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# counterpunch

**edited by alexander cockburn and jeffrey st.clair**

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by KATHY KELLY

May 18, 2005

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**Operation Falcon: 10,000 Swept Up**

By MIKE WHITNEY

**T**here's only one way to make sure that the machinery of state-terror is operating at maximum efficiency; flip on the switch and let er rip. That was thinking behind last month's massive roundup of 10,000 American citizens in what was aptly-christened Operation Falcon.

Operation Falcon was a massive clandestine dragnet that involved hundreds of state, federal and local law-enforcement agencies during the week of April 4 to April 10, 2005. It was the largest criminal-sweep in the nation's history and was brainchild of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and his counterpart in the US Marshal's

