

Sent: 2007-09-17 - 19:42
Subject: Postcard

The Tohono O'odham used to be the Pima. Ira Hayes was a Pima. He was one of the marines immortalized in the Iwo Jima flag raising photo and statue. He was a hero for a while but America got bored, he went back to the reservation and drowned in a puddle, literally dead drunk. We drove across the Tohono O'odham reservation to Organ Pipe National Monument. There are longer, straighter roads but I don't remember where. Along these 75 or so miles we counted 59 roadside memorials. We tried to count the beer bottles too, but that was impossible. Unfortunately, I think the bottles and the memorials are connected. These happy stories should frame our visit nicely.



Organ Pipe has special cacti. The part of the park where they are found is up this mountain:



What mountain? The one in this dust storm. If you want to see organ pipe cacti, please find them online.

We drove back, through the Border Patrol checkpoint, contemplating the challenges of our vacation: dust storm, burn time, rattlesnakes, lightning strikes, cactus needles, killer bees, illegal aliens (never mentioned the bear, or the gnat attacks). And then we drove through this town...



Excellent!

But enough philosophy. Here are the facts - Thirteen NPS sites targeted. Thirteen visited. And it's only Monday!

Talk to you tomorrow.

D&S