**1026 US to 'deploy 800 troops to border' ahead of caravan**

Defence Secretary James [Mattis](https://www.pronouncenames.com/search?name=Mattis) is expected to deploy around 800 troops to the US-Mexico border to stop a migrant caravan, US media say.

The soldiers would assist with fencing and support at key points along the southern border, administration officials tell CNN.

The [caravan](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/caravan?q=caravan) of thousands of Central American migrants is making its way toward the US through Mexico.

President Donald Trump said on Thursday he was "bringing out the military".

"I am bringing out the military for this National Emergency," Mr Trump said of the migrant caravan in a tweet, hinting of an upcoming deployment. "They will be stopped!"

Secretary Mattis' order is in response to a request from President Trump, according to the Associated Press.

Mr Trump first threatened such action last week, saying he would use the military to completely close the US-Mexico border. He also threatened cutting aid to [Guatemala](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/guatemala?q=Guatemala), [El Salvador](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/el-salvador?q=El+Salvador) and [Honduras](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/honduras?q=Honduras).

It remains unclear whether these 800 troops will be National Guard or active military forces, but the Washington Post reported an official saying some active Army personnel would be deployed.

There are already thousands of National Guard troops supporting border officials - 2,100 unarmed troops are at the border presently - but 4,000 have been approved for deployment by the Pentagon.

Is sending troops a first?

The president has called sending troops to the Mexico border a "big step", but both his predecessors also dispatched the National Guard there.

President Barack Obama sent some 1,200 soldiers to guard the boundary, while President George W Bush deployed about 6,000 troops to help Border [Patrol](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/patrol_2) in what was called Operation Jump Start.

Both deployments lasted for around a year.

Where is the caravan now?

The caravan is presently near Mapastepec, Chiapas state, Mexico. They are reportedly heading towards the town of Pijijiapan, but it will still take weeks for them to reach the US border.

A spokesman for the United Nations said more than 7,000 people had joined the migrant caravan as of 22 October, citing estimates from the International Organisation for Migration.

But the group has split up, which makes it difficult to determine the exact number.

The migrants say they are fleeing persecution, poverty and violence in their home countries of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Can they migrate legally?

Many of the migrants say they plan to seek asylum in the US.

There is a legal obligation under international law to hear asylum claims from migrants who have arrived in the US if they say they fear violence in their home countries.

But in June, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that victims of domestic abuse and gang violence would no longer generally qualify for asylum in the US.

Those seeking asylum must be fleeing due to a serious fear of persecution in their home country. Under international law, these are considered refugees.

If an asylum seeker enters the US illegally, they are still entitled to a hearing of their claim.

Economic migrants are those seeking a better quality of life - and even if they are fleeing devastating poverty, they are not considered refugees and do not have the same protections.

The mid-term elections are less than two weeks away and critics say Mr Trump has used the threat of illegal immigration to fire up his supporters.

In addition to ramping up his harsh rhetoric against migrants at rallies in recent weeks, the president has also made statements painting them as criminals without offering any evidence.

Mr Trump's increased anger at Central American migrants comes at a time when many Latinos in the US are worried about their place in the nation, according to a new Pew Research Center study.

Half of all Latinos polled said their situation has worsened in the past year and 55% fear someone close to them could be deported.

**caravan** /ˈkærəvæn/ a group of people with vehicles or animals who are travelling together, especially across the desert

**patrol** /pəˈtroʊl/ *Security guards make regular patrols at night.*

**ramp** /ræmp/ ramp up (to make something increase in amount)

**Mattis** m AE t ih s

**Guatemala** /ˌɡwɑːtəˈmɑːlə/

**El Salvador** /ˌel ˈsælvədɔːr/

**Honduras** /hɑːnˈdʊrəs/

**Mapastepec, Chiapas state** read: Hill of the Raccoon

**1026 China’s uncertainties rattle Tencent**

Chinese conglomerate Tencent is under increasing pressure after losing 40% of its value since the beginning of the year. [Mooted](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/moot_2#moot_2__11) causes for the decline range from delayed [monetising](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/monetize#monetize__11) of its video game business to the market’s self-regulation of e-commerce businesses.

Tencent is not the only tech company suffering from market headwinds. Its tech titan peers Alibaba and the FANG (Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google) stocks have also faced choppy waters since last week’s share price fall.

The FANG stocks, although they have not lost as much value as Tencent and Alibaba, have fallen by 18% since June this year.

Facebook’s market capitalisation is $443.3-billion, and Netflix and Google are at $149.7-billion and $785.8-billion respectively. Amazon’s market capitalisation reached $1-trillion in September but has since fallen to $883-billion.

Alibaba, with a market capitalisation of $385.8-billion, falls below Facebook but has a higher market capitalisation than Netflix. Tencent’s market capitalisation is $250-billion.

Economist John Ashbourne, of Capital Economics, says investors are “anticipating much more weakness in the US stock market between now and the end of next year”.

Like its competitors, Tencent has invested in social media (it owns WeChat and QQ) as well as cloud smart technologies and artificial intelligence businesses. A large portion of Tencent’s income comes from its gaming business, which accounts for 34% of its revenue.

Tencent provides web-based news, social media platforms and search engines for China and nations in emerging markets. Facebook-owned social media platforms (Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat) cannot be accessed in China, giving Tencent an advantage.

Facebook has more monthly users on its social media platforms than Tencent, but had similar revenue in the first quarter this year with $12-billion for Facebook and $11.7-billion for Tencent.

These tech giants feature on the list of the world’s top 10 most valuable companies.

Tencent is a noted feature on the JSE where the largest listed company, Naspers, which has a 31% stake in Tencent, weighs in at 23.84% of the Top 40. But, since the beginning of the year, Tencent has lost R3.2-trillion ($250-billion) in shareholder value. Its market value at the end of last year was R7.2-trillion ($500-billion). The company is now ranked 331 in Fortune’s top 500 largest companies and is worth $353-billion.

The forward price-to-earnings ratio of Tencent has reduced from 40 times at the start of the year to 24 times at present.

The decline this year follows [exponential](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/exponent?q=exponent) growth in the past few years. Fortune reported the conglomerate showed a 67 000% growth since it listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange in 2004.

Reasons for the recent decline in its share prices include the delayed monetisation of Tencent’s new games and the trade war between China and the United States. The falling yuan and other emerging market currencies have not helped in Tencent’s decline, nor has China’s bear market.

Between September 7 and October  10, Tencent repurchased 2.56-million shares for $103-million, the first time since 2014 that the conglomerate has bought back its shares. The move has been seen as an effort to strengthen the share price by minimising the number of shares available on the stock exchange.

The decline in Tencent’s share price means the company’s earnings for the remainder of 2018 and 2019 have been revised downwards by 9% and 12% respectively, according to Momentum securities portfolio manager Francois Strydom.

Tencent has suffered in the US-China trade war, increased regulations on video games and the slide of the Chinese yuan in relation to the dollar. Last Wednesday’s fall on the Hong Kong stock exchange was also attributed to a slump in US tech stocks, which Bloomberg notes was the “worst in seven years”.

The Chinese government’s delayed approval to monetise new games and the nation’s department of education’s aim to decrease the number of hours that Chinese youth spend gaming are reasons that commentators have given for Tencent’s decline over this year.

But, according to Sanlam Private Wealth Investment analyst Renier de Bruyn, the right perspective on the decline (and why Tencent remains a business with good prospects) is the conglomerate’s valuation.

The market [extrapolated](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/extrapolate#extrapolate__16) the growth rate into the future, leading to a high valuation, De Bruyn argues, and the resulting decline in the conglomerate’s value is driven by sentiment as the market now recalculates its estimation of Tencent’s future growth.

“A crackdown on online gaming led to a fall in Tencent’s Q2 profits,” says Ashbourne. “This caused the first fall in profits for ages, which [spooked](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/spook_2" \l "spook_2__11) investors.”

Tencent’s most popular social media channels are WeChat and QQ, which have on average 1.040-million and 806-million users a month. Facebook and WhatsApp had 2.1-billion and 1.5-billion monthly users in the first quarter of the year, according to data from market research portal Statista.

According to Momentum Securities’ Stephen Meintjes, the reason China is currently in a bear market, which could last from two to six months, is that it is in the process of reducing the credit given to its citizens. The property market is cooling off and manufacturing exports are moving to Southeast Asian countries with cheaper labour.

Although Tencent is [faring](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/fare_2#fare_2__11) better than its peers in the Chinese media market, says Meintjes, “it will take a couple of quarters for Tencent to regain [momentum](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/momentum?q=momentum)”. He says Tencent has declined 41% since its peak in January compared with AliBaba’s decline of 28%.

The decline in Tencent’s share value has, not surprisingly, brought down Naspers’s shares. “Tencent’s fall has hurt Naspers,” says Meintjes.

The South African media giant is now trading at R2 780 from about R3 190 last month.

The Naspers discount, based on its holding in Tencent, remains at about 40%. “Naspers has been trading at a discount for a long time, and when Tencent’s share value declines, so does Naspers’s share,” Meintjes says.

Despite the drop in share price value, Meintjes says Naspers will hold on to its 31% stake in Tencent as it has been investing in successful start-ups, which could lead the company to become an investment holding company in the next five years.

Tencent is not the only factor in the Naspers’s share price, says head of investor relations at Naspers, Meloy Horn. “Recent market [volatility](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/volatility?q=volatility+) has negatively affected the share prices [and thus market capitalisation] of emerging market stocks in general, as well as technology counters in particular, including counters such as Tencent and Naspers.”

Naspers sold 2% of its stake in Tencent in March, raising $9.8-billion in the process but Horn says Naspers has no intention of selling more of its Tencent shares. The sale was to “create more flexibility” for Naspers’s balance sheet to accelerate growth in its other businesses.

The drop in the fair value of Naspers’s assets is about R4 500 a share, with Tencent valued at about R3 500, MultiChoice at more than R200 and its other assets and cash worth another R800, De Bruyn says.

The decline is not all bad news, he says. “Naspers is still trading at a 40% discount to the fair value of its assets, while the valuation of its largest investment, Tencent, is now offering better value following its share price decline.”

**moot** /muːt/ to suggest an idea for people to discuss

**monetize** /ˈmɑːnɪtaɪz/ to earn money from something, especially a business or an asset (= something that a business owns)

**exponential** /ˌekspəˈnenʃl/ (of a rate of increase) becoming faster and faster

**extrapolate** /ɪkˈstræpəleɪt/ *The figures were obtained by extrapolating from past trends.*

**spook** /spuːk/ to frighten a person or an animal; to become frightened

**fare** /fer/ fare well, badly, better, etc. to be successful/unsuccessful in a particular situation

**momentum** /moʊˈmentəm/ the ability to keep increasing or developing

**volatility** /ˌvɑːləˈtɪləti/ *Diverse investments can protect against market volatility.*

**1026 Cineon and DPX footage items**

A common part of the motion-picture film production workflow is scanning the film and encoding the frames into the Cineon or DPX file format. The DPX (Digital Picture Exchange) format is a standard format closely related to the Cineon format.

You can import Cineon 4.5 or Digital Picture Exchange (DPX) files directly into an After Effects project as individual frames or as a sequence of numbered stills. Once you have imported a Cineon or DPX file, you can use it in a composition and then render the composition as an image sequence.

To preserve the full dynamic range of motion-picture film, Cineon files are stored using [logarithmic](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/logarithmic?q=logarithmic+) 10-bpc color. However, After Effects internally uses 8‑bpc, 16‑bpc, or 32-bpc color, depending on the color bit depth of the project. Work with Cineon files in a 16- or 32-bpc project—by default, After Effects stretches the logarithmic values to the full range of values available.

Cineon data has a 10-bit white point of 685 and a 10-bit black point of 95. Values above 685 are retained, but are treated as highlights. Rather than [abruptly](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/abruptly?q=abruptly+) clipping highlights to white, After Effects interprets highlights using a gradual [ramp](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/ramp_1?q=ramp+) defined by the Highlight Rolloff value. You can modify the 10-bit white point and 10-bit black point input levels and the output (converted) white point and black point levels to match your specific footage items or creative needs.

Use a project color depth of 32 bpc when working with Cineon footage items so that highlights are preserved, in which case you don’t need to roll off the highlights.

When you choose DPX/Cineon Sequence from the Format menu in the Output Module Settings dialog box, you can then open the Cineon Settings dialog box to set output options. Choose whether to output DPX (.dpx) files or FIDO/Cineon 4.5 (.cin) files in the File Format section of the Cineon Settings dialog box.

After Effects provides three basic ways of working with the colors in Cineon footage items:

The easiest—and recommended—way is to enable color management and assign an input color profile to a Cineon footage item in the Color Management tab of the Interpret Footage dialog box, corresponding to the film stock on which the footage was recorded. If creating output for film, use the same profile as the output color profile so that the output file matches the film stock. One advantage of using color management features to work with Cineon footage items is that compositing with images from other footage types is made easier. See Interpret a footage item by assigning an input color profile.

If you need the settings for the interpretation of the Cineon footage item to change over time, then you can apply the Cineon Converter effect to a layer that uses the Cineon footage item as its source. See Cineon Converter effect.

If you need to manually modify the settings for a Cineon footage item, or if you don’t want to use color management, then you can use the Cineon Settings dialog box. To open this dialog box, click the Cineon Settings button in the Color Management tab of the Interpret Footage dialog box.

Manual settings in the Cineon Settings dialog box:

Converted Black Point

Specifies the black point used for the layer in After Effects.

Converted White Point

Specifies the white point used for the layer in After Effects.

10 Bit Black Point

Specifies the black level (minimum density) for converting a 10-bit Cineon layer.

10 Bit White Point

Specifies the white level (maximum density) for converting a 10-bit Cineon layer.

Current Gamma

Specifies the target gamma value.

Highlight Rolloff

Specifies the rolloff value used to correct bright highlights. To get over range values when working in 32 bpc, set the value to 0.

Logarithmic Conversion

Converts the Cineon sequence from log color space to the target gamma specified by the Current Gamma setting. When you’re ready to produce output from the Cineon file, it is important that you reverse the conversion. (To convert from logarithmic to linear, set Current Gamma to 1.)

Units

Specifies the units After Effects uses to display dialog values.

**logarithmic** /ˌlɔːɡəˈrɪðmɪk/ connected with logarithms

**abruptly** /əˈbrʌptli/ in a sudden, unexpected and often unpleasant way

**ramp** /ræmp/ a slope that joins two parts of a road, path, building, etc. when one is higher than the other

Légumes à la grecque

[Et](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/et) à la [hongroise](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/hongrois)

**Et** /e/

**Hongroise** /ˈɔ̃ɡʀwa /

Ingrédients

Recette pour 500 g de légumes à la grecque

**500, cinq cents**

5 cl de vin blanc - 5 cl d'huile d'olive - le jus d'un citron - un bouquet garni - aromates (poivre en grains, coriandre)

1 - [Suer](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/suer) les échalotes sans coloration dans l'huile d'olive.

**suer** /sɥe/ to sweat

2 - Déglacer avec le vin blanc et le jus de citron. [Laisser](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/laisser) *faire* quelques [*bouillons*](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/bouillir) pour [éliminer](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/%C3%A9liminer) l'acidité excessive. Ajouter les aromates dans un "[noué](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/nou%C3%A9)" (coriandre, poivre en grain et *bouquet* très bien *garni*).

**deglacer** /deɡlase/ to deglaze: make a gravy or sauce...

**laisser** /lese/

**bouillir** /bujiʀ/ *faire bouillir (to boil)*

**éliminer** /elimine/

**noué** /nwe/

[**bouquet garni**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bouquet_garni) /ɡaʀni/

3 - Préparer une petite brunoise de poivrons ([tout](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/tout) petits dés).

**brunoise de poivrons** minced pepper

**tout** /tu/ all

4 - [Poser](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/poser) les légumes sur cette base et cuire *à* [*couvert*](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/couvert) à [feu](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/feu) [doux](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/doux) pour limiter l'évaporation. [Ici](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/ici) chou fleur [en](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/entre) petits bouquets à [cru](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/cru).

**poser** /poze/ put

***à couvert***/kuvɛʀ/ under cover

**feu** /fø/ ring *à feu doux(over a slow heat)*

**doux** /du/ soft

**ici** /isi/ here

**en** /ɑ̃/ read ‘on’

**cru** /kʀy/ raw

5 - *[Juger](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/juger) de* la cuisson (20 mn environ) à la [pointe](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/pointe) de l'[épée](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/%C3%A9p%C3%A9e) pardon... du couteau. La texture doit [rester](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/rester) ferme. [Entre](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/entre) le [cuit](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/cuit) et le cru.

**juger** /ʒyʒe/ *juger de (to judge)*

**pointe** /pwɛ̃t/ point

**épée** /epe/ sword

**devoir**

**rester** /ʀɛste/

**entre** /ɑ̃tʀ/

**cuit** /kɥi/

? Judging the cooking (about 20 mins) at the tip of the sword pardon... of the knife. The texture must remain firm. Between the cooked and the raw.

6 - Les champignons escalopés [se](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/se) cuisent en direct (5 mn environ).

**champignon** /ʃɑ̃piɲɔ̃/ mushroom

**escalopé** /ɛskalɔp/

**se** /sə/ oneself

7 - tout comme les courgettes tournées (10 à 12 mn de cuisson).

8 - *en* [*revanche*](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/revanche) les carottes se font [blanchir](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/french-english/blanchir) avant...

**revanche** /ʀ(ə)vɑ̃ʃ/ *en revanche (on the other hand)*

**blanchir** /blɑ̃ʃiʀ/ blanch: to prepare food, especially vegetables, by putting it into boiling water for a short time