CHAPTER 1

FENCING THE WALL

*“Ecartez les jambes!”*

* ***Jean-Paul Sartre,*** *Le Mur*

*“Nixon seemed almost to long for crises, for the power to make moves on the big board: “We could put the Mideast on the fire. And you could put trade on the fire. And you put the power bombs on the fire.” He talked of “linkage,” of settling the Vietnam war by tying it to issues in Russo-American relations. He talked of revising all our alliances. Like Tolstoy’s Napoleon, he wanted to make moves and moves and moves – on the map.”*

* ***Garry Wills,*** *Nixon Agonistes, p.422..*

*“We’re going to build a wall and Mexico is going to pay for the wall!”*

* ***Donald Trump***

I have no patience for those who say that Trump’s wall will never be built, and that even if he builds it, Mexico will never pay for it. Mark my words: if Trump wins the election, surveyors, map makers and tunnel diggers will suddenly find themselves in great demand.

The penultimate paragraph of *The Art of the Deal* begins as follows: “In my life, there are two things I’ve found I’m very good at: overcoming obstacles and motivating good people to do their very best work.”

Like any other great dealmaker, Trump’s touchstone is the elusive “win-win.” If the parties on the other side of the table think they’re getting screwed, they’ll become your sworn enemies for life. Aside from a few rapists and criminals, Trump gets along great with the Mexicans. Why would he want to destroy his business prospects in Tijuana or Acapulco by foisting upon a sovereign country a wall it clearly does not want?

The answer is vintage Trump: make them a deal they can’t refuse. Like a stiff prick, Donald Trump evidently has no conscience. Whether the object of his desire is a pert piece of jailbait tail, a shiny new 727, a 265-foot yacht, or one of the world’s great addresses, Trump lets nothing stand in his way if the price is right, or even if the price is inflated or exorbitant. It’s all about setting big goals and making them materialize.

What would motivate the good people of Mexico to build a wall? Knowing the answer to that is half the battle in ramming the deal through.

Before we get to the important question of what’s in it for Mexico, we need to understand the driving motivations of Donald Trump. For Trump and for most others in his rarefied circles, the only game that counts in America is Manhattan real estate. He’d like to own the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, the Empire State Building, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He probably regards his management deal of the Wollman Rink and the Central Park Carousel as the opening gambit in an eventual hostile takeover of Central Park. Golf courses and casinos are fine, but they are small potatoes for a man of Trump’s unbridled ambition.

If Trump were to become President, he might begin to take a greater interest in the various historic monuments and green spaces in Washington, D.C. Indeed, he has already taken quite a big step in that direction with the opening of the Trump International Hotel at 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue.

As for the rest of the country, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Montana, Mississippi and so forth, most of this territory is of little interest to Trump except as a bargaining chip to get what we want from other countries.

As a long-time close observer of Donald Trump, I believe he has up his sleeve a bold Southern strategy that will re-shape the United States in a way nothing else since Seward’s Folly has done. One way Trump can get Mexico to sign on to his wall building plan is to offer a radical revision of the U.S.-Mexico border in Mexico’s favor.

Trump’s opening gambit might be to offer Mexico large swathes of California, Texas and Florida, three states that have huge numbers of Hispanics and Democrats who really would be better off in Mexico from Trump’s point of view. Another very doable option is the cancellation of the Gadsden purchase, which would return approximately 30,000 square miles of New Mexico and Southern Arizona to Mexican control.

Mexico is an historically aggrieved power, whose brutally expansionist aims were checked forever in the Battle of the Alamo, a battle made historically memorable by the fine performances of John Wayne, Laurence Harvey and Richard Widmark. Getting back millions of acres of America territory that is rightfully theirs will go a long way toward salving any hurt feelings left over from a campaign that caricatured Mexicans as rapists, murderers, terrorists and non-speakers of English.

Trump will drive a hard bargain, and American voters can rest assured that the interests of the Trump Organization will not be overlooked in the long-overdue redrawing of the U.S.- Mexico border. The centerpiece of the deal will be Florida, which is where, it has been whispered, Trump intends to build the “big beautiful door” in his big beautiful wall.

Severing the portion of Florida below Palm Beach and re-zoning it as part of Mexico has several important advantages. First, it removes from American jurisdiction a territory full of Spanish-speaking Cuban-Americans whose votes in national elections increasingly tend to go with the Democrats. Second, there are large numbers of people in Miami and other South Florida municipalities who rely on government programs such as Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, welfare, food stamps, Obamacare and Federal Housing assistance. These people will find more opportunity in Mexico, as the American system has largely failed them. Third, making South Florida Mexican instantly relieves the Federal government of the burden of taking in refugees from Cuba and Haiti who manage to land their rubber rafts or inner tubes at Key West. Fourth, palming off the Everglades to Mexico will save the United States millions of dollar in environmental protection costs, and will provide a great tourist destination for people visiting Mexico. Fifth, since the rapid progress of climate change means that much of South Florida will soon be underwater, Mexico will be left holding its proverbial dick in its hands. Finally and most importantly, the partition of Florida clears the way for economic revitalization of the American sector by means of casino gambling, which has been voted down time and again by the “values voters” of Florida, but which now can be foisted upon the good people of Palm Beach and surrounding communities by means of eminent domain and Presidential executive order, if necessary.

Trump’s secret plan to end the war with Mexico will leave the Mar-a-Lago resort as the most valuable piece of real estate in Florida, and one of the great properties in all of North America. Making Palm Beach the main entry point from Mexico to the United States means that most people who want to get into America from Mexico will need to take a commercial flight, perhaps on the soon-to-be-resurrected Trump Shuttle. Each new Mexican high-roller arrival will be welcomed with $100 in casino seed money; free breakfast buffets; and special discount cards to Scores and other high-end stripping showgirl venues. Each new prospective immigrant will be subjected to a rigorous background and credit check to ensure that person poses no risk to Americans, but only to himself, should he be foolish enough to bet on the wrong card or color. Most of the rapists, drugs dealers and ISIS supporters who now find the current porous border crossings so inviting will sooner or later realize that they are far better off taking their chances in Mexico.

Deciding what land is to be ceded to Mexico from California and Texas will require all-night bargaining sessions during the first 100 days of Trump’s first term as President. Among the first cities to go Mexican will be Los Angeles, San Diego and San Antonio, three cities that have a high percentage of liberal Democrats and/or Spanish speakers.

Forest fires, earthquakes, race riots and many other serious problems have their epicenter in Southern California. Walling the country off from these problems will be well worth the sacrifice of the California wine industry, orange groves and an important segment of the motion picture industry.

Giving up Los Angeles will be bittersweet. On the one hand, the United States will lose a city that has played a historically important role in film production. In surrendering Hollywood, Donald Trump will be giving up his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. On the other hand, the shuttered Los Angeles freeways (good riddance!) will provide an excellent source of recycled concrete for building the new wall.

San Antonio is an easier call. Transferring the keys of the city to the government of Mexico takes away the power base of the Castro brothers, Julian and Joaquin, potential 2020 Trump rivals, whose American citizenship would thereby be unceremoniously and permanently revoked.

San Diego is really just a Sister City to Tijuana, and the two should never have been sundered apart. The vineyards and fruit farms in the surrounding hills require constant replenishment of a mostly Mexican labor force. Americans just don’t want to do these jobs, but these jobs need doing. Transferring these Hispanic-ridden farms and fields to Mexico is a no-brainer.

The one potential issue of contention is the fate of the San Diego naval base and training facility. To solve any impasse, President Trump would likely propose taking out a 99-year lease on the base, which could be used primarily as a prison camp for ISIS prisoners, who would be waterboarded, crucified and vivisected by a combination of Mexican prison guards and rogue American overseers contracted through an appropriately named wholly-owned subsidiary of the Trump Organization, which will likely replace Haliburton and Blackwater as a centralized clearing house for government contracting on security and military matters.

The brilliance of Trump’s border plan cannot be overstated. The reason that the obscure issue of “eminent domain” plays such an important role in Trump’s debate performances and stump speeches is that this contentious legal concept provides a strong foundation for Trump’s wall plan. By bulldozing marginal Florida, California, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona neighborhoods under the cover of eminent domain, the government can then contract the newly-minted Mexicans, freshly displaced from jobs as extras, screenwriters, ranchers and lifeguards, to pour concrete and lay bricks where there were once thriving communities of Spanish-speaking Democrats. Before you know it, “Mexico” has built a wall!

Since we already owe Mexico so much money, Mexico would have little choice but to accept this huge gift of land in lieu of cash payments for cheap imports. Liberating this cash, combined with the savings from cancellation of social benefits to the millions of impoverished people of the southern portions of Texas, California and Florida, will allow the United States to purchase large amounts of land elsewhere. Since 1867, the United States has greedily eyed the Kamchatka Peninsula, a remote and sparsely populated area of Eastern Siberia across the Bering Straits from Alaska. Buying Kamchatka from Putin in exchange for a modest cash payment and a free hand in Ukraine and Poland would give the United States a 100,000-square-mile foothold in Russia, a foothold that could double as a staging ground for further Westward expansion as the Russian economy continues its slow collapse due to declining birth rates, high mortality rates and increasing emigration. Kamchatka would be a reliably Republican 51st state, as the people there are used to being told how to vote.

Acquiring Kamchatka would be the first step in fulfilling the Rev. Sun-Myung Moon’s dream of building a bridge/tunnel system that would allow for free and unfettered passage of railroad and vehicular traffic from Sarah Palin’s backyard all the way to the Kremlin.

Puerto Rico, whether it is liberated or forced into union with Mexico, will be renamed Puerto Povero. It is not inconceivable that President Trump will insist as part of his wall-building program that Mexico assume Puerto Rico’s debts in exchange for expanded fishing rights.

As for other international border changes, these will be based on the principles of self-determination, financial manipulations and the projection of military force. Any country, whether a NATO member, an Asian tiger, or a sultanate, which wishes to keep American military bases will be required to cede sovereignty over that territory and pay for the upkeep of the troops, including equipment, salaries and what could euphemistically be called X-rated “comfort facilities.” To make sure sovereign states see American troops as a value-added proposition, any country opting out of an alliance or protection racket with the United States would be required to provide testing ground facilities for the upgrading and modernization of American nuclear weapons. That these are not idle threats could be underlined by the explosion of a 1.2 megaton hydrogen bomb over Raqqa at 4 p.m. on Inauguration Day.

Stripping out vast areas of the U.S. mainland seems like a counterintuitive way to make America great again, but it just might work. By drastically reducing the relative population density in both the United States and the Middle East within the course of a single financial quarter, President Trump may release the bottled-up energies of American manufacturers, entrepreneurs and wage slaves eager to make up for lost ground. Rebuilding Hollywood in Kamchatka or Detroit will not be easy, but if Americans are not worthy of such challenges, they deserve to die. If the American people rise to the occasion, what we build on these concrete foundations may last a thousand years.