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Leaked memo details ICE media strategy to counter citizen activist groups



Call this a crash course in how federal agencies use the press to advance their own advocacy.

A memo leaked from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency is has immigration reform activist groups up in arms, calling the government's plans to argue on behalf of its programs "unbelievable" and an "an aggressive strategy for spin and deception."

The document details how the agency was to respond amid a host of planned protests against the so-called "Secure Communities" program. It reveals that ICE targeted major media in eight cities where activists planned their rallies, securing space

in publications like *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *The Maimi Herald*, *The Washington Examiner* and others.

"On the day of the launch, ICE Assistant Secretary John Morton placed opinion-editorials in Atlanta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; and Morristown, New Jersey—all sites of the campaign," noted Uncover the Truth, a joint advocacy campaign set up by the Center for Constitutional Rights, the National Day Laborer Organizing Network and other non-governmental groups.

Additionally, it explains that the agency "will arrange for [Assistant Secretary] Morton to be interviewed by Julia Preston from *The New York Times*, Suzanne Gamboa from the Associated Press, Antonieta Cádiz from *La Opinion* and possibly Lori Montenegro from *Telemundo*."

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"ICE's unbelievable offensive against activists organizing for truth and accountability must be challenged," CCR attorney Sunita Patel said in a media advisory. "Rather than sticking to the promise of transparency, the Obama administration is hiding behind misinformation and attacking civil society. The quest for answers is even more compelling and begs the question: what is ICE hiding?"

RELATED: GOP candidate's 'microchip an illegal' comment draws outrage

Hoping to obtain answers to just that question, the campaign has filed Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests for data related to the "Security Communities" program, which the agency says leverages technology to track down and capture what it calls "criminal aliens."

In his editorial, Morton opened with a tale of a California man who'd left Bible study, only to be run down by an illegal immigrant driving while intoxicated.

"Since beginning the program in October 2008, ICE has deployed the fingerprint technology to more than 165 jurisdictions across 20 states," he wrote. "We deploy to more places every week. As a result, we have removed more than 33,000 aliens convicted of crimes — aliens who may have otherwise been released back onto our streets and into our neighborhoods.

"As ICE expands this program nationwide, we meet regularly with local law enforcement agencies, national and local nongovernmental organizations, media and others to ensure the public understands that ICE is using this race-neutral program to identify and remove criminal aliens, thereby relieving the burden on state and local governments."

Morton was nominated to serve as ICE assistant secretary by President Obama on Feb. 23, 2009.

A large part of the "Secure Communities" program is federal coordination of local law enforcement. The leaked memo apparently reveals this coordination even applies to "messaging," as it claims ICE would reach out to encourage press officers to speak with the media, going so far as to offer sound bytes and talking points.

"It is deeply disturbing that ICE responded to our simple request for truth and accountability with an aggressive strategy for spin and deception," countered Sarahi Uribe, an organizer with Uncover the Truth. "At a time when its clear that the federal government's irresponsibility gave rise to the crisis in Arizona, rights groups now feel under attack for demanding basic answers from our government."

RELATED: 'Deep concerns': Napolitano testifies Arizona immigration law will be reviewed

It was revealed in Dec. 2009 that ICE maintains a network of unlisted immigrant detention centers across the United States, calling them "subfield offices," where they hold an unknown number of people. *The Nation* magazine placed the number of "subfield offices" at 186, noting that the facilities have no beds or showers, are not subject to ICE Detention Standards and most are located "in suburban office parks or commercial spaces revealing no information about their ICE tenants".

At least 100 immigrant prisoners have died while in ICE custody, according to documents obtained by *The New York Times* and the American Civil Liberties Union.

The following document is an internal Immigration and Customs Enforcement memo detailing the agency's media strategy to counter activist citizen groups.

ICE Media Strategy

New York News



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Levy: I'll announce my LG after I'm picked



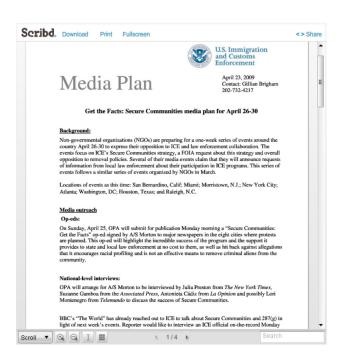
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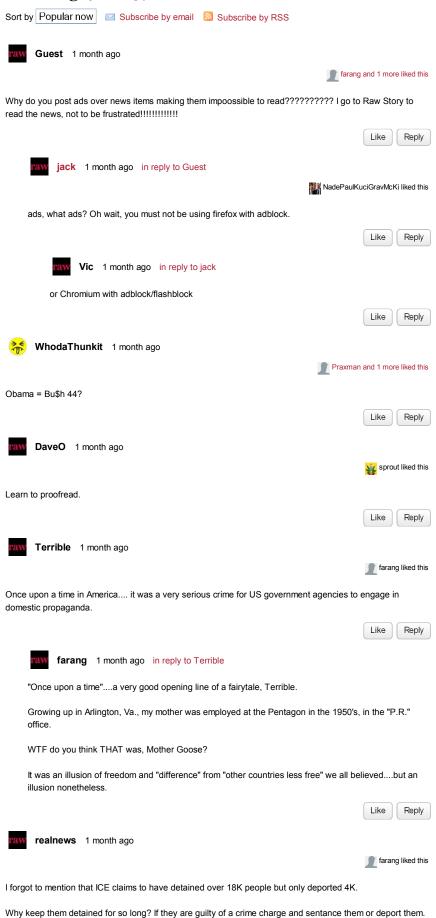
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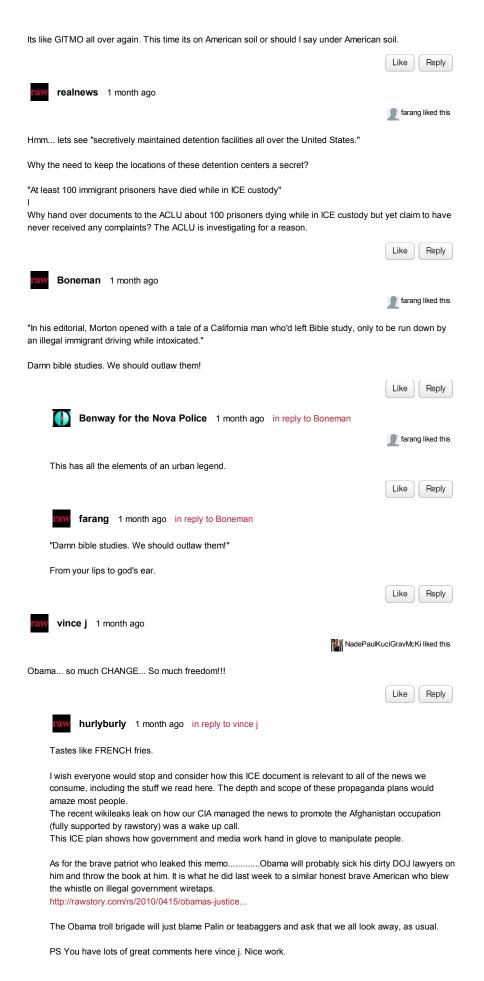
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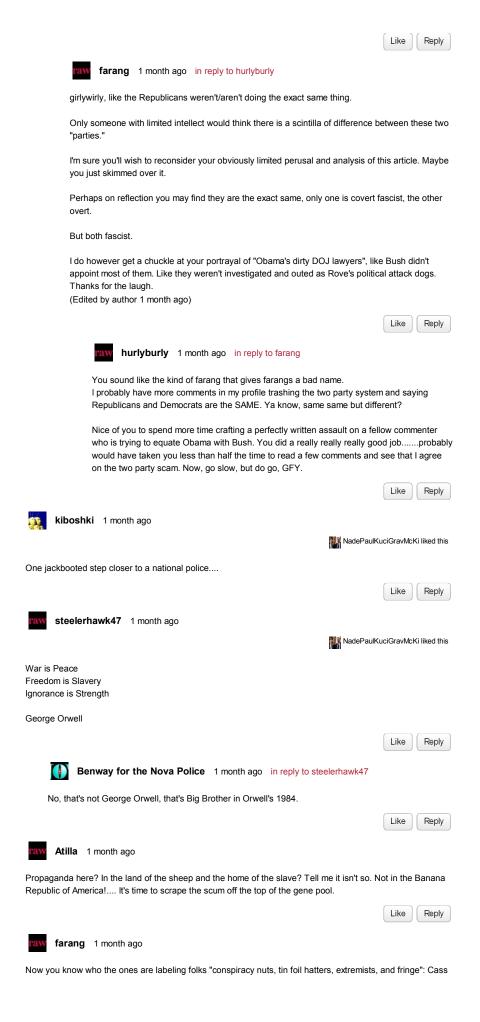
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Sunstein clones

What? When that creep scumbag Sunstein came out and stated the federal government "should" infiltrate opposition groups, he meant they ARE infiltrating opposition groups, and was simply practicing CYA.

Or didn't you figure that out then?





Unlegendary 1 month ago

If nobody gets it I'll make an attempt here..

This is NOT Obama per se nor Bush..It's the PIC, Prison Industrial Complex run amuck while the citizenry is lulled into a daze and they now have the ability to capture anyone at will and never have to answer to anyone, not even the president.

Their big, nasty barbed wire complexes ran into a wall getting scrutinized and they had to actually answer so they decided to go underground and this is NOT about immigration.. It's about me, you and anyone else unlucky enough to get run over by the PIC wheels.. WATCH OUT!

When they run out of scapegoat brown inmates they'll go after anyone who dare question their insanity and skin color won't make one iota's difference to them not that it ever has in the first place. They'll simply begin hauling anyone who can't afford high priced lawyers and who aren't well connected with investigative reporters... That's me, you and anyone who happens to have the ability to breath in air.

It's the same people spending kings ransoms every day to beat down laws that protect your rights as a law abiding citizen of ANY political stripe. Even if you're law abiding that's OK because they'll just say you broke a law and who's there to say you didn't? Nobody because nobody will know where you are.



raw

skechersshoes 1 month ago

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knock off the spam...your servers might accidentally...





Boneman 1 month ago in reply to skechersshoes

I bought a pair of those sunglasses and let me tell you something. They're overpriced pieces of shit. Skecher sunglasses SUCK!!!! And it's too bad not enough people know what cheap pieces of plastic they are.





Boneman 1 month ago in reply to skechersshoes

Governor looks at person on death row and asks three questions: 1 twice the number of ugly skecher sunglasses: 2 to much of sunglasses that suck more than gargoyles: three, if you buy those pieces of crap you'll just look like an idiot.

Gargoyles man, forget skechershit



raw

Fangdango 1 month ago

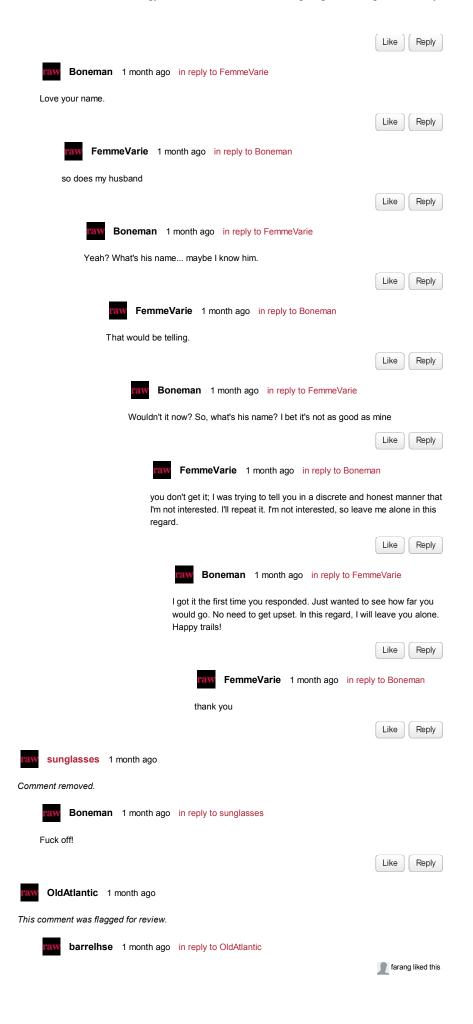
I am a social worker. A young child in my caseload was repeatedly raped by her father. ICE deported him before he could be charged and convicted. Because he was not charged or convicted, his family members believe that he is innocent — they reason that, if he were guilty, he would be in jail instead of just deported. Consequently, the victim will go through her life with her family believing that she was lying and she is crazy. It is an injustice to victims everywhere, here and in the country of origin of the criminals, to deport them and turn them loose to offend in their birth countries without having to suffer any consequences for their crimes.

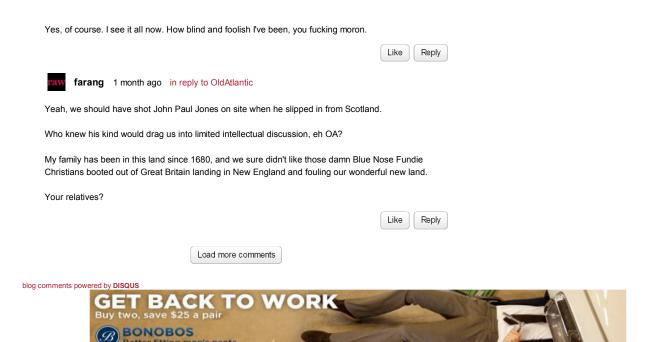
Like Reply



FemmeVarie 1 month ago

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