

terrorists, the State Department issued a report in September finding " no credible evidence indicating that international terrorist groups have established bases in Mexico, worked with Mexican drug cartels or sent operatives via Mexico into the United States. " # It went on: " The U.S. southern border remains vulnerable to potential terrorist transit, although terrorist groups likely seek other means of trying to enter the United States. " # Trump and others are insistent on sticking to their case regardless as they press Congress for money to build a border wall, the dispute that has closed parts of the government. The latest iterations of their statements: # TRUMP: " We have terrorists coming through the southern border because they find that's probably the easiest place to come through. They drive right in and they make a left. " -- Rose Garden news conference Friday. # THE FACTS: If they're driving in through border crossings, no wall would stop them. But as to his broader point, U.S. officials have not cited evidence of a terrorist influx from Mexico. # State Department reports on terrorism have expressed more concern about Canada, which unlike Mexico has been home to " violent extremists inspired by terrorist groups such as ISIS and al-Qaida and their affiliates and adherents, " as it said in 2017. When it comes to land crossings, Canada has more often been the source of terrorism suspects entering the U.S., though not in great numbers. By far the majority of people who arouse concern try to enter by air. # The libertarian CATO Institute said that from 1975 through 2017, seven people who entered the U.S. illegally from " special interest " countries -- states tied at least loosely to terrorism -- were convicted