Unnamed female presenter: If you hold these... these briefing sessions, does that not amount to encouraging people to make the journey?

Unnamed male interviewee: We don't actually have a briefing session, what we do is we have a single piece of paper that says: "Don't cross in this part of the desert. It's very dangerous." We go on to list all of the dangers. But if you do cross, we give—cause they're coming anyway—we give advice to travel with people you know and wear the appropriate clothing and shoes, etc., and know where the locations of water and emergency assistance and roads are.

Unnamed female presenter: Another problem, I mean that if they know where the water stations are—presumably the immigration authorities do as well—I mean, surely, any self-respecting illegal immigrant would say to himself or herself: "I'm not gonna go via the known water stations because that's where they're gonna find me"?

Unnamed male interviewee: Well, there's multiple responses to that one. First of all there is a lot of infrastructure out here: highways and railroad tracks and so forth, and so, migrants simply use what's out on the land as a way of navigating where they're going. Of course the border patrol knows. We give them the exact GPS locations when we're on station. They come by and visit, they fly over to s... determine who we are when we're at the stations. But the



border patrol does not target these stations, they do not man¹ them around the clock, they do not have the personnel to do that. It's also not in their self-interest to do that for a sustained period of time. They could keep someone from coming in and getting life-saving water and they would end up with somebody dead instead of just finding a live apprehension².

Unnamed female presenter: When you're at the stations, replenishing the water or setting them up or indeed anywhere else, do you ever find illegal immigrants in distress?

Unnamed male interviewee: Yes, we have encountered migrants at a station. One day we found 22—in one part of North Station in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument³— and it was videotaped. They were 21 miles north of the border and they had been traveling for about 18 hours to get to that location.



¹ Man (v.) = be present at, operate, as in "to man the fort", "a manned flight", "the phones are manned 24/7", etc.

² Live apprehension = unfortunately, a manhunt does not always end with a live apprehension...

³ Sonoran Desert, Arizona.