

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | (b)(6) |
| To: | Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Securing Our Borders Doc |
| Date: | 2018/01/30 10:23:50 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

The number of credible fear screening referrals has risen from fewer than 5,100 in 2008 to nearly 92,000 screenings in 2016 – a 1,700 percent increase.

Since April we have seen a 622% increase in family units detained at the border (1124 – Dec 8121). Additionally, we have seen a 306% increase in UACS (April 1004 – Dec 4083).

Asylum interview schedule average wait times: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-asylum/asylum/affirmative-asylum-scheduling-bulletin>

The only one I don't have is the 70% base number – I'll send as soon as I get it from USCIS

From: Claffey, Lauren

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:50 AM

To: (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)

Waldman, Katie (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Securing Our Borders Doc

Thanks!

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:45:34 AM

To: Hoffman, Jonathan; Claffey, Lauren; Waldman, Katie

Subject: RE: Securing Our Borders Doc

Will pull the numbers now

From: Hoffman, Jonathan

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:44:26 AM

To: Claffey, Lauren; Waldman, Katie
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Securing Our Borders Doc

Anna put this together. She should have the base numbers.

From: Claffey, Lauren
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:42:27 AM
To: Waldman, Katie
Cc: Hoffman, Jonathan
Subject: FW: Securing Our Borders Doc

Do you have this info?

From: Keene, Judith
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:41:05 AM
To: Claffey, Lauren
Subject: FW: Securing Our Borders Doc

Lauren,

Did OPA draft this document? If so, can you please take the lead on providing a response back to (b)(6) (b)(6) if you didn't draft the document, do you know who did? We checked with CBP and it wasn't them.

Thanks.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 3:02 PM
To: Blume, Allen (b)(6) Joachim, Robert (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Securing Our Borders Doc

Hi Allen

Attached is a document being pushed out by DHS. For each category where a percentage is provided, can you provide the actual numbers? Also on the 307,555 backlogged asylum cases, what is the average wait for an interview?

Thanks

Sender: (b)(6)

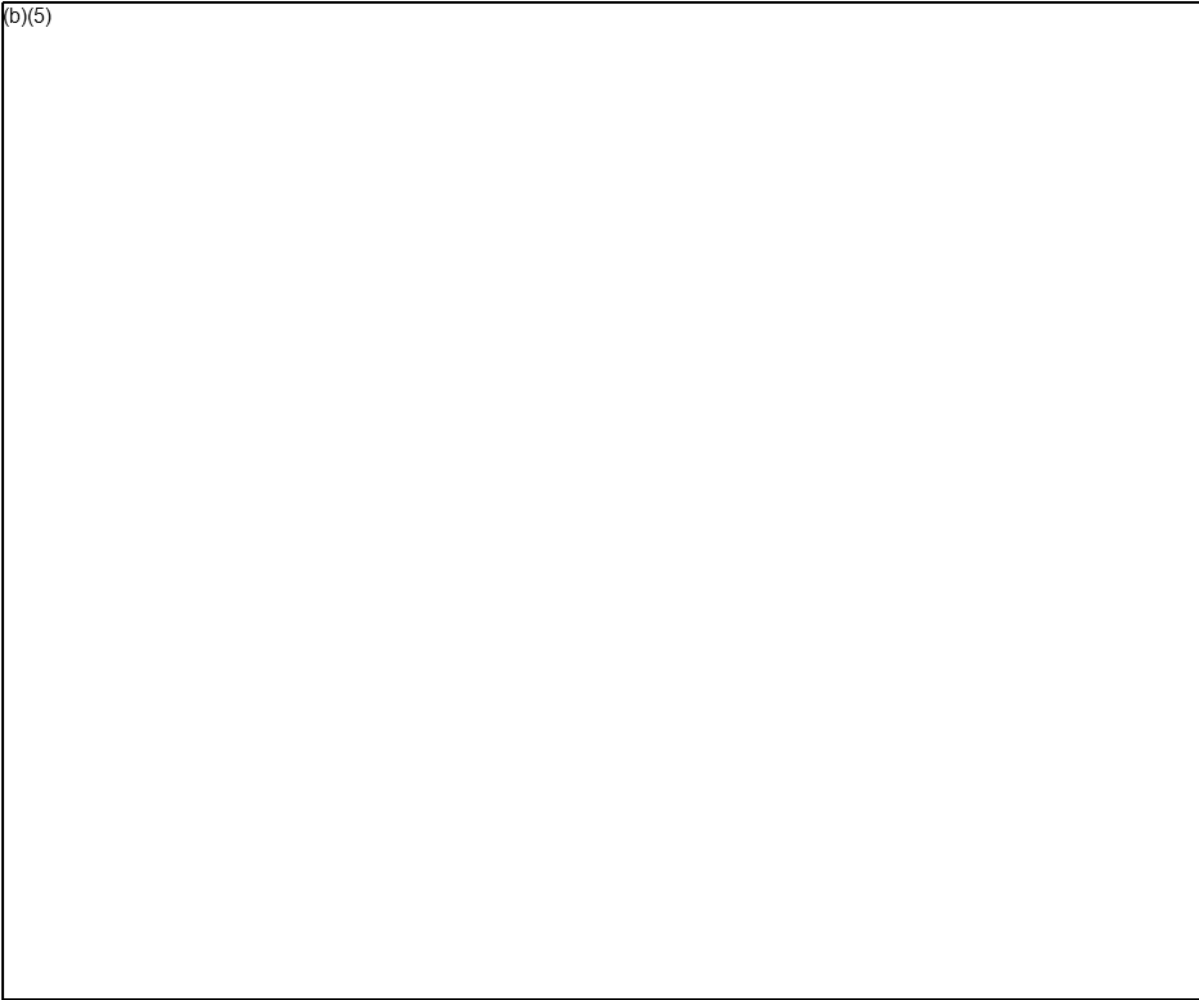
| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Recipient: | Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| (b)(6) | |
| Sent Date: | 2018/01/30 10:23:49 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/01/30 10:23:50 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Shah, Dimple (b)(6) (b)(6) Short, Tracy (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Border Wall + Security |
| Date: | 2018/02/12 13:17:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Let me know of any changes.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Shah, Dimple (b)(6) (b)(6) Short, Tracy (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/02/12 13:17:27 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/02/12 13:17:00 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Shah, Dimple (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Short, Tracy (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Border Wall + Security |
| Date: | 2018/02/12 14:01:20 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

No edits.

From: Short, Tracy
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:36 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6); Shah, Dimple (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Border Wall + Security

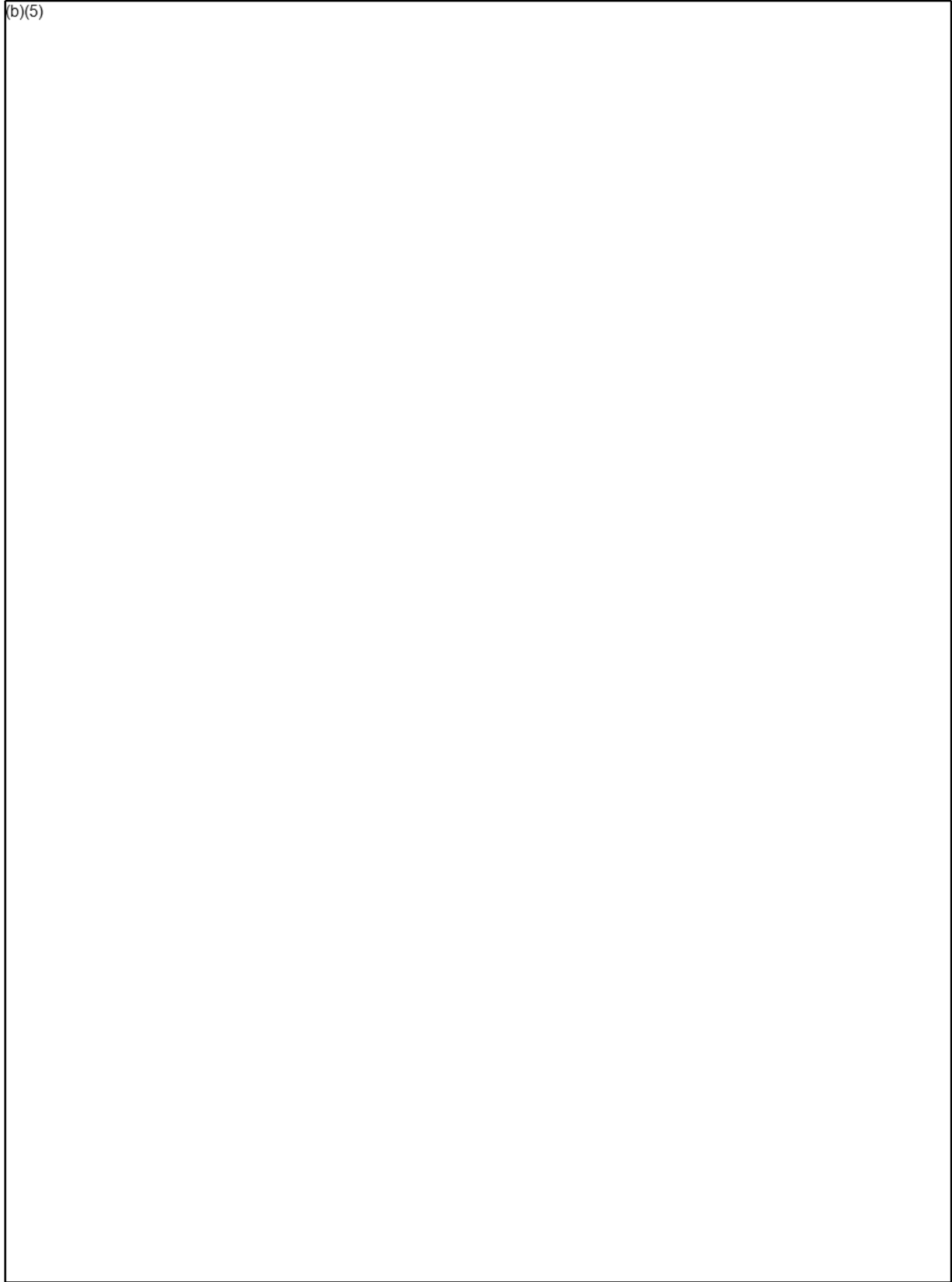
Edits below.

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:17 PM
To: Shah, Dimple (b)(6); Short, Tracy (b)(6)
Subject: Border Wall + Security

Let me know of any changes.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Sender: Shah, Dimple (b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Short, Tracy (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/02/12 14:01:19 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/02/12 14:01:20 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Shah, Dimple (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Short, Tracy (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Border Wall + Security |
| Date: | 2018/02/12 14:05:32 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

I am good. Thanks!

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:05 PM
To: Short, Tracy (b)(6) Shah, Dimple (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Border Wall + Security

Cleaned. Dimple?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: Short, Tracy

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:36 PM

To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6) Shah, Dimple (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Border Wall + Security

Edits below.

From: Waldman, Katie

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:17 PM

To: Shah, Dimple (b)(6) Short, Tracy (b)(6)

Subject: Border Wall + Security

Let me know of any changes.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Shah, Dimple (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Short, Tracy (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/02/12 14:05:31 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/02/12 14:05:32 |

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| From: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: border wall |
| Date: | 2018/02/12 14:30:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Not the last six months. Last eight of 2017. It is from April to December

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:21 PM
To: Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)
Subject: RE: border wall

What do you mean?

From: Hoffman, Jonathan
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: RE: border wall

Last eight months of 2017

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)
Subject: border wall

Tracy + Dimple cleared.

**TO MAKE AMERICA SAFE AGAIN, WE NEED TO SECURE THE BORDER AND
BUILD THE WALL SYSTEM**

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Katie Waldman
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Public Affairs

(b)(6)

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |

| |
|--|
| (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: 2018/02/12 14:30:50 |
| Delivered Date: 2018/02/12 14:30:00 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Lansing, Christyn (b)(6) (b)(6) Costanzo, Emily (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | border wall |
| Date: | 2018/02/13 14:25:18 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Border Wall is final – also pre solicitation is RGV specific.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Lansing, Christyn (b)(6) (b)(6) Costanzo, Emily (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/02/13 14:25:17 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/02/13 14:25:18 |

Page 017

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Page 018

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

WE MUST SECURE THE BORDER AND BUILD THE WALL TO MAKE AMERICA SAFE AGAIN

Walls Work. When it comes to stopping drugs and illegal aliens across our borders, border walls have proven to be extremely effective. Border security relies on a combination of border infrastructure, technology, personnel and partnerships with law enforcement at the state, local, tribal, and federal level.

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) apprehends over 1,100 people a day crossing the border illegally. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) refuses entry to 7 known or suspected terrorists every day, 50 every week, and 2,500 every year.
- DHS has seen a **300 percent** increase in unaccompanied alien children (UACs) in the last eight months of 2017 – and a **600 percent** increase in family units.
- In Fiscal Year 2017, Border Patrol saw a **73 percent** increase in assaults on officers along the Southwest border.
- Thousands of aliens illegally re-enter the United States each year, with approximately 15,700 sentenced for illegal reentry in fiscal year 2016. This does not even include the many thousands more who evade detection, or those who are not charged with illegal reentry as part of a plea agreement.
- The border jurisdictions bear the brunt of illegal alien crime, which is a large portion of the total crime in the United States. Of the 53,908 criminal cases filed by federal prosecutors in the 94 U.S. District Courts in fiscal year 2016, 23,573 cases (43.7 percent) were located in just the five border districts (Arizona, Southern District of California, New Mexico, Southern District of Texas, and Western District of Texas). In the five border districts, noncitizens accounted for 73.5 percent of all federal offenders sentenced for felonies or Class A misdemeanors in fiscal year 2016, and 47 percent of all federal non-immigration felonies or Class A misdemeanors.
- **Half of all federal criminal cases** filed in U.S. District Courts in fiscal year 2016 (25,965 of 53,908 cases) **were referred by the Department of Homeland Security.**
- Simply put—walls work. They have worked in Yuma, Arizona as a result of the 2006 Bipartisan Secure Border Act. They have also worked in San Diego. Both areas have seen **95 percent** drops in attempted illegal border crossings.
- Only **3.5 percent** of UACs apprehended are eventually removed from the United States.

Illegal immigrants are incentivized to illegally enter by the low standard for credible fear and the lack of cost or sanction for filing a baseless asylum claim, which allows many of them to assert meritless claims that will not be adjudicated for years.

- There has been a **1,700 percent increase** in Credible Fear receipts from 2008 to 2016.
- Annual asylum applications **have tripled** in the last 3 years.
- There has been a **1,750 percent** increase in the asylum backlog over the last 5 years. The affirmative asylum backlog at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has grown to **313,214 cases, as of January 28th**. Another 290,000 asylum cases are pending in our immigration courts as of February 9.

- The increase in claims filed is not associated with an increase in meritorious claims. As of FY 17, the asylum grant rate for defensive applications in immigration court is approximately 30%. On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum.
- The backlog of cases in our immigrations courts is **approximately 675,000 cases**.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Hummelberg, Hannah (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WaPo: Walls work, Trump officials say, but they're not sure to what extent that's true |
| Date: | 2018/03/13 09:03:05 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Call me on this (b)(6)

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

From: Hummelberg, Hannah
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 8:59:29 AM
To: Waldman, Katie
Subject: FW: WaPo: Walls work, Trump officials say, but they're not sure to what extent that's true

For the below article if asked. Thanks!

From: Wolf, Chad
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 12:33:00 AM
To: Hummelberg, Hannah
Subject: FW: WaPo: Walls work, Trump officials say, but they're not sure to what extent that's true

Take a look at the GAO report referenced in this story and give me the 5-6 main points so that we can be ready to rebut. Thanks.

Chad F. Wolf
Chief of Staff
Department of Homeland Security

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 9:16 PM
To: FLANAGAN, PATRICK S (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6)
Costanzo, Emily (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)
Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) Hummelberg, Hannah
(b)(6) Lansing,
Christyn (b)(6) Mitnick, John (b)(6) Neumann, Elizabeth

| | | |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------|
| (b)(6) | | Scudder, Ryan |
| (b)(6) | Shah, Dimple | (b)(6) Short, Tracy |
| (b)(6) | Taylor, Miles | (b)(6) Wales, Brandon |
| (b)(6) | Wolf, Chad | (b)(6) |

Subject: WaPo: Walls work, Trump officials say, but they're not sure to what extent that's true

Walls work, Trump officials say, but they're not sure to what extent that's true

Washington Post

By Nick Miroff

March 12

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/walls-work-trump-officials-say-but-theyre-not-sure-to-what-extent-thats-true/2018/03/11/56b5b19e-222e-11e8-86f6-54bfff693d2b_story.html?utm_term=.b4dd16007827

More than a year after the government's top oversight body urged the Department of Homeland Security to develop a way to measure the effectiveness of fencing and barriers along the border with Mexico, DHS has no such tool ready, even as President Trump prepares to pick the winning designs for his \$18 billion border wall.

Trump officials in recent weeks have dismissed criticism of their border security plan with a well-established defensive principle and simple retort: "Walls work."

But a February 2017 report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found DHS has no way to measure how well they work, where they work best or whether less-expensive alternatives could be just as effective.

Despite the assumption that illegal traffic enters through areas where fencing is absent, the report identified several sectors where more arrests occur in locations that have existing barriers.

U.S. border agents collect "geotag" data, electronic markers that assign geographic locations, to map illegal crossings and arrests. But DHS has no means to gauge the extent to which those incursions are impeded by "tactical infrastructure," the report noted, undermining the agency's ability to avoid wasteful spending.

"An assessment of border fencing's contributions to border security operations could help position [U.S. Customs and Border Protection] to identify the cost effectiveness of border fencing compared to other assets the agency deploys," the report said.

DHS officials said last week they are working with the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory to develop such an evaluation system, and it may be ready later this year.

President Trump is moving forward anyway. His public statements have demonstrated a keen interest in the aesthetic properties of the wall, along with its height. His administration has budgeted \$1.6 billion for wall construction this year.

Trump is scheduled to travel to San Diego on Tuesday to view eight prototypes and likely announce one or more winning designs. The trip will be Trump's first as president to California, a state his administration is suing for refusing to assist with federal immigration enforcement.

Trump's wall-building plan — stalled in Congress — would spend \$18 billion over 10 years to add 316 miles of new barriers and replace aging fencing along another 407 miles.

The 30-foot steel and concrete prototypes showcased in San Diego are far taller and more formidable than anything in place along the border. They extend six feet underground to deter burrowing and feature an array of anti-climbing configurations. One is crenelated with metal spikes.

DHS officials say their testing teams found the structures exceedingly difficult to scale or break through. The prototypes cost as much as \$486,000 each to build, and DHS has not said if the \$18 billion overall cost projection is based on one or several of those designs.

Instead, DHS officials have defended the expenditure by pointing to major decreases in arrests for illegal crossings in areas where tougher fencing was installed. In a new promotional video titled "Walls Work," CBP said illegal traffic dropped 87 percent in San Diego after its two-layered barrier system was installed.

"Border walls have proven to be extremely effective in preventing the flow of drugs and illegal aliens across our borders," DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said in a statement this month, after a court victory allowing Homeland Security officials to move forward with fast-track construction plans. "Simply put — walls work," she said.

But when the independent, nonpartisan GAO launched its study in 2015, it determined that the efficacy of walls and fencing varies widely across the 2,000-mile border, depending on a range of factors that include topography, proximity to urban areas and the ancillary presence of tools such as cameras, sensors and enforcement agents.

GAO researchers analyzed the location of illegal entries between 2013 and 2015 and found sectors of the border in California, New Mexico and other areas where more arrests occurred in places that already have fencing. In southern Arizona, about half of the illegal "drive-throughs" by unauthorized vehicles occurred in places with barriers to prevent exactly that.

Some of the most robust fencing along the border has been installed in urban and semi-urban areas adjacent to U.S. border cities such as Calexico, Calif., Nogales, Ariz., and El Paso. But those who illegally cross the border sometimes prefer those areas because they can quickly blend into urban surroundings if they manage to get through.

DHS officials recorded 9,287 breaches of border fencing between 2010 and 2015 in areas with “pedestrian” barriers that are designed to be more forbidding than “vehicle” fencing. Areas with older “legacy” fencing were nearly six times more likely to be breached, the GAO report noted, and presumably many of those sections will be first to be replaced by the taller and tougher ramparts on display in San Diego.

Tougher fortifications help channel illegal traffic toward more remote, isolated areas away from U.S. cities and highways, DHS officials say, giving agents more time to catch up to illegal entrants when ground sensors and aerial surveillance tools detect suspicious activity.

“Infrastructure on the U.S. side is a key factor that determines how easy it is to get from the border to being able to disappear into a vehicle or into a city, and that affects how much time we have to respond,” DHS statistician Marc Rosenblum said.

Critics of the president’s border security plans say their concerns have less to do with the physics of huge walls than with the fiscal prudence of building them at a time of ballooning deficits.

“We’re spending money like a drunken sailor,” said Sen. Thomas R. Carper (D-Del.), a former naval officer and one of the members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee that commissioned the GAO report. “We cannot continue to waste money, so we need to find out what works and what doesn’t.”

Trump campaigned on a promise to build a border wall and oblige Mexico to pay for it. Top DHS officials in the Trump administration praise the proposal.

But before Trump’s presidential run, Border Patrol agents and officials did not say they wanted a wall, Carper said. Instead, they have long emphasized a flexible “layered” approach combining barriers, technology and personnel in configurations that can adapt to changing security needs.

“It’s no one thing,” Carper said. “It’s a combination.”

In an interview, the head of the Border Patrol’s Strategic Planning and Analysis Directorate, Benjamin “Carry” Huffman, said after a career in the agency he doesn’t need a yardstick to know that walls and fencing are effective.

“Having done this for 33 years, I can tell you a wall is essential in gaining operational control capability,” Huffman said. “And having worked the border with a wall and without it, I can say you want to work the border with it.”

Look at San Diego, Huffman continued. “It’s a pleasant place to be, one of the finest cities in America. In 1985 it was quite a different place. You had 1.6 million people coming across the southern border. . . . South San Diego was practically uninhabitable. Property values were in the tank,” he said.

“Fast forward a few years and we started adding this infrastructure,” Huffman continued, describing the addition of new primary fencing backed by another “secondary” fence with Border Patrol roadway in between, creating a no-man’s land where illegal crossers could be trapped.

“We changed the whole environment in that area,” said Huffman. “The U.S. government literally made millionaires and billionaires down there. They had property that was practically unusable, and it changed dramatically.”

Last year the number of people arrested along the border with Mexico dropped to a 49-year low, and Trump has touted the decline as proof his border security strategies are working.

But illegal crossings have been falling for most of the past decade, and migration experts say tougher border security is only one of several factors. Birthrates in Mexico have plunged since the 1960s, leaving the country with far fewer unemployed young people, while the domestic labor demands of Mexican manufacturing have grown.

Today the majority of unauthorized border crossers are from Central America, not Mexico, including many families and unaccompanied minors who turn themselves in to U.S. agents to request asylum, citing threats of chronic gang violence back home.

Most of the Central American migrants cross the Rio Grande in South Texas. DHS officials have prioritized that area for a surge of new wall construction along the winding riverbanks.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hummelberg, Hannah (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/03/13 09:03:05 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | John Burnett (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| | Withington, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| CC: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: NPR request for Katie Waldman |
| Date: | 2018/04/04 10:21:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Illegal immigrants are incentivized to illegally enter by the low standard for credible fear and the lack of cost or sanction for filing a baseless asylum claim, which allows many of them to assert meritless claims that will not be adjudicated for years.

- • * There has been a **1,700 percent increase** in Credible Fear receipts from 2008 to 2016.
- • * Annual asylum applications **have tripled** in the last 3 years.
- • * There has been a **1,750 percent** increase in the asylum backlog over the last 5 years. The affirmative asylum backlog at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has grown to **313,214 cases, as of January 28th**. Another 290,000 asylum cases are pending in our immigration courts as of February 9.
- • * The increase in claims filed is not associated with an increase in meritorious claims. As of FY 17, the asylum grant rate for defensive applications in immigration court is approximately 30%. On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum.
- • * The backlog of cases in our immigrations courts is **approximately 675,000 cases**.

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

From: John Burnett (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: NPR request for Katie Waldman

Katie,

Hogan Gidley, deputy WH press secr, told our afternoon host on All Things Considered on Monday there is a 1700% increase in "credible fear" claims by UACs arriving at the border. He said you could help me check this out.

Many thanks,
John

Description: logo John Burnett / Southwest Correspondent / KUT, 300 W Dean Keeton Blvd,
Austin, TX 78712
office (b)(6) mobile (b)(6)
Twitter: @radiobigtex

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | John Burnett (b)(6) (b)(6) Withington, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/04/04 10:22:01 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/04/04 10:21:00 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | John Burnett (b)(6) |
| CC: | Withington, Jonathan B (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: NPR request for Katie Waldman |
| Date: | 2018/04/04 10:22:01 |
| Priority: | Normal |
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<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>


From: John Burnett (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: NPR request for Katie Waldman

Katie,

Hogan Gidley, deputy WH press secr, told our afternoon host on All Things Considered on Monday there is a 1700% increase in "credible fear" claims by UACs arriving at the border. He said you could help me check this out.

Many thanks,

John

 Description: logo John Burnett / Southwest Correspondent / KUT, 300 W Dean Keeton Blvd,
Austin, TX 78712
office (b)(6) mobile (b)(6)
Twitter: @radiobigtex


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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | John Burnett (b)(6) (b)(6) Withington, Jonathan B (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/04/04 10:22:01 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| From: | John Burnett (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: NPR request for Katie Waldman |
| Date: | 2018/04/04 10:27:43 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Very helpful. Thanks, Katie.

I cover immigration for NPR out of my base in Texas. I'm coming to DC the second week of May. I'd like to request a face to face interview with Secretary Nielsen regarding immigration and border security issues. To whom should I direct that request?

Very best,
John

 Description: logo John Burnett / Southwest Correspondent / KUT, 300 W Dean Keeton Blvd, Austin, TX 78712
office (b)(6) mobile (b)(6)
Twitter: @radiobigtex

From: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 10:22 AM
To: John Burnett; Media Inquiry
Cc: Withington, Jonathan B
Subject: RE: NPR request for Katie Waldman

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- • * Annual asylum applications **have tripled** in the last 3 years.
- • * There has been a **1,750 percent** increase in the asylum backlog over the last 5 years. The affirmative asylum backlog at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has grown to **313,214 cases, as of January 28th**. Another 290,000 asylum cases are pending in our immigration courts as of February 9.
- • * The increase in claims filed is not associated with an increase in meritorious claims. As of FY 17, the asylum grant rate for defensive applications in immigration court is approximately 30%. On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum.


• • * The backlog of cases in our immigrations courts is **approximately 675,000 cases**.
<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

From: John Burnett (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: NPR request for Katie Waldman

Katie,

Hogan Gidley, deputy WH press secr, told our afternoon host on All Things Considered on Monday there is a 1700% increase in “credible fear” claims by UACs arriving at the border. He said you could help me check this out.

Many thanks,
John

 Description: logo John Burnett / Southwest Correspondent / KUT, 300 W Dean Keeton Blvd, Austin, TX 78712
office (b)(6) mobile (b)(6)
Twitter: @radiobigtex

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | John Burnett (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/04/04 10:27:27 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/04/04 10:27:43 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 15:46:42 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across [this February press release](#) from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

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John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)

@jabowden4

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 15:46:35 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 15:46:42 |

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | request re 14 words post |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 15:59:33 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hello, wondering if you could comment on this posting from DHS from back in February being headlined "We Must Secure..." and its obvious echoes to the white supremacist phrase known as the 14 words?

thanks

(b)(6)

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make ...
<<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>>
www.dhs.gov

Walls Work. When it comes to stopping drugs and illegal aliens across our borders, border walls have proven to be extremely effective. Border security relies on a combination of border infrastructure, technology, personnel and partnerships with law enforcement at the state, local, tribal, and federal level.

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sender: | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 15:58:34 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 15:59:33 |

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: request re 14 words post |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: request re 14 words post

Hello, wondering if you could comment on this posting from DHS from back in February being headlined "We Must Secure..." and its obvious echoes to the white supremacist phrase known as the 14 words?

thanks

(b)(6)

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make ...
<<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>>

www.dhs.gov

Walls Work. When it comes to stopping drugs and illegal aliens across our borders, border walls have proven to be extremely effective. Border security relies on a combination of border infrastructure, technology, personnel and partnerships with law enforcement at the state, local, tribal, and federal I

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:13 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:00 |

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathar (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: request re 14 words post |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:14 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: request re 14 words post

Hello, wondering if you could comment on this posting from DHS from back in February being headlined "We Must Secure..." and its obvious echoes to the white supremacist phrase known as the 14 words?

thanks

(b)(6)

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make ...

www.dhs.gov

Walls Work. When it comes to stopping drugs and illegal aliens across our borders, border walls have proven to be extremely effective. Border security relies on a combination of border infrastructure, technology, personnel and partnerships with law enforcement at the state, local, tribal, and federal level.

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |

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| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:13 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:00:14 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| To: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:02:21 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hey John,

I'm traveling with the Secretary and can't open the link. If it's attributable to DHS then it's attributable to the Department only. Thanks

From: John Bowden
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:46:35 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler
Subject: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across this February press release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

--

John Bowden

Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)
@jabowden4

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|----------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |

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|------------------------|---------------------|
| | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:02:20 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:02:21 |

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:20 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sender: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:02:28 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:20 |

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
 Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
 To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
 Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:42 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:00 |

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:54 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of [this release](#) from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:42 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:04:54 |

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:47 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:36 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:47 |

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:36 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:07:00 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:08:56 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hill reached out too but didn't mention the conspiracy theory

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:07:36 PM
To: Kevin Collier; Media Inquiry
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Hey Kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms

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|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |

(b)(6)

Sent Date: 2018/06/28 16:08:55

Delivered Date: 2018/06/28 16:08:56

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:09:44 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Forward me who reached out – im tracking it down

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Waldman, Katie <katie.waldman@hq.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Hill reached out too but didn't mention the conspiracy theory

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:07:36 PM
To: Kevin Collier; Media Inquiry
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of [this release](#) from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |

(b)(6)

Sent Date: 2018/06/28 16:09:41

Delivered Date: 2018/06/28 16:09:44

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:09:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Forward me who reached out – im tracking it down

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Hill reached out too but didn't mention the conspiracy theory

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:07:36 PM
To: Kevin Collier; Media Inquiry
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "1

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:09:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:09:00 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| To: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| CC: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:12:22 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Adding in katie since I'm traveling.

From: John Bowden
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:46:35 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler
Subject: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across this February press release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

--

John Bowden

Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)
@jabowden4

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|----------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |

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|------------------------|---|
| | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | John Bowden <jbowden@thehill.com>; Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:12:21 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:12:22 |

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|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:14:55 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

Hey Kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
 Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
 To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
 Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sender: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:14:20 |

Delivered Date: 2018/06/28 16:14:55

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Media Enquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:22:03 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hi,

I'm a journalist with the Center for Investigative Reporting <<http://www.revealnews.org>> . I'm working on a story about this DHS blog post: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again> <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>>

There's been some criticism that the headline appears to be a deliberate reference to the "14 words", which has become an anti-immigration catchphrase among white supremacists. In addition, there are

Here's a link to an explanation of the 14 words:
<https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/14-words>.

Would someone from DHS be able to comment on this? My deadline is the end of the day today, so if someone could get back to me ASAP it would be much appreciated.

Thanks.

--

Aaron Sankin
Reporter

(b)(6)

<<https://docs.google.com/uc?export=download&id=0B4QYN5jFyFxuSHZGN2VtNmpNOD A&revid=0B4QYN5jFyFxuMXdyK1h>>

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sender: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:21:57 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:22:03 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:25:58 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hello,

My name is Jack Crosbie, I'm a reporter working for the Observer and numerous other outlets. I'm writing to inquire about a press release from February 15, 2018, entitled "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again" <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> ."

Here are my queries:

Who was the author of this particular press release? Which branch of DHS produced it (it appears to be Customs and Border Patrol).

In the press office, how many staffers oversee or contribute to the production and release of a typical press document? How many oversaw or contributed to this one?

The release's 14-word title bears a striking resemblance to the 14 words, a popular neo-nazi and white nationalist slogan, which reads: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The release includes 14 bullet points, another resemblance to the slogan. The 14th bullet point

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|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sender: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:25:36 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:25:58 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:31:38 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Ie <https://twitter.com/seldo/status/1012411506305036288>

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:14 PM, Kevin Collier (b)(6) wrote:

It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was th

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|-------------------|---|
| Sender: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |

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|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:31:32 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:31:38 |

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:10 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-
Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Statement from February

See <https://twitter.com/seldo/status/1012411506305036288>

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:14 PM, Kevin Collier (b)(6) wrote:
It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:
Hey Kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:08 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:10 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Jack Crosbie (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:29 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

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From: Jack Crosbie (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:26 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again

Hello,

My name is Jack Crosbie, I'm a reporter working for the Observer and numerous other outlets. I'm writing to inquire about a press release from February 15, 2018, entitled "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Here are my queries:

Who was the author of this particular press release? Which branch of DHS produced it (it appears to be Customs and Border Patrol).

In the press office, how many staffers oversee or contribute to the production and release of a typical press document? How many oversaw or contributed to this one?

The release's 14-word title bears a striking resemblance to the 14 words, a popular neo-nazi and white nationalist slogan, which reads: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The release includes 14 bullet points, another resemblance to the slogan. The 14th bullet point includes the following statistic: "On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum."

88, is another significant number in modern neo-Nazi messaging, as it stands for the eight letter of the alphabet, H, twice, for Heil Hitler.

Is 88 a typical sample size for measuring DHS statistics? Why was 88 used in this case?

I would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience. My deadline is as soon as possible.

Jack

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www.jackcrosbie.com
jackscrosbie@gmail.com
(b)(6) Whatsapp/ Signal
Skype: jcrosbie13
Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jack Crosbie (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:28 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:29 |

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| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Jack Crosbie (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:29 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

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And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release <<http://speaker.gov/newsroom/pressreleases?id=0118>> , 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jack Crosbie (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:28 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:29 |

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Media Enquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:01 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Aaron Sankin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:22 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Media Enquiry: 14 Words

Hi,

I'm a journalist with the Center for Investigative Reporting. I'm working on a story about this DHS blog post: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

There's been some criticism that the headline appears to be a deliberate reference to the "14 words", which has become an anti-immigration catchphrase among white supremacists. In addition, there are

Here's a link to an explanation of the 14 words: <https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/14-words>.

Would someone from DHS be able to comment on this? My deadline is the end of the day today, so if someone could get back to me ASAP it would be much appreciated.

Thanks.

--

Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KATIE.WALDMAN.HQ.DHS.GOV59C <katie.waldman@hq.dhs.gov> |
| Recipient: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:42:59 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:01 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:10 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:12 PM
To: John Bowden (b)(6)
Cc: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Information request - February DHS statement

Adding in katie since I'm traveling.

From: John Bowden
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:46:35 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler
Subject: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across [this February press release](#) from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

--
John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)
@jabowden4

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:09 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:10 |

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|------------------|------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: request re 14 words post |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:30 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: request re 14 words post

Hello, wondering if you could comment on this posting from DHS from back in February being headlined "We Must Secure..." and its obvious echoes to the white supremacist phrase known as the 14 words?

thanks

(b)(6)

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make ...

www.dhs.gov

Walls Work. When it comes to stopping drugs and illegal aliens across our borders, border walls have proven to be extremely effective. Border security relies on a combination of border infrastructure, technology, personnel and partnerships with law enforcement at the state, local, tribal, and federal level.

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:29 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:43:30 |

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| From: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:47:30 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Hi Katie, thank you for taking the time to respond.

Can you provide any additional information as to the first two queries?

Who was the author of this particular press release? Which branch of DHS produced it (it appears to be Customs and Border Patrol).

In the press office, how many staffers oversee or contribute to the production and release of a typical press document? How many oversaw or contributed to this one?

Thank you,
Jack

Jack Crosbie
Freelance Journalist
www.jackcrosbie.com
jackscrosbie@gmail.com
(b)(6) - Whatsapp/ Signal
Skype: jcrosbie13
Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

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On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

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consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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From: Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Subject: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again

Hello,

My name is Jack Crosbie, I'm a reporter working for the Observer and numerous other outlets. I'm writing to inquire about a press release from February 15, 2018, entitled "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Here are my queries:

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The release's 14-word title bears a striking resemblance to the 14 words, a popular neo-nazi and white nationalist slogan, which reads: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The release includes 14 bullet points, another resemblance to the slogan. The 14th bullet point includes the following statistic: "On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum."

88, is another significant number in modern neo-Nazi messaging, as it stands for the eight letter of the alphabet, H, twice, for Heil Hitler.

Is 88 a typical sample size for measuring DHS statistics? Why was 88 used in this case?

I would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience. My deadline is as soon as possible.

Jack

Jack Crosbie

Freelance Journalist

www.jackcrosbie.com

(b)(6)

(b)(6) - Whatsapp/ Signal

Skype: jcrosbie13

Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

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| Sender: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:47:21 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:47:30 |

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| From: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:47:30 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

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Can you provide any additional information as to the first two queries?

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Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

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| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
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| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

And may I attribute the on background statement to "a DHS spokesperson?"

Jack Crosbie
 Freelance Journalist
www.jackcrosbie.com
jackscrosbie@gmail.com
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And to inform your reporting not attributable:

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Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>

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Skype: jcrosbie13

Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

| | |
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| Sender: | Jack Crosbie <jackcrosbie@gmail.com> |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:45 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry /O=DHS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MediaInquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV> |
| Subject: | Re: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

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 Skype: jcrosbie13

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| Sender: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |

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| | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:45 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

And may I attribute the on background statement to "a DHS spokesperson?"

Jack Crosbie
 Freelance Journalist
www.jackcrosbie.com
jackscrosbie@gmail.com
 (b)(6) Whatsapp/ Signal
 Skype: jcrosbie13
 Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:47 PM, Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com> wrote:
 Hi Katie, thank you for taking the time to respond.

Can you provide any additional information as to the first two queries?

Who was the author of this particular press release? Which branch of DHS produced it (it appears to be Customs and Border Patrol).

In the press office, how many staffers oversee or contribute to the production and release of a typical press document? How many oversaw or contributed to this one?

Thank you,
 Jack

Jack Crosbie
 Freelance Journalist
www.jackcrosbie.com
jackscrosbie@gmail.com
 (b)(6) Whatsapp/ Signal
 Skype: jcrosbie13
 Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:42 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Jack Crosbie <jackscrosbie@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Subject: Press release: We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again

Hello,

My name is Jack Crosbie, I'm a reporter working for the Observer and numerous other outlets. I'm writing to inquire about a press release from February 15, 2018, entitled "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Here are my queries:

Who was the author of this particular press release? Which branch of DHS produced it (it appears to be Customs and Border Patrol).

In the press office, how many staffers oversee or contribute to the production and release of a typical press document? How many oversaw or contributed to this one?

The release's 14-word title bears a striking resemblance to the 14 words, a popular neo-nazi and white nationalist slogan, which reads: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The release includes 14 bullet points, another resemblance to the slogan. The 14th bullet point includes the following statistic: "On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum."

88, is another significant number in modern neo-Nazi messaging, as it stands for the eight letter of the alphabet, H, twice, for Heil Hitler.

Is 88 a typical sample size for measuring DHS statistics? Why was 88 used in this case?

I would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience. My deadline is as soon as possible.

Jack

Jack Crosbie

Freelance Journalist

www.jackcrosbie.com

jackcrosbie@gmail.com

(b)(6) Whatsapp/ Signal

Skype: jcrossie13

Instagram/ Twitter @jscros

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Jack Crosbie <jackcrosbie@gmail.com> |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:45 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:48:55 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MediaInquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV> |
| Subject: | Re: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 16:49:29 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

All reasonable, but I'm really just asking for a formal statement/denial I can tweet out

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:42 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Statement from February

Re <https://twitter.com/seldo/status/1012411506305036288>

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:14 PM, Kevin Collier (b)(6) wrote:

It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

Hey Kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of [this release](#) from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 16:49:08 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 16:49:29 |

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Media Enquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:04:41 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Thanks!

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 1:42 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Aaron Sankin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:22 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Media Enquiry: 14 Words

Hi,

I'm a journalist with the Center for Investigative Reporting. I'm working on a story about this DHS blog post: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

There's been some criticism that the headline appears to be a deliberate reference to the "14 words", which has become an anti-immigration catchphrase among white supremacists. In addition, there are

Here's a link to an explanation of the 14 words: <https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/14-words>.

Would someone from DHS be able to comment on this? My deadline is the end of the day today, so if someone could get back to me ASAP it would be much appreciated.

Thanks.

--

Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:04:17 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:04:41 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:12:02 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Use the background attributable to a DHS official.

From: Kevin Collier
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:49:08 PM
To: Waldman, Katie
Cc: Media Inquiry
Subject: Re: Statement from February

All reasonable, but I'm really just asking for a formal statement/denial I can tweet out

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:42 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Statement from February

Re <https://twitter.com/seldo/status/1012411506305036288>

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:14 PM, Kevin Collier (b)(6) wrote:
It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:
Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry (b)(6)
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Kevin Collier (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:12:01 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:12:02 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:21:33 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Good afternoon.

There are concerns being voiced on Twitter, including by former White supremacist leaders, that a February press release on border security - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again> - mirrors language found in 14 words, a White supremacist slogan.

They also say they use of 88 in one of the bullet points is a dog whistle for supremacists or Neo-Nazis as 88 is a reference to "Heil Hitler".

Is DHS aware of this? And does the department have any comment on the allegations?

Thanks,

Jeff Seldin
National Security Correspondent
VOA News - Washington

email: (b)(6)
 Pentagon Bureau: (b)(6)
 Pentagon Radio Booth: (b)(6)
 phone: (b)(6)
 mobile: (b)(6)
 VoIP: (b)(6)
 Skype ID: (b)(6)
 twitter: @jseldin

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| Sender: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:21:25 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:21:33 |

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | Warren Throckmorton (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Media inquiry |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:23:03 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Hi, I am a freelance writer trying to source the following information on the DHS website:

Illegal immigrants are incentivized to illegally enter by the low standard for credible fear and the lack of cost or sanction for filing a baseless asylum claim, which allows many of them to assert meritless claims that will not be adjudicated for years.

- * There has been a **1,700 percent increase** in Credible Fear receipts from 2008 to 2016.
- * Annual asylum applications **have tripled** in the last 3 years.
- * There has been a **1,750 percent** increase in the asylum backlog over the last 5 years. The affirmative asylum backlog at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has grown to **313,214 cases, as of January 28th**. Another 290,000 asylum cases are pending in our immigration courts as of February 9.
- * The increase in claims filed is not associated with an increase in meritorious claims. As of FY 17, the asylum grant rate for defensive applications in immigration court is approximately 30%. On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum.
- * The backlog of cases in our immigrations courts is **approximately 675,000 cases**.

Could you help me find the source for these statistics? Thanks, Warren Throckmorton, PhD

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| Sender: | Warren Throckmorton (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:22:57 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:23:03 |

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|------------------|---|
| From: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Fwd: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:29:12 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

My apologies if you're getting this twice, but given the attention it seems to be getting on social media, I wanted to make sure I did all I could to reach out to DHS.

Thanks.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeff Seldin (b)(6)

Subject: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

Date: June 28, 2018 at 5:21:24 PM EDT

To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Good afternoon.

There are concerns being voiced on Twitter, including by former White supremacist leaders, that a February press release on border security - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again> - mirrors language found in 14 words, a White supremacist slogan.

They also say they use of 88 in one of the bullet points is a dog whistle for supremacists or Neo-Nazis as 88 is a reference to "Heil Hitler".

Is DHS aware of this? And does the department have any comment on

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:28:38 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:29:12 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:36:52 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Feel free to use this in story **On background:** this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

From: John Bowden (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Katie,

Thanks for your information, I'll take it in to consideration. For future reference, I'm a news reporter and do not make "arguments" in my pieces, and I would also note the irony of asking me to do "research" while stymieing my very request to do just that.

If you are able to send a response addressing the actual question I sent your office, please let me know.

John

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:43 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that "We must secure our borders" is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being

consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:12 PM
To: John Bowden (b)(6)
Cc: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Information request - February DHS statement

Adding in katie since I'm traveling.

From: John Bowden
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:46:35 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler
Subject: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across [this February press release](#) from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

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John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)

@jabowden4

--

John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill

(b)(6)

@jabowden4

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:36:51 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:36:52 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:38:28 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: “I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders.” (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Jeff Seldin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

Good afternoon.

There are concerns being voiced on Twitter, including by former White supremacist leaders, that a February press release on border security - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again> - mirrors language found in 14 words, a White supremacist slogan.

They also say they use of 88 in one of the bullet points is a dog whistle for supremacists or Neo-Nazis as 88 is a reference to “Heil Hitler”.

Is DHS aware of this? And does the department have any comment on the allegations?

Thanks,

Jeff Seldin
National Security Correspondent
VOA News - Washington

(b)(6)
Pentagon Bureau: (b)(6)
Pentagon Radio Booth: (b)(6)
phone: (b)(6)
mobile: (b)(6)
VoIP: (b)(6)
Skype ID: (b)(6)
twitter: @jseldin

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:38:27 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:38:28 |

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| From: | Colin Kalmbacher (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Media Inquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:44:30 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

To Whom It May Concern,

Howdy and hello, I'm an editor at lawandcrime.com

We're doing a story on this social media freakout over DHS' February 15 article titled, "We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make America Safe Again."

Twitter users believe this is a coded reference to a popular neo-Nazi slogan which is as follows, "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The comparisons, some people say, are quite obvious and glaring. Also, it's been noted that the article contains 14 distinct claims and uses the number 88 as a denominator in a fraction.

According to white supremacists, 88 stands for "Heil Hitler."

1. Is there any truth to this?
2. Could you issue a general statement to refute this?
3. Who wrote the article in question?
4. Why would DHS use 88 as the denominator in a fraction? That's unheard of.
5. If this article is intended as neo-Nazi code-signaling, what will DHS do about it?
6. Are there curre

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| Sender: | Colin Kalmbacher (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:44:23 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:44:30 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:52 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Katie,

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly.

And to be absolutely clear, I never argued that this was or wasn't white supremacist propaganda. I saw it getting attention, including from some folks who have been well-respected (though one has apparently clashed with DHS before).

And as you point out, many people have used the phrase "we must secure our borders."

Still, given the attention, I wanted to reach out to DHS.

Jeff

From: "Waldman, Katie" (b)(6)
Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 5:38 PM
To: Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that "We must secure our borders" is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Jeff Seldin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

Good afternoon.

There are concerns being voiced on Twitter, including by former White supremacist leaders, that a February press release on border security - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again> - mirrors language found in 14 words, a White supremacist slogan.

They also say they use of 88 in one of the bullet points is a dog whistle for supremacists or Neo-Nazis as 88 is a reference to “Heil Hitler”.

Is DHS aware of this? And does the department have any comment on the allegations?

Thanks,

Jeff Seldin
National Security Correspondent
VOA News - Washington

(b)(6)
Pentagon Bureau (b)(6)
Pentagon Radio Booth (b)(6)
phone: (b)(6)
mobile: (b)(6)
VoIP: (b)(6)
Skype ID: (b)(6)
twitter: @jseldin

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sender: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:15 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:52 |

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|------------------|-----------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Media Inquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:24 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

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Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

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From: Colin Kalmbacher (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:44 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Media Inquiry: 14 Words

To Whom It May Concern,

Howdy and hello, I'm an editor at lawandcrime.com

We're doing a story on this social media freakout over DHS' February 15 article titled, "We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make America Safe Again."

Twitter users believe this is a coded reference to a popular neo-Nazi slogan which is as follows, "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

The comparisons, some people say, are quite obvious and glaring. Also, it's been noted that the article contains 14 distinct claims and uses the number 88 as a denominator in a fraction. According to white supremacists, 88 stands for "Heil Hitler."

1. Is there any truth to this?
2. Could you issue a general statement to refute this?
3. Who wrote the article in question?
4. Why would DHS use 88 as the denominator in a fraction? That's unheard of.
5. If this article is intended as neo-Nazi code-signaling, what will DHS do about it?
6. Are there currently any neo-Nazis, white supremacists or otherwise working at DHS?
7. Does DHS have an official position on white supremacy and neo-Nazism?

Thanks!

Yours,

Colin K.

Editor | Law&Crime

(b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:23 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:45:24 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:14 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

To clarify, what level of background? DHS official?

From: "Waldman, Katie" (b)(6)
Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 5:38 PM
To: Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that "We must secure our borders" is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – "Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law." (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – "I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country." (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Jeff Seldin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM

To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>

Subject: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

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They also say they use of 88 in one of the bullet points is a dog whistle for supremacists or Neo-Nazis as 88 is a reference to “Heil Hitler”.

Is DHS aware of this? And does the department have any comment on the allegations?

Thanks,

Jeff Seldin
National Security Correspondent
VOA News - Washington

(b)(6)
Pentagon Bureau: (b)(6)
Pentagon Radio Booth: (b)(6)
phone: (b)(6)
mobile: (b)(6)
VoIP: (b)(6)
Skype ID: (b)(6)
twitter: @jseldin

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:06 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:14 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:46 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

DHS official

From: Jeff Seldin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:47 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6) Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

To clarify, what level of background? DHS official?

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Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 5:38 PM
To: Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that "We must secure our borders" is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

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From: Jeff Seldin <jseldin@VOANews.COM>
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Allegations on social media of a DHS press release that resembles supremacist propaganda

Good afternoon.

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Jeff Seldin
National Security Correspondent
VOA News - Washington

(b)(6)
Pentagon Bureau (b)(6)
Pentagon Radio Booth: (b)(6)
phone: (b)(6)
mobile: (b)(6)
VoIP: (b)(6)
Skype ID: (b)(6)
twitter: @jseldin

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jeff Seldin (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:45 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:46 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Jack Smith IVd (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:48:07 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

This press release <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> put out by DHS is being accused <<https://twitter.com/search?q=DHS&src=typd>> in various corners of social media of being a neo-Nazi handshake of sorts. People make the following points:

- * The infamous white pride slogan called the "14 words" goes like this:
 - * "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."
 - * The post is titled:
 - * "We must secure the border and build the wall to make America safe again."
 - * The title resembles the 14 words in an obvious way. Possibly the most significant neo-Nazi dogwhistle today is "14,88." 14 stands for the 14 words, posted above. The title of the post is 14 words, and there are 14 paragraphs. "88" stands for "HH" or "Heil Hitler."
 - * Here's the part that stands out, and potentially makes this newsworthy where this might otherwise seem conspiratorial: The post makes use of the statist

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sender: | Jack Smith IVd (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:47:58 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:48:07 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Jack Smith IVd (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:24 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

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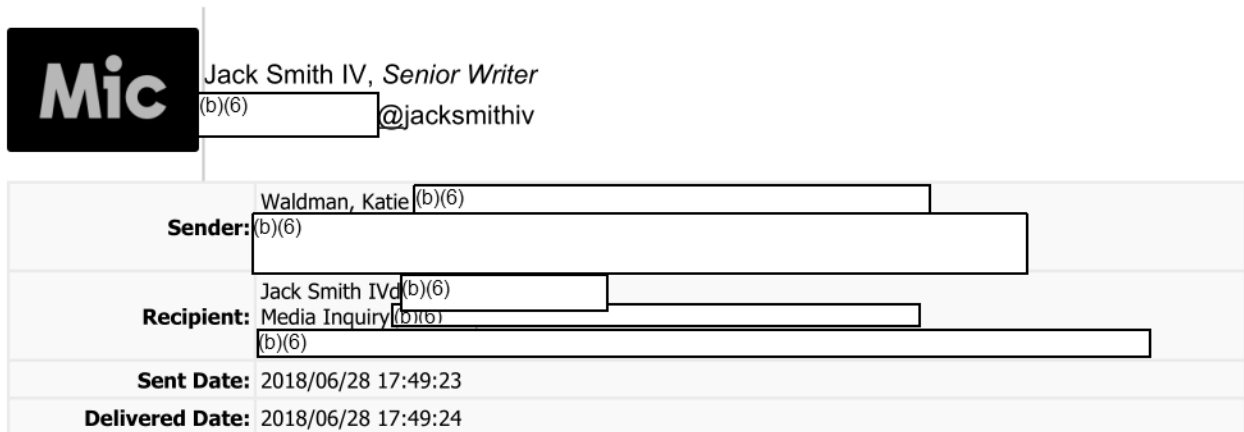
From: Jack Smith IVd (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:48 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release?

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- • **Here's the part that stands out, and potentially makes this newsworthy where this might otherwise seem conspiratorial:** The post makes use of the statistic: *"On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum."* Not only is this an incredibly strange way of listing a statistic (less-than-13-out-of-88 is a mathematical contortion), but I cannot find the source for this statistic as it was originally published.

My questions are these:

- •
- • Does the DHS acknowledge the strange character of the post?
- • What was the process for publishing such a post? Was this written by a member of the DHS communications team?
- • Can the DHS say who wrote the post? Is that person still employed by the DHS?
- • Does the DHS have a source for the odd-seeming statistic above on hand, the one about asylum grantees?



The image shows an email header with a 'Mic' logo on the left. The sender is identified as Jack Smith IV, Senior Writer, with a redacted email address and the handle @jacksmithiv. The recipient is identified as Jack Smith IV and Media Inquiry, with redacted email addresses. The sent date is 2018/06/28 17:49:23 and the delivered date is 2018/06/28 17:49:24.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jack Smith IV (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:23 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:24 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:35 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

It gets weirder and weirder

From: Jack Smith IV (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:48 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release?

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Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*

(b)(6) @jacksmithiv

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:33 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:35 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

It gets weirder and weider

From: Jack Smith IVd (b)(6)
 Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:48 PM
 To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
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| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
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| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:35 |
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| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:33 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:49:35 |

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|------------------|--|
| From: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Information request - February DHS statement |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:52:12 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Did he ask about the language?

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:36:51 PM
To: John Bowden
Subject: RE: Information request - February DHS statement

Feel free to use this in story **On background:** this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

From: John Bowden (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Katie,

Thanks for your information, I'll take it in to consideration. For future reference, I'm a news reporter and do not make "arguments" in my pieces, and I would also note the irony of asking me to do "research" while stymieing my very request to do just that.

If you are able to send a response addressing the actual question I sent your office, please let me know.

John

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:43 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:12 PM
To: John Bowden (b)(6)
Cc: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Information request - February DHS statement

Adding in katie since I'm traveling.

From: John Bowden
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 3:46:35 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler
Subject: Information request - February DHS statement

Hi Tyler,

I'm working on a story for our ongoing coverage of President Trump's ongoing battle with Congress over plans to build a wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border.

I came across [this February press release](#) from DHS, and I was wondering if you could give me some information about which DHS official specifically drafted it? The release is unsigned and attributed only to DHS.

Thanks! I appreciate any information you can give me.

John

--
John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill
(b)(6)
@jabowden4

--
John Bowden
Reporter
The Hill
(b)(6)
@jabowden4

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sender: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) John Bowden (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:52:12 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Jack Smith IVd (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:53:34 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Can I attribute anything here? "The DHS tells me/Mic that this is not credible," etc, without quoting? Is there any way I can report your response?



Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*
(b)(6) @jacksmithiv

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 5:49 PM, Waldman, Katie
(b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

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And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)


From: Jack Smith IVd [b)(6)]
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:48 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release?

This press release put out by DHS is being accused in various corners of social media of being a neo-Nazi handshake of sorts. People make the following points:

- • The infamous white pride slogan called the "14 words" goes like this:
 - • "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."
- • The post is titled:
 - • "We must secure the border and build the wall to make America safe again."
- • The title resembles the 14 words in an obvious way. Possibly the most significant neo-Nazi dogwhistle today is "14,88." 14 stands for the 14 words, posted above. The title of the post is 14 words, and there are 14 paragraphs. "88" stands for "HH" or "Heil Hitler."
- • **Here's the part that stands out, and potentially makes this newsworthy where this might otherwise seem conspiratorial:** The post makes use of the statistic: *"On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum."* Not only is this an incredibly strange way of listing a statistic (less-than-13-out-of-88 is a mathematical contortion), but I cannot find the source for this statistic as it was originally published.

My questions are these:

- •
- • Does the DHS acknowledge the strange character of the post?
- • What was the process for publishing such a post? Was this written by a member of the DHS communications team?
- • Can the DHS say who wrote the post? Is that person still employed by the DHS?
- • Does the DHS have a source for the odd-seeming statistic above on hand, the one about asylum grantees?

 Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*
(b)(6) @jacksmithiv


| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Jack Smith IVd (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:53:26 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:53:34 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | Jack Smith IV (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:38 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Attribute to a DHS official

From: Jack Smith IV (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:53 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release?

Can I attribute anything here? "The DHS tells me/Mic that this is not credible," etc, without quoting? Is there any way I can report your response?

 Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*
 (b)(6) @jacksmithiv
 On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 5:49 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*

(b)(6) @jacksmithiv

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|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Jack Smith IV (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:36 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:38 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Press Inquiry — Nazi-inspired DHS press release? |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:38 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

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Jack Smith IV, *Senior Writer*

(b)(6) @jacksmithiv

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:36 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 17:54:38 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: Media Enquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 18:12:21 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

One more quick question: Do you happen to know which component within DHS handles posting press releases on the DHS site? I'm filing a FOIA request about this blog post and want to make sure that I'm not sending it to the incorrect DHS component, which would likely lead to FOIA officers having to do unnecessary work.

Thanks.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 2:04 PM, Aaron Sankin (b)(6) wrote:
Thanks!

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 1:42 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

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Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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From: Aaron Sankin (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:22 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Media Enquiry: 14 Words

Hi,

I'm a journalist with the Center for Investigative Reporting. I'm working on a story about this DHS blog post: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

There's been some criticism that the headline appears to be a deliberate reference to the "14 words", which has become an anti-immigration catchphrase among white supremacists. In addition, there are

Here's a link to an explanation of the 14 words: <https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/14-words>.

Would someone from DHS be able to comment on this? My deadline is the end of the day today, so if someone could get back to me ASAP it would be much appreciated.

Thanks.

--

Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Aaron Sankin (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 18:12:09 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 18:12:21 |

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Media Enquiry: 14 Words |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 18:13:08 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

From: Aaron Sankin
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 6:12:09 PM
To: Waldman, Katie
Cc: Media Inquiry
Subject: Re: Media Enquiry: 14 Words

One more quick question: Do you happen to know which component within DHS handles posting press releases on the DHS site? I'm filing a FOIA request about this blog post and want to make sure that I'm not sending it to the incorrect DHS component, which would likely lead to FOIA officers having to do unnecessary work.

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 1:42 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

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And to inform your reporting not attributable:

-

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

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Reporter

(b)(6)



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--

Aaron Sankin

Reporter

(b)(6)



revealnews.org

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 18:13:07 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 18:13:08 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Jason Wilson <jason@jasonwilson.media> |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Media Inquiry - The Guardian - "Fourteen words" press release |
| Date: | 2018/06/28 19:30:20 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Hi there,

I am on assignment for The Guardian <https://www.theguardian.com/us>

I refer to a press release on your website from 15th Feb 2018.

The title is "We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make America Safe Again"

Social media users have pointed out that the title has fourteen words, and begins in the same way as a famous white supremacist slogan of the same length
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen_Words

It also has fourteen points, and oddly expresses a figure as a fraction of 88 in the second last point. "On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum". 88 is a signal number for white supremacists, referring to "HH" or "Heil Hitler".

My questions:

Who wrote the press release?

Is this white supremacists signaling?

Is it at the very least careless messaging?

Deadline 5PM PST. You can respond here or on 949 500 6186

Thanks and all the best

Jason

Jas

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|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Jason Wilson <jason@jasonwilson.media> |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/28 19:29:45 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/28 19:30:20 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Jackson Landers (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Media query regarding DHS press release |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 01:59:46 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

I am a journalist for Rewire.news on a Friday deadline for a story about a controversial press release that has been noticed <<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>> in your archives. This press release opens with a headline, "We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make America Safe Again," which is exactly 14 words long and bears a striking similarity to the "14 words" used in a slogan <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen_Words> and as a signalling device by neo-Nazis.

I cover white supremacists pretty much full time on the civil rights beat and I run into the 14 words and the number 88 pretty much everywhere. They put it on tattoos and on websites and shirts, etc. And there's an odd mention of the number "88" in that press release near the end as well. Literally, the head of the National Socialist Movement (neo-Nazi party) is telling me that they are hearing this as a dog whistle of encouragement to them. D

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| Sender: | Jackson Landers (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 01:59:19 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 01:59:46 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | 'Jason Wilson' <jason@jasonwilson.media>; Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Media Inquiry - The Guardian - "Fourteen words" press release |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:42 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that "We must secure our borders" is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – "Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law." (Press Release, 3/22/07)

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CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Jason Wilson <jason@jasonwilson.media>
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 7:30 PM
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Subject: Media Inquiry - The Guardian - "Fourteen words" press release

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Thanks and all the best
Jason

Jason Wilson
Journalist

(b)(6)
e jason@jasonwilson.media
or (b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | 'Jason Wilson' < jason@jasonwilson.media >; Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:42 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | 'Jason Wilson' <jason@jasonwilson.media>; Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Media Inquiry - The Guardian - "Fourteen words" press release |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

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Thanks and all the best

Jason

Jason Wilson

Journalist

(b)(6)

e jason@jasonwilson.media

or (b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | 'Jason Wilson' < jason@jasonwilson.media >; Media Inquiry (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 08:21:00 |

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| From: O'Malley, Devin (OPA) (b)(6) |
| Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: (b)(6) |
| Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| CC: (b)(6) |
| Subject: RE: Stat Check |
| Date: 2018/06/29 08:36:07 |
| Priority: Normal |
| Type: Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Just called you.

Devin M. O'Malley

Department of Justice

Office of Public Affairs

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

From: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2018 8:24 AM
To: O'Malley, Devin (OPA) (b)(6)
Cc: Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)
Subject: Stat Check

Would you mind checking into this stat with EOIR please and give it some context? It was used in a fact sheet that has since become of recent public interest.

On average, out of 88 claims that pass the credible fear screening, fewer than 13 will ultimately result in a grant of asylum.

Thank you

Katie Waldman
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Public Affairs

(b)(6)
(b)(6) (o)
(m)

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|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | O'Malley, Devin (OPA) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 08:35:57 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 08:36:07 |

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | O'Malley, Devin (OPA) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: Statement from February |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 08:37:00 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:12 PM
To: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: RE: Statement from February

Use the background attributable to a DHS official.

From: Kevin Collier
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:49:08 PM
To: Waldman, Katie
Cc: Media Inquiry
Subject: Re: Statement from February

All reasonable, but I'm really just asking for a formal statement/denial I can tweet out

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:42 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Statement from February

Ie <https://twitter.com/seldo/status/1012411506305036288>

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 4:14 PM, Kevin Collier (b)(6) wrote:
It's going viral on Twitter.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018, 4:07 PM Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:
Hey kevin – off the record, where did you get this theory from?

From: Kevin Collier (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Statement from February

Hi. The title of this release from February begins "We must secure the" and is 14 words long. A popular Twitter conspiracy theory notes that this statement evokes the infamous white

supremacist "14 words," which also begins with those four words, and holds that it was written by a staffer who wanted to indicate it.

Is there any truth to that theory? Was that the title's intention? Is DHS comms investigating the issue?

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | O'Malley, Devin (OPA) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 08:37:27 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 08:37:00 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Andrew Wyrich (b)(6) |
| To: | Media Inquiry /O=DHS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MediaInquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV> |
| Subject: | Social Media Criticizing DHS Press Release - The Daily Dot |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 12:50:49 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note.EnterpriseVault.Shortcut |

Good afternoon,

My name is Andrew Wyrich and I am a reporter with The Daily Dot.

I wanted to know if DHS had any comment on several social media users believing that a Feb. 15, 2018 press release titled: "We must secure the border and built the wall to make America safe again" has similarities to a popular "14 words" white supremacist slogan: ""We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

We are writing about the social media speculation and wanted to see if DHS had any comment about it?

Thank you very much for your time,

--

—

Andrew Wyrich
 Layer 8 Staff Writer | The Daily Dot <<https://www.dailydot.com/>>
 p (b)(6) t @andrewwyrich (b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Andrew Wyrich (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Media Inquiry /O=DHS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MediaInquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV> |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 12:50:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 12:50:49 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | 'Andrew Wyrich' (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: Social Media Criticizing DHS Press Release - The Daily Dot |
| Date: | 2018/06/29 16:25:03 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Andrew Wyrich (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2018 12:51 PM
To: Media Inquiry <MediaInquiry@HQ.DHS.GOV>
Subject: Social Media Criticizing DHS Press Release - The Daily Dot

Good afternoon,

My name is Andrew Wyrich and I am a reporter with The Daily Dot.

I wanted to know if DHS had any comment on several social media users believing that a Feb.

15, 2018 press release titled: "We must secure the border and built the wall to make America safe again" has similarities to a popular "14 words" white supremacist slogan: ""We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."

We are writing about the social media speculation and wanted to see if DHS had any comment about it?

Thank you very much for your time,

--
—

Andrew Wyrich
Layer 8 Staff Writer | [The Daily Dot](#)
p (b)(6) t @andrewwyrich

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | 'Andrew Wyrich' (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/29 16:25:00 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/29 16:25:03 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 17:19:28 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

I thought (b)(6) had forwarded this earlier, but apparently we miscommunicated. You all may want to address this.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 3:27:16 PM
To: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Sultan, Jennifer
Cc: (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana
Subject: RE: WTF??

Hi Cameron and Ronnie,

Following up on this. This is going around a bit on twitter. Should we raise this with OPA?

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

Adding Cameron, Ronnie, and Comms

Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Please let me know your thoughts.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM

To: Shora, Kareem (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: RE: WTF??

Dropping Christian. It's been a long day but when I click on the link, I am not seeing that language on the page it links to. Does anyone else?

From: Shora, Kareem

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM

To: Christian Picciolini (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)

(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)

Subject: RE: WTF??

+ Jen Sultan who is our director of civil rights and civil liberties programs branch for her awareness.

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.
Section Chief, Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)

<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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and Civil Liberties and the Office of General Counsel before disclosing any information contained in this email.

From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:16:45 PM
To: Shora, Kareem
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6)
Subject: Re: WTF??

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

— Christian

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christianpicciolini.com
freeradicals.org
wearefreeradicals.net

Author, *WHITE AMERICAN YOUTH* (Hachette, 2018)
Speaker, TEDxMileHigh2017

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:16 PM Christian Picciolini (b)(6) wrote:
It's also 14 words. I would find out who wrote that and look into their background. Thanks.

— Christian

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review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient or this information has been inappropriately forwarded to you, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original.

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:14 PM Shora, Kareem (b)(6) wrote:
Looping in (b)(6) who is CRCL's liaison with the DHS Office of Public Affairs to appropriately relay the concern that the first four words and theme is troubling. Thank you for alerting us Christian.

Kareem.

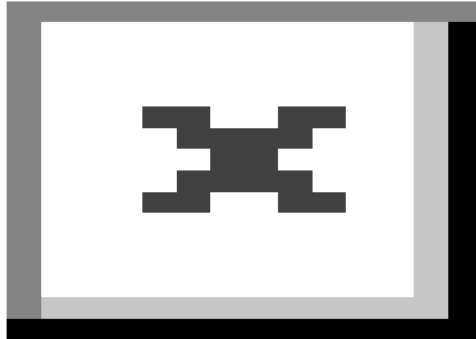
Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.
Section Chief, Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (Email)
(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)
<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:01:27 PM
To: (b)(6) Shora, Kareem; Tarin, Haris
Subject: WTF??

This is on your website today. Um...

FYI: The neo-Nazi 14 words are "We must secure the existence of our people and the future of white children." See a similarity?



Screen Shot

2018-06-28 at 2.59.07 PM.png

— Christian

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| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 17:19:27 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 17:19:28 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:42 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

We have addressed with the media and issued a statement. This is a dramatic bit of twitter hysteria over a common phrase “We must secure the border”. We pulled clips of Pelosi, Hoyer and others saying the same thing. Given this document contains basic talking points we have not decided to remove.

If there is anyone on your team who disagrees and wants to talk about it more i will be around on Monday and Tuesday and am happy to discuss.

From: Quinn, Cameron
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:19:27 PM
To: Hoffman, Jonathan; Claffey, Lauren
Cc: Venture, Veronica
Subject: FW: WTF??

I thought (b)(6) had forwarded this earlier, but apparently we miscommunicated. You all may want to address this.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 3:27:16 PM
To: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Sultan, Jennifer
Cc: (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana
Subject: RE: WTF??

Hi Cameron and Ronnie,

Following up on this. This is going around a bit on twitter. Should we raise this with OPA?

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

Adding Cameron, Ronnie, and Comms

Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie - (b)(5)
(b)(5)

Please let me know your thoughts.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM
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(b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM
To: Christian Picciolini (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

+ Jen Sultan who is our director of civil rights and civil liberties programs branch for her awareness.

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Office of the Secretary
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(b)(6)
(b)(6) (Email)
(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)
<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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Subject: Re: WTF??

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It's also 14 words. I would find out who wrote that and look into their background. Thanks.

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:14 PM Shora, Kareem (b)(6) wrote:
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Kareem.

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Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) Classified/CLAN)

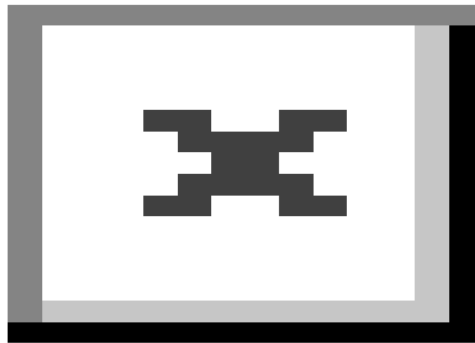
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| | |
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| Sender: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:42 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| From: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:43 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

We have addressed with the media and issued a statement. This is a dramatic bit of twitter hysteria over a common phrase “We must secure the border”. We pulled clips of Pelosi, Hoyer and others saying the same thing. Given this document contains basic talking points we have not decided to remove.

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From: Quinn, Cameron
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To: Hoffman, Jonathan; Claffey, Lauren
Cc: Venture, Veronica
Subject: FW: WTF??

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Cc: (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana
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(b)(6)

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Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)
(b)(5)

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Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM
To: Shora, Kareem (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

Dropping Christian. It's been a long day but when I click on the link, I am not seeing that language on the page it links to. Does anyone else?

From: Shora, Kareem
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To: Christian Picciolini (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

+ Jen Sultan who is our director of civil rights and civil liberties programs branch for her awareness.

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(b)(6)
(b)(6) (Email)
(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)
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To: Shora, Kareem
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6)
Subject: Re: WTF??

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

— Christian

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Author, *WHITE AMERICAN YOUTH* (Hachette, 2018)
Speaker, TEDxMileHigh2017

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:16 PM Christian Picciolini (b)(6) wrote:
It's also 14 words. I would find out who wrote that and look into their background. Thanks.

— Christian

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Kareem.

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.
Section Chief, Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)

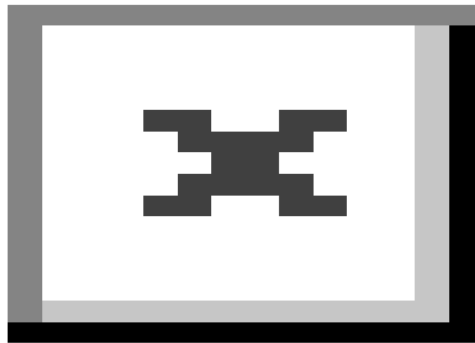
<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:01:27 PM
To: (b)(6) Shora, Kareem; Tarin, Haris
Subject: WTF??

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Screen Shot

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| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sender: | Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Claffey, Lauren (b)(6) (b)(6) Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:41 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 17:29:43 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 17:37:56 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

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Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

Adding Cameron, Ronnie, and Comms

Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)
(b)(5)

Please let me know your thoughts.

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(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM
To: Shora, Kareem (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris <haris.tarin@hq.dhs.gov> (b)(6)
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Subject: RE: WTF??

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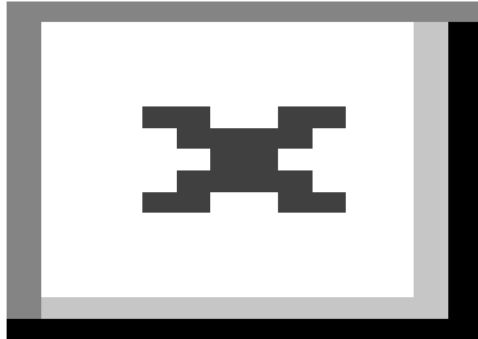
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| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) |
| (b)(6) | |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 17:37:55 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 17:37:56 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 17:41:28 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Adding Jonathan here too. There are multiple chains.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:37:55 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler; Waldman, Katie
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6)
Subject: FW: WTF??

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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)
(b)(5)

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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)
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(b)(6)

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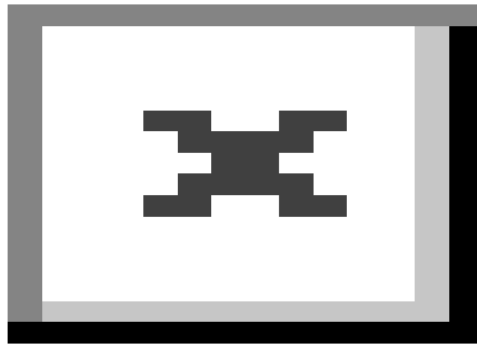
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| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |

(b)(6)

Quinn, Cameron (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Venture, Veronica (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Sent Date: 2018/06/30 17:41:28

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 18:07:04 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Katie please send what we gave to the press. No credible outlet reported on this blatant conspiracy theory.

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:41:28 PM
To: (b)(6); Houlton, Tyler
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6); Hoffman, Jonathan
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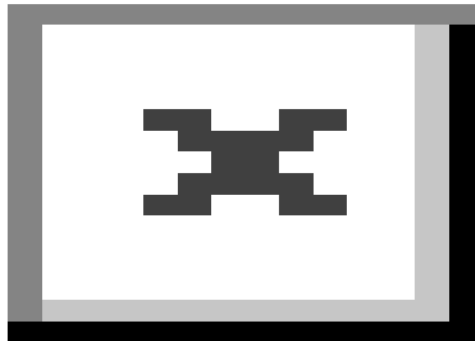
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| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| | Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| | Hoffman, Jonathar (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 18:07:02 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 18:07:04 |

| | |
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| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 18:08:57 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

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Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 6:07:02 PM
To: Waldman, Katie; (b)(6)
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan
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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
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(b)(5)

Please let me know your thoughts.

Thank you,

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Subject: RE: WTF??

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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(Email)

(b)(6)

(Classified/CLAN)

<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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To: Shora, Kareem
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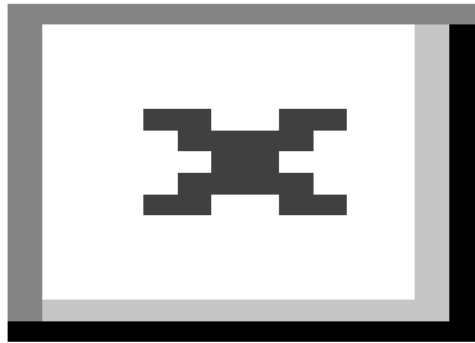
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| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 18:08:56 |
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(b)(6) (Email)
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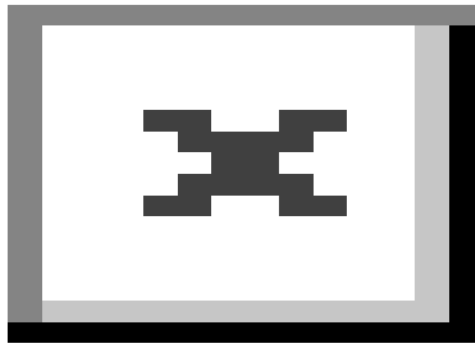
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| To: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| Subject: | FW: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 18:09:34 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

From: Hoffman, Jonathan
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:29:41 PM
To: Quinn, Cameron; Claffey, Lauren
Cc: Venture, Veronica; Waldman, Katie
Subject: RE: WTF??

We have addressed with the media and issued a statement. This is a dramatic bit of twitter hysteria over a common phrase "We must secure the border". We pulled clips of Pelosi, Hoyer and others saying the same thing. Given this document contains basic talking points we have not decided to remove.

If there is anyone on your team who disagrees and wants to talk about it more i will be around on Monday and Tuesday and am happy to discuss.

From: Quinn, Cameron
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:19:27 PM
To: Hoffman, Jonathan; Claffey, Lauren
Cc: Venture, Veronica
Subject: FW: WTF??

I thought (b)(6) had forwarded this earlier, but apparently we miscommunicated. You all may want to address this.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 3:27:16 PM
To: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Sultan, Jennifer
Cc: (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana
Subject: RE: WTF??

Hi Cameron and Ronnie,

Following up on this. This is going around a bit on twitter. Should we raise this with OPA?

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
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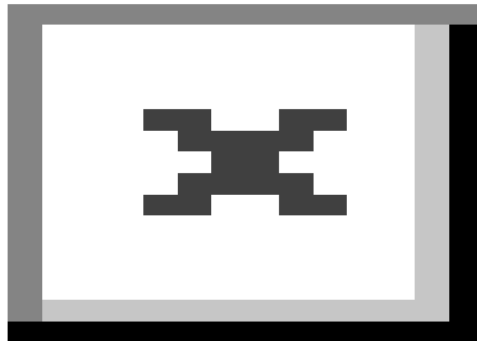
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| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/06/30 18:14:05 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Thanks, all.

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freeradicals.org

wearefreeradicals.net

Author, *WHITE AMERICAN YOUTH* (Hachette, 2018)

Speaker, [TEDxMileHigh2017](#)

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:16 PM Christian Picciolini (b)(6) wrote:
It's also 14 words. I would find out who wrote that and look into their background. Thanks.

— Christian

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:14 PM Shora, Kareem (b)(6) wrote:
Looping in (b)(6) who is CRCL's liaison with the DHS Office of Public Affairs to appropriately relay the concern that the first four words and theme is troubling. Thank you for alerting us Christian.

Kareem.

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.

Section Chief, Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)

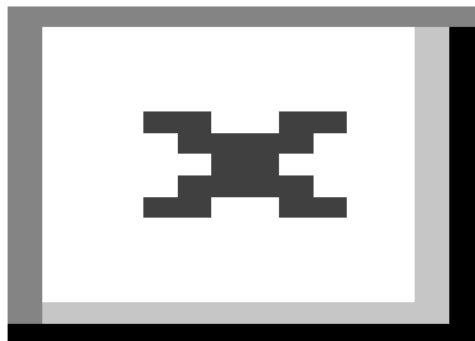
<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:01:27 PM
To: (b)(6) Shora, Kareem; Tarin, Haris
Subject: WTF??

This is on your website today. Um...

FYI: The neo-Nazi 14 words are "We must secure the existence of our people and the future of white children." See a similarity?



2018-06-28 at 2.59.07 PM.png

Screen Shot

— Christian

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| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sender: | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Houlton, Tyler (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Quinn, Cameron (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Venture, Veronica (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Amendolia, Deana (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Hoffman, Jonathar (b)(6) | |
| (b)(6) | |
| Sent Date: | 2018/06/30 18:14:04 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/06/30 18:14:05 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/07/01 20:02:24 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Hi Katie,

When you have a moment, will you kindly send us the TPs referenced below?

Thank you!

(b)(6)

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 11:07:02 PM
To: Waldman, Katie; (b)(6)
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan
Subject: RE: WTF??

Katie please send what we gave to the press. No credible outlet reported on this blatant conspiracy theory.

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:41:28 PM
To: (b)(6) Houlton, Tyler
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan
Subject: RE: WTF??

Adding Jonathan here too. There are multiple chains.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:37:55 PM

To: Houlton, Tyler; Waldman, Katie

Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6)

Subject: FW: WTF??

Hi Tyler,

Flagging for OPA visibility. This was raised to our Community Engagement team on Thurs. This is going around a bit on Twitter.

Best,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM

To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)

Subject: RE: WTF??

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Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Please let me know your thoughts.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM

To: Shora, Kareem (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: RE: WTF??

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From: Shora, Kareem

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:21 PM

To: Christian Picciolini (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)

(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)

Subject: RE: WTF??

+ Jen Sultan who is our director of civil rights and civil liberties programs branch for her awareness.

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.
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Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)

<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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From: Christian Picciolini

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:16:45 PM

To: Shora, Kareem

Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6)

Subject: Re: WTF??

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

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(b)(6) (Email)

(b)(6) Classified/CLAN)

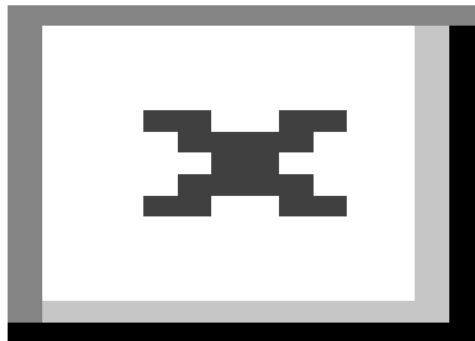
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Screen Shot

2018-06-28 at 2.59.07 PM.png

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| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sender: | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| | Hubbard, Angela (b)(6) |
| | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/07/01 20:02:23 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/07/01 20:02:24 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| From: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| To: | (b)(6) |
| CC: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/07/01 20:05:50 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

This is what we were sending:

On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, July 01, 2018 8:02:23 PM
To: Waldman, Katie

Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

Hi Katie,

When you have a moment, will you kindly send us the TPs referenced below?

Thank you!

(b)(6)

From: Houlton, Tyler
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 11:07:02 PM
To: Waldman, Katie (b)(6)
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan
Subject: RE: WTF??

Katie please send what we gave to the press. No credible outlet reported on this blatant conspiracy theory.

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Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6) Hoffman, Jonathan
Subject: RE: WTF??

Adding Jonathan here too. There are multiple chains.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2018 5:37:55 PM
To: Houlton, Tyler; Waldman, Katie
Cc: Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica; Amendolia, Deana; (b)(6)
Subject: FW: WTF??

Hi Tyler,

Flagging for OPA visibility. This was raised to our Community Engagement team on Thurs. This is going around a bit on Twitter.

Best,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:40:09 PM
To: Sultan, Jennifer; Shora, Kareem; Quinn, Cameron; Venture, Veronica
Cc: (b)(6) Farin, Haris; (b)(6) Amendolia, Deana (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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Jen, I believe he is referencing the title "We Must Secure the Border and Build the Wall to Make America Safe Again."

Cameron and Ronnie (b)(5)

(b)(5)

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(b)(6)

From: Sultan, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:35 PM
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Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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To: Christian Picciolini (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris (b)(6)
(b)(6) Sultan, Jennifer (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

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US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (Email)
(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)
<http://www.dhs.gov/crcl>

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Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:16:45 PM
To: Shora, Kareem
Cc: (b)(6) Tarin, Haris; (b)(6)
Subject: Re: WTF??

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2018/02/15/we-must-secure-border-and-build-wall-make-america-safe-again>

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(b)(6)

(b)(6) Email)

(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)

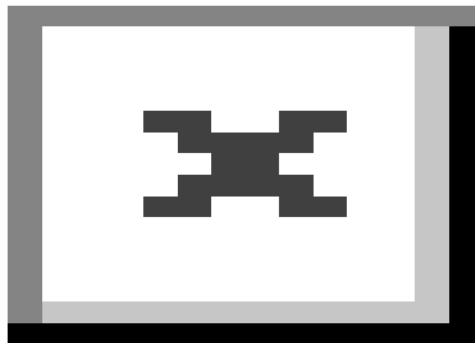
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From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:01:27 PM
To: Presswalla, Jenny; Shora, Kareem; Tarin, Haris
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This is on your website today. Um...

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| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sender: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/07/01 20:05:49 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/07/01 20:05:50 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| From: | (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | (b)(6) |
| Subject: | RE: WTF?? |
| Date: | 2018/07/01 20:08:10 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Thank you, Katie. Hope you've had a good weekend.

(b)(6)

From: Waldman, Katie
Sent: Monday, July 02, 2018 1:05:49 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WTF??

This is what we were sending:

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Author, *WHITE AMERICAN YOUTH* (Hachette, 2018)
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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:16 PM Christian Picciolini (b)(6) wrote:
It's also 14 words. I would find out who wrote that and look into their background. Thanks.

— Christian

CHRISTIAN PICCIOLINI
FREE RADICALS PROJECT | founder
christianpicciolini.com
freeradicals.org
wearefreeradicals.net

Author, *WHITE AMERICAN YOUTH* (Hachette, 2018)
Speaker, [TEDxMileHigh2017](#)

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On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 3:14 PM Shora, Kareem (b)(6) wrote:
Looping in (b)(6) who is CRCL's liaison with the DHS Office of Public Affairs to appropriately relay the concern that the first four words and theme is troubling. Thank you for alerting us Christian.

Kareem.

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M.
Section Chief, Community Engagement Section
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL)
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

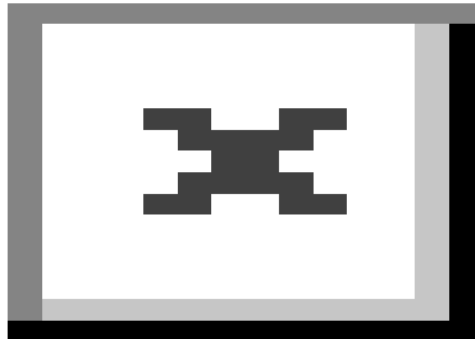
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (Email)
(b)(6) (Classified/CLAN)
<http://www.dhs.gov/crci>

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From: Christian Picciolini
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:01:27 PM
To: (b)(6) Shora, Kareem; Tarin, Haris
Subject: WTF??

This is on your website today. Um...

FYI: The neo-Nazi 14 words are "We must secure the existence of our people and the future of white children." See a similarity?



2018-06-28 at 2.59.07 PM.png

Screen Shot

— Christian

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| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sender: | (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/07/01 20:08:09 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/07/01 20:08:10 |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| From: | Ellis, Emma (b)(6) |
| To: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| CC: | Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Subject: | Re: WIRED Inquiry: 2/15/18 Press Release |
| Date: | 2018/07/10 13:49:26 |
| Priority: | Normal |
| Type: | Note |

Hi Katie,

Will anyone from the DHS going to respond to my original questions? I still think that understanding the assignment, writing, and editing process for these press releases is crucial information for the American public.

Regards,

Emma Grey Ellis
Reporter, WIRED.com

(b)(6)

On Fri, Jun 29, 2018 at 9:05 AM, Ellis, Emma (b)(6) wrote:
Hi Katie,

Thanks for your swift response. However, I never mentioned white supremacy in my email, nor am I making any argument at present. I'm just curious about the writing and editing process of DHS press releases, which I do not believe to be beneath any media outlet since it is a crucial part of how the public receives information. I would like answers to the questions I actually asked:

1. Who wrote this press release?
2. What is the editing process for these releases? Who edited this release?
3. Who has final approval before releases are posted? Who approved this release?

Regards,

Emma Grey Ellis
Reporter, WIRED.com

(b)(6)

On Thu, Jun 28, 2018 at 2:10 PM, Waldman, Katie (b)(6) wrote:
On background: this is a Twitter troll conspiracy theory that on its face is beneath any credible media outlet.

Off the record:

Doing a little digging, it is pretty clear that “We must secure our borders” is a pretty common political phrase used by all politicians. I would imagine if you did some more research basically any national politician has said this at some point in the last few years. If in the interest of being consistent, your argument is that Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer are white supremacists, good luck with that.

And to inform your reporting not attributable:

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) – “Our first responsibility to the American people is their safety. We must secure our borders and enforce our laws, while also protecting against discrimination and adhering faithfully to the rule of law.” (Press Release, 3/22/07)

Then-Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) – “I believe there is virtually unanimous agreement in the Congress that we must secure our borders and know who is entering our country.” (Press Release, 5/25/06)

CLAIRE MCCASKILL: "I also believe we must secure the borders. I have said that fencing is not the only option. I never said I was opposed to fencing. I never said I was opposed to securing the borders." (Claire McCaskill, Debate Remarks, 09/15/06)

From: Ellis, Emma
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 5:06:44 PM
To: Media Inquiry
Subject: WIRED Inquiry: 2/15/18 Press Release

Hi DHS press team,

I have a few questions regarding a DHS press release from February 15th, 2018, "We Must Secure The Border And Build The Wall To Make America Safe Again."

1. Who wrote this press release?
2. What is the editing process for these releases? Who edited this release?
3. Who has final approval before releases are posted? Who approved this release?

Regards,

Emma Grey Ellis

Reporter, WIRED.com

(b)(6)

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sender: | Ellis, Emma (b)(6) |
| Recipient: | Waldman, Katie (b)(6) (b)(6) Media Inquiry (b)(6) (b)(6) |
| Sent Date: | 2018/07/10 13:49:20 |
| Delivered Date: | 2018/07/10 13:49:26 |