



Aaron Maté

[@aaronjmate](#)

3h • 7 tweets • 3 min read  [Read on Twitter](#)

 Subscribe

 Bookmark

 Save as PDF

New Twitter Files:

The FBI is helping Ukraine censor Twitter users, including journalists.

The FBI aided a Ukrainian intelligence effort to ban Twitter users and collect their data. Twitter declined to censor journalists targeted by Ukraine, including Aaron Maté.

Article here: mate.substack.com/p/fbi-helps-uk...

In March 2022, an FBI Special Agent sent Twitter a list of accounts on behalf of the SBU, Ukraine’s main intelligence agency. The accounts, the FBI wrote, “are suspected by the SBU in spreading fear and disinformation.”

From: Aleksandr Kobzanets <[REDACTED]@fbi.gov>

Subject: Twitter disinfo request

Date: March 27, 2022 at 2:07:02 PM PDT

To: [REDACTED]@twitter.com, [REDACTED]@twitter.com, "yoel@twitter.com" <yoel@twitter.com>

Cc: Elvis Chan <[REDACTED]@fbi.gov>, Mark Kellett <[REDACTED]@fbi.gov>, "James Butler" <[REDACTED]@fbi.gov>, Nicole Cannavo <[REDACTED]@fbi.gov>


Hello Marlena and Yoel,

Thank you very much for your time to discuss the assistance to Ukraine on Thursday. As discussed I am including a list of accounts I received over a couple of weeks from the Security Service of Ukraine. These accounts are suspected by the SBU in spreading fear and disinformation. For your review and consideration.

thank you,

Alex

Aleksandr Kobzanets
Assistant Legal Attaché, Kyiv Ukraine
Ukraine, Belarus



FBI helps Ukraine censor Twitter users and obtain their info, including journalists

The FBI aided a Ukrainian intelligence effort to ban Twitter users and collect their data, leaks reveal. Twitter declined to censor journalists targeted by Ukraine, including Aaron Maté.

<https://mate.substack.com/p/fbi-helps-ukraine-censor-twitter>

In an attached memo, Ukraine's SBU provided a list of accounts that it alleged have been "used to disseminate disinformation and fake news to inaccurately reflect events in Ukraine."

It then asked Twitter "to block these Twitter accounts and provide us with" their "user data."

Due to the full-scale war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, the aggressor state uses hybrid methods of war in the form of a powerful information campaign using social media and social networks.

In particular, several Twitter accounts have been identified that are used to disseminate disinformation and fake news to inaccurately reflect events in Ukraine, justify war crimes of the Russian authorities on the territory of the Ukrainian state in violation of international law, namely:

Taking into account the above, to stop Russian aggression on the information front, we kindly ask you to take urgent measures to block these Twitter accounts and provide us with user data specified during registration.

We express our gratitude for the existing level of interaction.

The Ukrainian government’s FBI-enabled list of accounts marked for censorship extends to members of the media.

The SBU list that the FBI provided to Twitter included my name and Twitter profile, as well as several Russian journalists.

140.

"Aaron Maté

141.

"<https://twitter.com/aaronjmate>

In response to the FBI, Twitter agreed to review the accounts but raised concerns about its inclusion of “American and Canadian journalists (e.g. Aaron Mate).”

From: Yoel Roth <yoel@twitter.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 6:17 PM

To: Kobzanets, Aleksandr (KV) (FBI) [REDACTED]@fbi.gov>

[REDACTED]@twitter.com [REDACTED]@twitter.com>; yoel@twitter.com <yoel@twitter.com>; Chan, Elvis M. (SF) (FBI) [REDACTED]@fbi.gov>; Kellett, Mark W. (IOD) (FBI) [REDACTED]@fbi.gov>; Butler, James Harold (IOD) (FBI) [REDACTED]@fbi.gov>; Cannavo, Nicole M. (IOD) (FBI) [REDACTED]@fbi.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - [SOCIAL NETWORK] Re: Twitter disinfo request

Hi Alex,

Thanks for the note, and for the time last week. We'll review the reported accounts under our Rules.

In an initial look, they do appear to be a mix of individual accounts (that may or may not be authentic), some official Russian accounts (including state media accounts which are already labeled under our policies), and even a few accounts of American and Canadian journalists (e.g. Aaron Mate). Our reviews are going to focus first and foremost on identifying any potential inauthenticity. In general, though, authentic news outlets and reporters who cover the conflict with a pro-Russian stance are unlikely to be found in violation of our rules absent other context that might establish some kind of covert/deceptive association between them and a government. Any additional information or context in those areas is of course welcome and appreciated.

Yoel

The FBI’s attempt to ban Twitter accounts at the request of Ukrainian intelligence is among the most overt requests for censorship revealed to date in the Twitter Files.


The FBI described the suppression effort as "assistance to Ukraine."


The FBI declined to answer my questions about its aid to Ukrainian intelligence censorship efforts.


“While we appreciate your inquiry, as a matter of practice we do not confirm, deny, or otherwise comment on specific interactions nor confirm the veracity of correspondence,” FBI... twitter.com/i/web/status/1...


...


Missing some Tweet in this thread? You can try to [force a refresh](#)

 Tweet


 Share


 Email


 Keep Current with [Aaron Maté](#)




Stay in touch and get notified when new unrolls are available from this author!


 Add to "My Authors"


 Read all threads


 This Thread may be Removed Anytime!




Twitter may remove this content at anytime! Save it as PDF for later use!

 Save this thread as PDF

 Follow Us on Twitter!

 Tweet

 Share

<https://threadderapp.com/thread/1666453450693963778.html>

2/4

Try unrolling a thread yourself!




1. Follow [@ThreadReaderApp](#) to mention us!
2. From a Twitter thread mention us with a keyword "unroll"

@threadreaderapp unroll

[Practice here](#) first or read more on our [help page](#)!

More from @aaronjmate



Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)

Jun 6

New: John Durham faulted the FBI for baselessly probing Trump-Russia collusion and relying on Clinton-funded material. Yet Durham does not address the evidentiary holes and Clinton tie in Russiagate’s core allegation: that Russia hacked DNC emails and gave them to Wikileaks....
[twitter.com/i/web/status/1...](#)

Material obtained by Durham’s team shows that the Clinton campaign and its contractor, the cyber-firm CrowdStrike, stonewalled the FBI’s requests for critical data about the

Read 12 tweets




Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)

Apr 10

Leaked "bleak" Pentagon assessment is "a marked departure from" the White House's "public statements about the vitality of Ukraine’s military", and will likely "embolden critics who feel the US and NATO should do more to push for a negotiated settlement." [wapo.st/43fXb2N](#)

"Beyond the leaked document, U.S. officials said the prospects for a modest outcome in the spring offensive also were reinforced in a classified assessment by the National Intelligence Council," which "found that Ukraine was

Read 4 tweets




Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)

Mar 24

@thomasphipps Gosh @thomasphipps, whoever is giving you this has come with something incredibly weak -- and that's being generous. Let's put aside for a second that you've distorted my argument, which I'll return to. Let's just address your argument first.

@thomasphipps You admit that IIT's study "doesn't mention 'foam,'" but then assert that that's because "clinicians refer to this symptom" as "fulminating pulmonary edema." Did you google this? Fulminating means rapid. And pulmonary edema

Read 8 tweets



Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)

Mar 21

This really is news: The Intercept has appointed @mariaressa to its board of directors. Ressa was also recently appointed chairperson at @MoveDemocracy, a project of the National Endowment for Democracy, a US gov't-funded intel front. Congrats to all. [ned.org/nobel-peace-pr...](#)

The Intercept's announcement of Ressa's appointment to its board describes her as a "globally recognized leader in independent journalism." It fails to mention her recent appointment to a US gov't-funded regime change org.

Read 5 tweets



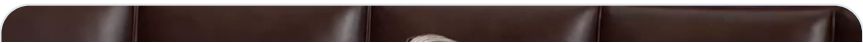
Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)



Aaron Maté
[@aaronjmate](#)

The House has defeated a measure to withdraw US forces from Syria. The final vote was 103-321. A few highlights from the debate:

Referring to ISIS, @RepRyanZinke (R-MT) says we can't withdraw from Syria because "either we fight 'em in Syria, or we'll fight 'em here... in the streets of our nation." Did he borrow this line from what Adam Schiff said about Russia? ()

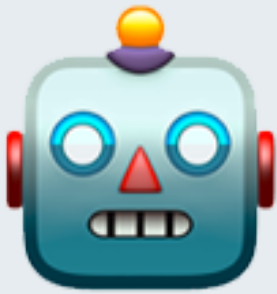


Read 7 tweets

One month after Sy Hersh reports that US blew up Nord Stream, US officials declare that "newly collected intelligence" "suggests" that it was in fact a "pro-Ukraine group." US has used Ukrainians for a proxy war against Russia. Now using them to take the blame for Nord Stream.

Of course, "U.S. officials declined to disclose the nature of the intelligence, how it was obtained or any details of the strength of the evidence." They also have "no firm conclusions." So they have no evidence and no conclusions.

Read 4 tweets



Did Thread Reader help you today?

Support us! We are indie developers!

This site is made by just two indie developers on a laptop doing marketing, support and development! [Read more about the story.](#)

Become a Premium Member (\$3/month or \$30/year) and get exclusive features!

 [Become Premium](#)

Don't want to be a Premium member but still want to support us?

Make a small donation by buying us coffee (\$5) or help with server cost (\$10)

 [Donate via Paypal](#)

Or Donate anonymously using crypto!

Ethereum

[0xfe58350B80634f60Fa6Dc149a72b4DFbc17D341E](#) [copy](#)

Bitcoin

[3ATGMxNzCUFzxpMCHL5swSt4DVtS8UqXpi](#) [copy](#)

♥♥♥ Thank you for your support! ♥♥♥

