

ABC's World News Tonight with David Muir

10/15/25

6:31:25 p.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: DHS Warns of "Bounties" on Agents]

DAVID MUIR: Tonight, Homeland Security also warning Mexican cartels are attempting to track, harass, and target immigration and Border Patrol agents with violence. The alleged threats come amid rising tensions in the U.S. over crackdowns in Chicago and Portland.

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6:41:02 p.m.

1 minute and 38 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: DHS Warns of "Bounties" on Agents]

MUIR: Meantime tonight, Homeland Security issuing an alarming warning, saying Mexican cartels are now attempting to track, harass, and target immigration and Border Patrol operators with violence. These alleged threats come as tensions arise here in the U.S. over crackdowns in Chicago and Portland. Here's Pierre Thomas.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; DHS Warns of "Bounties" on Agents; Officials: Mexican Cartels Targeting Officers With Violence]

PIERRE THOMAS: Tonight, Homeland Security officials say they're seeing intelligence that Mexican cartels are attempting to track, harass, and target immigration and Border Patrol agents with violence. In a statement late today, the department warned the cartels are offering "\$2,000 for gathering intelligence" on federal officials and their families often with the goal of doxxing them. \$5-10,000 for kidnapping or non-legal assault, and up to \$50,000 for the assassination of high ranking officials. The alleged new threats come amid rising tensions in Chicago and Portland involving immigration officials conducting broad deportation sweeps. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem telling President Trump in a recent cabinet meeting that she is stepping up security.

HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY KRISTI NOEM: We're hardening all of our buildings and making sure we have more security measures, snipers on the roof, people to protect our law enforcement while they're out there on the streets.

THOMAS: Sources telling ABC News the intelligence has been developed by Homeland Security, FBI, and DEA officials. Authorities calling the intelligence evidence of "a structured bounty program to incentivize violence against federal personnel." David, Homeland Security officials fear that the cartels may inject themselves into an already tense situation where tension about the administration's deportation campaign is steadily rising, David.

MUIR: We'll, of course, continue to track this. Pierre, thank you.