

690 STOPPED IN ILLEGAL CROSSINGS

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A beefed-up Border Patrol resulted in a record **690** arrests of ***illegal*** immigrants Tuesday in Arizona's biggest border town, evidence that a planned crackdown is working, the nation's immigration chief said Wednesday. "The message will go out that this is no longer a place you can cross," Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner said. The increase has been blamed on crackdowns in other hot spots, including San Diego and El Paso, Texas, and more recently on the economic hardships caused by Mexico's peso collapse.

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