

INSIDE URBAN SHIELD

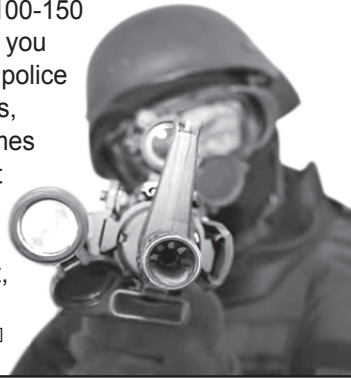
Oct. 10, 2014 – 7-9PM – Oakland High School – 1023 MacArthur Blvd. – Oakland, CA 94610

COMMUNITY FORUM FACT SHEET

The 8th Annual Urban Shield, a Special Weapons and Tactics/Disaster Response exposition showcasing the latest in law enforcement equipment, took place September 4-8, 2014 at the Oakland Convention Center. The annual event brings together law enforcement agencies from around the world – including Israel, Bahrain, Qatar, Brazil, Guam, South Korea and Singapore, in addition to police forces from around the U.S. They share militarized intimidation tactics, training exercises and a military hardware trade show for agencies seeking weapons to suppress their local populations with SWAT Teams, neighborhood lock-downs and martial law. [Organized by: Cytel Group, UASI & Alameda County Sheriff's Office.]

Militarized SWAT Explosion

SALON – “There are several levels of militarization. The rise of SWAT teams nationwide, the number of annual SWAT deployments in the U.S., has gone from a few hundred in the '70s, to 30,000 per year in the early '80s, to 50,000 in 2005. That's 100-150 times a day in this country you have these heavily armed police teams breaking into homes, and the vast majority of times it's to enforce laws against consensual crimes. Beyond that, you have a military or soldier mind-set, and that, I think, goes beyond the SWAT team.”^[1]



1033 DoD Equipment Program

NEWSWEEK – America has been quietly arming its police for battle since the early 1990s. Faced with a bloated military and what it perceived as a worsening drug crisis, the 101st Congress in 1990 enacted the National Defense Authorization Act. Section 1208 of the NDAA allowed the Secretary of Defense to “transfer to Federal and State agencies personal property of the Department of Defense, including small arms and ammunition.” In 1996, Congress replaced Section 1208 with Section 1033.^[2]



Criminalization of Dissent

DEMOCRACY NOW – In a major new report, the International Network of Civil Liberties Organizations details a global crackdown on peaceful protests through excessive police force and the criminalization of dissent. The report, “Take Back the Streets: Repression and Criminalization of Protest Around the World,” warns of a growing tendency to perceive individuals exercising a fundamental democratic right — the right to protest — as a threat requiring a forceful government response.^[3] Hotbeds of brutality include G20, DNC, RNC & Occupy.



Human Rights Violators

AL-AKHBAR – Training alongside the American police departments at Urban Shield was the Yamam, an Israeli Border Police unit that claims to specialize in “counter-terror” operations but is better known for its extra-judicial assassinations of Palestinian militant leaders and long record of repression and abuses in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Urban Shield also featured a unit from the military of Bahrain, which had just crushed a largely non-violent democratic uprising by opening fire on protest camps and arresting wounded demonstrators when they attempted to enter hospitals.^[4]



Organized by members of the Occupy Oakland General Assembly, Code Pink & Oakland Privacy Working Group. Endorsed by Restore the 4th, Media Alliance, BORDC, Bay Area Civil Liberties Coalition, Oscar Grant Committee.

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COMMUNITY FORUM PROGRAM / SCHEDULE

7:00 – 7:05 Introduction	8:20 – 8:30 Next Steps Presentation
7:05 – 7:50 Guest Speakers	8:30 – 8:50 Next Steps Discussion
7:50 – 8:00 Video Presentation	8:50 – 8:57 Closing Panel Statements
8:00 – 8:20 Panel Q&A	8:57 – 9:00 Wrap Up

NOTE: Follow up meeting will be held at Niebyl-Proctor Library Oct. 27th @ 7pm (6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609)

🐦 Event Twitter Hashtag: **#UrbanShield**

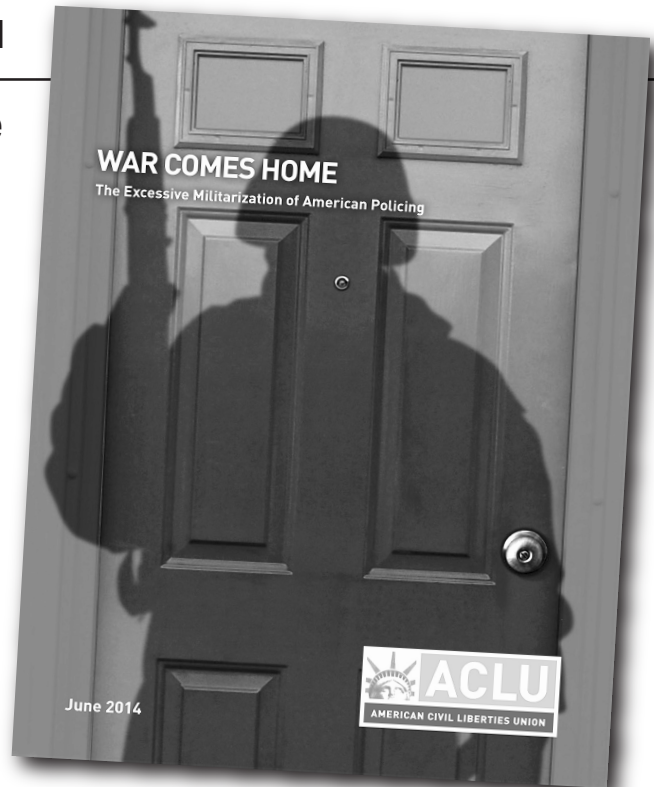
War Comes Home: The Excessive Militarization of American Policing

All across the country, heavily armed SWAT teams are raiding people's homes in the middle of the night, often just to search for drugs. It should enrage us that people have needlessly died during these raids, that pets have been shot, and that homes have been ravaged.

Our neighborhoods are not warzones, and police officers should not be treating us like wartime enemies. Any yet, every year, billions of dollars' worth of military equipment flows from the federal government to state and local police departments. Departments use these wartime weapons in everyday policing, especially to fight the wasteful and failed drug war, which has unfairly targeted people of color.

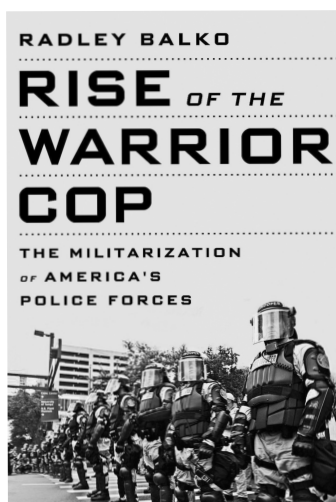
As our new report makes clear, it's time for American police to remember that they are supposed to protect and serve our communities, not wage war on the people who live in them.

link: www.aclu.org/militarization



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Blogger/Writer Radley Balko: Rise of the Warrior Cop & Overkill



Balko blogs about criminal justice, the drug war and civil liberties for The Washington Post. Previously, he was a senior writer and investigative reporter for The Huffington Post, a senior editor at Reason magazine, and a policy analyst for the Cato Institute, specializing in vice and civil liberties issues. He writes on drug policy, police misconduct, obesity, alcohol, tobacco, and civil liberties. Balko's work on "no-knock" drug raids was profiled in The New York Times, and cited by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer in his dissent in *Hudson v. Michigan*. Balko also authored two books on the topic of increasing police force.

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