



Inside ICE

SEVEN ARRESTED FOR ILLEGAL SALES OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA

Seven officers and employees of two Mount Laurel, N.J. companies were arrested by ICE agents July 1 on charges that they used their businesses to illegally transfer millions of dollars worth of sensitive U.S. military and dual-use technology to state-sponsored research institutes within the People's Republic of China.

The arrests were the result of a joint investigation by ICE, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, (FBI) and the Department of Commerce that began in January 2003. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey is prosecuting the case.

Two separate criminal complaints alleged that officers and employees of closely-held companies Universal Technologies, Inc. (UTI) and Manten Electronics, Inc., were violating U.S. export laws.

According to the complaints, the investigation revealed that the individuals arrested were illegally exporting items that are used in a wide variety of defense weapons systems, including radar,



Seven persons arrested by ICE agents in New Jersey July 1 are charged with illegally selling sensitive U.S. military technology to China, including a variety of electronic equipment used in U.S. fighter aircraft like the U.S. Air Force's F-15 Eagle shown above.

smart weapons, electronic warfare and communications.

The complaints describe schemes in which the defendants used various techniques to conceal their export activities, such as providing false written and verbal statements that purported that the recipient of the restricted items was a United States corporation rather than a government entity of the People's Republic of China, and falsely certifying on shipping documents that no license was required to ship the goods to China when, in fact, a license was required.

In addition to the arrests, investigators also executed search warrants for

five premises, including the two businesses and three homes in Camden and Burlington Counties and six seizure warrants for bank accounts.

This case is part of ICE's initiative to prevent terrorist groups and hostile nations from illegally obtaining U.S. military products and sensitive technology. It is one of ICE's top priorities, and ICE's Arms and Strategic Technology Investigations (ASTI) division is responsible for investigating such violations. Last year, ICE's ASTI division opened approximately 3,000 new criminal investigations into the illegal export of U.S. munitions and sensitive technology.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PUBLIC SECURITY: ICE Frees Aliens from Servitude and Squalor; Busts Smuggling Ring	2
PUBLIC SECURITY: ICE Breaks A Fake Document Ring In The Nation's Capital	3
ECONOMIC SECURITY: ICE Seizes 46 Cars As Auto Dealer Is Indicted For Money Laundering	4
BORDER SECURITY: ICE Agents In Miami Arrest Seven For Smuggling Chinese	5
PASSING THE TORCH: An ICE Agent Proudly Carries The Olympic Torch Through NYC	6

ICE HITS SMUGGLING RING; ALIENS FREED FROM SQUALOR

ICE agents arrested three members of a Peruvian family in New York on June 21 on human smuggling and harboring charges and freed 69 aliens being held as indentured servants.

PUBLIC SECURITY

The arrests were part of "Operation Traveler," an eight-month ICE investigation into a Peruvian criminal organization operating in Suffolk County, N.Y.

Mariluz Zavala, her husband Jorge Ibanez and their daughter Evelyn Ibanez were all charged with alien smuggling and harboring illegal aliens. ICE agents also executed three search warrants and found 69 aliens, including 13 children, living in cramped and squalid conditions. The agents seized a large cache of fake identity documents, Peruvian passports and financial documents during the operation, as well as the proceeds of two bank accounts used to facilitate harboring crime.

"These aliens were held in virtual servitude as they paid off their debts, proving that smugglers are more interested in profits than in people," said Martin D. Ficke, ICE Special Agent-in-Charge in New York.

According to a federal criminal complaint, the Ibanez family had

Inside ICE is an e-newsletter produced by the ICE Office of Public Affairs to inform the public about the mission, operations and activities of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Please send comments and contributions to: Russ.Bergeron@dhs.gov
Russ Bergeron
 Editor



ICE agents lead Jorge Ibanez away in handcuffs after his arrest on alien smuggling and harboring charges. Ibanez's wife and daughter were also arrested.

over the past four years been running a scheme to illegally obtain U.S. tourist visas for Peruvians or smuggle them across the U.S. border. They charged the aliens between \$6,000 and \$12,000 and provided them with phony alien registration and Social Security cards. Then, using the fake documents, the family helped the aliens find jobs in factories and other businesses in Suffolk County.

Once in the U.S., the aliens were forced to remain in houses provided by the smuggling organization until the smuggling fee was paid. The aliens were forced to turn over their passports and weekly paychecks to

the Ibanez family, which kept most of the money to pay off the smuggling debt, leaving the aliens about \$50 a week each to live on and support their families.

To insure that the smuggled aliens remained in their control, the smugglers threatened to report them to U.S. authorities and also threatened to use violence against their families in Peru.

The aliens rescued in the operation will be held by ICE as the investigation continues. They will be housed and cared for in protective custody at an undisclosed location for their safety.

We're on the Web!
www.ICE.gov

Visit us on the Web and register for your free copy of Inside ICE!!

ICE BREAKS FAKE DOCUMENT RING IN WASHINGTON

ICE agents broke a large-scale fraudulent document ring June 23-30 in Washington, D.C., arresting 21 illegal aliens and seizing counterfeit documents and counterfeiting equipment.

PUBLIC SECURITY

The 21 individuals were arrested following the execution of federal search warrants on June 23 and June 30. ICE agents also seized 533 fake alien registration cards ("green cards"), 880 fraudulent Social Security cards, 1,232 bogus employment authorization cards, as well as equipment believed used in the production of the fraudulent documents.

This joint operation by ICE, the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and the U.S. Secret Service focused on drying up a potential and dangerous source of false identification for terrorists as well as other violent criminals. The operation is part of an ongoing initiative called "Operation Card Shark," led by the ICE Washington, D.C. SAC Office in coordination with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. The FBI, U.S. Secret Service, the Social Security Administration's Office of the Inspector General and the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department have assisted in the investigations.

Fraudulent identification are an essential part of many criminal schemes, whether it be schemes to launch terrorist attacks or fraudulent financial schemes. Federal law enforcement agencies have adopted a zero tolerance policy for such fraudulent identifications and particularly for false document mills as uncovered by Operation Card Shark.

According to Allan Doody, the Spe-



Counterfeit documents like the ones shown above were seized by ICE agents during raids on a document mill in Washington, D.C.

cial Agent-in-Charge for Washington D.C., Operation Card Shark is an ICE initiative focused on fraudulent document vending enterprises that operate in the Adams Morgan section of Washington, D.C. Since May 2002, Operation Card Shark has identified several document vending organizations and has dismantled three of them. Eight search warrants have been executed, four document "mills" have been closed

down, approximately 3,500 documents have been seized (with an estimated total street value of \$250,000), 66 aliens have been apprehended, 17 have been prosecuted, and 30 have been removed.

"Fraudulent identification can be a preferred tool for criminal and terror networks to carry out their schemes," said Washington, D.C. ICE SAC Doody.

AGENT SIPS COFFEE, NABS FUGITIVE

A coffee break is usually a time when most people relax and unwind, but ICE Agent Jose Fuentes was obviously on full alert when he stopped for a cup of java one recent morning in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Agent Fuentes had just begun enjoying his coffee when he recognized that Virginio De La Cruz Nova was also a customer in the coffee shop. De La Cruz was a fugitive criminal alien wanted by ICE. Fuentes, assigned to an ICE Detention and Removal Fugitive Operations team, immediately returned to his vehicle to call for backup.

Fuentes then observed De La Cruz leave the coffee shop in a vehicle with two individuals. Fuentes maintained surveillance on the vehicle until assistance arrived. Aided by officers from the Puerto Rico Police Department, Fuentes arrested De La Cruz and two other illegal aliens.

De La Cruz' criminal history included weapons and domestic violence violations. He absconded from a deportation order and was a fugitive for three years before he stopped for coffee.

AUTO DEALER INDICTED ON MONEY LAUNDERING CHARGES

A Connecticut man who was the target of an investigation by ICE and other federal agents has been indicted on federal money laundering charges after he allegedly used sales at his auto dealership to hide drug money.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

A federal grand jury in Providence, R.I. charged

Renato M. Garcia, 35, of East Haddam, Conn., with money laundering, alleging that he avoided federal transaction reporting requirements by structuring transactions that purportedly involved illicit property.

Federal agents, including ICE agents, and local police arrested Garcia last month at his auto dealership, Renskip Motor Sales, charging him with laundering money that Garcia believed was the proceeds of criminal activity.

The indictment seeks the forfeiture of assets that the government alleges were involved in the alleged money laundering: the real estate at 85 Main Street and the assets of Renskip Motor Sales, 85 Main Street, which include \$414,078 in cash and 46 motor vehicles.

Agents seized \$128,800 in cash from Garcia's home in East Haddam and \$285,278 from a bank account on the day he was arrested. The motor vehicles, including two Hummer HU2s, four Porsche Carreras and a 1995 Mercedes Benz E300 were towed from the dealership the same day.

The investigation began in June 2003 when a Westerly

detective advised federal agents of suspicions he had about Garcia's purchase of the automobile dealership and of his transactions there.

According to an affidavit by a federal agent in support of the complaint

that led to Garcia's arrest, on three occasions Garcia sold motor vehicles for prices ranging from \$15,000 to \$17,500 in cash and on each occasion recorded the sale price as under \$10,000. Transactions of \$10,000 or more must be reported to the U.S. Government. On one of those occasions, according to the affidavit, Garcia noted that the cash the buyer presented smelled like marijuana.

The indictment charges Garcia with three counts of money laundering, specifically, conducting financial transactions involving property represented as the proceeds of unlawful activity and structuring those transactions to avoid the federal reporting requirement. The indictment alleges that the assets listed in the indictment were used for Garcia's money laundering activity.



ICE agents seized two Hummer HU2s like the one above and 44 other vehicles after auto dealer Renato Garcia's arrest for money laundering.

ICE HRVU WINS REMOVAL OF HONDURAN DEATH SQUAD LEADER

An Immigration Judge issued a removal order in Miami June 10, directing the deportation of Honduran Army Lt. Colonel Juan Lopez-Grijalva, a human rights violator linked to the kidnapping, torture, rape and murder of approximately 184 people who disappeared in Honduras during the 1980s.

Lopez-Grijalva, who is in the U.S. ICE Krome Detention Center here awaiting removal, was head of Honduran army intelligence Battalion 3-16 during the 1980s. Battalion 3-16 was reported to be a death squad charged with cracking down on perceived Honduran leftists. Lopez-Grijalva also led the Directorate of National Investigations (Direccion de Investigaciones Nacionales), and was later promoted to the head of military intelligence for the Honduran armed forces.

ICE special agents arrested Lopez-Grijalva in April 2002 after the Department of Homeland Security withdrew

Lopez-Grijalva's Temporary Protected Status because of his involvement in serious non-political offenses prior to entering the United States, and because he ordered, assisted or otherwise participated in the persecution of others based on their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

PUBLIC SECURITY

"The United States will not be a safe haven for those people who commit such serious and egregious acts," said Jesus Torres, Special Agent-in-Charge of ICE's Miami office. "Identifying and removing human rights violators who have no legal right to remain in the United States is --and will continue to be-- a top priority for ICE."

ICE's Human Rights Violator Unit and the Human Rights Law Division investigated and presented the case.

SHARP WORK BY ICE AMOC OFFICERS HELP GET JAMAICAN DRUG KINGPIN

Sharp eyes and sharp investigative work by two ICE officers scanning flight plans and news reports led to the capture June 24 of a suspected Jamaican drug trafficker who was preparing to flee the Bahamas.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Pedro Smith, the alleged head of a drug smuggling organization in Jamaica and wanted in the United States for narcotics trafficking, was arrested by Bahamian Drug Enforcement Unit agents and U.S. federal agents.

The officers at ICE's Air and Marine Operations Center (AMOC) in California connected flight plans, news reports and credible information to determine that a private aircraft linked to Smith had departed Jamaica and was on its way to the Bahamas. The center then notified an international drug interdiction task force in the Bahamas of the suspect aircraft's location at the San Andros airport. Within minutes, a strike force team identified and surrounded Smith as he was waiting to board the aircraft.

Three other people were arrested and taken into custody on unrelated charges.

ICE's AMOC is located at March Air Reserve Base in California. The center's officers and staff fuse intelligence information, radar data, public information and law enforcement information to lead ICE aircraft and boats to locations where criminal activity is suspected.

AMOC plays a key role with its tactical direction of ICE assets as ICE combats the threat of air and marine smuggling. This is a priority for ICE because terrorists can exploit the routes, boats, aircraft and other tools also used by smugglers.

Seven people have been arrested in Florida following a

DRO'S JENNIFER PARKER RECEIVES LULAC LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD



Jennifer Parker

Jennifer Parker, a management analyst with ICE's Office of Detention and Removal Office (DRO), has been selected to receive a 2004 President's Law Enforcement Award by the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

Parker, assigned to ICE Headquarters in Washington, D.C., was selected for her efforts to enhance and improve the careers and professionalism of law enforcement officers.

Parker was recognized in particular for her development and oversight of the program to reclassify Detention Enforcement Officers (DEOs) as Immigration Enforcement Agents (IEAs). Almost 2,000 law enforcement agents assigned to DRO were reclassified from DEOs to IEAs in Fiscal Year 2003. Parker was a core member of the Strategic Planning Working Group, a nationwide group of DRO employees at all levels who helped develop the transition.

Parker also helped coordinate an internal information program to ensure DEO's set to transition to the IEA position understood the process. In addition, Parker, using her background in training and knowledge of the DRO Program, oversaw the development of an innovative pre-academy training program for DEOs transitioning to the new position.

"Jennifer Parker is an asset to the entire DRO program," said Acting DRO Director Victor Cerda. "We're all very proud of her. Her work on the IEA transition was invaluable."

MIAMI ICE ARRESTS SEVEN PEOPLE IN CHINESE SMUGGLING OPERATION

six-month ICE investigation into a smuggling organization that brought 14 Chinese illegal aliens into the United States.

Four were arrested in Fort Lauderdale June 13, two were

BORDER SECURITY

arrested in Miami June 14 and one person living in South Florida was arrested June 8. Three of those arrested are citizens of Poland and the fourth is a person of Chinese descent who is a citizen of the Dominican Republic. The others are citizens of China. At the time of the arrest, agents seized approximately \$200,000 in U.S. currency allegedly used to pay the smugglers.

ICE special agents found the 14 Chinese illegal nationals June 13 aboard a 27-foot sailboat. The 11 men and three women were taken to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection office in Fort Lauderdale, where they were placed in removal proceedings.

"The success of this enforcement operation is a positive step toward ICE's mission to investigate and dismantle illegal smuggling organizations," said Jesus Torres, ICE's Special Agent-in-Charge in Miami.

"This is a dirty, cold-hearted crime. Smugglers have no regard for the safety of the people they smuggle. Given the size of the boat and the number of people involved, these people are lucky they're alive," Torres said.

Inside ICE

425 I St NW
Washington, D.C. 20536
Attn: Office of Public Affairs

Russ Bergeron, Editor
Phone: 202-514-2648
Fax: 202-514-1776
Email: Russ.Bergeron@dhs.gov

Visit us on the Web and register
for your free copy of
Inside ICE!!

We're on the Web!
www.ICE.gov

www.ice.gov

Toll-Free Tip Line
1-866-DHS-2ICE



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, responsible for the enforcement of border, economic, infrastructure and transportation security laws.

ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terrorist and criminal activities.

PASSING THE TORCH



An ICE agent, referred to only as Ernie for security reasons, carries the Olympic Torch June 19 on one leg of its journey through New York City. The agent, assigned to the New York SAC, was one of the few Americans chosen to represent the United States in carrying the Olympic Torch in its journey to Athens, Greece for the 2004 Summer Olympics.