs and deputies. The force more than doubled during World War II.
The Border Patrol Museum	
Early uniformed officers	
	Patriotic military music
Big flag hanging on gutted pentagon. Flag over twin towers site.	In the wake of terrorist attacks on American soil, securing the nation's borders became paramount. The Department of Homeland Security emerged as a response to these attacks, and the need to create a unified force to fight the war on terrorism. Border Patrol naturally became a part of this new mission, along with other agencies that shared responsibility for our nation's borders. Together, as Customs and Border Protection, they have the resources, experience, and technology to protect America from the terrorist threat. Presenting one face at the border, we have the most effective border security force in the world. Their priority mission is to keep terrorists and terrorist weapons out of our country.
911 Anniversary ceremony at RRB with Pres Bush with DHS seal on podium and and CBP officers and BP agents in background	
Border patrol receiving badges	
Green and blue uniforms at ceremony	
Green and blue working at ports and borders	
Show Melody long enough to CG her	07:35:07:15 MELODY:
Then b-roll of her on the job if possible...or just any agent out there.	With the mission focusing on anti-terrorism, I think it brings a whole new importance to our job. And it just gives us

<p>Looking serious and important!!</p> <p>OR do you have shots of Supervisor type lecturing group of agents standing at attention?</p>	<p>more responsibility. We have to put more into it. It's becoming more and more serious everyday and we see that, we see it everyday on the line.</p>
<p>Agents on patrol at the border, skybox with binoculars, searching freight cars, stopping vehicle</p>	<p>NARRATOR: Employing much of the same techniques and technology used to detect illegal immigrants and drug traffickers, the United States Border Patrol now aids in protecting the homeland from terrorists and their weapons. Our agents now number more than 11,000 strong, and growing.</p>
	<p>Energetic action music</p>
<p>Tactical operation- agent on radio to chopper Comm center Agents in skybox with binoculars Agent studying tracks BP vehicle responding in desert</p>	<p>NARRATOR: Border Patrol agents are the frontline of the war on terror. Highly trained and well equipped with state-of-the-art technology, they vigilantly scan the horizon for signs of trouble, scouring the brush...reading the tracks...confronting the danger.</p>
<p>Night vision scene Boat Alone on patrol on desert road</p>	<p>(03:26:53:22) ANDREA: One of the great things about being a Border Patrol agent is you get action immediately out of the academy. You get to go down there, you get to go out and chase after alien smugglers, drug smugglers. You're out in the remote areas in the middle of the night looking for these people. (03:27:08:20) You don't even know if they're there, you're just following your gut instincts. You're just following it because the sensor went off or somebody maybe saw something. Those are the things that get your adrenalin pumping and makes the job definitely worthwhile. (03:27:20:20)</p>
<p>Wall of valor</p> <p>Bikes ATV Search and rescue</p>	<p>NARRATOR: It's a tough and dangerous job.</p> <p>It takes a certain kind of person: someone who is fiercely independent, someone who loves the outdoors and is physically fit,</p>

Checkpoint	someone who seeks adventure. Someone with a calling to serve their country.
Note: you might consider allowing jump cuts for interviews. It's not considered so taboo anymore...so it could just become part of the style of the piece.	09:54:15:05 THOMAS: ... I was a social worker in the City and County of Denver, also a ... respiratory therapist for several of the hospitals in that city. Did a lot of ENT type work, emergency room work ... I did that for about 10 years before I joined the patrol. Prior to that I was active duty navy.
	13:29:10:08 CHRISTINE: (Before I joined the Border Patrol.) I attended the University of Miami and I got my business degree. I always figured that I wanted some professional job in some high rise somewhere and then when I got my degree and I graduated and I had those jobs, stuck in a office, everyday, I realized it's not what I wanted. I wanted to be outside and I wanted something more adventurous and a bit more exciting. (12:29:34:16) And that's when I found the Border Patrol.
	02:01:24:24 SHANNON: I decided to join the Border Patrol mainly because of my father. I grew up with my father being in the Border Patrol and he was in a lot of the special operations and the pride that he came home with every day made me very interested in the job. I also saw a very large family with the people my father worked with and I wanted my daughter to grow up in the same kind of environment. (02:01:49:16)
	04:03:11:25 JON: ... the Border Patrol was a job where I could take the skills I had learned in Marine Corps and apply them to my career, to a law enforcement career. And I thought that was something I'd be interested in ....

	(04:03:34:09)
	14:29:05:13 KELLY: Before I joined the Border Patrol, I was going through the nursing program at Cochise college in Sierra Vista, Arizona. ... )14:29:34:17) I found out about the Border Patrol through my husband. He had joined two years previous to me. And he would come home with exciting details about his adventures ... and I knew what his pay check was like and I figured why can't I do that?
Marching in formation at academy	04:37:55:00 JON: ... The Border Patrol's a paramilitary organization .... (04:38:14:08) ... you have to learn how to march, learn different techniques that you also learn in the military and for the ... men and women who come from the military, it's a easier transition. (04:39:21:13)
Exterior of Border Patrol Academy & surrounding area  Courtroom Fingerprinting Defense class Firing range Driving track- speed and off road Tactical training paintball battle	NARRATOR: Every agent must spend approximately 19 weeks at the Border Patrol Academy in the small town of Artesia, New Mexico.  There, you will study law and police science, learn physical fitness and self-defense, acquire skills in firearms and tactics, practice driving techniques, and receive anti terrorism training.
	05:18:12:17 JERRY: The Border Patrol Academy to me was almost a mixture between college and basic training. And what I mean by that is they expect a high level from you physically as well as academically.
	07:16:31:20 MELODY: The academy's the hardest thing I've ever been through. It's physically challenging, it's mentally challenging, it's totally exhausting. And if you're not a 100% dedicated, you're not going to make it.

	11:06:14:10 FABIAN: Being prior military, as well as prior law enforcement I felt I had ... an advantage that would ... help me when I got to the Academy. Once I got there though I realized real fast that the training was going to be much more challenging and that was good for me because I like a challenge.
	14:02:55:16 CHRISTINE: ... A lot of people get to the Academy and they realize what they're up against, and decide it's just not for them..... It takes somebody's that's really motivated, a self starter, and very independent to make it in this job. (14:03:17:23)
Spanish class	NARRATOR: Because all new agents are assigned to the Southern border, special emphasis is put on Spanish. Attaining a level of proficiency in the Spanish language is essential for the job.
Spanish class	Nat sound on tape, agent in Spanish class role playing
Interviewee  Academy shots to support interview	04:09:07:09 JON: What I found the most challenging was the Spanish that you are required to learn when joining the Border Patrol. The Spanish was challenging, but it wasn't impossible. (04:09:20:26) The system that they have in place allows you to succeed because it groups you with other individuals who are also at your level.
	(11:04:47:27) FABIAN: And we started working together to help each other graduate. And that was one of the things I really liked about the Border Patrol Academy – it was so hard that it forced everyone who really wanted to stay, who really wanted to become a Border Patrol Agent, to work together.
	02:08:41:24 SHANNON:

	<p>I use both my Spanish and the PT in the field every day. Those probably were the two most valuable things, I think, that I learned at the Academy. On a daily basis, you know, being in the desert, walking through the desert, you need that PT, you need to remind yourself that you can do this job, you can do the physical aspects of it. (02:09:04:00) And for officer safety issues, you need to know your Spanish. You need to know what they're saying, you need to know how to tell them what do.</p>
Instructor speaking to class at academy	Nat sound on tape of instructor
<p>Southern border landscape</p> <p>Bikers in El Paso</p> <p>Agent on horse in small town</p> <p>Power boat on Rio Grande</p>	<p>NARRATOR: After graduating from the Academy, you will be assigned to a station near the Mexican border.</p> <p>It may be an urban setting, <i>a small desert town</i>, or a remote location.</p> <p>For many families, adjusting to life in a new environment and culture can be a difficult change.</p>
	<p>05:25:48:25 JERRY:</p> <p>Life by the border is an adjustment. Period. There's language barriers. A lot of people want to speak Spanish to you all the time. Even in schools when my daughter was paired up with certain classmates, they wanted to speak Spanish and she kind of felt left out. But (05:26:08:06) eventually, she made friends and she got over it.</p>
	<p>02:21:41:20 SHANNON:</p> <p>I grew up in Maine so when I got stationed in Arizona it was huge culture shock for me. I wasn't used to the heat, and I was used to being around lakes and trees and the part of Arizona that I'm stationed in is vast desert. The job makes it so worth it, though. (02:22:01:24) I love my job. I love the area that I work in. Arizona has it's own beautiful spots too, to enjoy. (02:22:11:21) And I wouldn't do it any</p>

	differently.
	(13:57:47:09) CHRISTINE: Before I joined the Border Patrol, I had always lived in big cities near the ocean. So suddenly here I was based in this very small town, in the middle of the desert. It was pretty different, getting used to the fact that there may not be a grocery store five minutes away. (13:58:02:22) There may not always be fast food or a mall right there. It took a little bit of getting used to. But now that I found myself here, I love it. (13:58:11:23) And I don't think I can see myself leaving.
	(03:14:08:22) ANDREA: ... I'm definitely a big city person. I love the amenities that the city offers. Back East in Washington, it's plush, green and beautiful. Coming out to Arizona, the landscape is completely different. (03:14:25:14) It's beautiful in of itself but it's very dry. ... It takes a little bit of getting used to but the communities ... the people out here are very warm and very loving and it's very good. (03:14:41:18)
	NARRATOR: Once the initial shock wears off, they learn to appreciate the charms that unique towns can offer. Where else can you see the annual duck race but Demming, New Mexico?
Agent receiving training on scope truck, comm. center, and IDENT Checkpoint	NARRATOR: In the field you will receive on-the-job training, including advanced technology and more intensive instruction in immigration law and Spanish.
Freight train inspection IDENT Tactical operation Cent Com. Sign cutting	Now you are ready to take on the full range of tasks—manning checkpoints, inspecting freight trains, processing detainees, conducting coordinated tactical maneuvers, overseeing operations from a central command station, patrolling on foot,



	searching for terrorists.
Interviewee  Field shots to support interview	13:55:23:17 CHRISTINE: Once you get into the Border Patrol, and you're off your probationary term, there's so many different things you can do. You can choose to stay out in the field, and you know, just do regular patrols, you can join ATV units, horses, their search and rescue teams, tactical operations teams. There's a world of opportunities. (13:55:42:12)
	4:32:16 JON: ...The unique thing about the Border Patrol is not who you know, it's what you know. Your ability at your job will determine how far you go as a Border Patrol Agent. (04:24:46:04)
Processing detainee- IDENT  Contraband in warehouse or trunk of car  Traffic stop, pull out to show wide expanse Vehicle patrol looking out of drivers side on remote border road	NARRATOR: The Border Patrol arrests over one million illegal aliens annually. More than a <i>million pounds</i> of marijuana and <i>tons</i> of cocaine and dangerous narcotics are seized by Border Patrol agents every year.  Border Patrol Officers spend a lot of time in secluded or remote areas, often alone.
Interviewee  Agent on patrol alone	11:26:25:00 FABIAN: ... pretty much every time you're out in the field, you're going to be alone. You could be anywhere from 20 to 60 miles from the nearest city and you won't even be on a highway – you'll be on a dirt road along the border or relatively near the border or in a mountain area. And so you ... have to (11:26:46:10) rely on your own judgment. You're not going to have a supervisor out there all the time telling you what to do ....

	04:26:00:27 JON: As a Border Patrol Agent, things change in a heartbeat; during these times you're required to fall back on your training. Each day presents a different challenge, and that's the unique thing about the Border Patrol and also the best thing about the Border Patrol. It does not get monotonous because you don't know what's going to happen.
Lifestyle shots Agents and families together Duck race Hot air balloons in Deming	NARRATOR: But with it comes lasting friendships and a strong sense of community with fellow agents and their families.
Duck Race	Nat sound on tape
Interviewees  Family shots to support interview- kids going to school, activities, events, natural scenic	INTERVIEW 4 (agent + spouse): Spouse and family adjustment to BP job and lifestyle  KEY POINTS: Culture shock, isolation, family concerns- school, cost of living, crime, social activities, uniqueness of new town, natural beauty, sense of community, support from Border Patrol families
Bortac  Borstar  Northern border Coastal border	NARRATOR: For agents with the right skills, interest, and drive, there are opportunities to participate in specialized training. BORTAC, the tactical unit of the Border Patrol, and BORSTAR, responsible for Search Trauma, & Rescue, offer additional opportunities to those who qualify. There are also limited postings at duty stations on the Northern and coastal borders.
Interviewee	INTERVIEW 5: Specialized training  KEY POINTS: Opportunities

Specialized forces	“I joined the Bortac because...it’s not for everyone...if you like...you can do it here...I was on the SWAT team in the military”
Agents at work in the field	NARRATOR: As a mobile law enforcement arm of the Department of Homeland Security, (CBP) it is the job of the United States Border Patrol to prevent terrorists and terrorist weapons—including potential weapons of mass destruction—from entering the United States. There is no job more vital to the protection of the citizens of this nation. It is a daunting undertaking, to say the least. Whoever takes the job must be ready to rise to the challenge.
Interviewee  Agents at work in the field	INTERVIEW 6: Supervisor  KEY POINTS: Expectations, opportunities for advancement, love their job, camaraderie, pride, professionalism  “We expect a lot from our agents...new agents today have a great opportunity for advancement...we’re pretty close knit, we try to make transitions easy on the family, we’re there for each other...I’ve been an agent for 40 years and I still love to go to work and still come home feeling proud.”
Interviewee  Agents at working field	INTERVIEW 7: Agent  KEY POINTS: Professionalism, integrity, pride, personal rewards  “Sure there are benefits, gov job, insurance, a nice home, but that’s not why I do the job- none of us do...it’s hard work, but work I love...it started out as a job but has become a career...I protect my family, I protect my country...I’m proud to wear this badge, we’re the face of America to the world...America is counting on us”
Honor guard	NARRATOR: The men and women in green—well trained and highly motivated

	<p>Border Patrol agents-- provide the critical first line of defense in our war on terror. Now, more than ever, we need people who are intelligent, tough, and firmly committed to getting the job done.</p>
<p>MONTAGE of agents</p>	<p>MONTAGE OF SOUNDBITES:  I do it for my country.  (wife or husband) We're all proud of what (s)he's doing out there.  Because I'm out there doing this, the rest of the country can sleep at night.</p>