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## world war ii info Homeland Security Given Data on Arab-Americans

Posted by Roger - 2008/09/14 22:33

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Homeland Security Given Data on Arab-Americans By LYNETTE CLEMETSON Published: July 30, 2004  
WASHINGTON, July 29 - The Census Bureau has provided specially tabulated population statistics on Arab-Americans to the Department of Homeland Security, including detailed information on how many people of Arab backgrounds live in certain ZIP codes. The assistance is legal, but civil liberties groups and Arab-American advocacy organizations say it is a dangerous breach of public trust and liken it to the Census Bureau's compilation of similar information about Japanese-Americans during World War II. The tabulations were produced in August 2002 and December 2003 in response to requests from what is now the Customs and Border Protection division of the Department of Homeland Security. One set listed cities with more than 1,000 Arab-Americans. The second, far more detailed, provided ZIP-code-level breakdowns of Arab-American populations, sorted by country of origin. The categories provided were Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese, Moroccan, Palestinian, Syrian and two general categories, Arab/Arabic and Other Arab. Hermann Habermann, deputy director of the Census Bureau, said such cooperation was standard practice. We are required to provide information to other federal agencies, he said. This is not a cabal calculating secret tabulations. But Mr. Habermann also expressed concern over application of the data, adding: We do worry about how information will be used. However, we have not been given the authority to determine which organization gets which information. Census tabulations of specialized data are legal as long as they do not identify any individual. Christiana Halsey, a spokeswoman for Customs and Border Protection, said the requests were made to help the agency identify in which airports to post signs and pamphlets in Arabic. The information is not in any way being used for law enforcement purposes, she said. It's being used to educate the traveler. We're simply using basic demographic information to help us communicate U.S. laws and regulations to the traveling public. But critics of the information sharing said general demographic snapshots could be derived without such detailed information and that the ZIP-code-level data with its breakdowns of ancestral origin seemed particularly excessive because for all of the groups only English or Arabic need be used. The real question is to Homeland Security, said Samia El-Badry, an Arab-American member of the Census Bureau's decennial census advisory committee. What are they hiding? Why do they need this? James Zogby, president of the Arab American Institute, said the data sharing was particularly harmful at a time when the Census Bureau is struggling to build trust within Arab-American communities. As this gets out, any effort to encourage people to full compliance with the census is down the tubes, Mr. Zogby said. How can you get people to comply when they believe that by complying they put at risk their personal and family security? In 2000, the bureau issued a formal apology for allowing its statistical data to be used to round up Japanese-Americans for internment during World War II. Kenneth Prewitt, the former census director who made the apology, said that given the bureau's history, consideration of requests from law enforcement agencies requires more than strict parsing of legalities. The Census Bureau has a longstanding practice of being unusually cautious about such cooperation because it is difficult to explain to the public, Mr. Prewitt said. There is an issue of principle involved as well as law. In World War II we violated our principles even if we didn't violate the law, and we assured people we wouldn't do it again. The data sharing on Arab-Americans was disclosed by the Census Bureau in response to a Freedom of Information Act request by the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a public interest research center focused on civil liberties issues. The group, which filed the request in May and received the information this week, shared the documents with The New York Times. Several entries in the documents have been blacked out by the Department of Homeland Security, with notations citing the need to protect privacy and government operations. Census Bureau guidelines for preparing special tabulations for outside agencies and groups include considerations about how the data sharing will affect the bureau's reputation; whether the data deals with sensitive populations; and whether it is being requested by law enforcement agencies. With those agencies in particular, the guidelines suggest that the bureau evaluate whether the agency will use the data for statistical applications or for law enforcement. But the guidelines apply only to projects for which the bureau will be paid. The request from Homeland Security involved no contract or payment and so was not subject to full review by census officials. Ultimately, Mr. Habermann said, any discussion about the controversial nature of the information sharing is separate from the agency's mandate to provide information. The only way we can guarantee that no one will ever be harmed by our information is to release nothing, he said. We understand that groups can be affected by what we give out, and we understand that can be sensitive. But that is a societal debate, not a census debate.  
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Good I believe it was scum of Arab background that flew planes into our buildings on 9/11. Keep an eye on them. Can you imagine an American walking around Iran?? He would have a bug up his ass. The Arab-Americans ??? need to deal with it. Targeting arabs is no different than targeting japs or niggers. Did Japs bomb Pearl Harbor or the Japanese Military-Industrial complex? Did arabs bomb the twin towers or did religious zealots? Let's not get into the possibility of our interventionist foreign policy goading these zealots but focus instead of the group they belong to. In set theory A can be a member of B. A can also be a member of C. To condemn all members of B because the zealots in C just because one (or 15) member(s) became infamous is poor logic. Don't be used as a pawn to repeat historical mistakes.

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That's great news. People are finally starting to connect the dots. And the same LIEberals who were critical of government not connecting the dots are now critical that government is connecting the dots. The LIEeral shell game has been so exposed it is no longer funny how irrelevant they've become. Would the Arab equivalent of an octaroon be suspect? Harry (grandson of a full-blooded A-rab. A quadroon?)

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That's great news. People are finally starting to connect the dots. And the same LIEberals who were critical of government not connecting the dots are now critical that government is connecting the dots. The LIEeral shell game has been so exposed it is no longer funny how irrelevant they've become. Would the Arab equivalent of an octaroon be suspect? Harry (grandson of a full-blooded A-rab. A quadroon?) As a Hispanic I am often mistaken for Arab. Sometimes I get singled out at the airport etc. Doesn't bother me. I have nothing to hide. What are you hiding? So, we can take your response as a yes people with 1/8th Arab blood (octaroons) should be classified as Arab and considered under suspicion even though their parent/grandparents might have reached these shores at the turn of the last century. Republicans, this one is all yours.

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Great. It's about time someone started some type of racial profiling. It's not like anyone can identify any other group or race that has consistently committed terrorist acts around the world repeatedly. What about Americans? Please list for us oh limpboy the repeated terrorists acts the Americans have committed. To justify racial profiling of Americans It should be a long list of repeated terrorist attacks like this one listing attacks by islamic groups: September 5, 1972: Eight Palestinian terrorists seized 11 Israeli athletes in the Olympic Village in Munich, West Germany. During rescue attempt by West German authorities nine of the hostages and five of the terrorists were killed. June 27, 1976: Members of the Baader-Meinhof Group and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) seized an Air France airliner and its 258 passengers. November 4, 1979: Iranian radicals seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took 66 American diplomats hostage. Thirteen hostages were soon released, but the remaining 53 were held until their release on January 20, 1981. November 20, 1979: 200 Islamic terrorists seized the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, taking hundreds of pilgrims hostage. Saudi and French security forces retook the shrine after an intense battle in which some 250 people were killed and 600 wounded. October 6, 1981: Soldiers who were secretly members of the Takfir Wal-Hajira sect attacked and killed Egyptian President Anwar Sadat during a troop review. September 14, 1982: Premier Bashir Gemayel, the Lebanese Prime Minister, was assassinated by a car bomb parked outside his party's Beirut headquarters. April 18, 1983: Sixty-three people, including the CIA's Middle East director, were killed, and 120 were injured in a 400-pound suicide truck-bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. The Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility. October 23, 1983: Simultaneous truck-bomb attacks were made on American and French compounds in Beirut, Lebanon. A 12,000-pound bomb destroyed the U.S. Marine barracks, killing 242 Americans, while 58 French troops were killed when a 400-pound device destroyed a French base. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility. March 16, 1984: The Islamic Jihad kidnapped and later murdered Political Officer William Buckley in Beirut, Lebanon. Other U.S. citizens not connected to the U.S. Government were seized over a succeeding 2-year period. April 12, 1984: Eighteen U.S. servicemen were killed, and 83 people were injured in a bomb attack on a restaurant near a U.S. Air Force Base in Torrejon, Spain. Responsibility was claimed by Hizballah. September 20, 1984: United States embassy in the Lebanese capital, Beirut is truck bombed by a member of the extremist group, the Islamic Jihad. December 4, 1984: Kuwaiti airliner seized en route to Pakistan and forced to land in Tehran. During the siege, two American passengers were killed by the hijackers. June 14, 1985: A Trans-World Airlines flight was hijacked en route to Rome from Athens by two Lebanese Hizballah terrorists and forced to fly to Beirut. The eight crew members and 145 passengers were held for 17 days, during which one American hostage, a U.S. Navy sailor, was murdered. October 7, 1985: Four Palestinian Liberation Front terrorists seized the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, taking more than 700 hostages. One U.S. passenger was murdered. November 23, 1985: An EgyptAir airplane bound from Athens to Malta and carrying several U.S. citizens was hijacked by the Abu Nidal Group. March 30, 1986: A Palestinian splinter group detonated a bomb as TWA Flight 840 approached Athens Airport, killing four U.S. citizens. April 5, 1986: Two U.S. soldiers were killed, and 79 American servicemen were injured in a Libyan bomb attack on a discoteque in West Berlin, West Germany. February 17, 1988: U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. W. Higgins was kidnapped and murdered by the Iranian-backed Hizballah group while serving with the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO) in southern Lebanon. April 14, 1988: The Organization of Jihad Brigades exploded a car bomb outside a USO Club in Naples, Italy, killing one U.S. sailor. December 21, 1988: Pan American

Airlines Flight 103 was blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, by a bomb placed on the aircraft in Frankfurt, West Germany, by Libyan terrorists. All 259 people on board were killed. January 18-19, 1991: Iraqi agents planted bombs at the U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia's home residence and at the USIS library in Manila. March 17, 1992: Hizballah claimed responsibility for a blast that leveled the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, causing the deaths of 29 and wounding 242. February 26, 1993: The World Trade Center in New York City was badly damaged when a car bomb planted by Islamic terrorists explodes in an underground garage. The bomb left six people dead and 1,000 injured. April 14, 1993: The Iraqi intelligence service attempted to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush during a visit to Kuwait. December 24, 1994: Members of the Armed Islamic Group seized an Air France Flight to Algeria. The four terrorists were killed during a rescue effort. March 8, 1995: Two unidentified gunmen killed two U.S. diplomats and wounded a third in Karachi, Pakistan. July 4, 1995: In India, six foreigners, including two U.S. citizens, were taken hostage by Al-Faran, a Kashmiri separatist group. One non-U.S. hostage was later found beheaded. August 21, 1995: Hamas claimed responsibility for the detonation of a bomb that killed six and injured over 100 persons, including several U.S. citizens in a Jerusalem bus attack. November 13, 1995: The Islamic Movement of Change planted a bomb in a Riyadh military compound that killed one U.S. citizen, several foreign national employees of the U.S. Government, and more than 40 others. February 26, 1996: In Jerusalem, a Hamas suicide bomber blew up a bus, killing 26 persons, including three U.S. citizens, and injuring some 80 persons, including three other US citizens. March 4, 1996: Hamas and the Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ) both claimed responsibility for a bombing outside of Tel Aviv's largest shopping mall, the Dizengoff Center, that killed 20 persons and injured 75 others, including two U.S. citizens. May 13, 1996: Arab gunmen opened fire on a bus and a group of Yeshiva students near the Bet El settlement in the West Bank, killing a dual U.S.-Israeli citizen and wounding three Israelis. June 9, 1996: Unidentified gunmen opened fire on a car near Zekharya, killing a dual U.S./Israeli citizen and an Israeli. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) is suspected. June 25, 1996: A fuel truck carrying a bomb exploded outside the U.S. military's Khobar Towers housing facility in Dhahran, killing 19 U.S. military personnel and wounding 515 persons, including 240 U.S. personnel. August 1, 1996: A bomb exploded at the home of the French Archbishop of Oran, killing him and his chauffeur. The Algerian Armed Islamic Group (GIA) is suspected. August 17, 1996: Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels kidnapped six missionaries in Mapourdit, including a U.S. citizen, an Italian, three Australians, and a Sudanese. The SPLA released the hostages 11 days later. December 3, 1996: A bomb exploded aboard a Paris subway train as it arrived at the Port Royal station, killing two French nationals, a Moroccan, and a Canadian, and injuring 86 persons. Among those injured were one U.S. citizen and a Canadian. January 2-13, 1997: A series of letter bombs with Alexandria, Egypt, postmarks were discovered at Al-Hayat newspaper bureaus in Washington, New York City, London, and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Three similar devices, also postmarked in Egypt, were found at a prison facility in Leavenworth, Kansas. Bomb disposal experts defused all the devices, but one detonated at the Al-Hayat office in London, injuring two security guards and causing minor damage. February 23, 1997: A Palestinian gunman opened fire on tourists at an observation deck atop the Empire State Building in New York City, killing a Danish national and wounding visitors from the United States, Argentina, Switzerland, and France before turning the gun on himself. A handwritten note carried by the gunman claimed this was a punishment attack against the enemies of Palestine. September 4, 1997: Three suicide bombers of Hamas detonated bombs in the Ben Yehuda shopping mall in Jerusalem, killing eight persons, including the bombers, and wounding nearly 200 others. A dual U.S./Israeli citizen was among the dead, and seven U.S. citizens were wounded. October 30, 1997: Al-Sha'if tribesmen kidnapped a U.S. businessman near Sanaa, Yemen. They released the hostage on November 27. November 12, 1997: Two unidentified gunmen shot to death four U.S. auditors from Union Texas Petroleum Corporation and their Pakistani driver after they drove away from the Sheraton Hotel in Karachi. The Islami Inqilabi Council, or Islamic Revolutionary Council, claimed responsibility in a call to the U.S. Consulate in Karachi. In a letter to Pakistani newspapers, the Aimal Khufia Action Committee also claimed responsibility. November 17, 1997: Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya (IG) gunmen shot and killed 58 tourists and four Egyptians and wounded 26 others at the Hatshepsut Temple in the Valley of the Kings near Luxor, Egypt. Thirty-four Swiss, eight Japanese, five Germans, four Britons, one French, one Colombian, a dual Bulgarian/British citizen, and four unidentified persons were among the dead. Twelve Swiss, two Japanese, two Germans, one French, and nine Egyptians were among the wounded. April 15, 1998: Somali militiamen abducted nine Red Cross and Red Crescent

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