

Date: 3/25/2009 9:36:21 PM

Subject: Postcard

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Well, it all started maybe five years ago with a book that Kristi gave Sheila called National Parks of the Southwest. Or something like that. It was shiny and lovely and we enjoyed it a lot. As we went through it we realized we had been to maybe half those places. Hey we have an idea! Let's go to them all! Hey that was dumb, they're like not at all close to each other! So every year we took off in a different direction and added a few more.



Today we hit the last three. Hurtling across Texas at 80 mph we were on our mission: A 530 mile, 9 hour loop from Carlsbad to El Paso to Fort Davis and back. (If you think it's not fair we don't stop and really visit each location let me assure you we no longer give a flying rat's patootie.)



On the way out of town we passed the No Whiner Diner. We had gone there the first night and didn't stay past the menu. Wah! We want good food! Well it ain't to be found in CarlsBAD. For the last two nights we've noticed literally hundreds of vultures soaring and circling over the city. It's possible they are waiting for the malnourished Carlsbadians to keel over from dietary induced trauma.

First official stop Guadalupe Mountains National Park – CHECK!

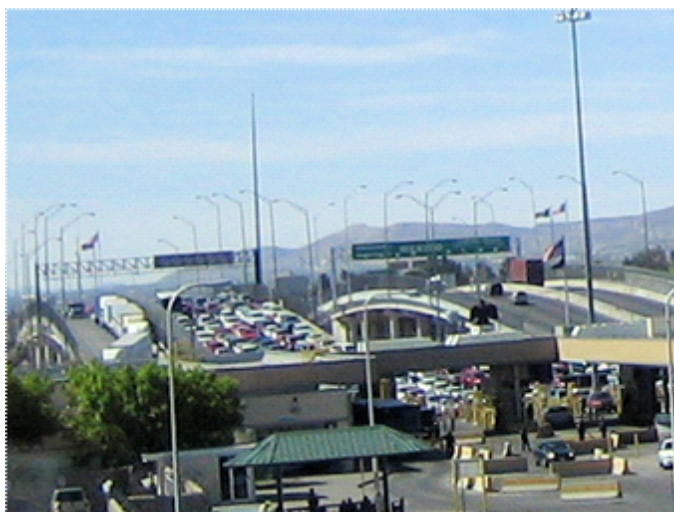


We headed to El Paso. Second official stop Chamizal National Memorial – CHECK!



El Paso is across the border from Juarez. Chamizal is *right* across the border from Juarez. We passed the border checkpoint. We passed it again. We passed it again. Some would say we were lost, others that we were having a learning experience. The third time we figured it was like Groundhog Day and there was something different we were supposed to do so we took a picture. That apparently did it and we escaped El Paso

The picture was interesting, though –everyone was coming North.



Stopped for lunch in Van Horn. There was nothing good for lunch so we ate breakfast and it was very good.

On to Fort Davis, the park. Fort Davis, the town, right next to the park, was reputed to be the site of a performance by Lily Langtry in the 1800's. In *The Westerner* Judge Roy Bean goes to see that performance and dies in the Opera House. Never happened. Thought you'd like to know.

Between Van Horn and Fort Davis we saw a UFO. Scully and Mulder were wrong and so is the UFO museum in Roswell. The US government is *not* behind the UFO conspiracy! It's Pepperidge Farm.



Fort Davis National Historic Site – CHECK!



D&S