



**INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEFENSE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
SIOUX FALLS POST OF DUTY
P.O. BOX 139
CASTLEWOOD, SD 57223**

(Investigations)

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

200701553H-31-JUL-2007-40SX-Y0/U

17-MARCH-2008



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NARRATIVE

1. This investigation was initiated based upon information received from the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) Project, Operation Flicker. The DCIS Mid-Atlantic Field Office initiated Operation Flicker based on information provided by Assistant United States Attorney Gerald Smagala, United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, regarding a national investigation conducted by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This investigation has identified over 5,000 individuals who subscribed to predicated child pornography websites. The DCIS Sioux Falls Post of Duty was notified of one of these identified individuals, [REDACTED] who is a full time Army National Guard member [REDACTED].
2. A database check through the Defense Manpower Data Center was conducted which revealed that [REDACTED] is a Sergeant First Class and works [REDACTED] with the North Dakota Army National Guard (NDANG). [REDACTED]
3. According to the ICE Cyber Crimes Center, on December 18, 2006, [REDACTED] made a purchase through his PayPal account for \$79.95 that was processed through a previously identified target PayPal account utilizing the email address [REDACTED]. This particular transaction follows virtually the exact same pattern as the other transactions that led to child pornography web sites, and was purchased through a PayPal account that appeared to be used almost exclusively for processing payments to these types of sites.
4. A search of the IP address identified during the transaction revealed it belonged to the internet service provider ND Telephone Company located in Devils Lake, ND. A summons to ND Telephone was served by ICE, Grand Forks, ND, on August 7, 2007, which requested subscriber information for the identified IP address for the date and time of the transaction in question. Pursuant to the summons, ND Telephone identified the subscriber as [REDACTED] residing in [REDACTED].
5. [REDACTED] Camp Grafton, NDANG, was contacted and agreed to provide any assistance necessary. [REDACTED] advised that he has had several problems with [REDACTED]. Joint Forces, NDANG, Bismarck, ND, was also contacted and briefed on the matter.
6. The Reporting Agent (RA) coordinated with [REDACTED] regarding the internet history file on the government computer used by [REDACTED]. On October 24, 2007, the reporting agent received a memorandum for record from the Joint Force Headquarters, North Dakota Army National Guard (NDARNG), regarding a cursory computer check conducted on the government computer used by [REDACTED]. The review was conducted remotely and consisted of a check of the computer's Internet Explorer internet favorites directory, temporary internet files, internet

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history, and internet cookies. A general review of files and directories was also conducted. Nothing was found outside of the NDARNG's acceptable use policy.

7. On December 5, 2007, the RA and Special Agent [REDACTED] ICE, Grand Forks, ND, interviewed [REDACTED] at Camp Grafton Army National Guard Headquarters building, Camp Grafton, ND. [REDACTED] was cooperative and related that he enjoyed watching young female models progress throughout their career. [REDACTED] related that occasionally he would come across images that depicted young girls naked but he would immediately delete those images. [REDACTED] states that he bought memberships to a handful of pay sites and advised that most of those sites dealt with young modeling. He claimed that if he bought into a site that contained anything offensive, he wouldn't return to that site.

8. [REDACTED] subsequently provided consent to search his home computer. A search of the computer included the internet history file which was commensurate with the kinds of images that [REDACTED] claimed interest in, including teen and preteen modeling sites. While looking at these files, [REDACTED] again related that if he visited a web site with inappropriate content, he would leave the site immediately. [REDACTED] had a shortcut on his desktop to a file containing approximately four subfolders. Two of these sub folders contained images that were very similar in nature to what Grove described would be on his computer. Most depicted young females and appeared to be in either photo shoot type settings or in swimwear. There were some images of naked females in each of the folders, but these females appeared to be over the age of eighteen. SA [REDACTED] used a "presearch" software program to view all of the image files on [REDACTED] computer. A couple of images located in the "temporary internet files" area of the computer appeared to be females of questionable age, possibly younger than eighteen. These images and the location of the images on the computer appear to be consistent with [REDACTED] description of his internet interests and activities.

9. Based on the information developed during the course of this investigation, the DCIS, Sioux Falls Post of Duty and ICE, Grand Forks, ND, consider this investigation closed. All investigative leads have been covered and no further investigative activity is anticipated.

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IDENTITY OF SUBJECTS

IDENTIFYING DATA

Name : [REDACTED]

Alias : [REDACTED]

Social Security Number : [REDACTED]

Date of Birth : [REDACTED]

Race : [REDACTED]

Sex : [REDACTED]

Residence : [REDACTED] th [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Employment/Occupation : [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Telephone Number : [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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EXHIBITS

None. Previously submitted.

Prepared by: [REDACTED], Sioux Falls Post of Duty

APPR: [REDACTED]

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