

## Members of Congress Demanding Explanation of USPS Program that Spies on Americans

April 24, 2021 - On Thursday we told our readers about a covert program organized under the US Postal Protection Service which is monitoring the social media activities of American citizens. That program, which goes by the acronym ICOP (Internet Covert Operations Program), was revealed in a report by Yahoo News. As a result of that report, some members of congress are now demanding more information.

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32 Republican congressional representatives have now signed a letter addressed to Postmaster General Louis DeJoy requesting a briefing on ICOP by this coming Wednesday. They want to know why the agency is engaged in an activity that essentially spies on American citizens and what authority they think they have to run such a program in the first place.

They also want more specifics on why, if the program is really needed, the USPS and not some other better equipped agency such as the FBI is running it. In the letter they wrote, "The United States is not lacking in its availability of intelligence agencies, and it should be left to those professionals to engage in this sort of behavior."

It is difficult to see how the program's focus on social media postings is relevant to mail delivery; which should be the focus of any investigation by postal inspectors.

by Jim Malmberg

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