

Trump administration taking \$3.8 billion more from military for Mexico

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. Defense Department sent Congress a request to shift nearly \$4 billion from the military budget to pay for a wall on the border with Mexico, a central promise of President Donald Trump's campaign for the White House four years ago and bid this year for a second term.

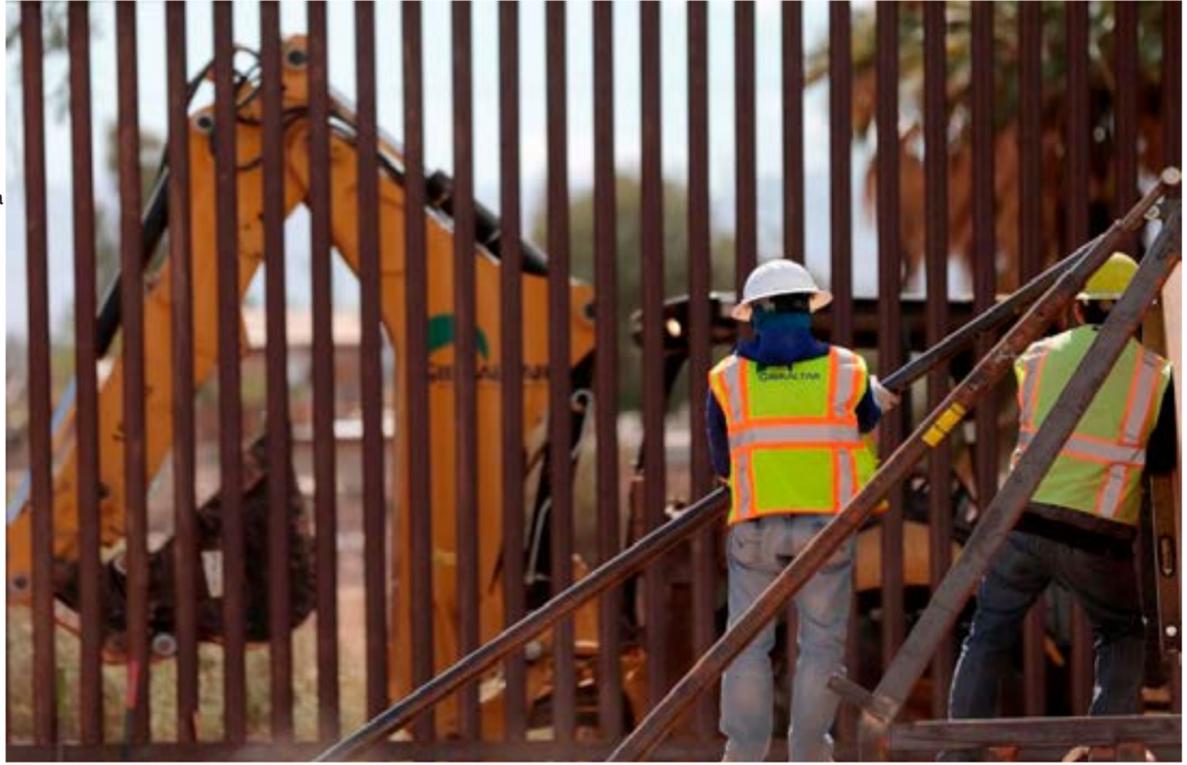
Lawmakers said they received a request on Thursday to reprogram more than \$3.8 billion from funding for the National Guard and weapons programs, setting the stage for a possible confrontation with Democrats.

Democratic aides said \$1.5 billion would come from the National Guard, and the rest from funds for procurement, including the Lockheed Martin Corp (LMT.N) F-35 fighter jet program, Lockheed C-130 aircraft, Boeing Co (BA.N) P-8 Poseidon aircraft, Bell Boeing V-22 Osprey helicopters and shipbuilding.

Congressional Democrats, who opposed Trump's past diversion of billions of dollars in military spending to the border wall project, said the decision was dangerous and misguided.

"President Trump is once again disrespecting the separation of powers and endangering our security by raiding military resources to pay for his wasteful border wall," Democratic Representatives Nita Lowey, chairwoman of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, and Pete Viscosky, chairman of the Defense Appropriations subcommittee, said in a statement.

"The Constitution gives Congress, not the President, the power of



FILE PHOTO: Construction workers raise the 30-foot high bollard style wall, at the US-Mexico border to replace a section of the border wall near Calexico, California, U.S., February 23, 2018. REUTERS/Earnie Grafton

the purse. Congress rejected President Trump's full request for wall funding, which is why he is now orchestrating this backdoor mechanism to prop up a political vanity project," they said.

The Trump administration has vowed to build at least 400 miles (640 km) of wall along the border by November 2020, when Americans will vote for president. In his 2016 campaign, Trump said Mexico would pay for the

wall. The Mexican government has consistently refused to do so.

Trump's hard-line immigration policies, particularly for immigrants who come across the southern border with Mexico, have been a signature of his political campaign and first term in the White House.

The Trump administration has built nearly 100 miles (160 km) of border

wall, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection statistics current to late December. All of those barriers replaced existing structures, the agency said.

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Cartons of Chivita fruit juice produced by CHI Limited are pictured in the supermarket in Abuja, Nigeria February 13, 2020. REUTERS/Afolabi Sotunde



FILE PHOTO: Passengers board buses past personnel in protective clothing after arriving on an aircraft, chartered by the U.S. State Department to evacuate government employees and other Americans from the novel coronavirus threat in the Chinese city of Wuhan



Dano milk, a product of Danish-based TG Arla Dairy Products Limited, are pictured in the supermarket in Abuja



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The UT Grad From Katy, Texas, Is The Third Texan To Be Awarded Best Actress

Renée Zellweger Captures An Oscar For Her Role In 'Judy,'



Renée Zellweger accepts the Actress in a Leading Role award for "Judy" onstage during the 92nd Annual Academy Awards at Dolby Theatre on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020 in Hollywood, Calif.(Photo/ TNS)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Renée Zellweger, who grew up in Katy, Texas, as the daughter of European immigrants, captured her second Oscar on Sunday night, this time as best actress for her bravura star turn in Judy, about the troubled life of musical legend Judy Garland.

As she had previously in the movie musical Chicago, Zellweger sang her own songs, disdaining even the thought of lip syncing. Her victory makes her the third woman from Texas to win an Oscar for best actress. Quitman native Sissy Spacek won in 1980 for her performance in Coal Miner's Daughter, and San Antonio-born Joan Crawford won in 1945 for her role in Mildred Pierce.

In her acceptance speech, Zellweger paid tribute to American heroes — in particular the legend whose life she portrayed. She prefaced her remarks by thanking "my immigrant folks who came here with nothing but each other and a belief in the American Dream. How about

this?" The past year, she said, "has been a really cool reminder that our heroes unite us — the best among us who inspire us to find the best in ourselves. They unite us."



Renée Zellweger accepts the award for Best Actress in a Leading Role for "Judy" during the 92nd Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, California on February 9, 2020.

Photo/ AFP via Getty Images)

She saluted astronaut Sally Ride, labor leader Dolores Huerta, tennis stars "Venus and Serena [Williams] and [fallen pop star] Selena, Bob Dylan, [Martin

Scorsese, Fred Rogers, Harriet Tubman ... We agree on our teachers, and we agree on our courageous men and women in uniform. We agree on our first responders and firefighters. And when we celebrate our heroes, we're reminded of who we are, as one people — united." And the woman she portrayed is, she said, such a hero.

"Judy Garland did not receive this honor in her time. I am certain that this moment is an extension of the celebration of her legacy that began on our film set and is also representative of the fact that her legacy of unique exceptionalism and inclusivity and generosity of spirit, it transcends anyone's artistic achievement. Ms. Garland, you are certainly among the heroes that unite and define us. And this is certainly for you."

For the Texas actress, Judy represents a comeback at age 50, since she went six years with her name not appearing on a single marquee, between My Own Love Song (2010) and a pair of films in 2016, The Whole Truth and Bridget Jones' Baby.



Renée Zellweger arrives for the 92nd Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, California on Feb. 9, 2020. (Photo/Invision/AP)

In 2017, she appeared in Same Kind of Different As Me, based on the bestselling book by Dallas businessman Ron Hall.

"Renée is a true star that makes you feel like you are her best friend from high school," Hall said. "She's just a regular ol' Texas gal from her head to her boots and proud of her Longhorn roots. On the set of Same Kind of Different As Me, she would sit and chat with anyone and everyone in sight, then follow up with a text or handwritten note telling you how much she enjoyed the visit! I doubt there

has ever been another Oscar winner as humble and thoughtful as Renée."



This image released by Roadside Attractions shows Renée Zellweger as Judy Garland in a scene from "Judy" on the left. The real Judy Garland is shown at the right. (Photo/ AP)

Ann Hornaday, the film critic of The Washington Post, said recently on the podcast, The Tony Kornheiser Show, that Zellweger deserved to win — and then explained why.

The critic called the Texan's performance one "that transcended the movie that it's in ... I left that film in a trance, almost. And it's not because she was note-to-note doing an impression — she was channeling [Judy Garland]. The physical commitment is so admirable. The big test is that first big number she does. And you go, 'Uh-oh, is she going to be able to do this?' And she does. She just nails it. There's a thrill about that that you cannot take away from her." (Courtesy <https://www.dallasnews.com/>)

Related

What Judy Star Renée Zellweger Wishes She Could Ask Judy Garland

In the movie, Judy, Renée Zellweger took on the almost insurmountable task of paying homage to one of Hollywood's most iconic figures. In order to bring Judy Garland's last years to life on screen in a way that was both respectful and honest, she had to immerse herself in the details of the late actress' life. But even she still has questions about Judy Garland that she wishes she could ask.



Renée Zellweger as Judy Garland

And despite all the attention to detail, the Judy actress told Forbes she still has at least one big question she'd ask Garland if she could:

Who was the love of her life? The ultimate love of her life.

Judy Garland was married five times -- to David Rose, Vincente Minnelli, Sidney Luft, Mark Herron, and finally to Mickey Deans just a few months before her death at age 47 in 1969. Garland had three children, including fellow performers Liza Minnelli, Lorna Luft, and Joey Luft.

While Judy is a tried and true biopic, in that it covers the full spectrum of Judy Garland's life and career, it does not focus much on her love life. Rather, it pays particularly close attention to her final years, when she moved from the US to the UK to try and revive her career. And in doing so, it pulls back the curtain on aspects of her life that have been gossiped about for decades -- namely, her addictions. While those aspects of her life are undoubtedly sad, Renée Zellweger has also gained respect for Judy Garland after realizing how much she went through:

"I learned a lot about things I didn't know about Judy's life at that time. And I came to admire her even more deeply than I did before. I came to understand what she had to overcome again and again in order to continue to perform on the highest levels for such an extended period of time. Coming to know about that, you look at her differently. It's not tragic, but triumphant." (Courtesy <https://www.cinemablend.com/>)

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各位海內外華人同胞暨兄弟姐妹們，正當我們大家共同迎接鼠年來臨之際，一種新型肺炎冠狀病毒正在猛烈衝擊中國大陸，並已蔓延到世界各地；我們身處海外之華人，正為此疫情深感焦慮，我們已經派出一支堅強的採訪團隊，在世界最大的美國休斯敦德州醫學中心，進行全面之採訪，企望世界一流的傳染病醫學專家，提供預防及治療參考。我們在全球各地之華文媒體同仁，此時此刻大家要動員起來，和海內外同胞來戰勝這場挑戰。

我們希望大家保持鎮靜，拒絕新聞渲染，造成群眾的恐慌，今天我們全世界的媒體人，應以最忠實之態度，來報導疫情，更希望海外華人共同努力，共體時艱，同舟共濟，表現華夏兒女人溺己溺之情操。

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